## **Bath Mill: Conservation Area Summary**

## Why is the Bath Mill Conservation Area special?

The Bath Mill Conservation Area covers the site of the former cotton mill of the same name, which was demolished in 1974. The area now comprises an innovative 1970s housing development designed by the internationally significant firm BDP who, at the time, were based in Preston and growing in prominence. The housing development is a stark contrast to the fortuitous character of Lancaster's city centre and suburbs. The development adopts strict principles of pedestrian-vehicular segregation, with dwellings facing inward onto colour-coded squares furnished with varied landscaping.



c.1980 photo of Bath Mill development

The squares are connected by various narrow pedestrian walkways, mimicking the ginnels of the terraced community it was intended to replace. The Conservation Area is significant due to its high quality designed architectural landscape, which is illustrative of the innovative planning and design principles of the 1970s. The area is also associated with the notable architectural firm, BDP. As a whole, the development is remarkably unaltered, with the design of squares, walkways and rooflines creating a strongly unified character.

## General

- Urban setting, on elevated topography east of Lancaster canal
- Situated on the site of a former cotton mill, which was demolished 1974
- An award-winning housing development from the 1970s, associated with international architect firm BDP
- Unified appearance of houses: rendered, with slate roofs and post-modern architectural features such as the porch and staircase

