

DESIGN STATEMENT

The over-arching aim of this master plan is to place the architecture within a natural context that connects it to its local environment and yet at the same time screens it away from immediate neighbours.

The North east boundary sloping down to the building is retained in its original contour in order to preserve the site's existing mature trees. Otherwise, this bank will be re-planted with an exciting palette of trees for screening as well as an underplanting of woodland shrubs, perennials and ground cover plants.

There is a very strong emphasis on planting which more or less surrounds and covers the entire building. In the choice of trees that we have made we have placed this emphasis on either native or naturalized species. Oak, lime, birch and maple are all to be found on the Heath. Placed on the boundaries of the site they provide crucial screening from, as well as forging a clear connection with, the Heath beyond.

The design also places a very strong emphasis on biodiversity. Native wild flower meadow and expansive borders (the long border alone features nearly 90 sqm of semi-natural planting), ensure that the site will play a hugely important role in attracting wildlife of all kinds.

This is a garden for entertainment too. The water garden provides a strong sense of depth in a very awkwardly shaped site and also references the presence of major bodies of water in the local area. It offers a space that you can walk through and stop in on route to the pergola nestled into a bold planting of perennial grasses and herbaceous plants. A generous lawn provides plenty of room for a growing family to enjoy a real sense of space.



ENTRANCE

The entrance provides parking for two vehicles and offers access points to the entire site. The Bogen interlocking fan ground treatment offers a real sense of flow as you enter, flowing towards the entrance in a natural way. Bin and bike store is provided.

LOWER TERRACE

Curved steps take you down to the lower terrace through a grove of Amelanchiers which gives way to the long border with it's full woodland edge planting scheme. A rock garden in the nook of the stairs conceals the surrounding retaining walls. Subtle lighting to key features such as trees and the sculpture adjacent to the main doors out onto the terrace help to enhance atmosphere.

THE WATER GARDEN

This area offers a sense of depth and focus. As well as being a space that you can rest in and move through, it presents a stunning water fountain and aromatic planting close to the main seating area so that dining on the terrace will be a huge pleasure. Finely pencil clipped Thuja frame and provide vertical accent within the space. Water wall, shutes and fountain may be gently uplit from within the water in order to visually enhance the overall experience in the evening.

PERGOLA AND PERENNIAL MEADOW

We move through the aromatic planting beds towards steps up to the pergola which provides a stunning garden destination with relaxed seating. This bespoke Pergola is surrounded by a strong planting of perennial grasses and herbaceous plants, making it feel nestled within the landscape whilst offering a view back towards the house and along the terraces towards the secret garden. Gentle downlighting could be fixed to the frame to facilitate use in the evening.

GARDEN TERRACES

Two tiered terraces provide a striking and beautiful solution to the change in level from lawn to adjacent building. The upper terrace is planted with native wildflower meadow and also enables us to plant trees on the boundary that will offer crucial screening. Curved stands of taxus hedging emphasise the sense of flow from the pavilion area towards the front of the site.

SECRET GARDEN

This is a destination accessed either from the terraces or from the main entrance. It is playfully conceived as a partially hidden area that children could enjoy. Equally it could provide a seated destination from which the woodland garden may be enjoyed.

WOODLAND GARDEN

This heavily planted bank with its occasional boulders helping to retain soil will be a joy to wander through whilst at the same time providing much needed screening between the building and adjacent neighbouring properties. The main path could be way-lit at night with gentle uplighting to semi-mature trees offering a real sense of atmosphere.

NOTES

Please note that any suggestions for lighting above will be handed on to a specialist lighting designer who will be able to successfully tackle the demands of light pollution and local ecology.

Proposed spot heights are shown in black. Existing contours are shown in blue and contours are shown in white.

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INFORM THE DESIGNER BEFORE ANY WORK STARTS IF THE DRAWINGS EXCEED THE QUANTITIES IN ANY WAY.  
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**Project name**  
53 Fitzroy Park  
**Client**  
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**Drawing name**  
Master plan

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002

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JD/HC

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