



# Gargoyle Wharf

URBAN REGENERATION OF THE PLANNED DEVELOPMENT AT GARGOYLE WHARF IS A STARTLING EXAMPLE OF ARCHITECTURAL VISION IN THE FACE OF THE SEEMINGLY INSOLUBLE.

THIS LONG-DERELICT AND OIL-CONTAMINATED BROWNFIELD LOCATION HAD BEEN OVER MANY YEARS THE SOURCE OF INTERMINABLE WRANGLES WHICH FRUSTRATED SUCCESSIVE PLANNING APPLICATIONS. WHOEVER WAS TO SUCCESSFULLY DEVELOP THIS CONTROVERSIAL SITE HAD TO TAKE INTO ACCOUNT THE OFTEN VOCIFEROUS VIEWS OF INTERESTED PARTIES SUCH AS WANDSWORTH COUNCIL, ENVIRONMENTALISTS, SOCIO-POLITICAL ACTIVISTS, AND THE GOVERNMENT OFFICE FOR LONDON. GARGOYLE WHARF WAS NOT SIMPLY AN ARCHITECTURAL CHALLENGE BUT A COMPLEX CONUNDRUM WHICH HAS TESTED RIALTO'S SKILLS AS PRIME MOVERS, DIPLOMATS, POLITICIANS AND SOCIAL ENGINEERS.

GARGOYLE WHARF IS A COMPOSITION OF FIVE MIXED-USE BLOCKS INGENUOUSLY DESIGNED - 6 STOREYS HIGH AT THE RIVER'S EDGE, RISING TO AS MANY AS 16 STOREYS IN THE CENTRE OF THE DEVELOPMENT. OPEN SPACE BETWEEN THE BUILDINGS, CREATING PERMEABILITY, IS GIVEN OVER TO PUBLICLY ACCESSIBLE LANDSCAPED GARDENS AS WELL AS CYCLEPATHS AND RIVERSIDE BOARDWALKS. EVERY HOME WILL BENEFIT FROM SUNLIGHT WHILST ENJOYING RIVER VIEWS. AWAY FROM THE RIVER, ON YORK ROAD, THE SCHEME WILL CREATE A DYNAMIC CONTEMPORARY URBAN STREETScape FEATURING READY ACCESS VIA A NEW INFRASTRUCTURE TO COMMERCIAL ENTERPRISES, AN HOTEL, A HEALTH CLUB, OFFICE ACCOMMODATION, RESTAURANTS, A NURSING HOME AND EVEN A POLICE STATION. THIS DEVELOPMENT IS THE EPITOME OF SUSTAINABLE MIXED USE URBAN REGENERATION OF A BROWNFIELD SITE.

# ARCHITECTURE