

# Leith Fort in the Running for Three Industry Awards



A new housing development built on the former Leith Fort site has been shortlisted for three awards.

The £11.5 million housing development which, opened last year, is co-owned by Port of Leith Housing Association (PoLHA) and the City of Edinburgh Council (CEC) is in the running for the forthcoming RICS, RIAS and Homes for Scotland awards which will take place later this year.

Keith Anderson, Chief Executive of Port of Leith Housing Association, said:

*“We’re thrilled to have helped to restore this area to its former glory and to have created a neighbourhood where people want to live and to set down their roots.*

*“We are very proud of this successful modern interpretation of the Edinburgh colonies which has brought much needed high quality, affordable housing for families in Leith and North Edinburgh.*

*We’re delighted it has been shortlisted for three industry*

*awards, providing great recognition for us and our partners.”*

All the homes in this development have access to private south west facing gardens.

Cllr Kate Campbell, Housing and Economy Convener, said:

*“The Council and Port of Leith set out to deliver modern, affordable homes on the historic Leith Fort site but the development has created so much more than housing. It has community spirit right at its heart and it is great to see so many award nominations coming in.*

*“Our aim is to deliver 20,000 affordable and low cost homes in the next decade bringing prosperity to every person in every neighbourhood.”*

Nicola McLachlan, Project Architect, Collective Architecture, said:

*“It has been a pleasure to work with Port of Leith Housing Association, The City of Edinburgh Council and the local residents within Leith. The project heralds an exciting time in Leith’s rich history and plays an important role in stitching the Fort back into the community – both physically and socially – and encourages positive interaction between neighbours.*

*“It is wonderful to see that the residents are already making their own mark within the community and flourishing within their new homes.*

*“I am delighted to see how well the restrained palette of materials and careful detailing sits calmly within its context. Everyone involved with the project has worked collaboratively with the client group to ensure these homes stand the test of time; their skills and experience shine through within the project.”*

The original Leith Fort was designed by architect James Craig,

who was responsible for Edinburgh's New Town, and built in 1779 to defend the port. During the Napoleonic Wars, prisoners were housed at the site and throughout the Second World War it was an army base. A gun from Leith Fort was set up on Edinburgh Castle's Half Moon Battery, and went on to become the world famous 'One o'clock Gun'.