Georgian Farmhouse

OCHSNER Heat Pump Case Study

OCHSNER
HEAT PUMPS

Six Bedroom Georgian Farmhouse with original windows. Open fireplaces and converting from an oil boiler to two GMLW 14 + Air Source heat pumps from OCHSNER - 8 years on

Summary of Changes

Nestled within the historic Sandringham Estate, this charming 400m² six-bedroom Georgian farmhouse exudes timeless elegance. Eight years ago, the farmhouse underwent a significant transformation, converting from an oil boiler system to a cascade of two OCHSNER air source heat pumps. These two heat pumps continue to efficiently provide both heating and hot water, ensuring the home remains warm and inviting. Despite retaining its original windows, open fireplaces, and solid wall construction, the heat pumps maintain a consistent and comfortable temperature throughout the winter months. This not only preserves the building's fabric but also allows it to breathe, making the residents feel cozier than ever. Heating old buildings like this one can significantly enhance the quality of life for its occupants while simultaneously safeguarding the structure's integrity.

This property is a rental, and the landlords needed to upgrade their portfolio to comply with EPC rating requirements. Initially, the EPC rating was an F, which meant it could not be rented out in todays stricter rules. However, after replacing the oil boiler with heat pumps, adding extra cavity wall insulation, and sealing some unused chimneys, the house achieved a D rating. This demonstrates that air source heat pumps are indeed the future for old difficult to heat properties without sacrificing comfort. The tenants' fuel bill has been reduced and the property has been future-proofed for a long rental life still to come.

In this area, ground source heat pumps are less suitable due to the dry chalky soil requiring many a much greater collector area; however, the efficiency of the air source heat pumps made the decision straightforward. The plant room is located in an external pump room, with the evaporators positioned 20 meters from the house and cables running beneath the driveway, preserving the look of the exterior.

For more information regarding OCHSNER heat pumps contact our England and Wales team below.

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The OCHSNER Heating Solution

For landlords of old properties, new energy regulations present a critical challenge: how to meet stringent EPC rating requirements without compromising the character of a historic building. This was precisely the situation for a landlord whose property, with an EPC rating of F, was deemed unrentable. The solution had to be powerful, compliant, and aesthetically sensitive.

From Liability to a Premium Asset

The impact of the OCHSNER installation has been measurable over the 300,000 kWh of heat and hot water already produced. The property's EPC rating leaped from an F to a D, whilst using the existing radiators. With an average efficiency of 380% they are saving circa 20% pa vs their previous oil counterpart. This is an amazing achievement for a building of its age and size, proving that even the most challenging properties can be made fit for the future.

For the landlord, the property was future-proofed for a long and profitable rental life. For the tenants, the benefit was immediate, with a significant reduction in their fuel bills and a vast improvement in comfort.

The Right Technology for the Location

While the region's low water table and higher cost of made ground source heat pumps unsuitable, the exceptional efficiency of the OCHSNER GMLW air source units made the decision straightforward. They provided the high-performance, low-carbon heating required to meet and exceed the EPC standards, demonstrating that site limitations do not have to be a barrier to outstanding results.

Powerful Performance, Perfectly Concealed

Preserving the historic look of the property was non-negotiable. The split design of the GMLW heat pumps was instrumental in achieving this. The main plant room was discreetly located in the old well pump house, while the external evaporators were positioned 20 meters from the house. All connecting pipework and cables were run invisibly beneath the driveway, leaving the character and beauty of the building completely untouched. This showcases that embracing modern energy solutions does not require sacrificing heritage aesthetics.

At the forefront of innovation since 1978, Ochsner heat pumps are engineered with cutting-edge technology to surpass the highest performance and environmental benchmarks. Each Ochsner system is a testament to our commitment to harnessing natural resources with exceptional efficiency to minimise the ecological footprint of your home. Our dedication to a sustainable future is matched by our pursuit of designing whisper-quiet heat pumps that preserve the peace and quiet of your living environment.

By choosing Ochsner, you are not just selecting a superior heating and cooling system; you are embracing a philosophy of environmental stewardship and technological leadership. Experience the Ochsner difference: where innovation, efficiency, and silence converge.

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