APPENDIX 1
A BUILDING WITH 'GREEN' PLANTED WALLS AND A 'BROWN' ROOF

The children's centre benefits from the use of natural daylight and ventilation, recycled rainwater, 'brown' roof covering, and 'green' planted walls on the north-west and south-east facades. It is two stores high, except for the single-storey cafe/reception at the south end, which is sheltered on two sides by an overhanging roof and flanked by a two-storey green wall.

The building has a cavity wall construction. The green wall planting panels are fixed to a waterproof outer leaf of 100mm concrete blocks on other facades the blockwork is lined with a proprietary external render system and timber panel. The inner leaf is insulated timber studwork faced with plywood and a double layer of plasterboard. The 'brown' roof of the building is covered with a layer of rubble between 125 and 150mm deep. The roof will be coated with a layer of self-seeded plants.

The green wall panels, containing black felt foil, growing medium and irrigation pipes, are fixed back to the building structure. The exposed edges of the wall are capped by a prefabricated polyester powder-coated aluminium coping.

The output from the gutters below the green wall and the rainwater from the flat roof is directed to a harvesting tank and recirculated via a pump system to irrigate the green walls.

By Steve Darnum

TYPICAL GREEN WALL DETAIL FROM PARADISE PARK
IN ISLINGTON - Standard Detail excerpt from Architects Journal