

Royal Free Entrance Remodelling: landscape statement March 2009

The remodelling of the main entrance creates an opportunity to revitalise the entrance courtyard, and the existing street frontage.

The existing mature street trees along Pond Street provide an important screen to the neighbouring houses however the under storey groundcover and patchy grass needs improving.

Proposals Pond Street

The planting design aims to freshen up the under storey to the existing mature trees along Pond Street.

The shady conditions limit the choice of species but the proposals aim to provide colour and texture balanced with relatively low maintenance.

The design will link the three street shrub beds together by providing an interesting form particularly when viewed from above. A zig zag band of Geranium runs through a mix of differing ground cover such as Cotoneaster, Hedera, Lamium, Lonicera and Vinca. Although the growing conditions limits the choice of plants the aim is to have a coherent scheme that not only that holds the different beds together but enhances the setting of the hospital and the improves the approach for patients and visitors.

The ground cover planting will be complimented with bulbs, grasses and individual shrubs to add interest. To the back of the bed climbers attached to frames and larger shrubs will help to soften the decked entrance structure and its new extension.

The poor conditions and the sensitive nature of planting within the tree root zone means that there will only be limited hand cultivation to loosen the surface. The area will then be spot planted with small plants so as not to disturb the tree roots. Once planted the whole of the bed will be covered in 100mm of composted bark to improve the soil condition.

Sculpture Terrace

The raised planters around the sculpture are to be planted with a choice of species providing colour, contrast and smell through the year. The ground cover planting of predominantly Lavender, Geranium and Lamium will be complimented with bulbs, grasses and taller individual specimen shrubs such as Amelanchier, Philadelphus and Choisya to add interest.

The use of the bamboo will help to enclose the space to the east around the café. To the west a line of bamboo will help to screen the parked vehicles from the sculpture.

On 27 Mar 2009, at 12:07, Mark Herbert wrote:

Thanks Jamie.

From: Jamie Buchanan [mailto:jbla@landskab.co.uk]