4.1 Site analysis

Purpose

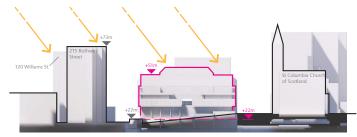
The replacement of the existing building envelope will employ a fabric first approach to passive measures. The design of the facade will respond to the building massing and orientation, and the extent of exposure to direct sunlight.

Building massing

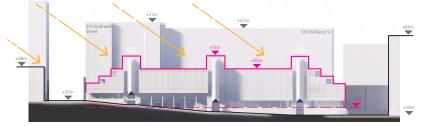
301 St Vincent Street is a low lying building mass, nestled into the city topography to the north and east, and sheltered by the 12 and 14 storey high rise buildings to the immediate south. Two central courtyards reduce the depth of the upper floorplates while providing natural daylight via large light-wells into the lower floorplates.

Building orientation

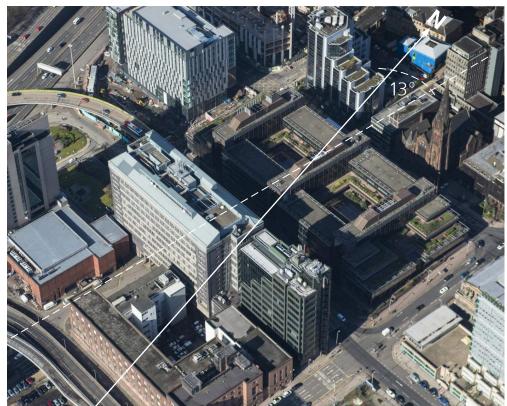
The building sits on an axis of 13 degrees northeast, with the primary building façades facing predominantly to the north and to the south. The building massing to the east and west is tiered, stepping back from the perimeter as it rises to create a ziggurat profile.



Section North - South



Section East - West

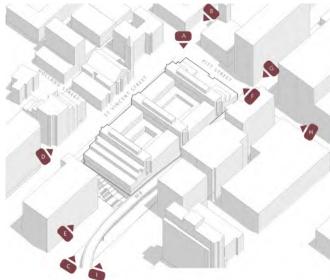


4.2 Key vistas

Occupying an entire city block along St Vincent Street, the building mass dissects the city grid at the base of Holland Street. It is knitted into Glasgow's unique urban fabric and topography, responding to the severe slope of the site, providing the backdrop to a range of long and short vistas across the west of the city.

Significantly, the building fronts the M8 motorway and slip road, with stepped green terraces and shimmering glass façades defining the city gateway on arrival from the south (I).

The elevated pedestrian approach from the city (A & B) and the approach from Charing Cross (D) present views east and west along St Vincent Street are considered of key importance. The approach from Bothwell street (G) at a lower pedestrian level reveals the scale and massing of the building.



Key Plan 301 St Vincent Street | Design & Access Statement







View B









View D











4.3 Sun path

Sunlight review

The orientation and massing in relation to the high-rise buildings to the south, ensures 301 St Vincent Street remains in shadow for significant periods through the seasons.

During winter months, the low angle of the sun casts long shadows across the entire building. Intermittent sunlight bathes the upper floor of the courtyards south facing elevations, while late afternoon sunlight bathes the west terraces. The south facade remains in almost continuous shadow

During the spring and autumn equinox, the building emerges from the shadows during the midday hours. The mid angle of the sun reaches into the 3 storey courtyards and the upper most floor of the south elevation experiences some direct sunlight.

During the summer months, the south facade experiences greater levels of sunlight from the high angle of the sun. The courtyards and terraces are also bathed in direct sunlight.

Internal condition

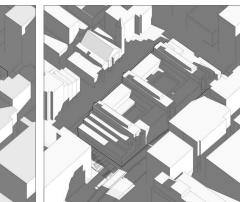
Evenly distributed, indirect natural daylight is considered the optimum condition for comfortable, functional commercial interiors.

Glazed façades reduce dependency on artificial lighting but must be balanced against thermal heat loss. Direct sunlight will create glare and prolonged periods will generate unwanted heat gains internally.

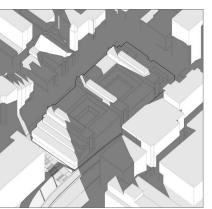


09:00 - Spring/Autumn equinox

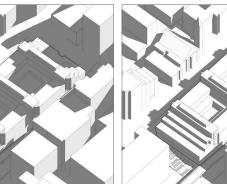
09:00 - Summer solstice



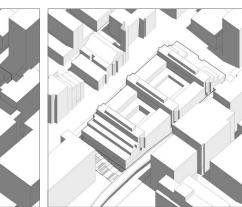
12:00 - Winter solstice



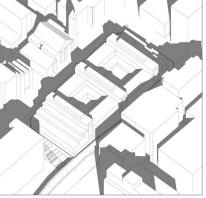
15:00 - Winter solstice



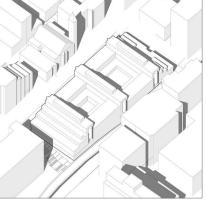
12:00 - Spring/Autumn equinox



12:00 - Summer solstice



15:00 - Spring/Autumn equinox



15:00 - Spring solstice

4.4 Sunlight exposure

Duration of direct sunlight exposure

A review of the hours of direct sunlight has been carried out to understand the duration and seasonal intensity of exposure across the building façades. Locating areas of increased thermal heat gains and losses has analysis has shaped the approach to the design of the replacement facade.

The north northeast facade is exposed to c.3-4h hours of early morning sunlight during the high summer months only, falling back into permanent shadow for the remainder of the year.

The upper floors of the south southwest facade experience uninterrupted direct sunlight during the summer months, while the lower floors, overshadowed by adjacent buildings experience a maximum of c.3-4 hours of direct sunlight during the same season.

The southwest corner, overlooking the M8 overpass experiences the greatest overall exposure to direct sunlight, with c.8 hours of direct sunlight and uninterrupted views out the Firth of Clyde and beyond.

Summary

The assessment demonstrates the impact of overshadowing, where the differential in temperature fluctuations and solar glare between the north and south façades is significantly reduced.

On the macro scale, this enables a homogeneous approach and a modular design solution that spans the entire building envelope. On the micro scale, this module can be tuned to ensure a responsive approach based on the specific orientation and aspect, in order to manage variations in thermal heat loss, direct sunlight and glare.



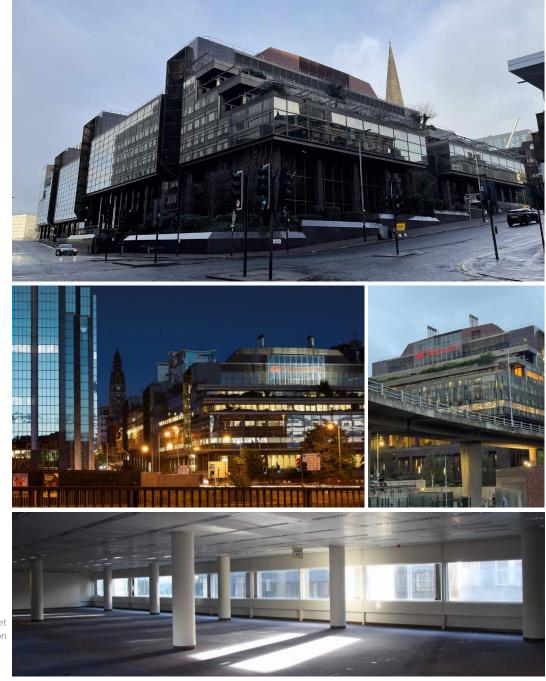
4.5 Existing facade composition

Existing building facade

301 St Vincent Street is a distinctive example of late modernist architecture, with an external envelope that presents a uniform, mirrored glass facade.

Only when illuminated internally, does the facade reveal a more accurate arrangement of solid and transparent elements, with a transparent ribbon window encompassing the perimeter at each storey height.

From within, the raised cill level and dropped bulkhead in turn limit the extent of natural light into the deep floorplates and restrict views out toward the city and beyond.

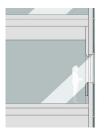


301 St Vincent Street Facade composition

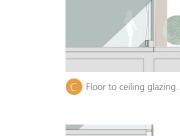
4.5 Existing facade composition

Existing building facade

A detailed assessment of the existing facade typologies has been carried out, to understand the scale of variation across the building envelope.



A Window cill and head

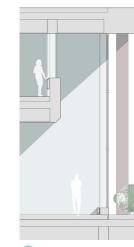




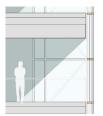


B Floor to ceiling glazing. Type 1



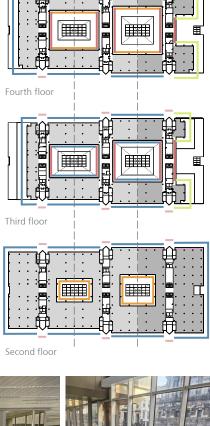


E Double height glazing



F Vertical stair core





East wing



4.6 Existing facade condition

Existing facade condition

A detailed internal and external visual assessment of the existing facade has been carried out by an industry leading specialist. This report includes the following facade elements:

- 1. Curtain walling
- 2. Stair glazing
- 3. Glass
- 4. Gaskets
- 5. External and internal metal finishes
- 6. Doors
- 7. Atrium glazing
- 8. Smoke vents (AOV's)
- 9. Stone cladding
- 10. Aluminium pressed metal panels

The findings of this assessment have been reviewed alongside a broader and deeper analysis of the proposed intervention, by Arup. This design review has included an assessment of the available record information, in order to stress test the proposal against structural, thermal, fire and acoustic performance up to RIBA Stage 2 design.

The analysis has addressed the project mandate to reduce embodied carbon and has identified opportunities for recycling and re-use, to be explored further within Stage 3 design.

Extract from facade report

Arup



4.7 Proposed design principles

Wall-to-floor ratio

The ratio is an expression of efficiency in building massing, calculated by dividing the external wall area by the gross internal floor area. With a wall-to-floor ratio of 0.41:1, 301 St Vincent Street is considered an efficient building mass, pertaining to improved energy performance compared to buildings with a greater wall to floor ratio.

Efficient window-to-wall ratio (WWR)

The proposed new facade for 301 St Vincent Street will target environmental excellence adopting a fabric first approach to thermal performance, air tightness and daylight.

Energy modelling will be carried out as the design progresses to establish specific U-values and glazing g-values for the new façades.

Glazing ratios will be optimised by targeting 50:50 (window to wall) to improve natural light into the deeper plan spaces, while minimising heat losses and heat gains.

The design approach to the replacement building envelope will be underpinned by the following key principles:

Performance



Reduce embodied carbon through informed design and specification. Reduce overall operational carbon across the lifetime of the building through improved thermal performance.

Glazing ratio



Improve natural daylight within the internal office environment while retaining a required net ratio of 50:50 window-to-wall in order to minimise excessive temperature fluctuations and solar glare.



(IIIIIIII)

Transparency Enhance the curbside presence of the building with a facade that increases the active frontage and improves the level of transparency to reveal the activity within.

Rhythm



Respond to the structural grid, rhythm and form of the existing envelope in order to remain truthful to the modernist style and proportion of the original building.

Q_@

Heritage & Context

Acknowledge the building's rich heritage with a design response in materiality and articulation that is in sympathy with the industrial era in which it was built.

4.8 Proposed design approach

Design principles

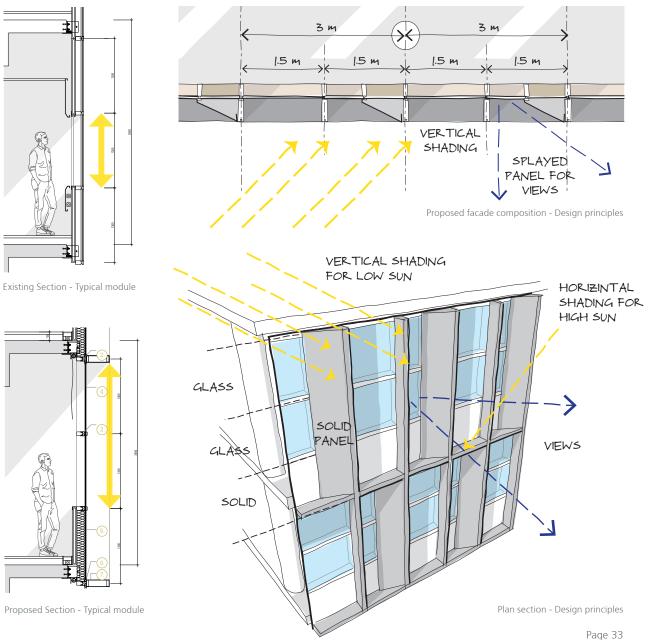
With sustainability at the heart of the intervention, intelligent facade design will reduce M&E dependency by prioritising a passive design approach.

While enhancing the overall building appearance, the proposed facade enhancements will aim to improve the internal environment, optimise performance and minimise operational costs.

The existing facade module will be retained but the height of the windows will be increased, allowing for natural daylight to penetrate the deeper plan office spaces.

Depth will be created in the facade with extruded horizontal and vertical profiles to provide shading from the low sun from east and west, and the high sun from the south.

Angled solid panels will help reduce the overall amount of glazing while facilitating views from the office space.



4.9 Proposed facade composition

Facade composition

The components and balance of materials that from the new building envelope have been identified. This composition is considered with an understanding of parameters of a replacement curtain wall system.

Existing structural capacities at concrete edge require a facade replacement that does not exceed current loadings. A greater ratio of light weight material build-up, such as insulated aluminium cassettes is targeted in order to offset standard glazing at 25kg/sqm.

A modular approach to the curtain wall system will be pursued in order to extend aspirational reach of the design through economies of standardisation and quality control.

Reflections

Prioritising reflections and allowing the surrounding city fabric to be visible within the massing of the facade

Aluminium

Aluminium is lightweight and malleable, it is a low maintenance cladding material and can be treated in several ways to obtain the desired finish. It can be recycled with 100 percent efficiency

Glass

Installing new double glazed build-up with inherent solar treatment will increase the thermal performance of the facade and significantly improve the internal environment

Glass faced spandrels

Glass faced spandrels enable a consistent reflective facade while maintaining the targeted solid-toglass ratios necessary to minimise operation energy consumption

Articulation

Creating depth through form and volume, light and shadow







Facade precedent images

4.9 Proposed facade composition

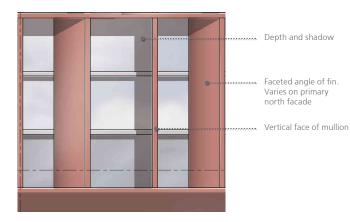
Facade composition

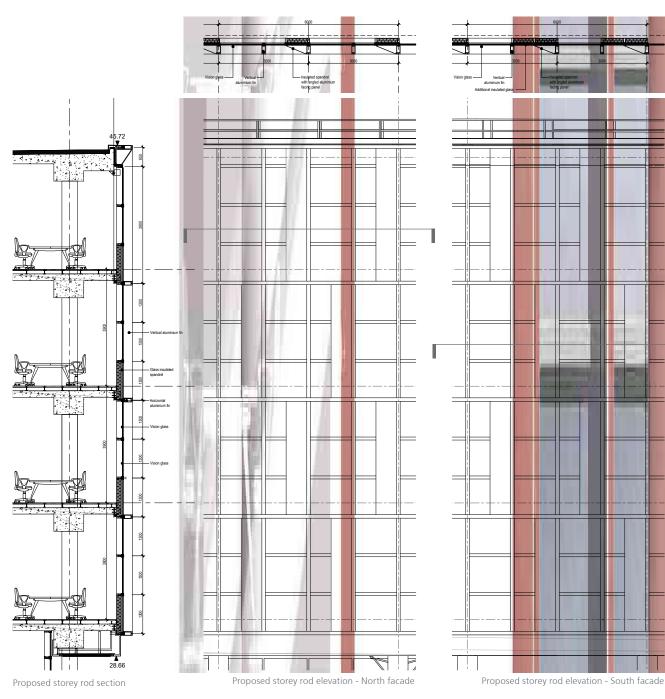
The articulation of the new building envelope will be achieved by creating volume and form along the elevation. The modular fin will protrude beyond the datum of the glass, creating material contrast across the building elevation.

The tonal variation of this fin will naturally occur across the south elevation with to the changing light of the day. The tonal variation to the north elevation will be engineered, with a profile that sharpens and an angle that changes in order to increase the ratio of glazing and prioritise key reflections.

Matt and satin finishes will be explored to heighten this sense of animation. Aluminium will be used to contrast against the glass and glass spandrels, creating a sense of depth, contrast and layering.

The ratio of glass to glass spandrel across the north and south façades will be tuned to the performance requirement to optimise daylight and thermal performance while managing solar glare.





4.9 Proposed facade composition

Facade composition

The composition of the primary façades to the north and south will define the language across the tiered elevations to the east and west.

The vertical mullions will continue the rhythm of the facade, framing the glazed elements and creating shade from the low east and west sunlight.



Proposed storey rod section - West facade

Proposed storey rod elevation - West facade

4.10 Integrating the facade

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Existing condition



Extending the gravity the sector that the sector the sector that the sector that the sector the

Developed proposal - Visual



Existing condition

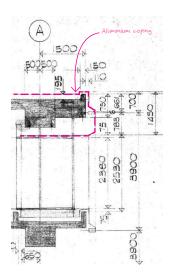
The existing aluminium coping detail is finished in an anodised coating to match the secondary framework of the facade, and has a geometry that creates a deep bulkhead and excessive overhang.

Deconstruction

Removal of the existing aluminium coping to expose the concrete floor slab, in order to wrap in a colour and geometry in keeping with the proposed facade design.

Proposed condition

The proposed approach to the facade will seek to unify the four sides of the building by continuing the geometry of the north and south elevations around to the east and the west



5. Chromatic harmony

5.1 Existing materials

Chromatic harmony

The proposed design intervention will consider the nature of materials to be retained across the building. Understanding the colour, tone, surface texture and behaviour of these materials will inform a homogeneous approach to the new building facade.

The design will also consider the wider urban context with a response that is in sympathy with the fabric of the wider streetscape





Depth and colours within the quartz at different scales

Granite

The primary material retained is the granite cladding. Thought to be Dakota Mahogany Granite from the US and commonplace on commercial buildings commissioned in the 1980's, the granite has a distinctive appearance and character:

Dense aggregate in a variety of pinks, oranges, reds and blues creates vibrancy and texture. The nature of the quarts creates a sense of depth to the surface which shimmers with the changing light of the day.

The highly polished finish specified for 301 St Vincent Street creates a vibrant, dynamic surface with vivid city reflections. Under certain day light conditions, the granite behaves in a similar way to glass surfaces, reflecting the colours of the surroundings.



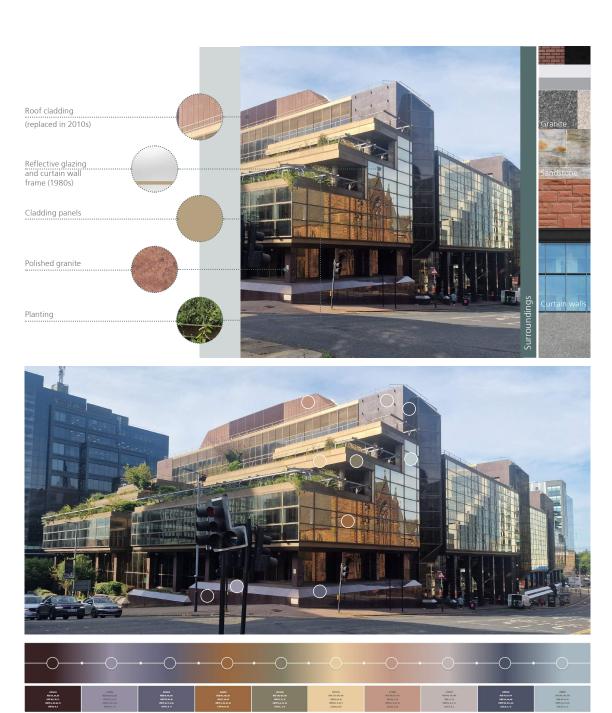
Highly reflective polished surface creates a dynamic material finish

5.1 Existing materials

Existing materials

The proposed design intervention will consider the existing material palette in order to seek a sympathetic approach to the proposed building envelope.

While the primary elements of the facade will be replaced, those that remain will influence the colour, texture and composition of the new intervention.



5.2 Urban fabric

City context

301 SVS occupies a sloping site between two significant city streetscapes.

St Vincent Street to the north is occupied by 5-6 storey heritage buildings in blonde and red sandstone and granite. Bothwell Street to the south has undergone transformation in recent decades to include high rise engineered stone and glass façades.

Granite and sandstone

Extensive use of granite in the city of Glasgow, with most examples from the mid-19th century onwards. Used as cladding on the lower floors and for ornamental pillars and balustrades.

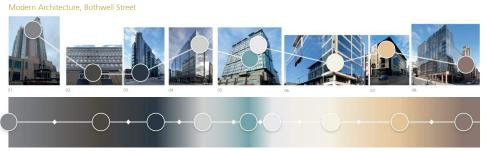
The predominate red aggregate is typically used in combination with red sandstone and dark fine details, such as window frames and gates.

Heritage architecture, St Vincent Street

01. St Columba Church	07. Adj. 123 SVS
02. Glasgow Free Church	08. 110 SVS. Bank of Scotland
03. 145 SVS.	09. 30 SVS.
04. 139 SVS. Kirkstane House	10. 28 SVS.
05. 101 SVS.	11. 26 SVS.
06. 103 - 105 SVS	12. 24 SVS.







02. 120 William St 03. 215 Bothwell St 04. 177 Bothwell St 05. Heron House 06. 120 Bothwell St 07. 141 Bothwell St 08. 106 Bothwell St 10. 50 Bothwell St 11. 30 Bothwell St

01. Hilton



5.3 Design evolution

Exploration of colours and tones

The design process has demanded a detailed analysis of the appropriate tones and colours to work in harmony with the materials to be retained.





5.4 Design precedent

Articulation

Relevant architectural references have been used to inform the design process and explore methods of facade articulation through volume, form, rhythm and colour.



Articulation, form, rhythm and colour

Engineered aesthetic

Glasgow's industrial history is steeped in maritime heritage; a narrative further strengthened in the context of 301 St Vincent and it's origin as the northern headquarters for Britoil.

In finding harmony with Glasgow's urban fabric, the predominance of red sandstone and the deep granite tones of the material retained, the composition and palette of the facade draws reference from the building's past while creating a new and distinctive identity for the building's future.



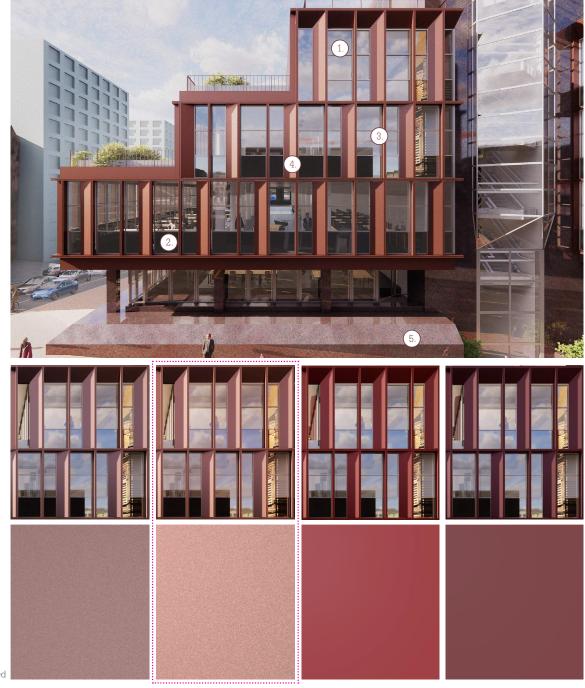
Industrial and engineered heritage

5.5 Proposed palette

The preferred tone and finish of the aluminium facade will harmonise with the existing granite and wider Glasgow streetscape, while the deep earthy colour will draw reference from the building's maritime industrial heritage.

- 1. Vision glass high performance double glazing in an aluminium frame. Horizontal transoms are provided to allow for opening units to facilitate natural ventilation.
- 2. Glass spandrels insulated glass spandrels of coloured back glass in a dark grey to maximise reflections of the townscape.
- 3. Frame extruded aluminium frame on a 1.5m grid provides the facade with order, scale and depth
- (4.) Vertical fins provide additional rhythm to the facade while helping to reduce the amount of glazing while angled to maximise environmental and views.
- 5. Granite existing polished granite plinth and cladding to cores.





³⁰¹ St Vincent Street | Design & Access Statement

5.5 Proposed palette

The proposed material palette will be in sympathy with the existing materials to be retained and is considered against the backdrop of both St Vincent Street and Bothwell Street.

