

Massing Studies

Architecture

Working out the size and shape of a building before you know its rooms.

Massing settles height, footprint, daylight and neighbourliness at once.

What massing decides

Footprint against buildable area

Storey count and total floor area

Shadow cast on neighbours and streets

Which faces get sun and which are shaded

Depth of plan, and so the daylight reach

How to work

One block first, then subtract

Build five options, not one

Always with a site model and context

Same scale, same material, same photo angle

Check floor area after every version

Plan depth beyond about 15 m needs daylight from above or a courtyard. Massing is where you decide that.