Studio Sergison Accademia di architettura Università della Svizzera italiana

Autumn Semester 2011 Low-rise, high-density 1

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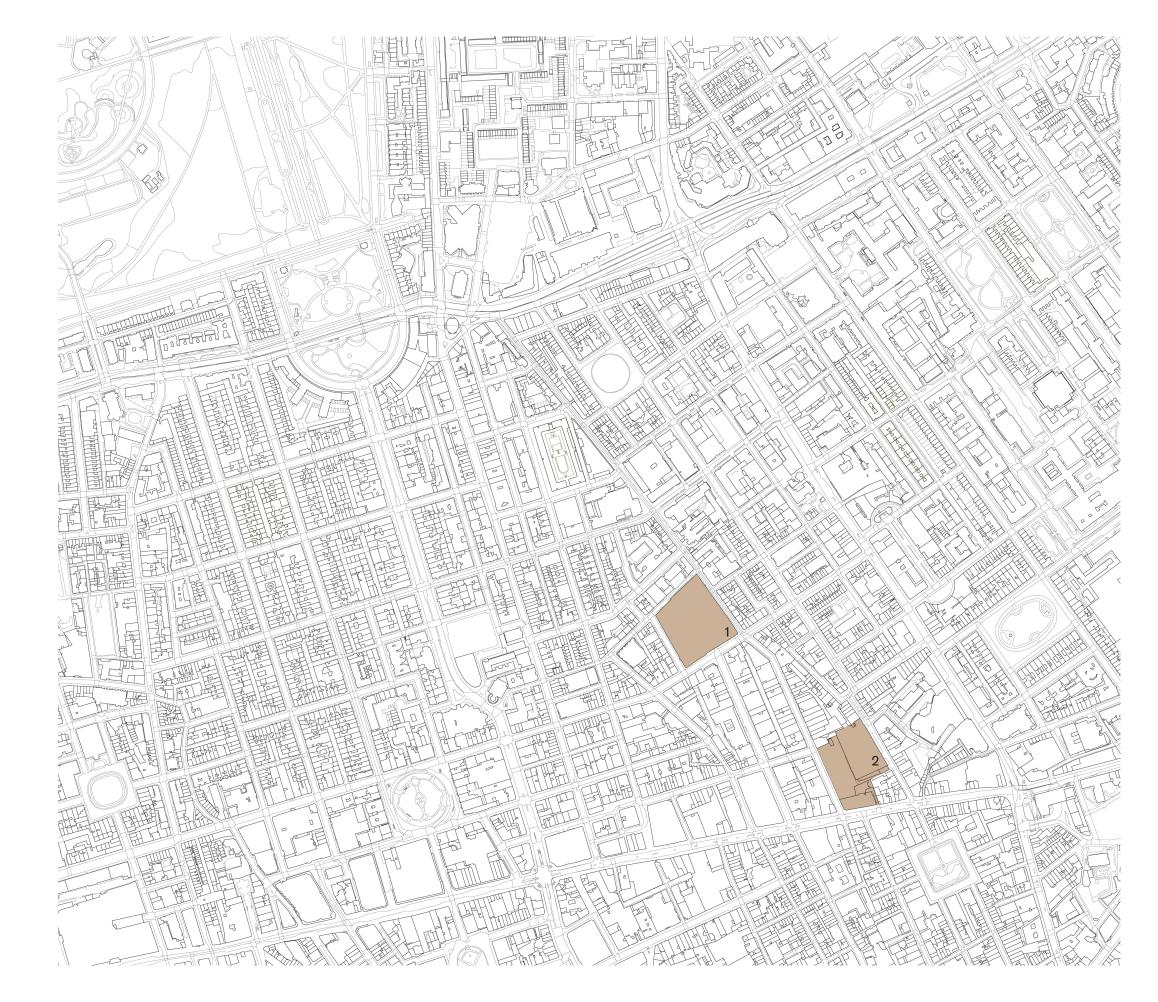
In the autumn semester 2011, we began an ambitious and far reaching study of the European city and the manner on which housing density can be increased without needing to resort to high-rise solutions. The overall thematic investigation is entitled low-rise, high-density.

In this first instance the studio travelled to London, the city in Western Europe that is currently experiencing the greatest pressure to increase housing density. For the city to address the current imbalance between supply and demand there is a need, in the next 20 years, to build approximately 300,000 news homes. In part this need will be met at the periphery of the city, but London is currently not a very dense urban condition, and for many reasons the possibility of densifying areas of the historic center make sense. Care was taken to ensure that this is not done at the loss of the qualities that currently make central London remarkable.

Two sites in Fitzrovia in central London were chosen. One was formally the location of a large hospital building, which was demolished in 2008. Planning approval was awarded for a project of very little merit. The other site, currently accommodating a large post office function is currently being considered for a mixed-use project. Our work strove to develop credible alternatives that match the density of the current/ previous projects but which are, we believe, urbanistically and architecturally much more ambitious.

Photograph by Constance Leroy and Simon Jouin















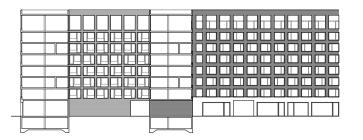
4 Photograph by Matthew Bailey, Vittor Pessoa Colombo





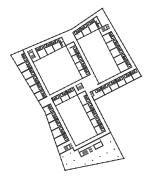


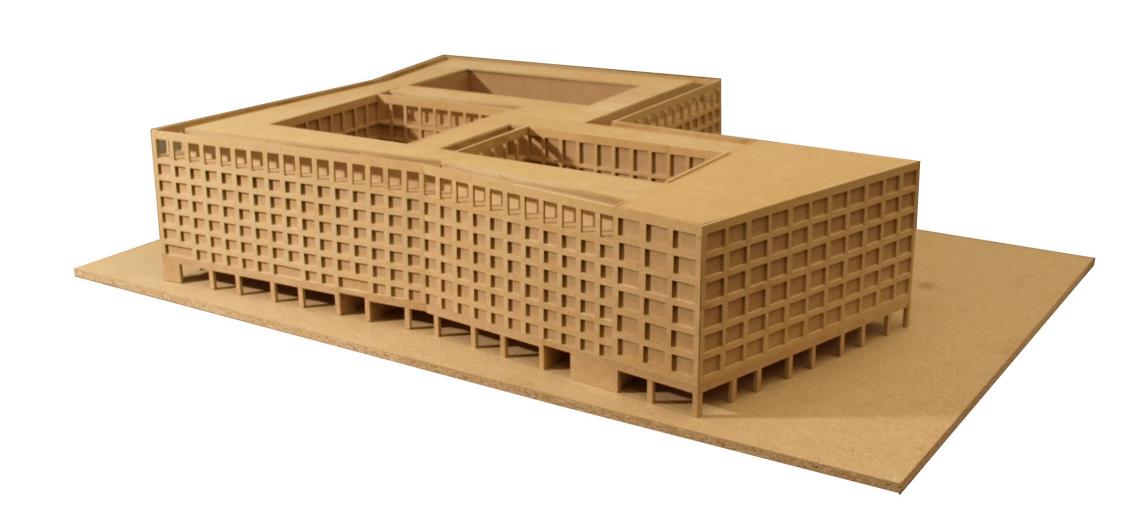


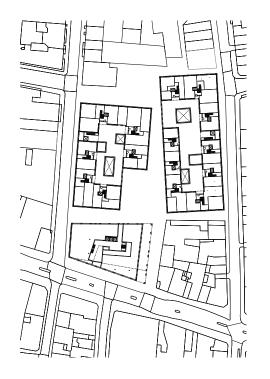


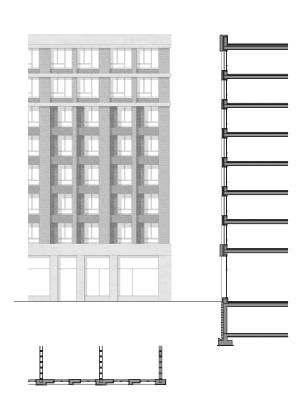


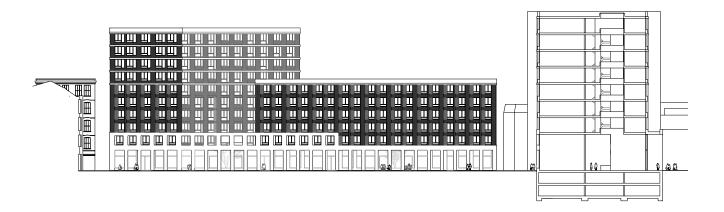




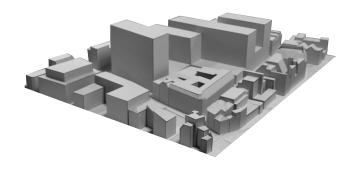




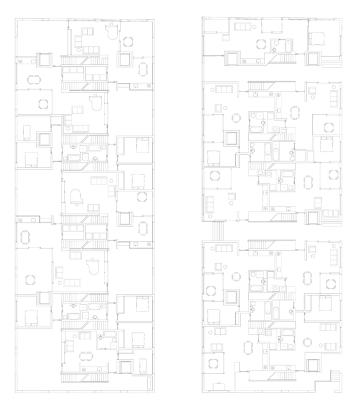








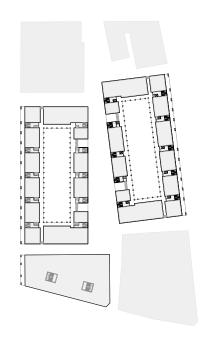


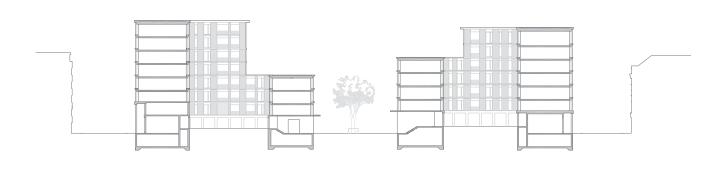


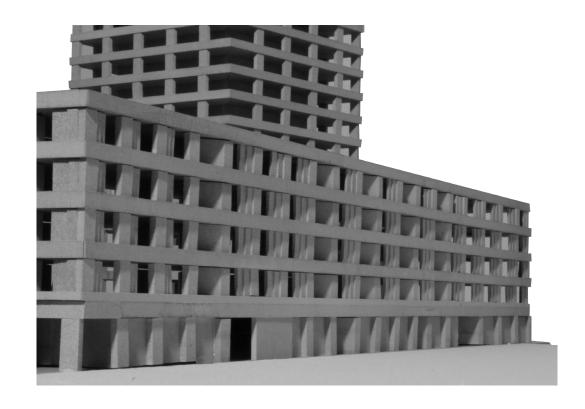




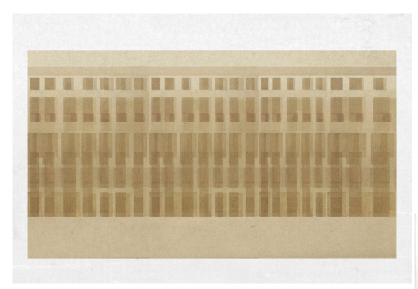










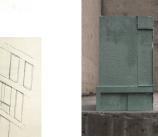
























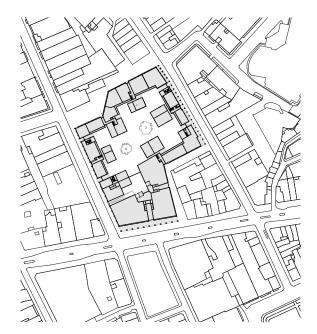


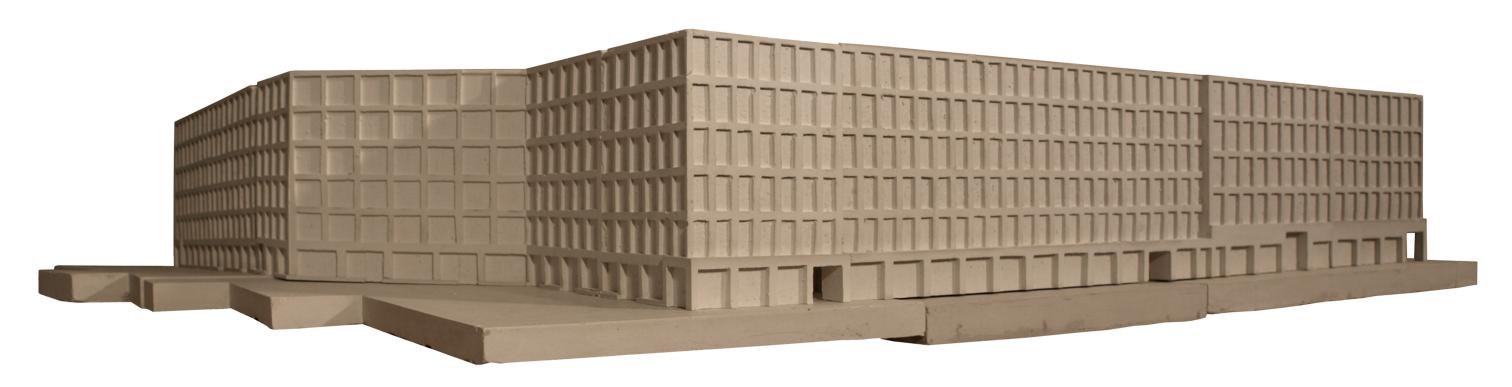


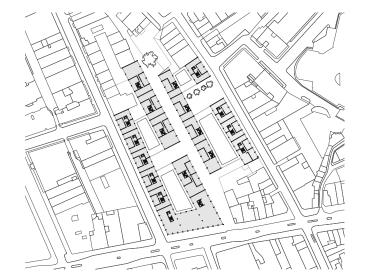




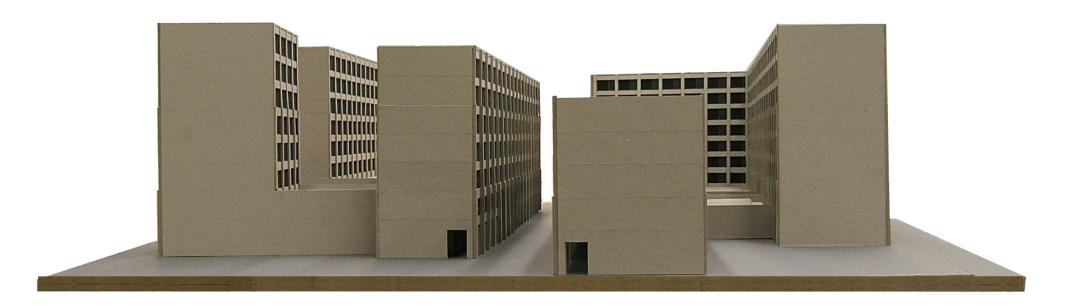


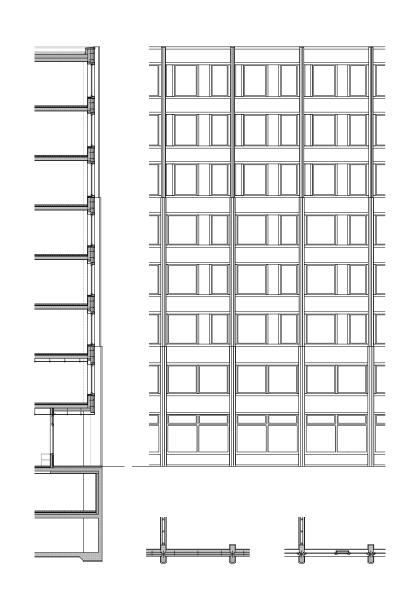






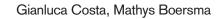


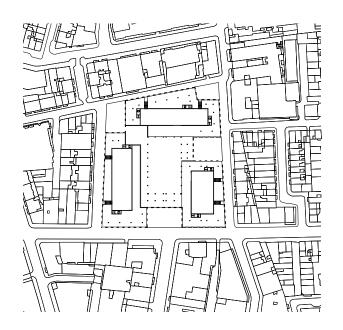


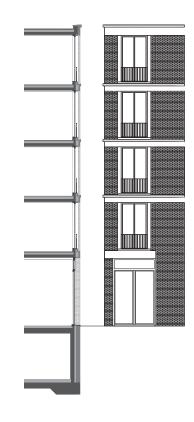


Lorenzo Donati, Matteo Clerici







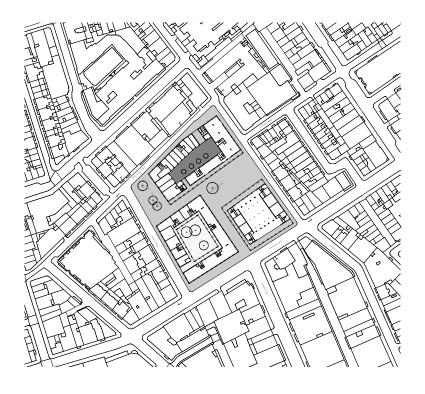








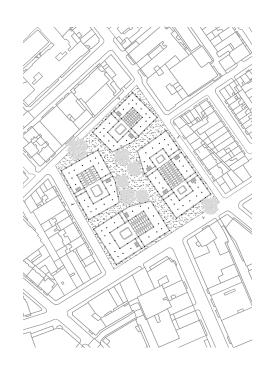
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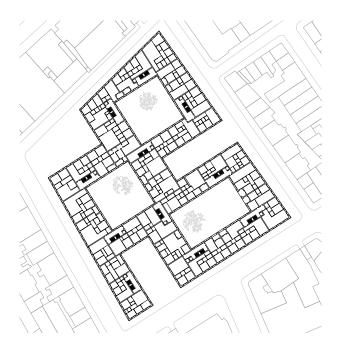




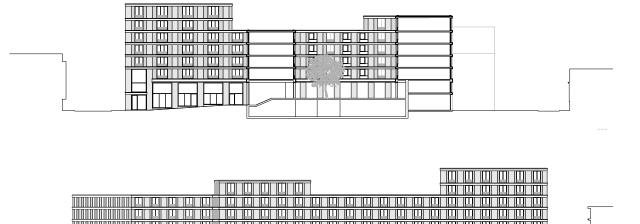




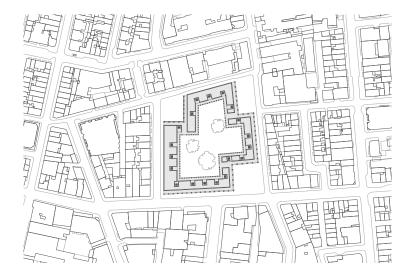




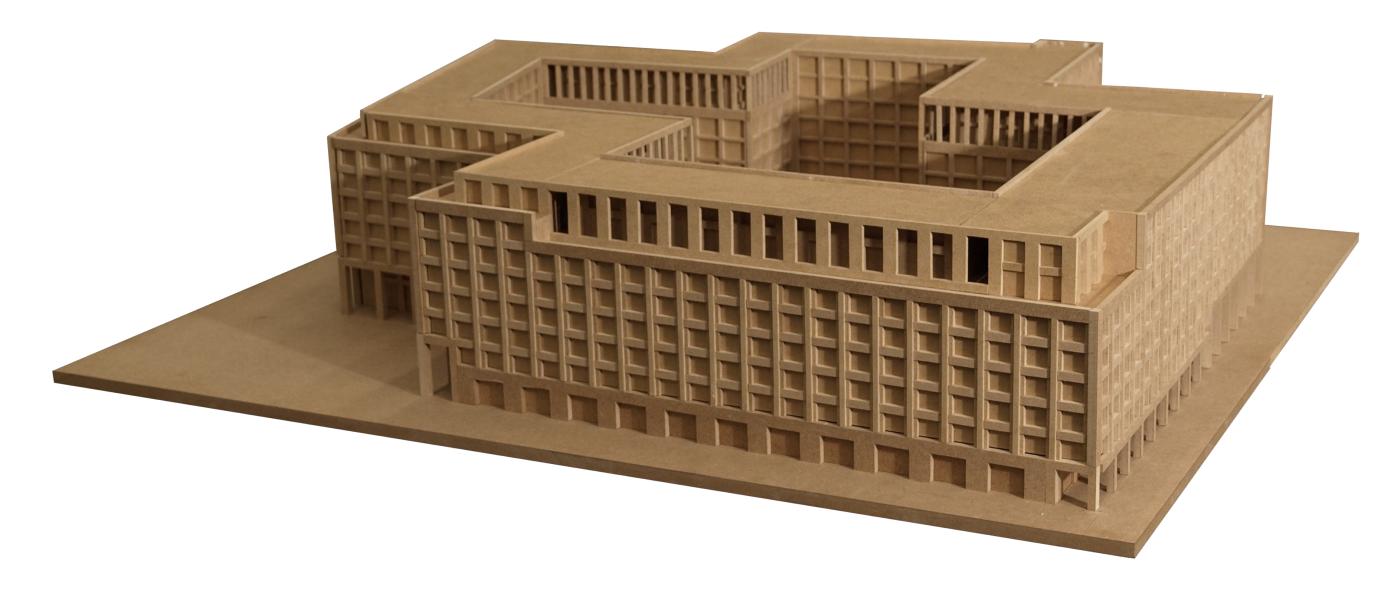




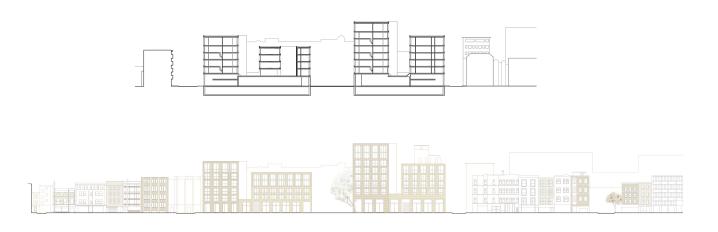
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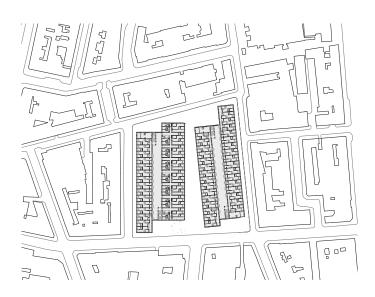


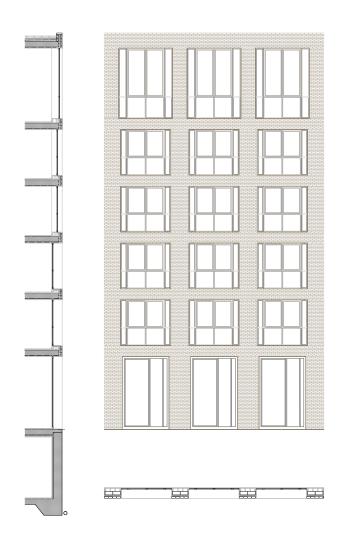














Matthew Bailey, Vittor Pessoa Colombo



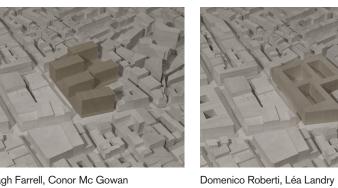
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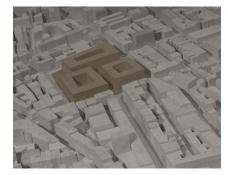
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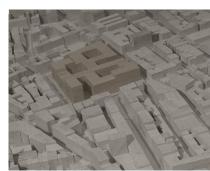
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Pablo Garrido Arnaiz, Cristina Roiz de la Parra

Concept: Jonathan Sergison Editing: Marina Aldrovandi Graphic concept: Cartlidge Levene

Graphic design: Sarah Maunder, Corinne Weber Printing: Publistampa, Italy Paper: Munken Pure

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ISBN 978-0-9542371-8-9



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