

Figure 5.13 Projecting verge.

as part of a design strategy. It is possible to place a continuous rooflight at a roof's ridge simply within the roof plane, elevated (**Figure 5.15**), or projecting one roof plane beyond another to form 'dormers' (**Figure 5.16**). The latter solution has the benefit of offering reflected light off the ceiling plane.

We have already seen how the choice of wall membrane can profoundly affect a building's appearance; whether heavy or light, loadbearing or non-structural infill to a frame. But the wall must also accommodate openings for access, lighting, views out and ventilation as well as providing aesthetically satisfactory connections with roof, intermediate floors and the ground. The wall must also turn corners so that quoins and re-entrants are significant visual events rather than mere planning expedients.



Figure 5.14 Clipped/parapet verge.



Figure 5.15 Continuous rooflight.



Figure 5.16 Ridge 'dormer' window.

OPENINGS

Planning the pattern of openings in an external wall has long exercised the designer's imagination; the classical language of architecture offered an ordering system of proportions for this task which Le Corbusier was to reinterpret as variously 'Regulating Lines', and 'Le Modulor'. These were evolved to ensure a building's order and harmony, including its elevational treatment.

Whilst the primary consideration when placing orifices within the wall must be the provision of light and access, areas of void within an elevation may have other purposes. For example, entrances have symbolic importance as thresholds and such openings must be fashioned with this in mind. Moreover, within a framed building a continuous clerestory window may effect by separation a visual transition between roof and wall (**Figure 5.17**); should the eaves project, this will also provide reflected light from the roof's external soffit, an effect heightened if the soffit projects over water. In a similar fashion vertical strips of glazing adjacent to a column can highlight the column, again assisting in the process of 'reading' a framed building (**Figure 5.18**).

ELEVATIONS

Indeed, as has already been indicated, our whole attitude towards structure, its expression



Figure 5.17 Clerestory/roof/wall junction.