

Case Study; Listed building on a renewable heat source

Description: Renovation of 1850's family Farm House on an Air Source Heat Pump

ThermaSkirt Profile: Regency OG in Cricket White and Timber Ivory

Client: David & Pamela Reynolds, Pytchley Hall, Northamptonshire



ThermaSkirt provides the heating and skirting boards in one – and is available in a range of profile designs & colours.

The Challenge:

When David and Pamela Reynolds decided to improve the energy performance of their 1850's farm house, Pytchley Hall in rural Northamptonshire, they naturally considered an Air Source Heat Pump to replace their ageing oil boiler. One issue they couldn't seem to overcome was the choice of heating in the rooms, as an air source heat pump needs a larger emitter to compensate for the lower water temperature renewables produce.

Clearly, oversized conventional radiators would have ruined the look of a home that has been in the family, descendants of the 'Weetabix' dynasty, for generations. Similarly with Under Floor Heating (UFH), much of the original stone and tiled flooring would have been ruined which was something they couldn't countenance.

Searching on the internet following a hunch, he discovered ThermaSkirt – literally a heated skirting board.

The Solution:

As Seen on Dragons Den, ThermaSkirt is a radiant panel designed to replicate a skirting board providing a gentle and comfortable heat, all around the room at low level – just like UFH. The skirting boards are made from a very energy efficient aluminium polymer, with the hot water pipes ‘moulded’ into the back. When the water from the Air Source Heat pump passes through the aluminium panels, they heat up and radiate warmth into the room. Being above ground, the system was installed with the minimum of fuss and disturbance using the original pipework, and responds very quickly whatever the floor covering – just like a radiator.

ThermaSkirt is available in more than 5 styles and 7 colours (with any colour available to special order) so the Reynolds’ were able to choose the Regency OG in a Timber Ivory effect that perfectly suited the decor of the Georgian Farmhouse.

Despite recent fierce Winters, the home has remained warm and cosy, even with outside temperatures as low as -14°C , and a flow temperature never above 50°C from the Ceed Air Source Heat Pump. ThermaSkirt recently won ‘Product of the Year’ at the National Heat Pump Awards due to its ability to facilitate the use of heat pumps with minimal disruption to existing buildings



Despite using an air source heat pump, ThermaSkirt means not sacrificing the stylish features of the house or digging up floors

The Result



“We saw a small demonstration unit and decided to take a risk, having already dispensed with the boiler. ThermaSkirt is heating the house on the air source (heat pump) only; even when it was -14°C outside...the whole house stayed comfortably warm. Skirting heating gives an even heat throughout the room, has the ability to react as quickly as radiators, and does not act as a storage heater like under floor. It also allows us to put furniture anywhere we like, and we can have floor length curtains without the risk of pumping heat out of the windows. To me it is a “no-brainer”, whether new build or up-dating any property to fit skirting heating, and I certainly would never use anything else.”

David Reynolds