

Heritage Statement  
2 Orchard Close  
Ribchester

2 Orchard Close is a new modern dwelling house located on the very edge of the Ribchester conservation area.

Ribchester Conservation Area consists of the village core centred around a small triangular area, on one side of which is the White Bull Inn, and Stydd, a rural area northeast of the main settlement which contains two churches and 18th century almshouses. Ribchester village is dominated by rows of handloom weavers' cottages, many of which were built in the late eighteenth century, but some of which were also adapted from existing houses. There is a scattering of older houses in the village, many of which have seventeenth or eighteenth century datestones. There is a small amount of late nineteenth or early twentieth century development on the north side of the village, around Blackburn Road. The area also includes the excavated areas of the Roman baths and granaries, now preserved in an open area of land for display to the public, and the Roman Museum, next to the church.

The special interest that justifies designation of the Ribchester Conservation Area derives from the following features:

- Remains of Roman fort and associated outbuildings of settlement (vicus), including granaries and bath house, much of which is protected by Scheduled Monument status;
- The architectural and historic interest of the area's buildings, 21 of which are listed;
- Two grade I churches: Church of St Wilfred and Church of St Saviour, Stydd;
- Church of St Peter and St Paul (grade II), a 'barn church' and one of the earliest Catholic churches in Lancashire;
- Stydd Almshouses, listed grade II\*;
- Narrow, closely developed streets of former handloom weavers' settlement;
- Ensemble of St Wilfrid's Church, Rectory, Museum and Churchgates;
- Handloom weaver's cottages, including two with cellar loomshops, particularly in Church Street and Water Street;
- Good examples of late 19th century terraced houses along Church Street and Blackburn Road;
- River Ribble;
- The prevalent use of local building stone;
- Stydd, a tiny rural hamlet containing two historic churches and 18th century almshouses;
- Open space in front of White Bull;
- Views of River Ribble and surrounding landscape;
- Individual trees and groups of trees.

Two new dwellings were built at the end of Fort Avenue next to The Old Barn which is used as a café. Number one Orchard Close is not in the conservation area but number 2 is. The house is a modern stone built dwelling and the proposed two roof windows will be on the side elevation, not visible from Fort Avenue. There are many examples of roof windows in the area and our two roof windows will have no undesirable effect on the conservation area.