11 NETHERHALL GARDENS NW3 5RN

PLANT ENCLOSURE FOR AIR SOURCE HEAT PUMPS

DESIGN STRATEGY

Background

The Sustainability Report attached to the original planning application reviewed options available to achieve Code for Sustainable Homes level 3, but left the final technical selection to the design development stage to allow for development both of the scheme and of available technologies. Consequently the location of the equipment was not shown on that application.

Subsequent applications have amended the form and content of the basement (including the removal of the swimming pool) and design development has focused on air source heat pumps as the main source of heating and cooling for the scheme, complemented by solar hot water panels and photovoltaic panels.

A more detailed Sustainability Statement approved as a pre-start condition application has developed the proposal for air source heat pumps.

Design Development

Development studies demonstrated that the heat pumps would be best located in the rear garden, being the most remote location both from the new apartments and equally from neighbouring buildings.

The acoustic study by Sandy Brown Associates proposed two options to ensure the achievement of Camden noise requirements, and the second has been selected, acoustic louvres to the roof of the enclosure.

Visual Impact

The rear of the garden has a hedge-like green boundary fronting woodland beyond. Against this backdrop the plant enclosure is faced with a sculpted feature panel and reflecting water trough, which forms a visual focal point in the garden. The panel itself is being specially designed for the project but the inspiration behing the concept is illustrated in this photograph of a Ben Nicholson relief:

