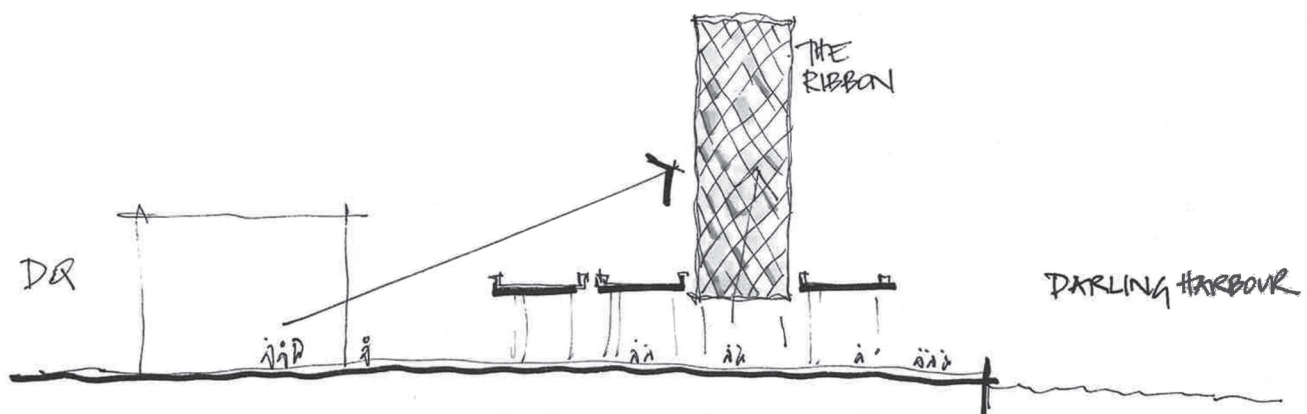




Existing view from Harbour Street



Proposed view from Harbour Street. Imagery by HASSELL



Sketch Section of The Ribbon between the roadways of the Western Distributor

01 Urban design context

A landmark building

The Ribbon is a landmark building an icon for Darling Harbour and a Gateway to the CBD

The distinct design and siting of The Ribbon will create a Darling Harbour landmark. The building will become a point of reference for locals and visitors and provide a clear meeting place visible from significant distances.

The Western Distributor zone is 110metres at its widest point and 50% of this zone is covered by roadways (refer to diagram on opposite page).

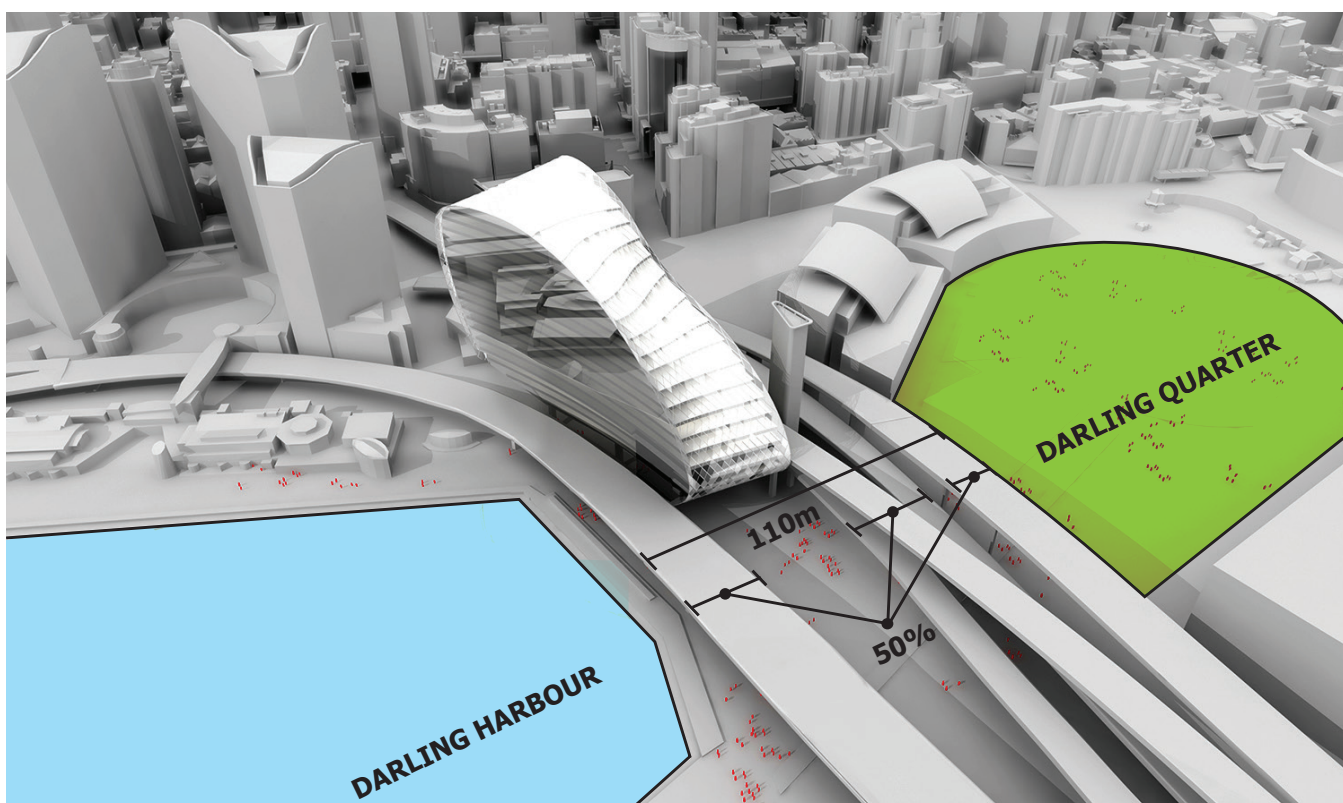
The overhead cover creates a disorienting environment underneath. The existing IMAX Theatre building is lost between the roadways and does not have a beneficial

impact on its surroundings.

The Ribbon will provide a clear point of reference and orientation for pedestrians at ground level and will substantially reduce the dominance of the freeways over the precinct.

It's bold form emerging between the elevated freeways of the western distributor, will define the entry point to the CBD from the west.

The buildings unique form will engage with people at multiple levels providing a landmark for pedestrians, an icon for Cockle Bay and Darling Harbour from the water or air and a Gateway to the CBD for motorists on the Western Distributors.



01 Urban design context

Massing explorations

During our design process, various forms were generated to explore potential envelopes for this site. The height and scale of the proposed building responds to the scale of neighbouring buildings, the “Valley Floor” concept and minimises overshadowing to Darling Quarter.

A number of massing studies were carried out to investigate potential envelopes for the building. All of the studies illustrated in this report each total the same gross floor area.

It became clear that the best approach was to draw the scale from neighbouring buildings and look to the immediate context for inspiration for the form.

The existing “Valley Floor” concept of high-rise built form within the CBD cascading down to the waterfront has been positively reinforced with the asymmetric form of Ribbon proposal due to the majority of the building mass being shifted to the city (eastern) side creating a wedge shape that fits snugly under the inferred Valley Floor line when viewed from the harbour.

Viewed from the east or west, the building’s mass takes cues from the precedent being set by future developments by framing the harbour.

We were also critically aware of the potential overshadowing impacts for the children’s playground in Darling Quarter and have achieved a level of overshadowing that does not diminish the quality of this popular new city park. Our proposal also provides for an extension of this playground.

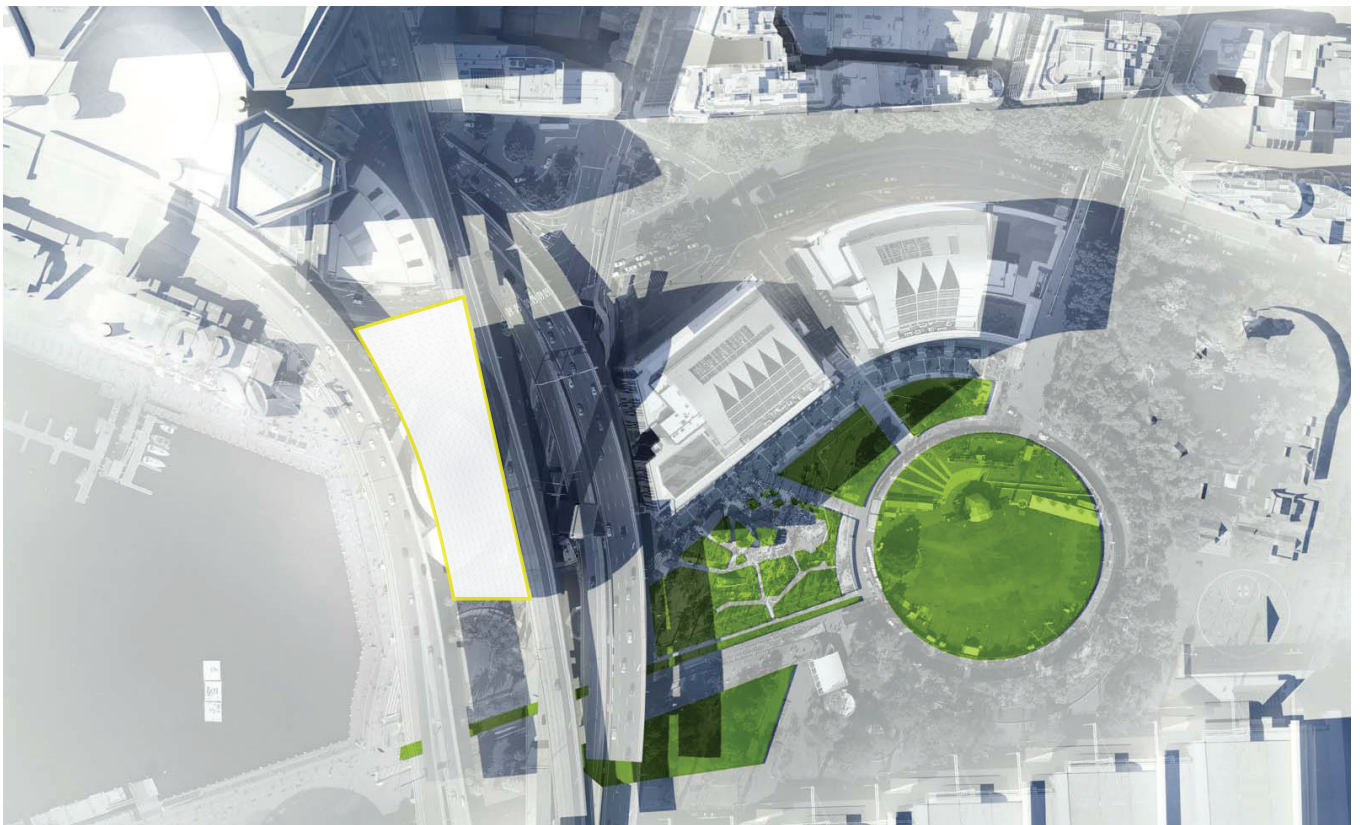
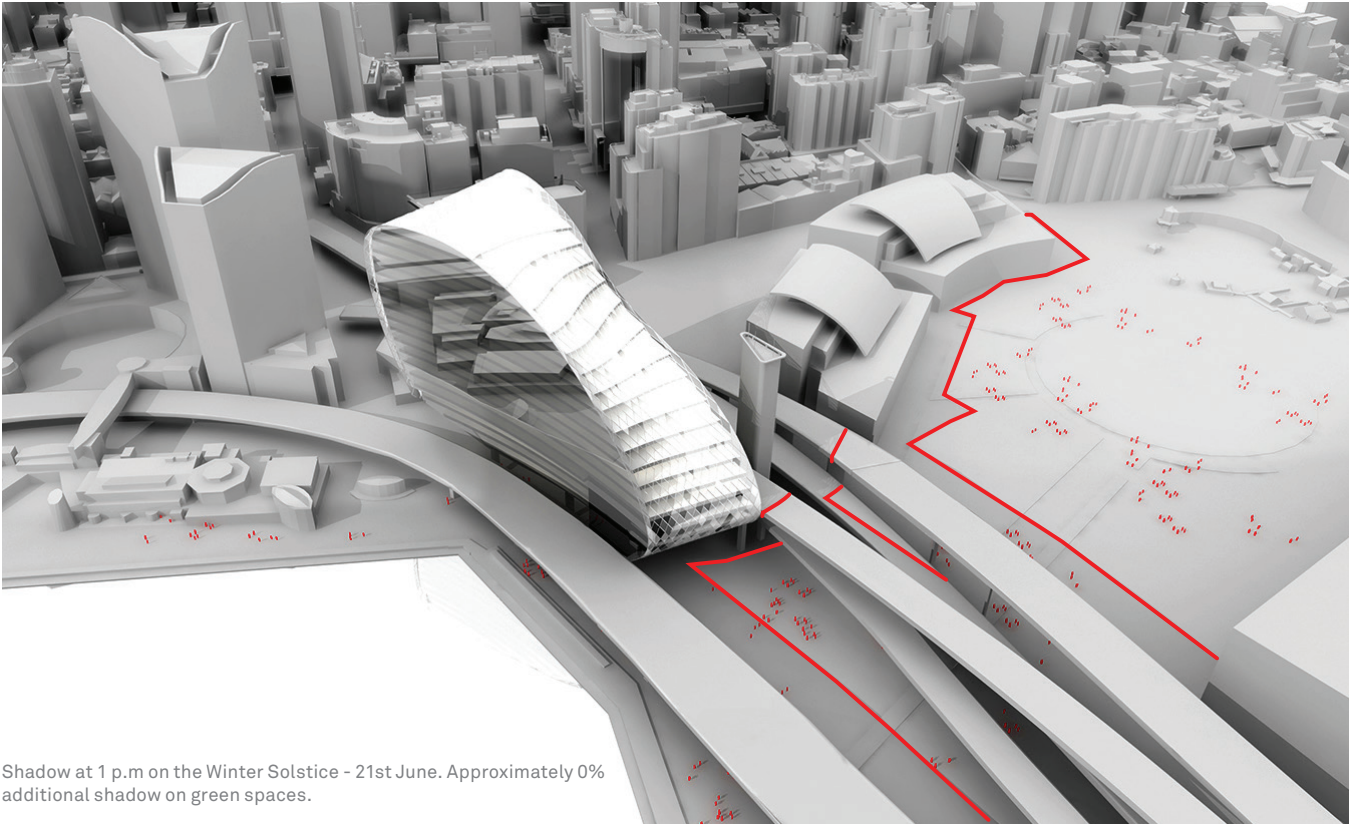
In the shadow diagrams illustrated we have calculated the percentage of shadow generated by the building mass over all green spaces in the Darling Quarter precinct. This includes the Children’s Playground, Tumbalong Park, Exhibition Green and the Village Green and equates to approximately 19,000 sqm. Commonwealth Bank Place, by architects FJMT and developers Lend Lease, was approved some years ago, before SICEEP was set to dramatically change Darling Harbour.

Today Darling Harbour is moving towards a density on par with the CBD rather than this lower scale of development while maintaining and enhancing the public spaces for patrons.

Just as the Commonwealth Place buildings frame Darling Quarter parklands, The Ribbon frames Darling Harbour, hugging the roadways and curving with the water.

01 Urban design context

Massing explorations

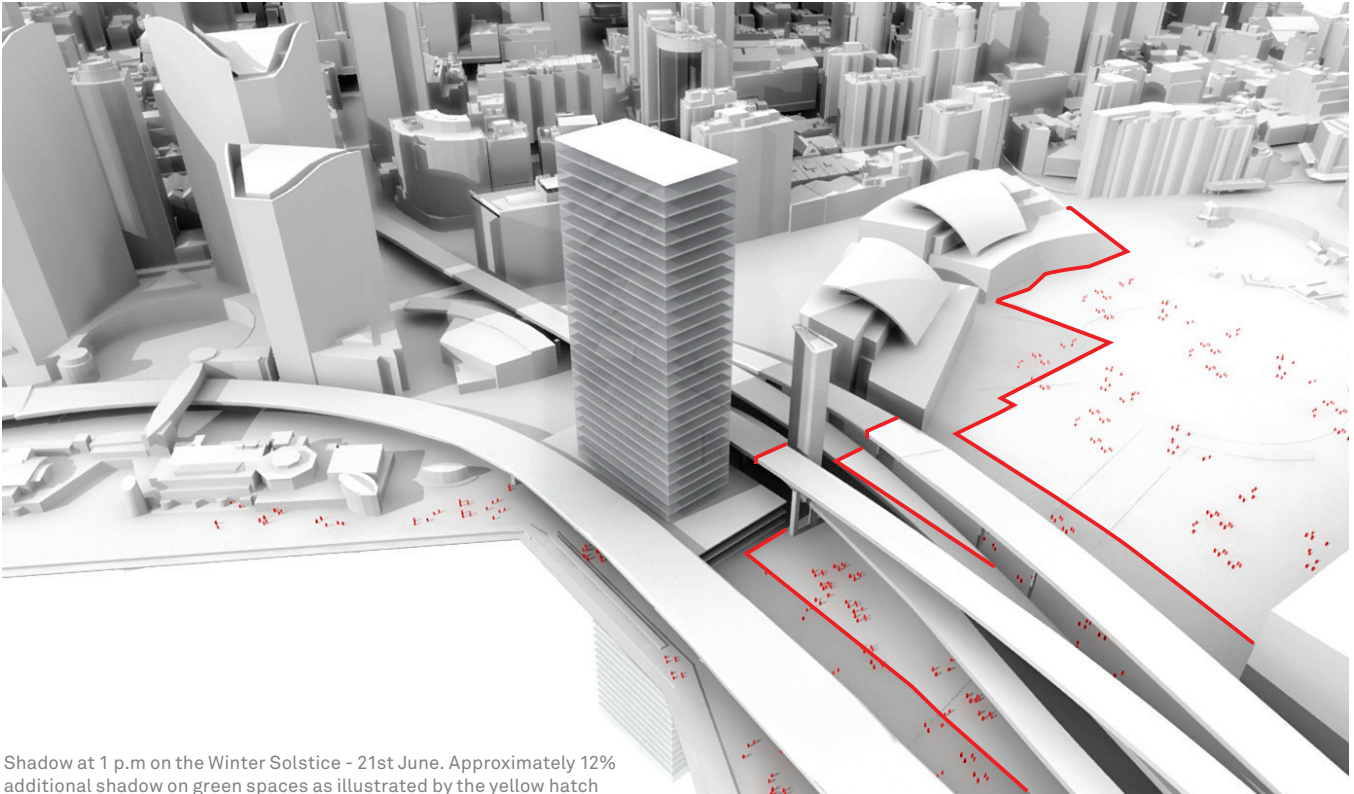


01 Urban design context

Massing explorations

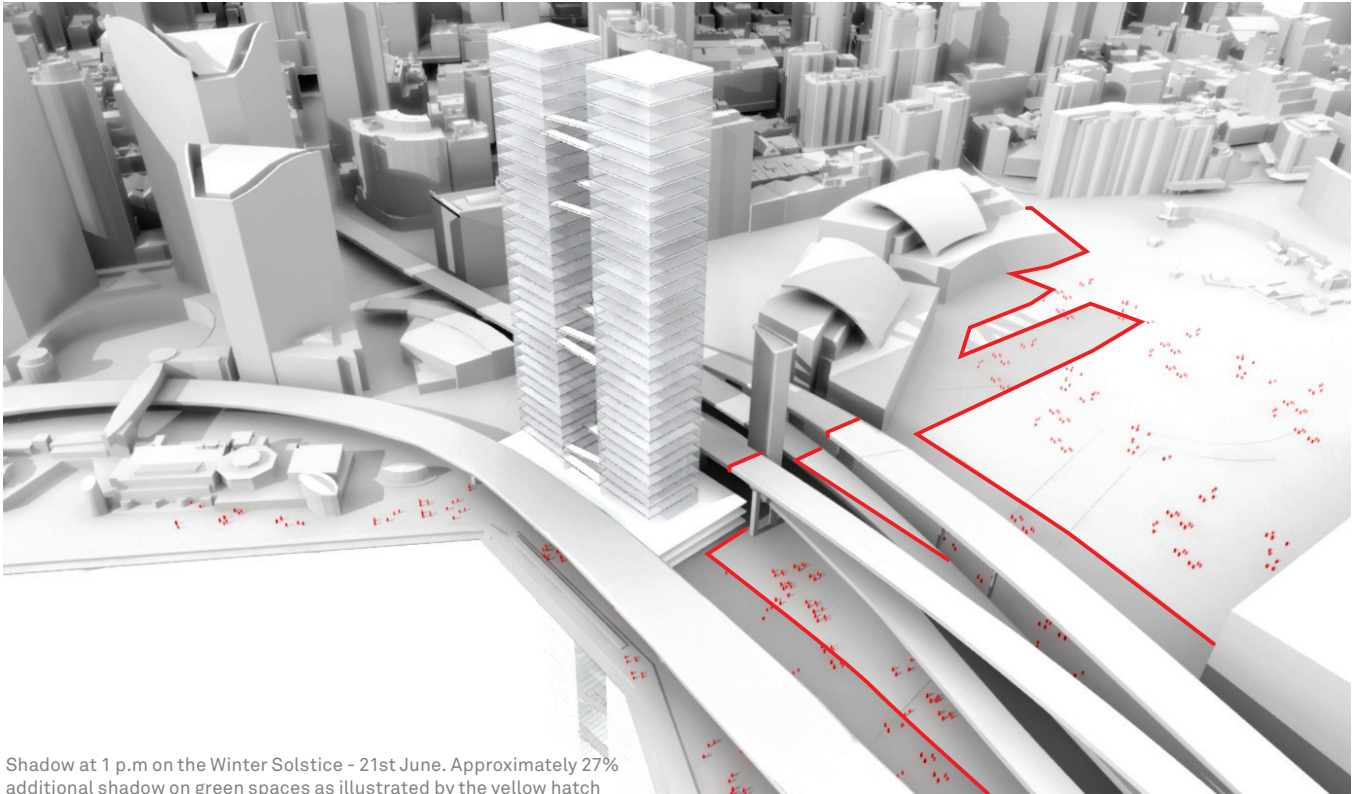
Massing Study 1

A large ground floor base has a negative impact to the public domain by blocking pedestrian connections. A Single tall tower has significant overshadowing to Darling Quarter.

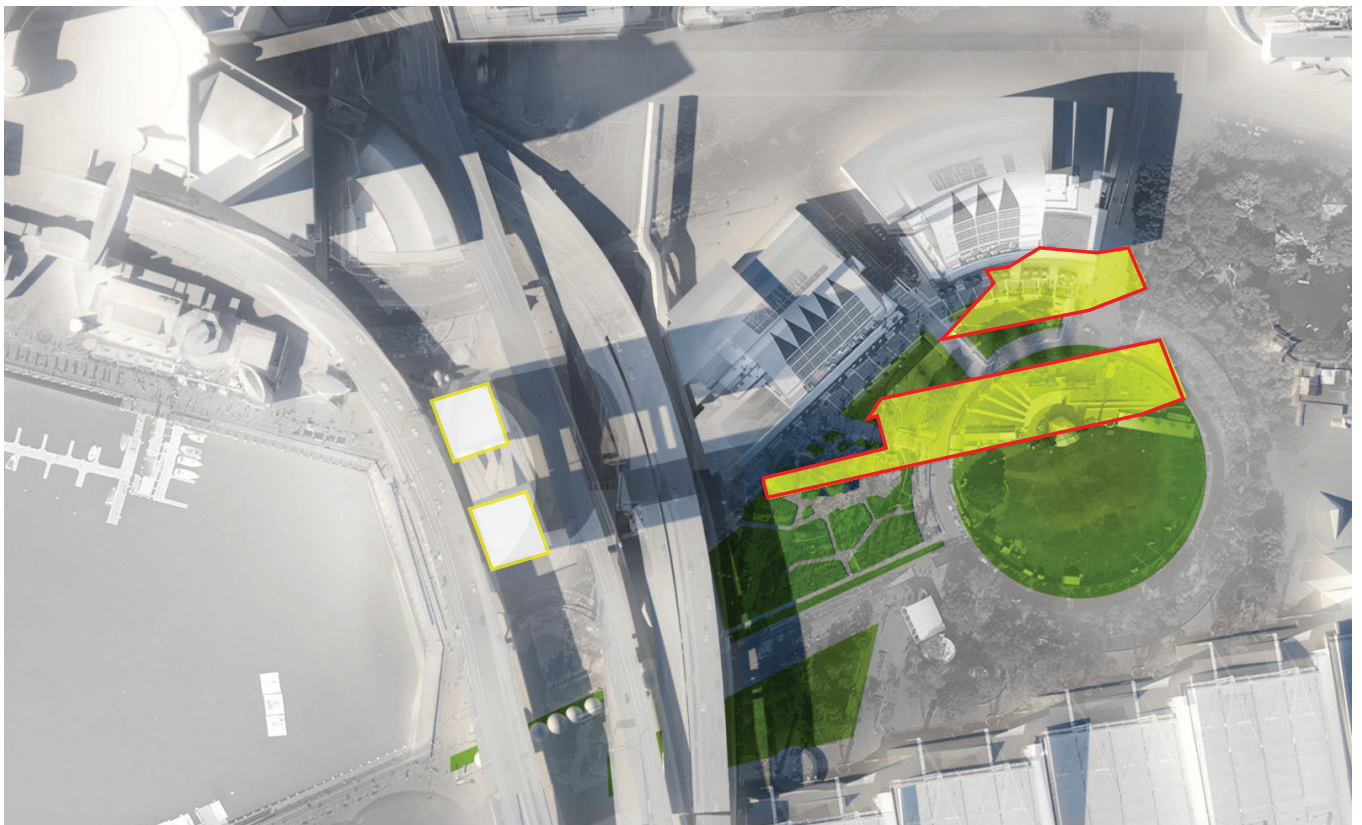


Massing Study 2

This study emphasises height by creating two thin towers on the site. The overshadowing to Darling Quarter is significant.



Shadow at 1 p.m. on the Winter Solstice - 21st June. Approximately 27% additional shadow on green spaces as illustrated by the yellow hatch

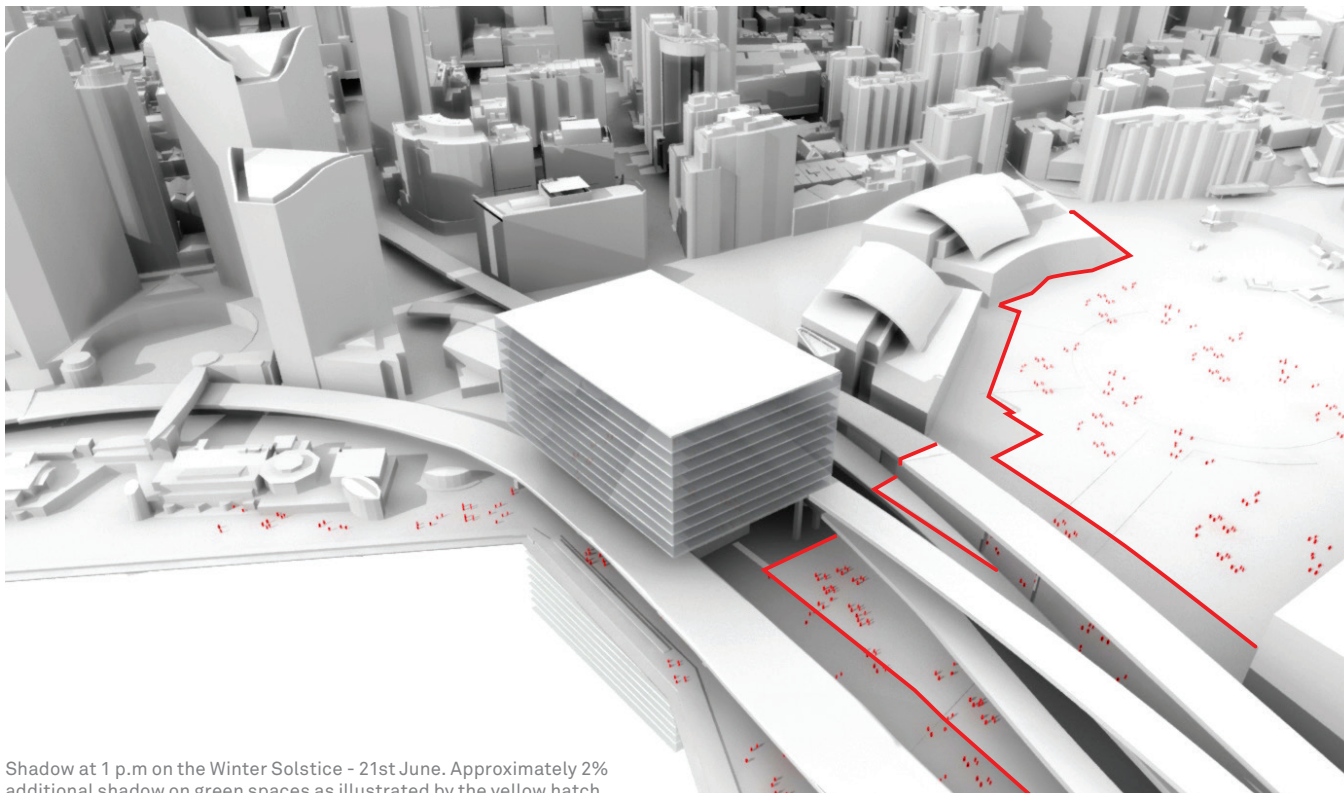


01 Urban design context

Massing explorations

Massing Study 3

This study explores a lower wider form that extends over the roadway. The bulk of the building is top heavy and not ideal.



Shadow at 1 p.m on the Winter Solstice - 21st June. Approximately 2% additional shadow on green spaces as illustrated by the yellow hatch

