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Timeline of Wakefield 1990-1999

The 1990s

1991 August, tragic killing of two plastic surgeons, Michael Masser and Kenneth Paton, at Pinderfields Hospital

1991 December, Wakefield loses a feature of its skyline when the two cooling towers of the now defunct power station (*on Doncaster Road*) are demolished.

1992 The new Roman Catholic Church at Sandal, St Peter and St Paul, opens

1992 February, a choir of girls' voices formed at Wakefield Cathedral.

1992 March, the gypsy base at Heath Common re-opens after refurbishment.

1992 H M Queen visits Wakefield for the 400 anniversary of Queen Elizabeth Grammar School.

1992 August, the major re-landscaping of the Cathedral precinct is formally opened.

1992 12 December, closure of Manygates Maternity Hospital, maternity services transferred to Pinderfields Hospital

1993 Thornes House School closes. Wakefield College takes over its premises.

1993 The Court House in Wood Street becomes redundant after use as a Crown Court comes to an end.

1993 May, Sharlston Colliery closes

1993 May, Princess Diana visits the Second Chance unit at Pinderfields Hospital.

1994 Wakefield MDC leases Holmfield to Whitbread's Brewery. Public anger at the destruction of its historic rockery.

1994 The new St Catherine's Church on Doncaster Road opens.

1995 Skateboard centre opens at the former Wakefield Skillcentre.

1995 Wakefield-born David Hope becomes Archbishop of York.

1995 The John Goodchild Centre established.

1995 The Waterton Discovery Centre opens at Anglers Country park.

- 1995** August, Crofton School destroyed by fire.
- 1995** October, Stanley Royd Hospital closes.
- 1995** Wakefield begins to promote rhubarb-growing as a tourist attraction.
- 1995** December, drowning tragedy at Hemsworth Water Park as Jack Crawshaw and Michael Mee lose their lives trying to save teenager Tracey Pattison who has fallen through broken ice.
- 1996** January, the Wakefield City Partnership is established with the aim of regenerating the town centre.
- 1996** The Europort at Normanton opens with the departure of the first freight train for the Continent.
- 1996** September, Bretton Hall's student village opens on the site of Manygates Hospital.
- 1996** The Cathedral and Westgate Retail Parks open
- 1996** Wakefield gets its first multiplex cinema, Cineworld.
- 1997** Refurbishment of the Wakefield market area and erection of a performance area.
- 1997** Refurbishment and landscaping of the Westgate Station forecourt.
- 1998** February, Crofton pupils move into new school building.
- 1998** Wakefield MDC sells Unity House.
- 1998** Council leader Colin Croxall stands down as investigations begin into financial irregularities.
- 1998** Demolition of Albion Mills complex, Ings Road
- 1999** April, Prince Charles visits the Wakefield Waterfront to learn about the redevelopment scheme centred on the Calder and Hebble warehouse.