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Design, Access and Heritage Statement 61 Castlenau, London SW13 9RT

Date : 13/06/2024 Version 1 prepared by Stylus Architects

This statement has been prepared by Stylus Architects on behalf of our clients, Mr and Mrs Turner, as part of a planning application submission to Richmond Upon Thames Council. This statement should be read in conjunction with the other documents and drawings submitted as part of the application.

1. Existing Property

- 1.1. The existing property is located on Castlenau in the council of Richmond Upon Thames. It is located within the Conservation Area of Castlenau (No.25). Castlenau consists of 2-3 storey large Victorian, Edwardian and Georgian detached and semi-detached houses. The proposed development site is set back from the main road and is surrounded by hedges and trees.
- 1.2. The dwelling is a 2-storey Late Victorian semi-detached house with an existing loft conversion and basement. The recent planning application has been granted for replacement rear extension and side return, replacement rear dormer and alterations to fenestration. Provision of rooflights. - Application: **23/3097/HOT**.
- 1.3. The house is situated on a large site with an extensive back garden and front driveway.
- 1.4. The front elevation features a bay window from the ground floor to first floor level. The front door is set into the elevation and there is an existing garage to the side of the property.

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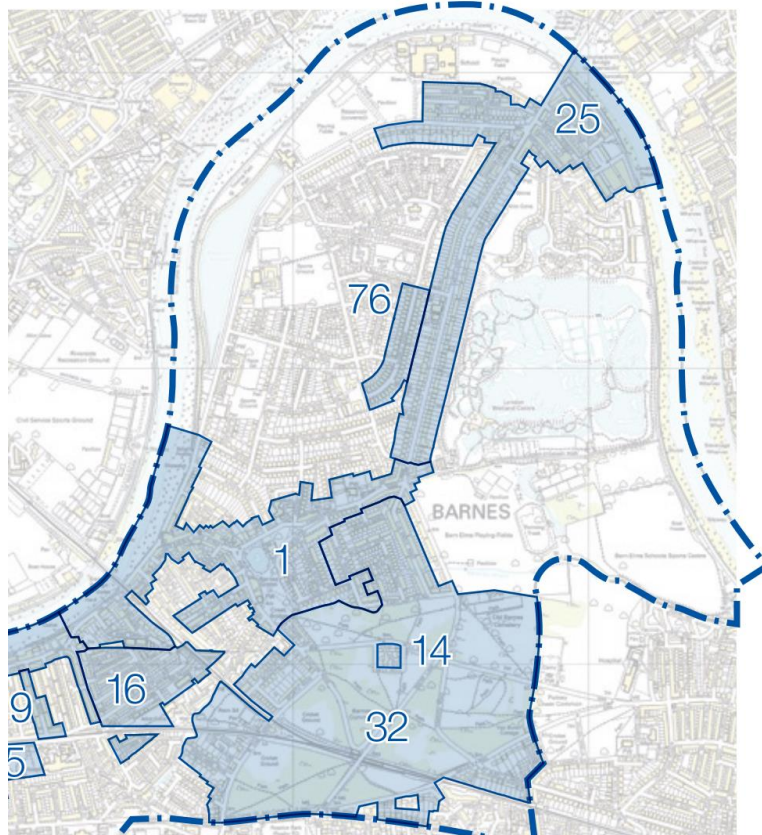


Fig 1: London Borough of Richmond Conservation Areas – Castlenau (25).

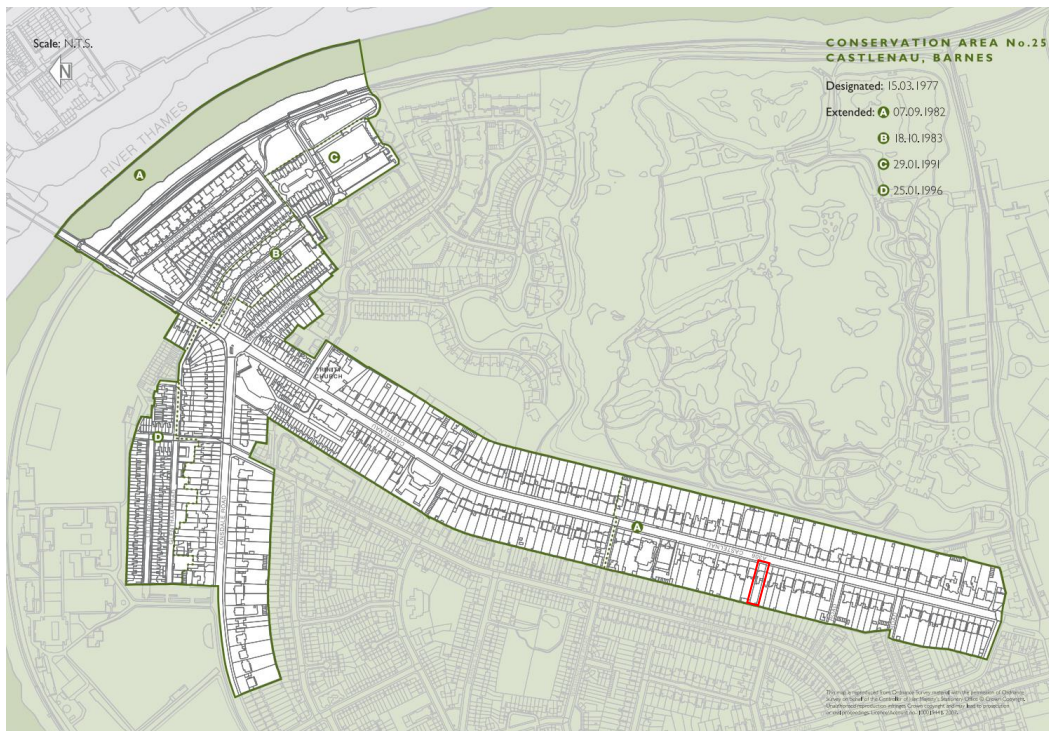


Fig 2: Conservation area 25 – Castlenau (61 Castlenau outlined in red)

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2. Proposed Works

2.1. The application is for the addition of an Air Source Heat Pump (ASHP) to enable this large traditional house to benefit from green energy supplies and reduce its overall energy consumption. The system requires the listed ASHP unit (Fig.1) to be located within 20 meters of the plant room, which is situated in the garage. This proximity is essential for the efficient operation of the system and ensures optimal performance.



Fig 1. Viessmann - VITOCAL 151-A

2.2. An independent Noise Impact Assessment report has been commissioned to ensure that the unit has no adverse acoustic effect. Please find attached to the documents submitted along with the planning application.

2.3. As mentioned in the Noise Impact Assessment report, the recommendation is to have noise mitigation in the form of an acoustic enclosure, which would indicate 'Low Impact' in accordance with BS4142 and a 'minimal noise significance risk' in accordance with local criteria and corresponding to achievement 'NOEL – No Observed Effect Level' in the NPSE.

2.4. The noise mitigation system (Fig. 2) to be installed is like those produced by Environ Technologies Ltd. Their solutions effectively reduce heat pump noise and feature an elegant slimline design that blends seamlessly into any environment. The system is constructed from high-quality aluminium with a powder-coated finish and includes integrated anti-vibration features, a condensate drain tray, and lift-out louvers. Additionally, it extends the heat pump's lifespan by creating a stable operating environment, thereby maximizing the benefits of the heat pump.



Fig .2 - Environ Technologies Ltd.

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- 2.5. The Noise Impact Assessment does not take into account the closure of the Hammersmith Bridge, which previously served as a vital route for Barnes residents to cross the Thames. With the bridge closed, all traffic has been redirected to Chiswick and Putney Bridge, significantly increasing the traffic volume at these alternative crossings. This redirection has undoubtedly altered the noise landscape on Castelnau. Should the Hammersmith Bridge reopen, restoring its role as a primary thoroughfare, traffic patterns would shift dramatically, potentially reducing noise levels at Chiswick and Putney Bridge while increasing them at Barnes. This hypothetical scenario highlights that the noise impact conclusions drawn in the report could change substantially with the reopening of the bridge.

3. Precedents on Castelnau

- 3.1. 24 Castelnau – side wall units 13/1202/FUL
Installation of 2 No. AC units to the south side elevation at the rear which has been approved in 2013.



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- 3.2. 50 Castelnau – above flat roof (15/0870/HOT)
The application has been approved in 2015 with Heat Pump noted in the design and access statement.



4. Conclusion

In summary, the proposal to install an Air Source Heat Pump (ASHP) for this traditional home aims to utilise green energy and lower energy consumption. For optimal performance, the ASHP must be located within 20 meters of the plant room in the garage. A Noise Impact Assessment has been conducted to ensure no negative acoustic effects, recommending noise mitigation with an acoustic enclosure to meet minimal noise significance risk standards.

The noise mitigation system, comparable to those offered by Environ Technologies Ltd., effectively reduces noise, features a sleek design, and is built from high-quality materials to enhance the heat pump's efficiency and lifespan.

We think that the application should be approved for the following reasons:

- The noise mitigation system will effectively reduce noise, ensuring that there will be no negative impact on the residential amenity for nearby occupants.

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- The proposed scheme would not harm the street scape as it would be covered by black aluminium mitigation system, like the one on 50 Castelnau.
- There would only be beneficial environmental and sustainable impacts.

We believe the proposed plan should be considered positively due to its minimal impact on neighbouring properties. The implementation of the noise mitigation system will ensure that any potential noise from the Air Source Heat Pump is effectively controlled, preventing any disturbance to the surrounding residents. Consequently, the proposal aligns with community interests and environmental standards, making it a favourable addition to the neighbourhood.

