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23/18

BRIDGE END COTTAGE, ALLENDALE, NE47 9AA
Air Source Heat Pump External Unit and Screening

Bridge End Cottage see from the B6297 Road

Design and Heritage Statement to support application for alterations to a listed building

23/18 D & H

Townhead Alston Cumbria CA9 3SL 01434 381906 www.countryside-consultants.co.uk

Bridge End Cottage, Allendale

Design and Heritage Statement for proposal to install air source heat pump with screening

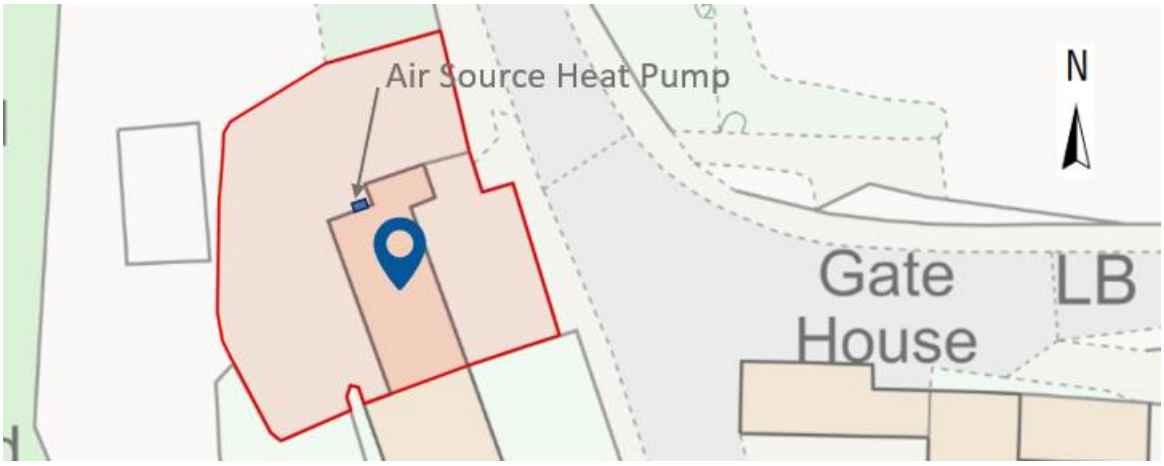
INTRODUCTION

Bridge End Cottage is one of two properties located adjacent to the B6295 Road west of Allendale. The cottage is attached to a taller and altogether much more substantial dwelling which would quite likely have been the host accommodation with the cottage providing living quarters for staff. It would appear that the cottage was probably originally two cottages as there ae two front doors.

Bridge End Cottage in relation to Allendale (not to scale)

The cottage is Grade 2 Listed and located precisely on the junction of the B6295 road and an unclassified road that leads along the west side of the Allen River and ultimately joins the B6295at Sinderhope.

The site is steeply sloping with the ground level behind the cottage well above first floor level.



The curtilage at Bridge End Cottage showing the location of the air source heat pump

Official list entry

Heritage Category: Listed Building Grade: II

List Entry Number: 1154413

Date first listed: 23-Aug-1985
List Entry Name: BRIDGE END COTTAGES
Statutory Address 1: BRIDGE END COTTAGES

Location

Statutory Address: BRIDGE END COTTAGES
The building or site itself may lie within the boundary of more than one authority.
District: Northumberland (Unitary Authority)
Parish: Allendale
National Grid Reference: NY 83402 55771

Details

NY 8355 ALLENDALE BRIDGE END
24/49 Bridge End Cottages
GV II
Pair of cottages, early C19. Coursed rubble with dressings; stone slate roof, stone ridge stack. 2 storeys, 3 bays. Renewed doors in alternating tooled and margined surrounds, renewed windows in openings with slightly- projecting sills. Included mainly for group value.

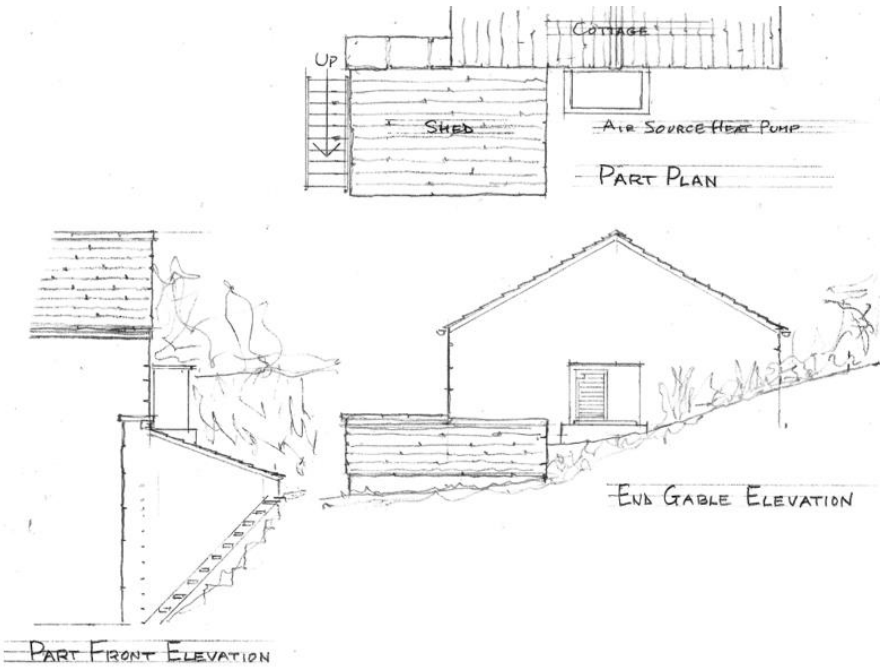
Listing NGR: NY8340255771

It is noted that the listing is indicated as mainly for group value suggesting that there is nothing of special interest to the cottage, but is of the correct era and style to contribute to the architecture in the immediate vicinity.

AIR SOURCE HEAT PUMP

Before July 2021 Bridge End Cottage was heated by a single coke burning stove in the living room with the rest of the accommodation heated by several electric radiators that were moved around to points where the heat was needed most at any given time. This arrangement was not only totally inadequate to heat the property it was also very costly and heavily reliant on fossil fuels.

In order to reduce heating costs and make the property more sustainable the present owner of Bridge End Cottage decided to install an air source heat pump system. This has required the incorporation of an external fan and pump. This has been discretely located on the north gable of the cottage where it is set behind but at the same level as the roof of a mono-pitch outhouse on the bank into which the building is set. The heat pump works well and has greatly reduced the cost of heating the house and domestic water. To this extent it has been a great success.

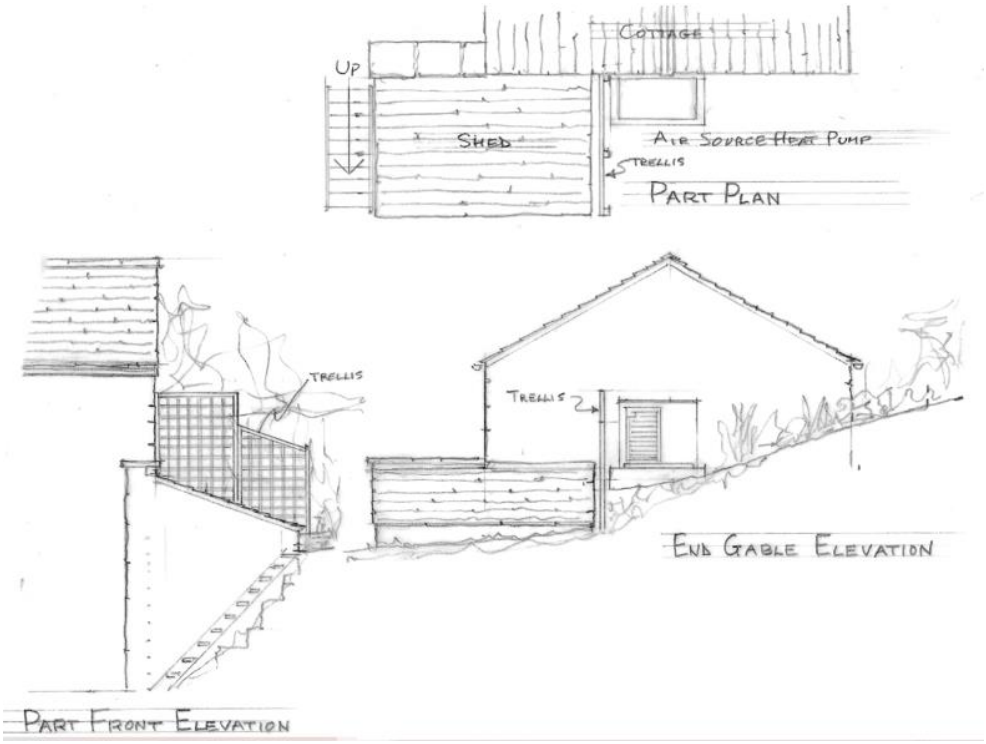


Part Elevations and Plan showing the AirSource Heat Pump External Unit

APPEARANCE OF THE AIR SOURCE HEAT PUMP EXTERNAL UNIT

The external heat pump unit has a practical, functional appearance and it does contrast somewhat with the shapes, colours and textures that characterise this traditional cottage. In order to minimise the visual harm inflicted by this apparatus whilst retaining the benefits that the heat pump provides it will be necessary to screen it from public view.

It is therefore proposed that the heat pump unit will be screened by trellis fashioned to be sympathetic to the forms of the building and the roof of the outhouse in particular.



Part Elevations and Plan showing the AirSource Heat Pump External Unit including trellis screening

CONCLUSION

The heat pump has vastly improved the thermal performance of Bridge End Cottage and has provided benefits for the owner occupier and it is to be commended for its contribution towards a more sustainable future for us all as has now been proven to be so vital.

Unfortunately, whilst highly technical modern solutions, such as heat pumps, can provide for efficient use of energy, they are not necessarily compatible with the appearance of the historic environment and this is the case in this instance.

To strike a balance between sustainability and appearance it has been seen as appropriate to introduce trellis to screen the apparatus from public view thus eliminating any loss of public visual amenity.

Photograph from the Listing