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GREEN **SCHEMES**

Jane Slade examines the clever ways developers are ensuring gardens grow, wherever they may be

maginative, contemporary green spaces are being added to the heady mix of new schemes in the capital, offering visitors lush gardens under glass canopies and vast roof terraces under open skies.

Developers are investing in cutting-edge designs influenced by such innovative concepts as New York City's High Line, a

public park built in 2009 on an elevated historic freight railway, where nature fuses with art to offer a hybrid experience.

The competition is also on to build the biggest, highest garden in the sky. The 75-storey Landmark Pinnacle in Canary Wharf, Europe's tallest residential tower, seems to have the edge with its Panorama Garden Square

covering 8,700 feet on the 27th floor, topped off with two double- children play in a safe environment height roof terraces.

"The gardens are a really important aspect of what we're looking to achieve at Landmark project coordinator, "We're striving to build an active community where every resident has somewhere to engage with selling agents for the project.

their neighbours, let their or just enjoy some downtime.

"The residential garden is steeped in London's history and we wanted to bring that here for Pinnacle," explains Rami Atallah, the first time, while creating a truly unique outside space within one of the city's tallest towers." JLL and Knight Frank are joint NEW HOMES



Michelle Bishop, sales manager at JLL, says, "This isn't just the first of its kind in the area, it's the first major residential tower that has a dedicated residential garden inspired by the grand squares of west London."

Indeed, the closest private garden square to the development can be found more than five miles away in the form of Bedford urban infrastructure such Square, Fitzrovia.

The 239m (784ft) tall skyscraper comprises 752 residential properties with suites, one-bedroom, two-bedroom and three-bedroom apartments, as well as a collection of penthouses. Prices in the final phase start from £542,750 for a one-bedroom flat.

Since the Mayor of London declared he wants the capital to be a greener city by 2050, designers and planners have been working overtime dreaming up schemes that combine densification with open space.

Ruth Holmes, chair of the

Trustees of the London Parks and Gardens Trust, which organises the annual Open Garden Squares Weekend, taking place in June this year, argues that "a greener city is not a luxury, it should be Battersea Power Station our norm". "Green spaces Development Company. should be planned, designed, linked-together and delivered just like any other essential

as transportation." Developers have listened, and are employing award-winning garden designers and landscape architects to deliver spaces that panoramic views.

Battersea Power Station, which neighbours 200 acres of Battersea Park, is creating a sky garden using the same team that designed New York's High Line.

space, including a new six-acre public park, will also be incorporated into the plans.

"Access to green, open spaces is increasingly sought after when it comes to selecting a place to live," explains Mark Hutton, head of sales and lettings at

"Having all of this open space on the banks of the River Thames is a real selling point and is something that is already proving popular among existing residents and buyers who have bought offplan in the Power Station and our third phase of the project."

Down the road from the Power offer calm leafy sanctuaries, Station, Bowden House is children's play areas and employing landscape architects Gillespies, creators of the stunning Sky Garden which spans three storeys at the top of 20 Fenchurch Street, to turn 2.5 acres of Prince of Wales Drive into a showcase courtyard, picnic Some 19 acres of open public areas, a Zen garden and play zones.

"Planting is key to creating distinctive atmospheres through the various through

24 The London Magazine

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their neighbours, let their children play in a safe environment or just enjoy some downtime.

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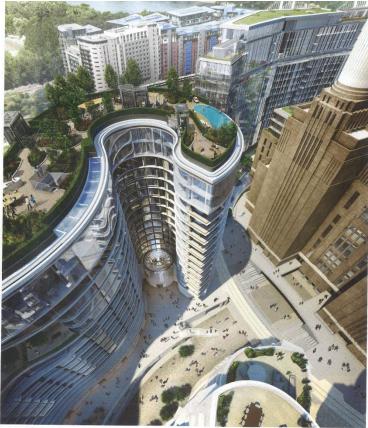
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HIGH LINE Above: The reconstructed chimneys of Battersea Power Station will tower over the expansive roof gardens of the development

spaces of the landscape," and three-bedroom apartments. explains Gillespies' senior associate Neil Matthew.

pool which surrounds them."

Drive into 995 new homes with (pegasuslife.co.uk).

To the north in Hampstead, just ten minutes from the wild and the Berkeley Group, is PegasusLife one- and two- at £1.325m (lumakingscross.co.uk). redeveloping five acres of bedroom apartments are available For those who like an even and design, each new urban gasholder sites in Prince of Wales now starting at £792,000 more rural feel, further north in garden has the aim of providing a

complete next year, views of in the Grade II-listed former greenery are at the heart of the home of the tea magnate. The "A grid of Japanese maples and beautiful heath, the Belle Vue Persian-inspired Jellicoe Gardens, surrounding new townhouses, provides intricate leaf forms retirement development aims to created by award-winning mews houses and penthouses are followed by stunning autumn harness nature with its designer Tom Stuart-Smith, and set in five acres of private historic colours, all reflected in a shallow surrounding interlocking gardens the expanse of Lewis Cubitt Park, grounds, despite being only 42 and communal roofscape with Knight Frank are selling the one-, minutes from Heathrow. The St William, a £700m joint wildflower meadow, bee boxes two- and three-bedroom two-bedroom maisonettes start venture between National Grid and outdoor seating. The apartments and pethouses starting at £1.08m (yogogroup.com).

Bowden House offering a superior At Luma King's Cross, an launching Sir Thomas Lipton this stone's throw from the noise and collection of 90 one, two Argent development due to month, with apartments available bustle of the city.

scheme. Balconies look onto the apartments, as well as the

Whatever the ambition, cost Southgate Yogo Group is haven of tranquillity a mere

LANDMARK PINNACLE