

4.6 FAÇADE CONSIDERATIONS

4.6.1 FAÇADE ASPECTS

There are three different façade aspects to the building, each of which respond to their immediate context.

Façade 1- East/West

The east/west façades are the shortest, the most vertical and the only two that face the streets, respectively Valentia Place and Pope's Road. A linear language of deep horizontal trays has been used, along with a central vertical pier and exposed structural bracing, which creates a pattern that introduces verticality throughout the façade.

Façade 2- South

The south façade is composed of arch openings organised in a linear modular grid, which emphasises the curved shape of the site. These openings have a deep reveal that controls the sunlight intake, whilst windows are enriched by a brick stepped apron in the lower register. Slight variations in the composition occur between the west and east block.

Façade 3: North

The north façade maintains a similar composition to the south façade with arch openings organised in a linear modular grid, but without obtaining depth in a bid to maximise solar gain. As a consequence of this change in depth, the brick stepped apron at the bottom of the openings is flipped upside down, generating a different visual effect. Slight variations in the composition occur between the west and east block.

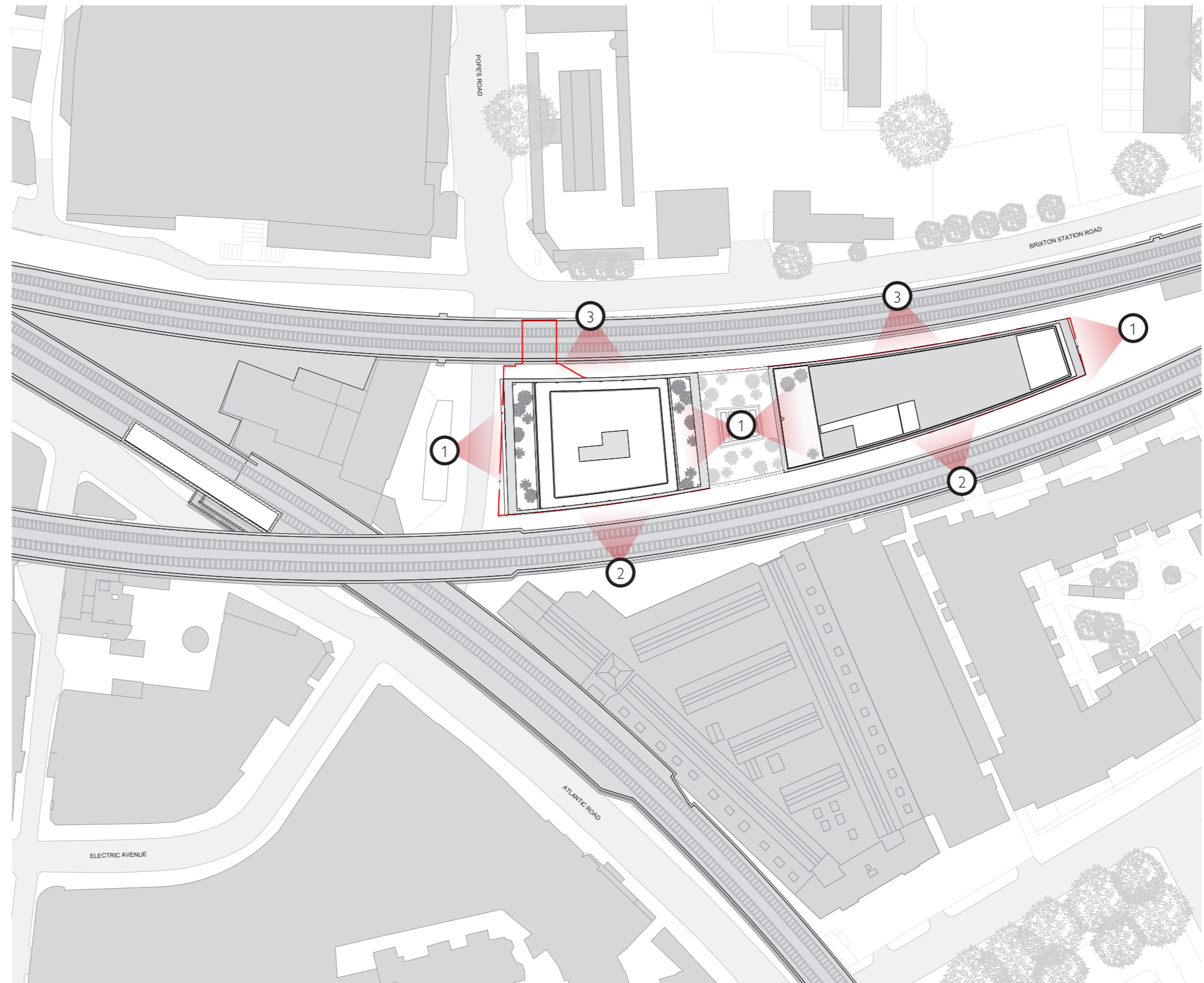
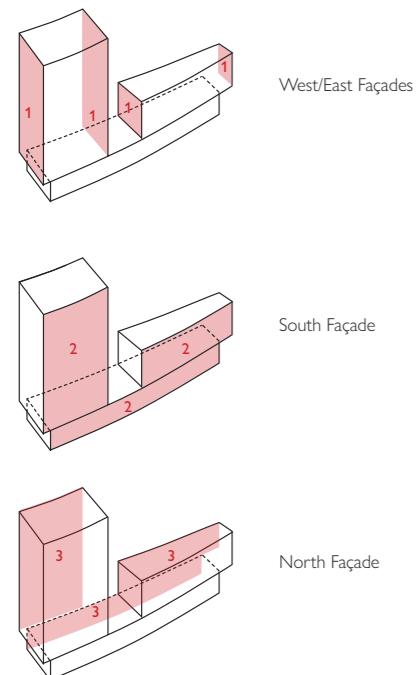


Fig. 4.6.1 Building aspects plan

4.6.2 EAST/WEST FAÇADES

A1 Area

A double height setback at ground and first floor has been employed to create a distinct base, and to mark the entrance to the building. The bracing is also reversed upside down to facilitate circulation and increase verticality.

A2 Area

The reversed bracing continues on the second and third floor suggesting a more thicker base which will be evident in the North/South façades .

B Areas

The proposed bracing provides rhythm and modularity to the façade, which spans two floors. Its interface with the glazing defines the middle section of the façade.

C1 Area

The bracing is detached from the glazing as the façade is set back to create double height terraces, which define the upper section of the façade.

C2 Area

A horizontal spandrel and a setback box on the roof have been introduced, having a different materiality cap to the façade.

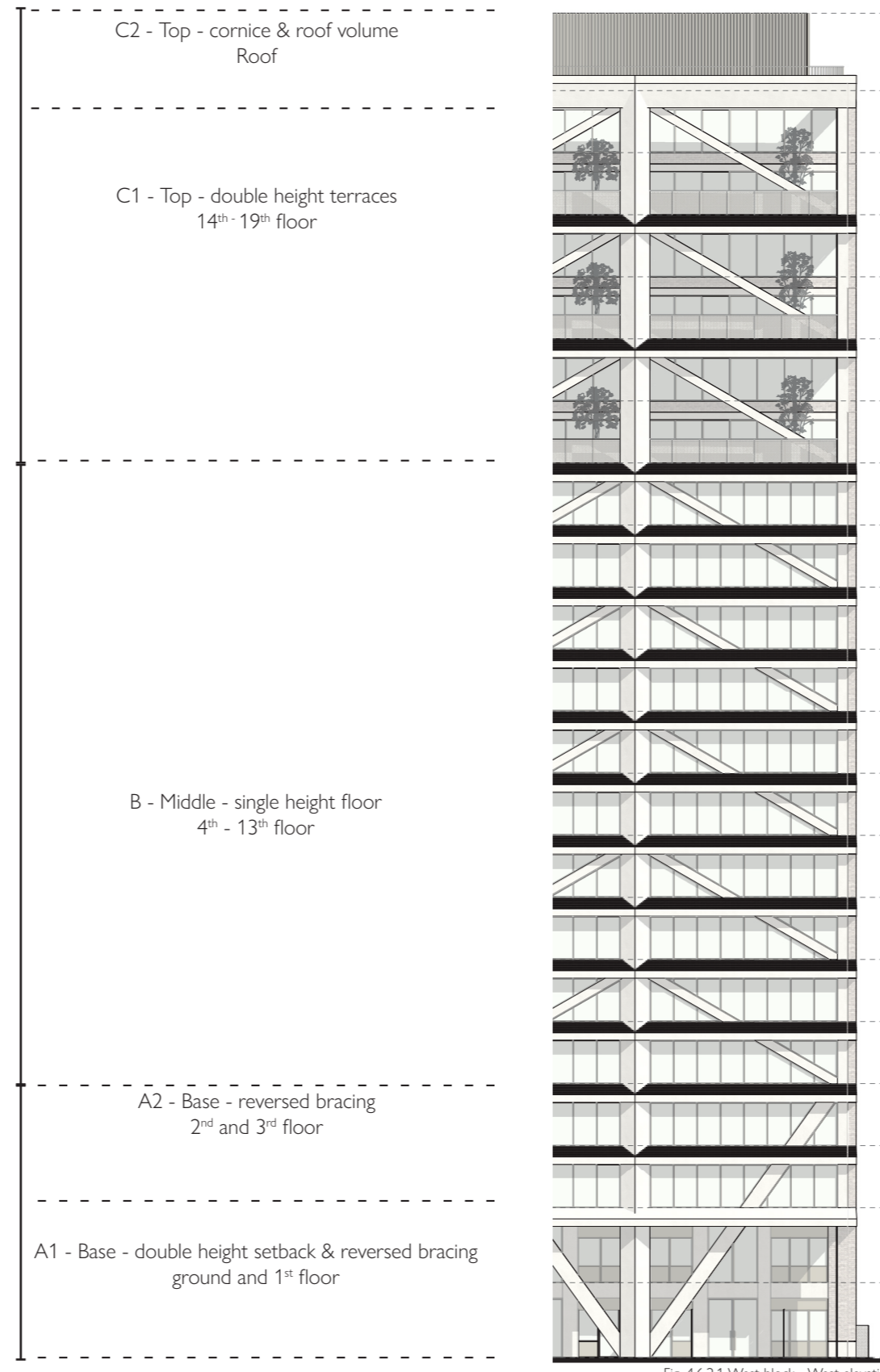
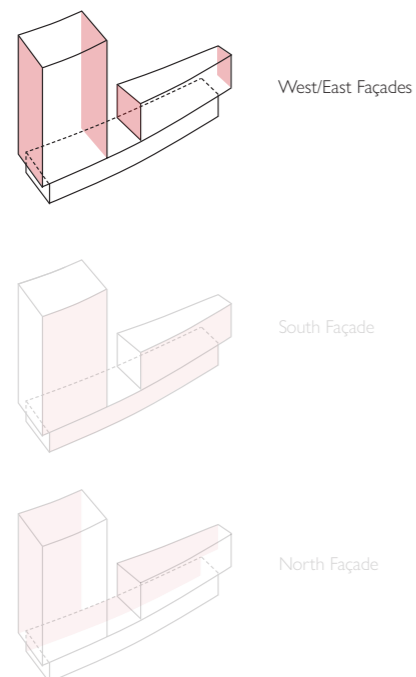


Fig. 4.6.2.1 West block - West elevation

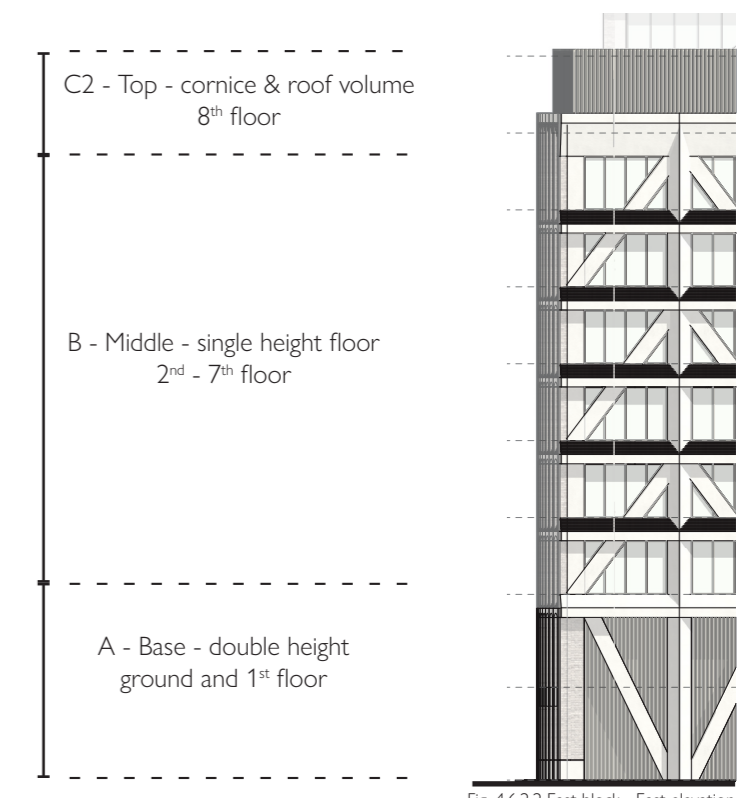


Fig. 4.6.2.2 East block - East elevation

4.6 FAÇADE CONSIDERATIONS

4.6.3 SOUTH FAÇADE - WEST BLOCK

A1 Area

A double height setback at ground and first floor is used to inform the modularity of the façade and create double height brick piers with deep reveals topped with arched lintels.

A2 Area

The second and third floor have single height arched modules with deep reveals that are continuous throughout the two blocks, and that reinforce the base of the building.

B Areas

A single height arched module with a deep reveal defines the middle section of the building. Continuous lintels serve to mark each floor.

C1 Area

Double height terraces inform the modularity of the façade creating double height brick piers with deep reveals, and interrupting the arched lintels on every other floor.

C2 Area

A horizontal spandrel, intricate brickwork, and a setback box on the roof appear with a different materiality cap the façade.

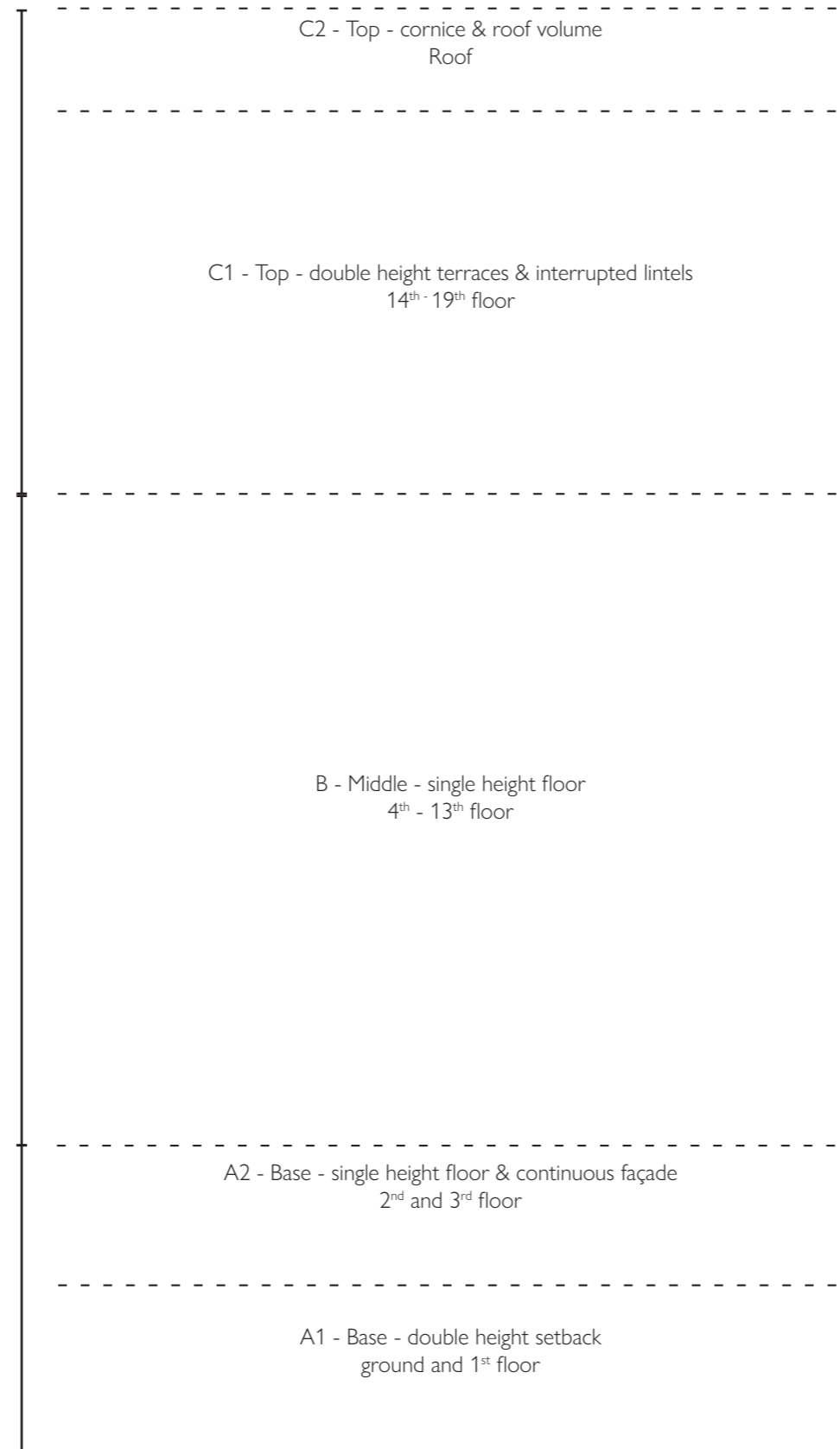
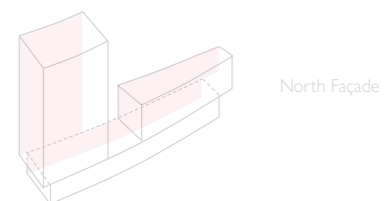
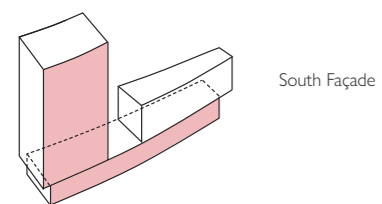
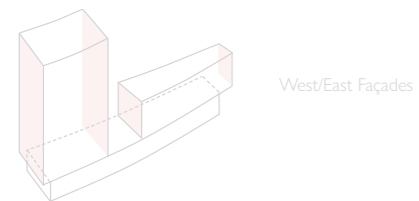


Fig. 4.6.3 West block - South elevation

4.6.4 SOUTH FAÇADE - EAST BLOCK

The composition of the façade on the east block is similar to the west block, with a few variations occurring. Most notably, the module is narrower compared to its west block counterpart.

A1 Area

A double height setback at ground and first floor is used to inform the modularity of the façade, creating double height brick piers with deep reveals topped with arched lintels.

A2 Area

The second and third floor include single height arched modules with deep reveals that are continuous throughout the two blocks, reinforcing the base of the building.

B Areas

A single height arched module with a deep reveal defines the middle section of the building, with continuous lintels marking each floor.

C2 Area

A horizontal spandrel, intricate brickwork, and a setback box on the roof appear with a different materiality cap the façade.

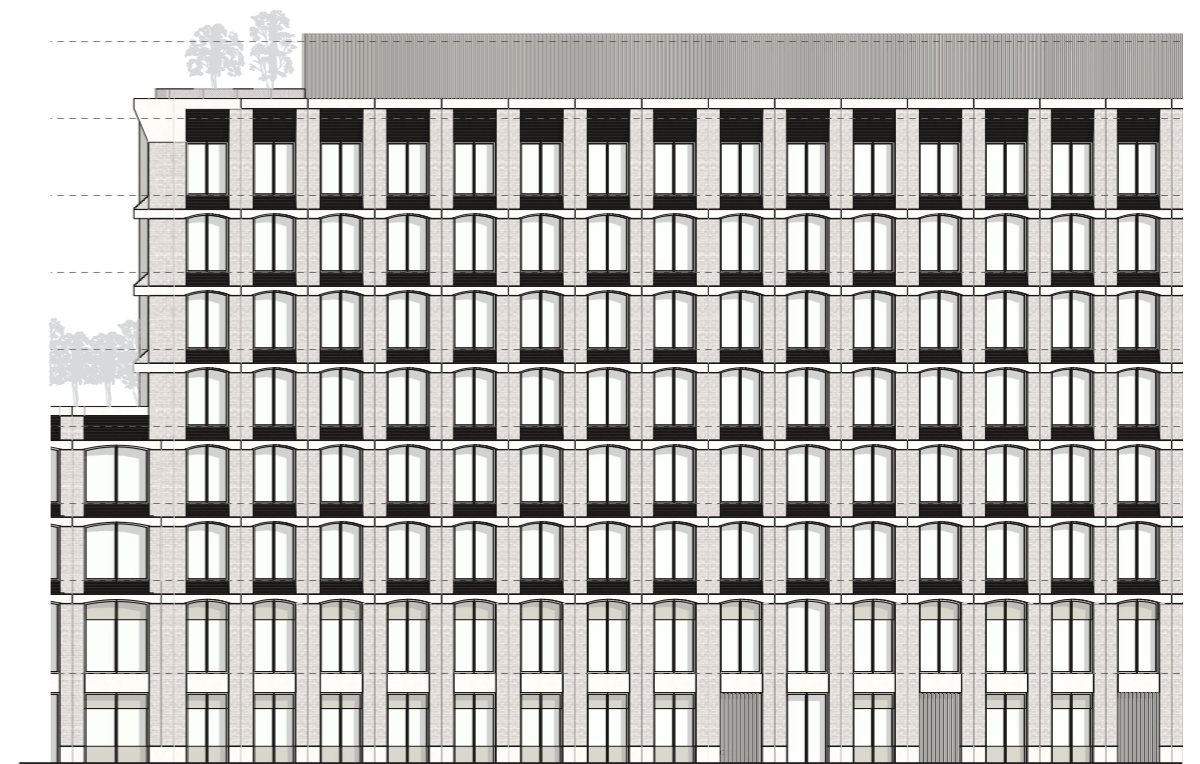
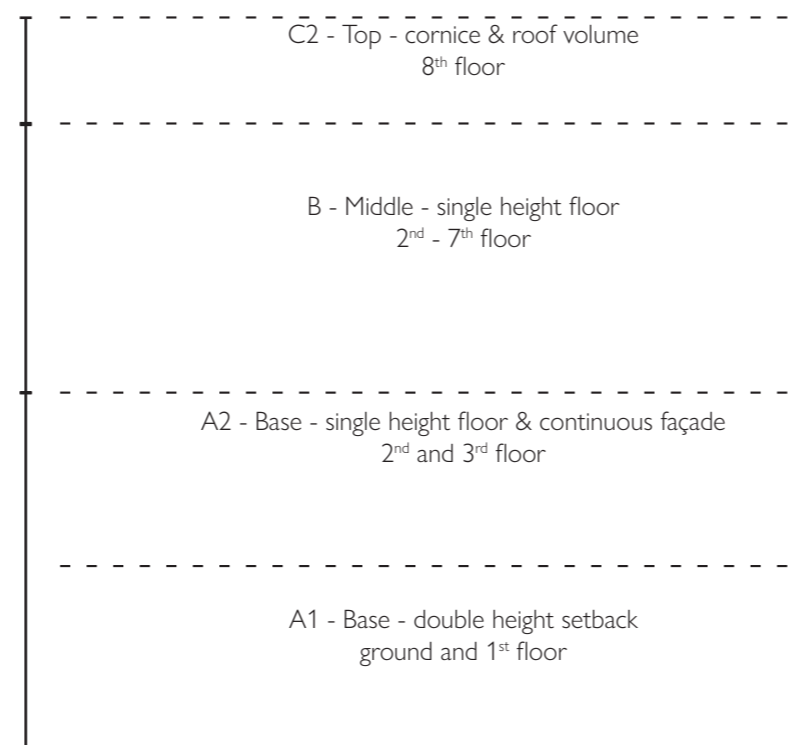
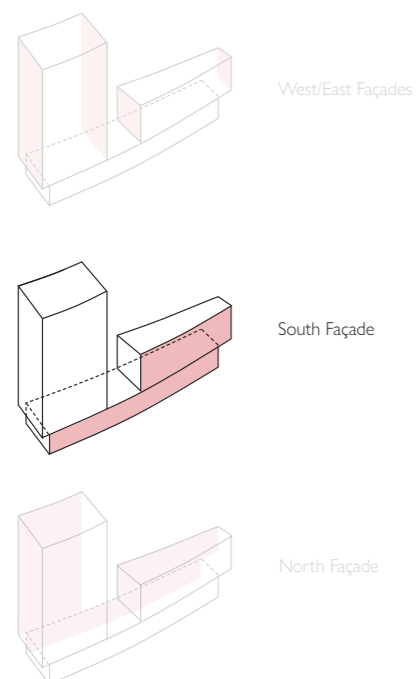


Fig. 4.6.4 East block - South elevation

4.6 FAÇADE CONSIDERATIONS

4.6.5 NORTH FAÇADE - WEST BLOCK

A1 Area

A double height setback at ground and first floor is used to inform the modularity of the façade, creating double height brick piers that are flush with the glazing and topped with arched lintels.

A2 Area

The second and third floor have single height arched modules that are flush with the glazing and continuous throughout the two blocks, reinforcing the base of the building.

B Areas

A single height arched module, flush with the glazing, defines the middle section of the building. Continuous lintels serve to mark each floor.

C1 Area

Double height terraces inform the modularity of the façade creating double height brick piers flush with the glazing, and interrupting the arched lintels every other floor.

C2 Area

A horizontal spandrel, intricate brickwork, and a setback box on the roof appear with a different materiality cap the façade.

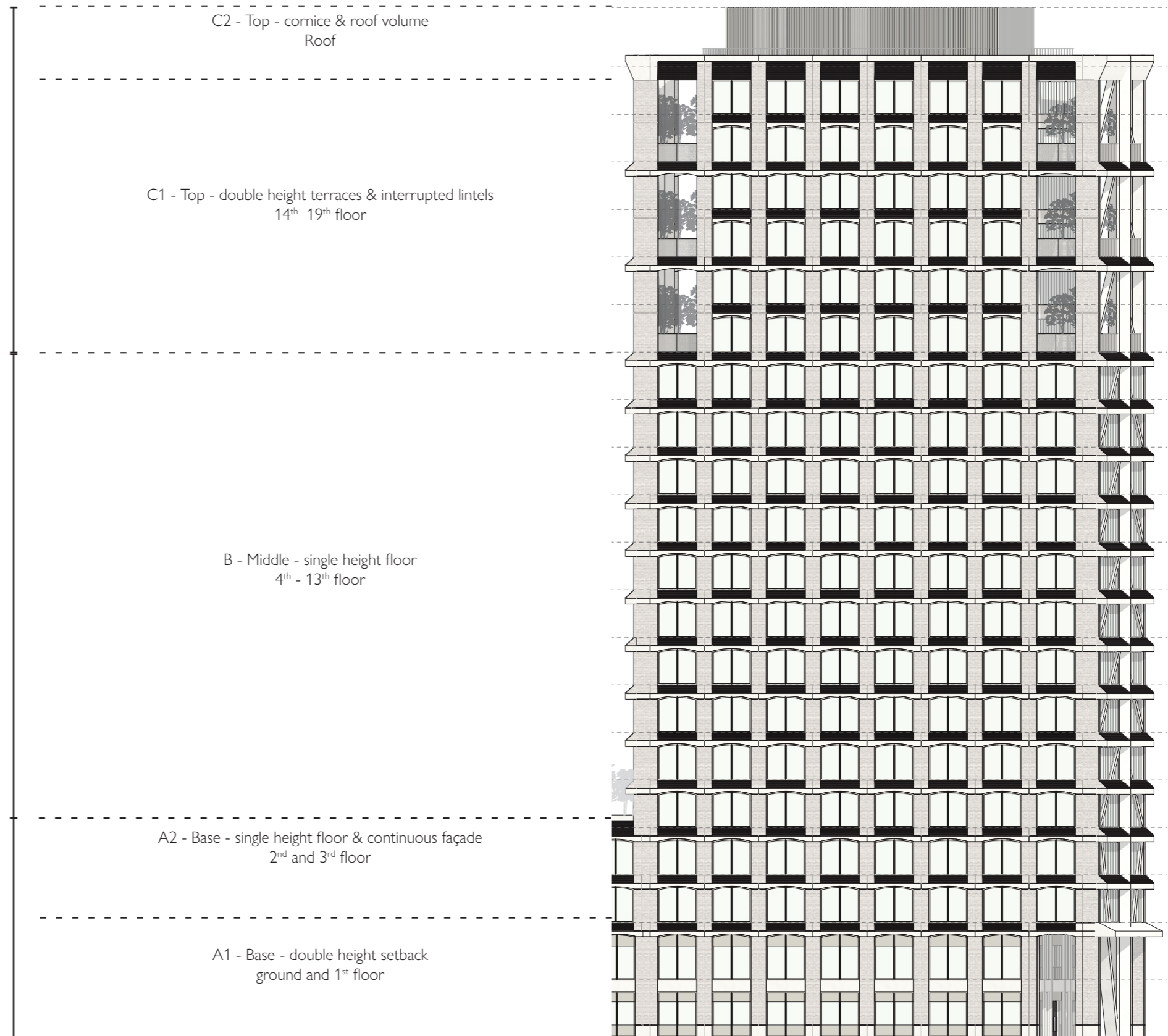
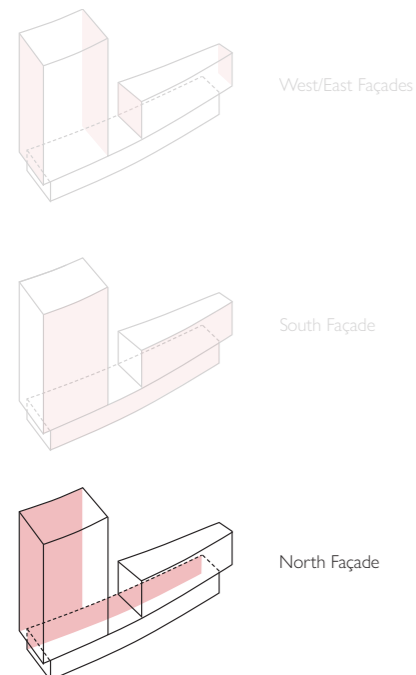


Fig. 4.6.5 West block - North elevation

4.6.6 NORTH FAÇADE - EAST BLOCK

The composition of the façade on the east block is similar to the west block, with a few variations occurring. Most notably, the module is narrower compared to its west block counterpart.

A1 Area

A double height setback at ground and first floor is used to inform the modularity of the façade, creating double height brick piers that are flush with the glazing and topped with arched lintels.

A2 Area

The second and third floor include single height arched modules with deep reveals that are continuous throughout the two blocks, reinforcing the base of the building.

B Areas

A single height arched module with a deep reveal defines the middle section of the building, with continuous lintels marking each floor.

C2 Area

A horizontal spandrel, intricate brickwork, and a setback box on the roof appear with a different materiality cap the façade.

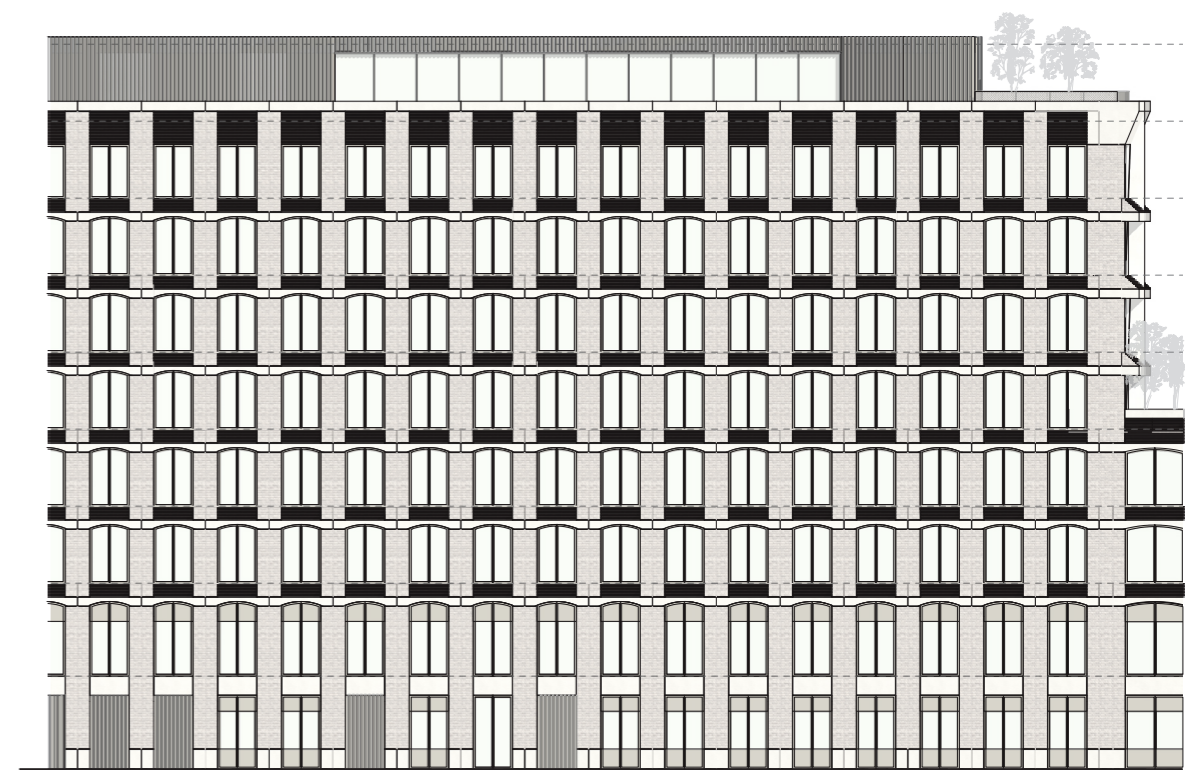
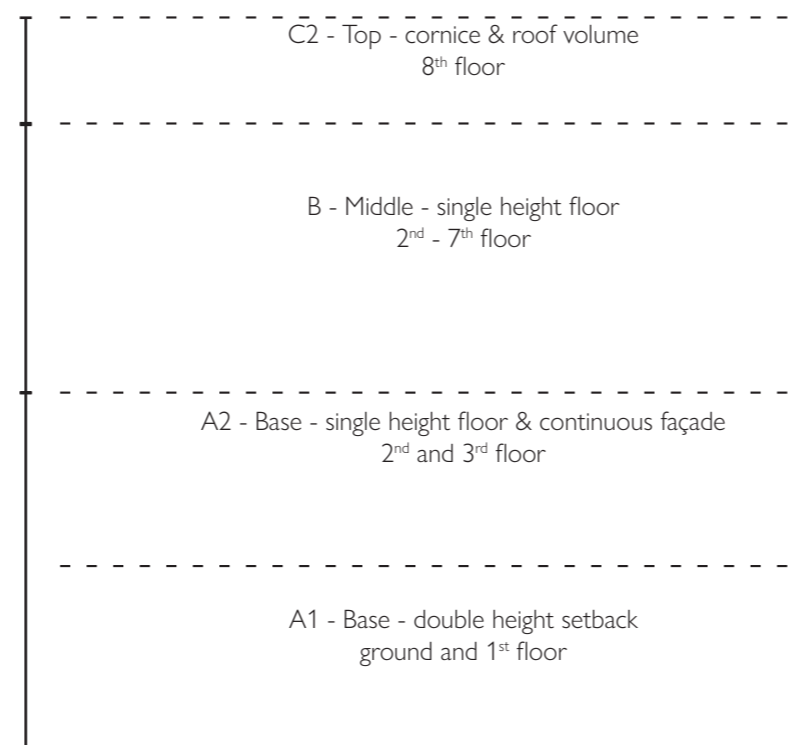
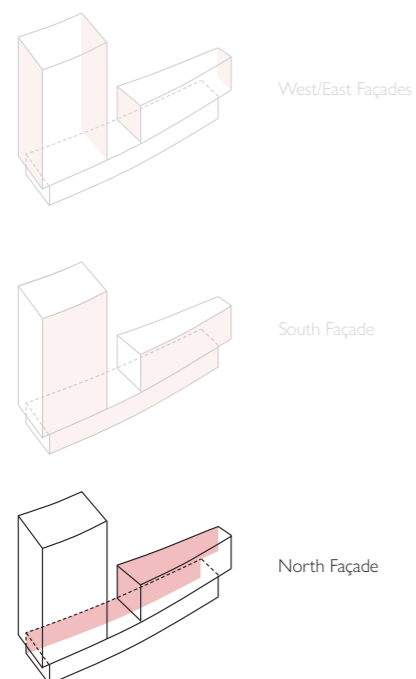


Fig. 4.6.6 East block - North elevation

4.7 EXTERNAL APPEARANCE

Our façade design takes into consideration a number of elements, such as programme and brief, as well as site constraints, contextual architectural influences and environmental performance.

The result is a façade design that adapts and reflects its context and reacts differently depending on its orientation. Moreover, the building consistently presents a unique façade on each of its four elevations, generating a continuous changing appearance from street level surrounding the site.

Two main types of façade have been created respectively on the east/west and north/south as an immediate reaction to the shape and conditions of the site.

The façade gives a contemporary reinterpretation of a number of architectural features present in the surrounding built context, creating a design and dialogue which is at once innovative and sympathetic to its context.



Fig. 4.7 View of the south/west façade from Electric Avenue

4.7.1 WEST FAÇADE - POPE'S ROAD

The façade on Pope's Road is effectively the only street-facing façade within the scheme. The building exhibits a tripartite articulation that relates directly to the surrounding façades, each exhibiting an active and porous base, repetitive and modular middle section, and an articulated top.

The front elevation is articulated through the combination of deep concrete linear trays topped by a stepped brick apron, a central triangular concrete pier, and concrete structural bracing.

A double height setback at ground and first floor, in conjunction with a reversed bracing spanning four floors, create a solid plinth.

The building's middle section is composed of single height floors with the structural bracing spanning two floors. The upper floors are characterised by double height terraces that expose the structural bracing, as well as a thicker horizontal spandrel that caps the façade.

A metal clad box, positioned on the roof and setback from the façade, completes the elevation, relating it back to articulated rooftop of the neighbouring buildings.

