

Hatton Square

Application Ref: 2013/5404/P
Information to support omission of living wall

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Ecology Strategy

Proposed Omission of Living Wall

Investigation of the proposed living wall areas to the South Elevation has suggested that providing access to regularly maintain it would be difficult to achieve in such a closed off area. It is therefore proposed to omit the living wall, and focus on achieving the ecological enhancements to the site through the green roof areas.

The living wall was previously proposed as a pre-grown ivy ‘green screen’ system, typically grown as a monoculture that has a guaranteed survival rate. The ivy grows from a planter mounted on the wall and is supported on a metal mesh.

As this system consists of a single species, it makes a negligible contribution to increasing the species diversity and enhancing the ecological value of the site, at an estimated species value of 1 per hectare covering around 64m2 of wall fully grown.

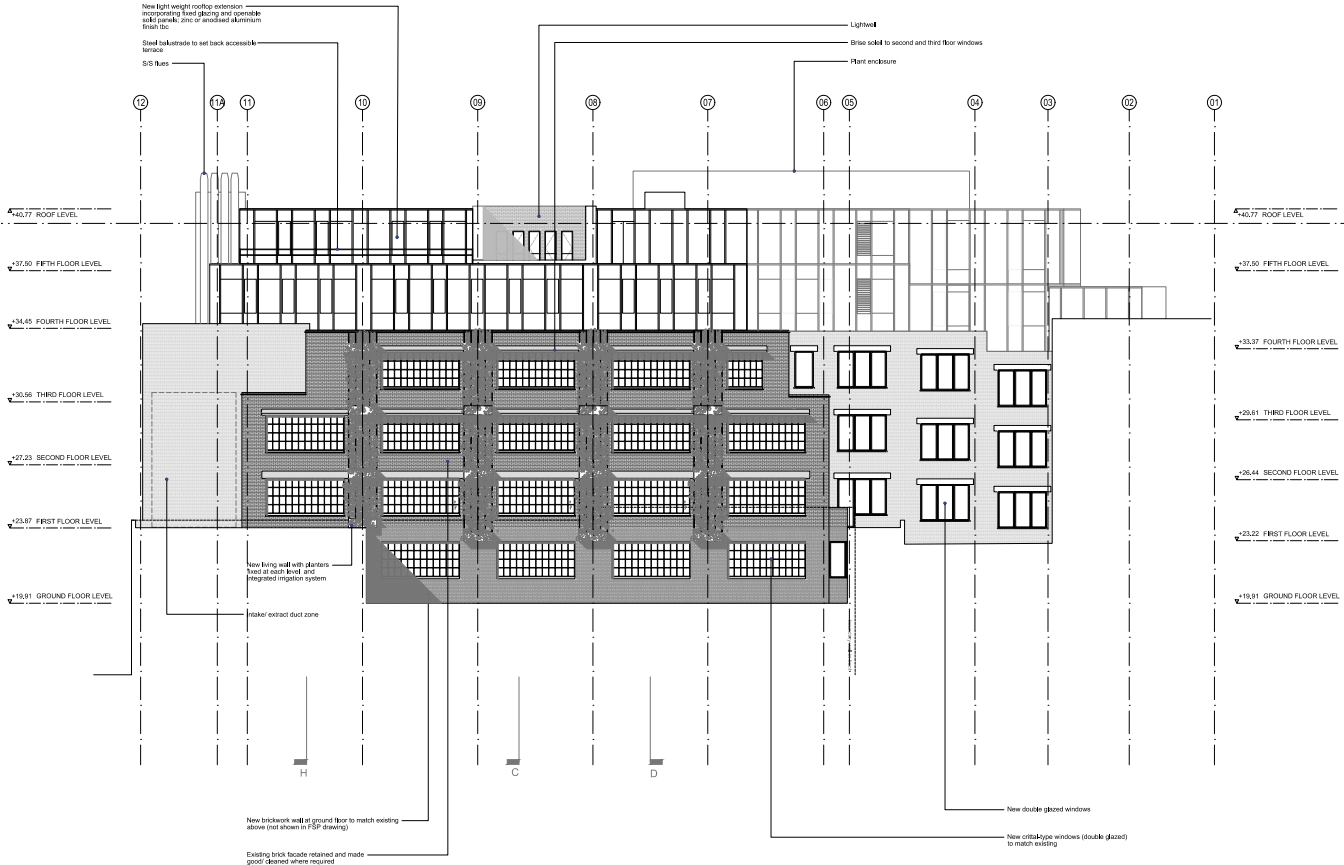
In contrast, approx 310m2 of biodiverse green roof has been installed, using a combination of a pre-grown wildflower blanket, with additional plug plants at a minimum density of 12 plants/m2 (see Specification by the Green Roof Consultancy). The biodiverse roof achieves the maximum number of BREEAM credits available for both LE04 - Mitigating Ecological Impact, and LE05 - Enhancing Site Ecology.

Using a biodiverse green roof with a species richness of 46 species/Ha in the areas as shown results in a species change score of + 8.13, (a minimum score of +6 is needed to achieve all three of the BREEAM LE05 credits).

| | Area (Ha) | Species Richness | Area x Species Richness |
|--|-----------|------------------|-------------------------|
| Fourth Floor Biodiverse | 0.0209 | 46 | 0.9614 |
| Fifth Floor Biodiverse | 0.0101 | 46 | 0.4646 |
| Total Roof Area | 0.1755 | | |
| Species Score Sum(Area x Species Richness)/Total Roof Area | | | 8.13 |

The provision of the varied ecological landscape also meets the local, regional and national biodiversity action plans for: Black Redstart Action Plan (London Biodiversity Action Plan LBP); Built Environment (Camden Biodiversity Action Plan, LBP); Open Mosaic Habitat Action Plan (National).

Schwegler bird boxes are proposed within the scheme, with specific model types recommended by the Ecology Consultancy. These were previously proposed to enhance the ecological value of the green screen, but can be installed to provide additional habitats in the vicinity of the green roof without requiring the green screen.



Consented South Elevation showing green screen areas

Typical pre-grown ivy green screen



Schwegler Birdboxes

From left: SP1 - Sparrow Terrace
2H - Open fronted 120mm
1B - Entrance holes of 26mm and 32mm



Biodiverse Roof as Installed

Photographs showing the biodiverse roof on installation during construction phase, including log pile environments for beetles and gravel boundary strip.

