

# Clarendon Gasworks: Birdsong, heritage and neighbourliness

Berkeley Group's St William is unlocking some of the most technically complex brownfield sites in Britain, redeveloping dozens of old gasworks and reconnecting them with the surrounding communities.

LDA Design has developed a set of 'first life, then places, then buildings' principles to shape the masterplans for these sites: encouraging sociability; connecting people to nature; connecting people to place and the authentic memory of each site.

At Clarendon, the principles for each space developed out of the social activity being encouraged there, from exercising to enjoying the community café connected to the nearby park. Our approach, as always, rests on the quality of the spaces, not just the quantity.

The gasholders retain a strong presence and the design also references north London's Moselle Brook, which runs beneath the site. Children are encouraged to paddle the course of the Brook, which eventually cascades into the footprint of the former gasholder, with rain gardens resonant of its original natural banks. A new urban square and pocket park are integral to the design, with rich planting offering seasonal delight.



**Client**  
St William

**Location**  
Wood Green, Haringey, London

**Partners**  
Panter Hudspith Architects, Dallas Pierce Quintero,  
Vectos, Quod

**Services Used**  
Masterplanning, Landscape Architecture

**Area**  
4.8 ha

<sup>1</sup> Clarendon will provide a welcome retreat in the hard and paved environment of north London's Wood Green



<sup>1</sup> A Clarendon courtyard, Wood Green  
Images copyright  
St William