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Compiled by Rianie van der Linde
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However, different browsers (with different settings and/or add-ons) can result in certain systems or functionality within systems not operating correctly.

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3 ARRIVING AT THE DIAGRAM

RESPONDING TO THE SITE

Unless you are designing a demountable temporary structure capable of erection on any site, then the nature of the site is one of the few constants in any architectural programme. Other fundamentals like, for example, the brief, or the budget may well change as the design progresses, but generally the site remains as one of the few fixed elements to which the designer can make a direct response. Just as an architect may establish quite early in the design process an ‘image’ of designing can get under way. There are obvious physical characteristics like contour and climate, for example, which may stimulate the designer’s creative imagination but first it is imperative to comprehend the ‘sense of place’ which the site itself communicates. It is necessary therefore, to have some understanding of the locality, its history, its social structure and physical patterns or ‘grain’, so that the form and density of your proposed interventions are appropriate. This is best achieved by observation and sketching on site as is the less problematical recording of the site’s physical...
developed into a vernacular typology (Figure 3.10) in which architecture and nature established a close correspondence, a source of constant inspiration to both designers and theorists since the eighteenth century. But as a burgeoning nineteenth-century technology in turn created a new building technology, so a new tectonic typology (Figure 3.11) emerged concerned with new structural and constructional devices for removed from vernacular precedent. Finally, architects have found themselves profoundly influenced by the physical context in which they design, so that a contextual typology (Figure 3.12) has developed. Not surprisingly, all these typologies have been developed to great levels of sophistication and represent, as a combined resource in the form of exemplary precedent, the fundamental springboard for effectively prosecuting building design.
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