

Accordia

Cambridge Brooklands UK

Accordia, winner of the RIBA Stirling Prize 2008 and the Housing Design Awards 2006, is an inspirational scheme of high-density housing. Grant Associates worked with acting masterplanners Feilden Clegg Bradley Studios to create a distinctive and high-quality landscape environment which forms 3.5 hectares of the 9.6-hectare site, and is integral to the project's success.

The public landscape offers a hierarchy of spaces and uses across the site, providing a sequence of quite different environments, characters and functions to encourage use and enjoyment by residents.

Large open spaces offer opportunities for recreation and play, and the landscape concept 'Living in a Garden' has inspired different gardens, each with a function or theme: the 'Kitchen Garden', the 'Long Walk' and the 'Central Lawn'. All spaces are linked by a network of paths and clearly defined by walls, hedges and boundaries, featuring mature trees and new planting.

Circulation through the scheme is via a series of 'mews' streets, for shared use by pedestrians, cyclists and car drivers. These are designed with coloured or textured surface treatments to complement the architectural materials, and street tree planting and climbing plants on building facades.

Site Area: 9.6 Hectares
Client: Countryside Properties
Architects: Feilden Clegg Bradley Architects
 Maccreanor Lavington Architects
 Alison Brooks Architects
Engineers: RJP
 WS Atkins
Quantity Surveyors: Philip Pank & Partners
Overall Project Value: £75 million



"This is high density housing at its very best"
 RIBA Judging Panel

"...arguably the most ambitious housing scheme in the UK for 30 years."
 Daily Telegraph

Top: Landscape masterplan
 Above: Espalier Pear Avenue; Street Gardens
 Left: Mews; Brooklands Avenue frontage