

PRESS RELEASE: Quayside Lofts, Tuthill Stairs

Conran & Partners have regenerated a dilapidated area of Newcastle with the completion of Quayside Lofts, a City Lofts Development.

Comprising three buildings, including 66 apartments and over 400 square metres of ground floor retail and commercial space, the development has views to Gateshead's Sage and the Baltic Flour Mill.

Built into the steep hillside and set back from the banks of the Tyne, the project involved a great deal of land retention work. Before work could progress, archaeologists spent 3 months on the site, which once formed part of the riverbank, before land retained in the 13th and 15th centuries distanced it from the water's edge. The development includes the upgrade of the ancient Tuthill Stairs, which climb the steep hillside and run through the middle of the development.

A brick grid forms the street frontage of the concrete-framed buildings, which are set on two sides of a central landscaped garden. Other materials include exposed concrete render, zinc panelling and timber shutters. Three storeys of car parking are located underneath the garden.

Conran & Partners have realised their intention of bringing Tuthill Stairs back into the public realm. The central landscaping forms part of a strip of green land running east to west through the development, linking the city centre and the west of the city, and encouraging pedestrian movement through what was previously a rundown and inhospitable area.

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