

IN PREPARING THESE PROPOSALS FOR OVERCOMING THE VISUAL LIMITATIONS OF THE CASTLE AREA AND IN ORDER THAT THIS SITE MAY BE PRESENTED TO ITS BEST ADVANTAGE, THE MAIN ASPECTS OF ITS PRESENT CONDITION ARE LISTED BELOW TOGETHER WITH DEVELOPMENT WORKS AIMED AT IMPROVING THESE.

1. CAR PARK

The visual extent, dominance and unsightliness of the car park due to its featureless state and the potential hazard it creates for pedestrians.

The dowdy appearance of the car park's approach along Castlegate.

PROPOSALS

CONSTRUCTION OF SIX WEALDEN HOUSES IN TWO ROWS OF THREE IN THE CASTLE CAR PARK.

LAYING OF NEW ROAD TO SERVICE THESE WEALDEN HOUSES, THIS ROAD TO EXTEND TOWER STREET TO PROVIDE THE ONLY VEHICULAR ACCESS INTO THE CASTLE.

AN ALTERNATIVE COULD BE CONSTRUCTION OF A SHAKESPEAREAN THEATRE MODELLED ON THE RECONSTRUCTED GLOBE THEATRE IN LONDON TOGETHER WITH JUST TWO WEALDEN HOUSES TO SERVE AS ANCILLARY PREMISES FOR SUCH THEATRE.

LAYING OF HISTORIC SETTS AND YORKSTONE PAVING ALONG THE ENTIRE LENGTH OF CASTLEGATE TOGETHER WITH CLEANING AND REPAIRS, WHERE APPROPRIATE, OF ALL BUILDINGS FACING CASTLEGATE.

Given that there are a wide variety of Wealden designs, the new houses need not be identical but they should be of two storeys with pitched roofs and traditional black and white timbering. When selection is made there should be a bias towards first floor jettied and close-boarded.

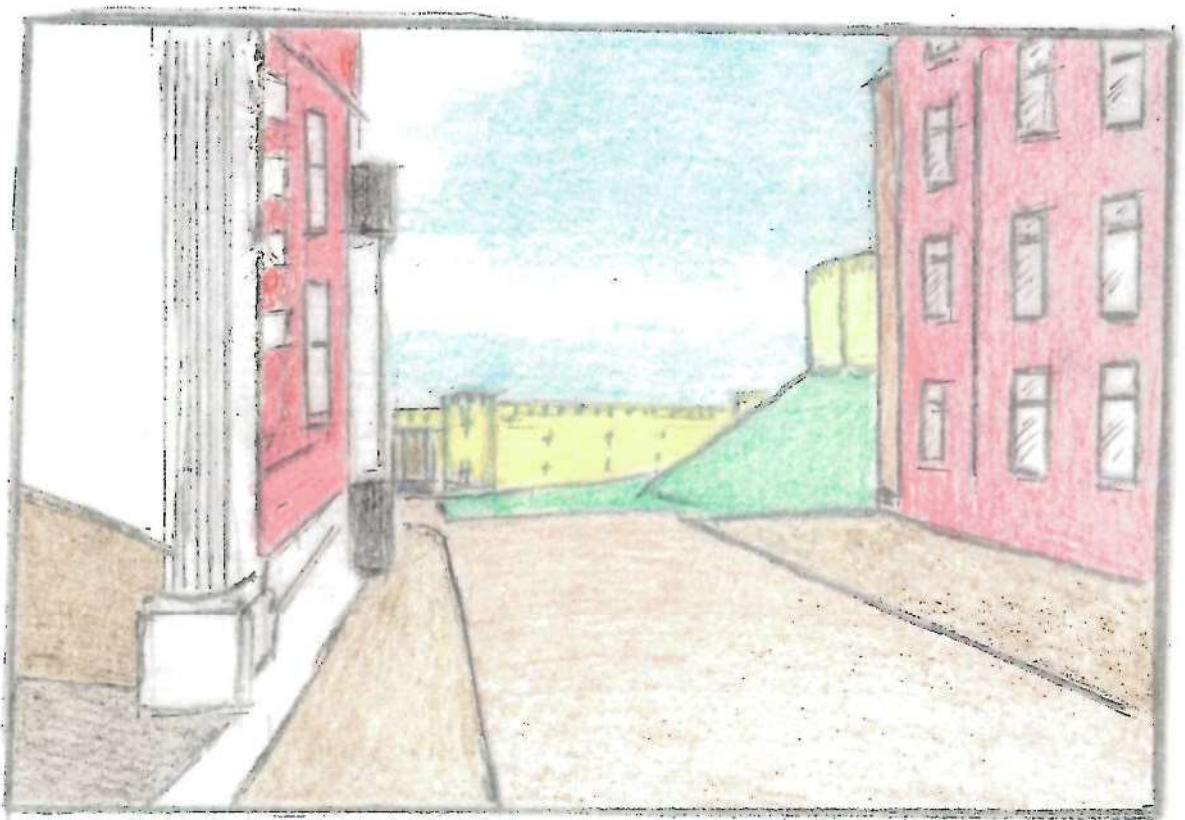
Pavements and setts in Swinegate and Grape Lane in York are good examples of how old-style setts and yorkstone paving can augment the historic character of streets. Similar materials for the road servicing of the Wealden houses should be in keeping with these and improve the dowdy appearance of Castlegate. With sandblast cleaning and repairs to most buildings in that street an exciting approach to the castle would be created.

CASTLEGATE, A STREET OF CONSIDERABLE ARCHITECTURAL CHARACTER PROVIDING AN EXCITING APPROACH TO THE CASTLE. THE TOURIST'S SENSE OF ANTICIPATION AND EXCITEMENT WOULD BE INCREASED BY SANDBLAST CLEANING AND REPAIRS TO FRONT ELEVATIONS AND THE LAYING OF HISTORIC SETTS AND YORKSTONE PAVING SUCH AS THAT SHOWN BELOW IN FRIARGATE, AN ADJOINING STREET.





CASTLEGATE ENTRY INTO THE CASTLE SITE, ITS JUNCTION WITH TOWER STREET HAVING BEEN SIMPLIFIED WITH THE LAYING OF HISTORIC SETS AND YORKSTONE PAVING. FAIRFAX HOUSE IS ON THE LEFT OBSCURING THE NEW WEALDEN HOUSES BUT CLEARANCE OF TREES MAKES POSSIBLE AN ATTRACTIVE VISUAL INTERACTION BETWEEN CASTLE AND TOWER, AN EFFECT HELPED BY MATCHING GOTHIC DESIGNS AND BUILDING MATERIALS.





THE PROPOSED WEALDEN HOUSES IN THE CAR PARK ARE CLEARLY VISIBLE FROM THE WALKWAY FROM PICCADILLY BRIDGE OVER THE RIVER FOSS. DIRECTLY OPPOSITE THE HOUSES OVERHANGING THE ARTIFICIAL EMBANKMENT WEEPING WILLOWS AND OTHER LOW-RISE PLANTINGS COULD BE MADE TO BOTH OBSCURE THE EMBANKMENT AND SUGGEST IT IS NATURAL.

