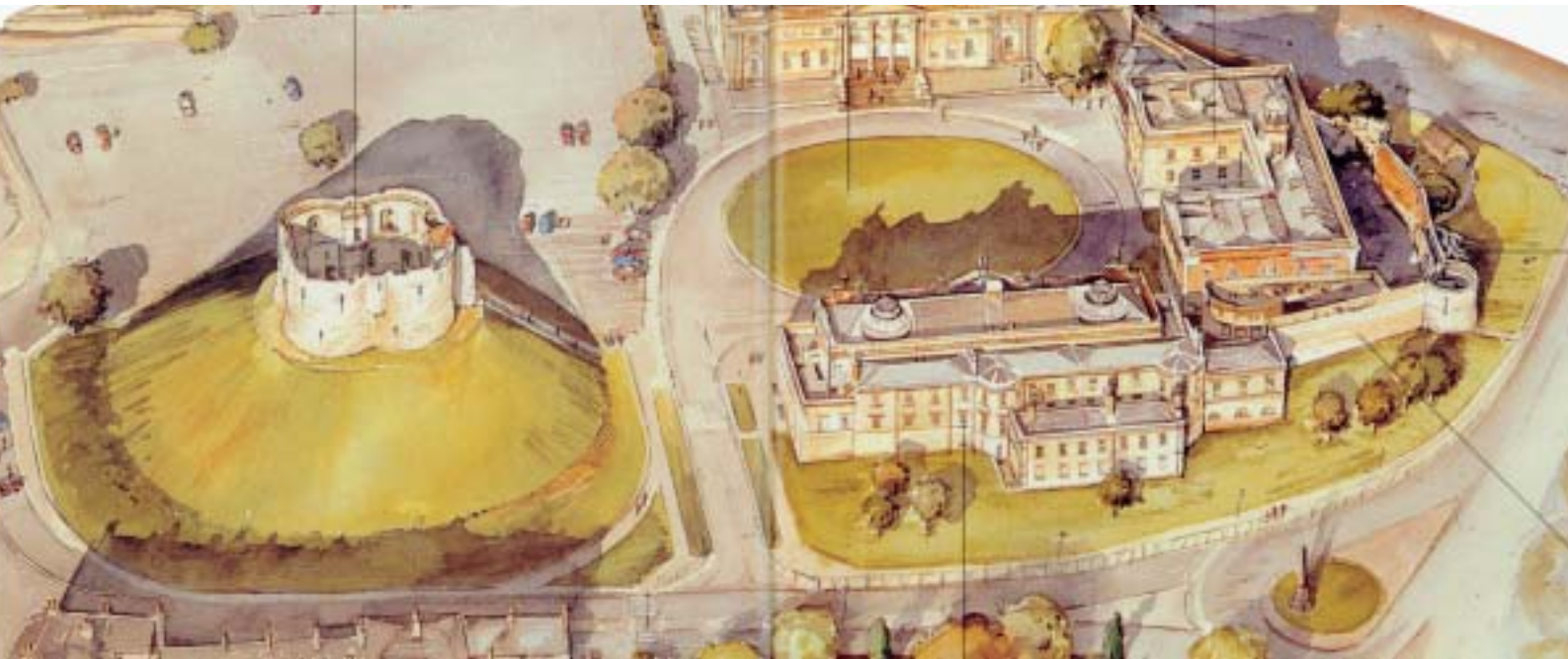


COPPERGATE RIVERSIDE II DEVELOPMENT

January 2002



The Coppergate II Riverside Development will destroy many beautiful views of Clifford's Tower if we allow it to go ahead

York is an ancient city which has striven to retain the appearance and atmosphere which creates its unique appeal to visitors from all over the world.

The skyline of York is still dominated by Northern Europe's largest Medieval building, our very own York Minster.

The city centre itself is a network of ancient streets most of which contain buildings of architectural importance, of those buildings, Clifford's Tower is the only remaining part of the Norman Castle and is one of York's major landmarks.

Land Securities / Ravensft Properties Ltd (the developers proposing to build on the Castle area site) are determined to build a massive shopping mall, similar in architecture to those seen at "out of town" shopping centres.

The application was passed by the City of York Council in November 2000, and since then many citizens of York, not agreeing with the Council's decision, have caused, the then Secretary of State, Rt Hon John Prescott MP, to call in these plans and a Public Inquiry will now be held in the Guildhall of York starting 15th January 2002.

The Castle Area Campaign group have talked to thousands of residents, day visitors, tourists and shoppers and we know that the overriding opinion of these people is that controlled development on the Piccadilly side of this development should proceed, but the area around Clifford's Tower should be left open and made into a **city centre green and open space**, in keeping with its proposed World Heritage Site status.



Today

From the Foss Bridge on Piccadilly we have a beautiful view of the Lawcourts, the riverside trees and of course Clifford's Tower



Tomorrow

This is an artist's impression, this view is again from Foss Bridge on Piccadilly and a very dull view compared to today.



Our picture taken by KL Photographers from the top of Clifford's Tower in December 2001 shows the 300 space car park on which the developers want to build. Many people agree that the area is not very pretty but it affords glorious views of the Tower across the open land. The photo clearly shows the area that, with some imagination, could become a **civic green and open space**, an amenity which is lacking in this city, particularly as we are building more and more smaller dwelling units in the city centre, residents need to be able to relax in an open environment.

York has only one large green and open space within the City walls, the Museum Gardens situated to the north of the main city centre. There is a strong feeling that we need another at the southern side of town. More and more tourists visit York each year and they should be able to relax and enjoy our history, and what better place to do it than the **Eye of York** and **Clifford's Tower**.



Taken from the steps of the Assize Courts (1773-1777), now the Crown Courts, this view clearly shows Fairfax House and Café Andros both very important listed historic York buildings. They are shown to the right of the tower of St Mary's Church.



Imagine the reality if Land Securities build on a line from Fairfax House to the bollards in the fore-front of the picture near the white car. We will have a building nearly as high as the 8 storey Ryedale building, the Tower will be dwarfed and the whole effect of the Eye of York area will be spoilt. The distance from the foot of the mound of Clifford's Tower and the proposed building is estimated to be less than the length of three cars! Check it for yourself in the Castle car park.

The River Foss was, in York's history, part of the moat defences surrounding the Tower and the City walls. If the proposed development for a massive store, shops and restaurants, and 27 'luxury' rooftop city apartments is built, up to and around the Tower, the River Foss will be dislocated forever from Clifford's Tower. The Foss and the Castle are part of our history and should be kept together.

Land Securities in their Coppergate Riverside "Review" leaflet distributed in summer 2000 show us a view claiming they would make, the gap between the new buildings, "creating a view that has not been seen from this part of Piccadilly for many years".

But this is not a **view** they promise us. It is an alleyway glimpse between the buildings on Piccadilly and the buildings they propose to build on Clifford's Tower car park, thus taking away completely **all** the views from the east.



Compare these two views.



Above: Taken by KL Photographers from behind the Ryedale building, showing the River Foss, the mature trees, the present car park and the river wall stonework of the earlier 19th century prison.

Left: Land Securities alley way view

