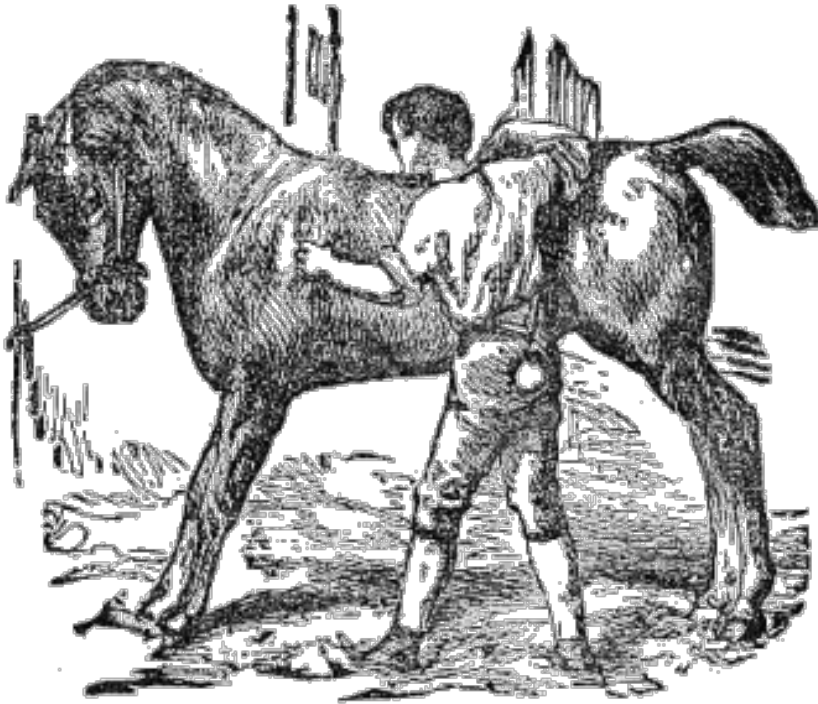


History



Find out about Wilmington Priory's past...



Hello! Welcome to Wilmington Priory, my name is James and I was the stable boy here nearly 900 years ago in 1230, just after the priory was built.

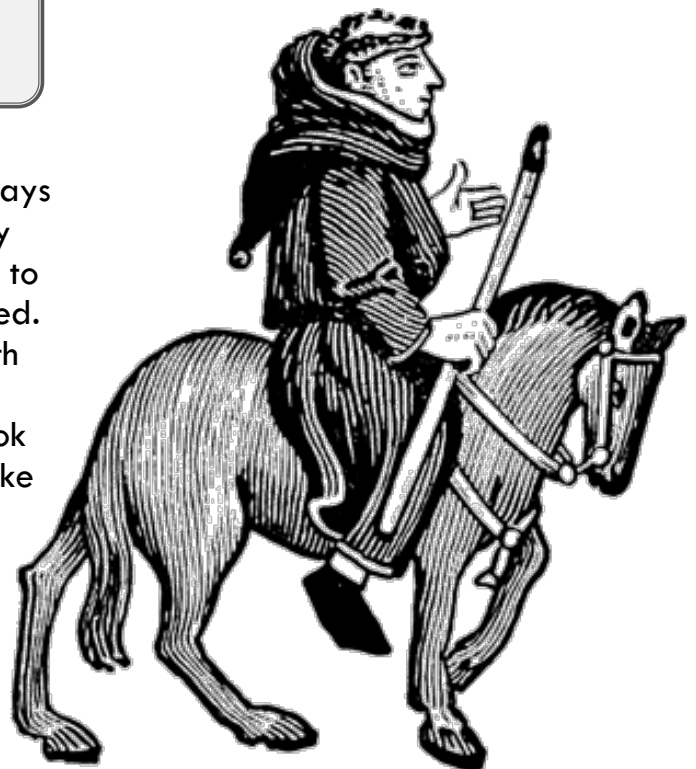
I loved working at the Priory looking after the horses. It was much better than having to sweep and wash floors like my sister Lily who was a servant.

The Priory was a bit like a hotel, we got lots of travellers staying the night here, some of them were very important. We once had King John's daughter, Princess Eleanor stay here when she was travelling to Dover to get a boat to France. She was so beautiful and kind. She even gave me some extra coins for looking after her horse so well!

Fact:

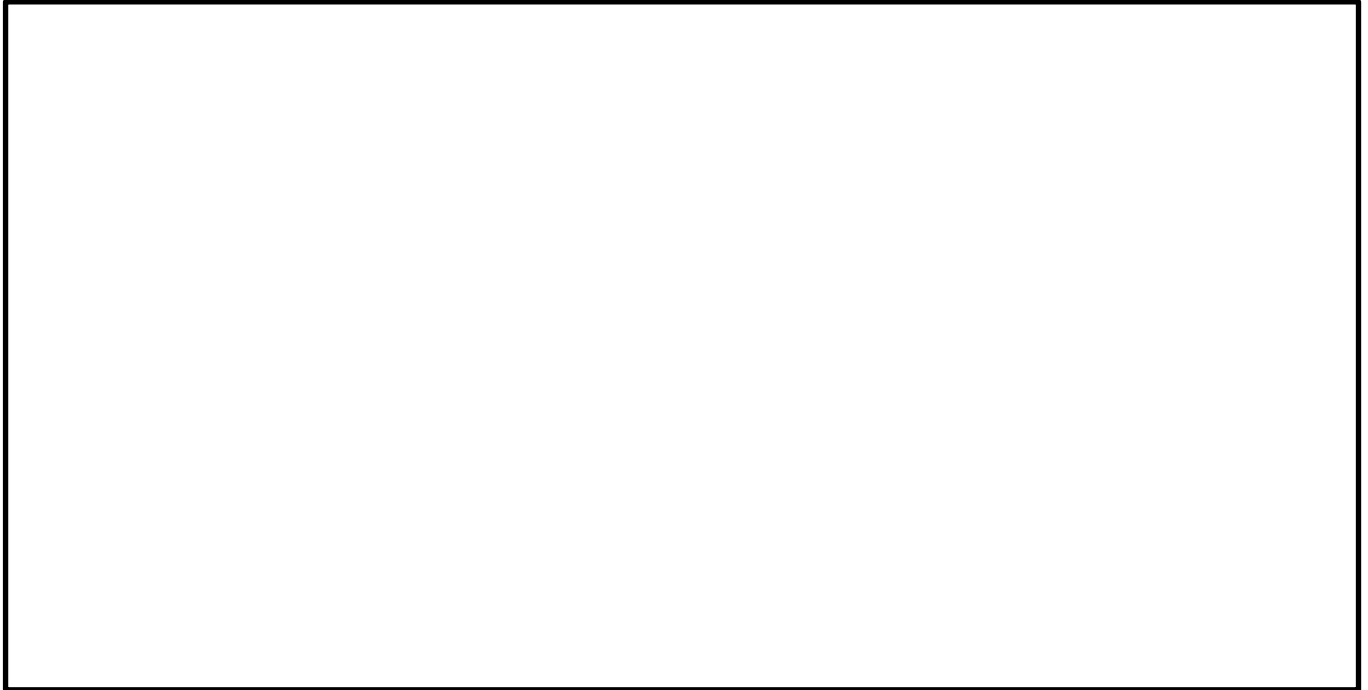
A **Priory** is a religious house where monks or nuns live. A **Prior** is the head monk who's in charge.

The **Prior's** horse, Benny was my favourite. I'd always miss him when he went travelling around the country with the Prior. The Prior went away a lot as he had to collect rent from all the land that the Priory owned. As much as I missed Benny it was much more fun with the Prior away. He'd take the two monks who also lived at the Priory with him so I had no horses to look after. All the money that the Prior collected he'd take to the Abbey in France that owns Wilmington.





In the summer when the Prior was away all the servants and I would climb up Windover Hill (that's the one with the Long Man) and play games. We'd all race up the hill to see who was fastest. Poor Lily was always last but she didn't mind because she won the games instead. Draw a picture of us having a picnic up on the hill.



We'd sit up on the hill for hours and watch the sunset. It was so pretty watching the sun melt into the sea. One day, when I've saved up enough money I'm going to travel on a boat like the Prior and visit France. I hear they have lots of tasty cheese and wine there. Yum!



This is what the kitchen looked like when it was a museum.

In 1414 Henry V took the Priory away from the French Abbey that owned it and gave it to Chichester cathedral instead. But after 100 years Chichester Cathedral gave it to Sir Richard Sackville who used Wilmington as a Manor house. It passed through his family until 1925, that's over 400 years! They added lots of different rooms over the years and also let some of the other rooms fall down. It was very sad. Then Wilmington Priory became a museum until The Landmark Trust fixed it and turned into a holiday home. I hope you have as much fun here as I did!

Unruly Rulers

Who were the medieval (say 'med-ee-evil') kings?

Medieval means in the Middle Ages. This is roughly from when William the Conqueror and the Normans invaded England in 1066 until Henry VIII (that's the 8th) became king in 1509.



King William II Rufus

He was killed hunting.
People say that Henry I ordered it!



King Stephen

Another king who stole the throne, it was meant to be his cousin Matilda's!



King Richard I The Lion Heart

A brave king, he was always fighting a war.



King Henry III

He was a good king who gave money to the poor and liked to pray.



King Edward II

Another bad King, he only listened to his best friend Piers Gaveston and died a nasty death in a dungeon



King Richard II

He tried to rule without parliament, so the barons helped the next Henry become king.



King Henry V

He wanted to be King of England and France. You guessed it, he started a war!

1066

William the Conqueror

He wasn't even English he came from France.



1087

King Henry I

He stole the throne from his older brother who was away on Crusade.



1100

1135

King Henry II

Some of his knights heard that he was angry at Thomas Becket, the Archbishop of Canterbury. That was the end of poor Thomas, the knights killed him.

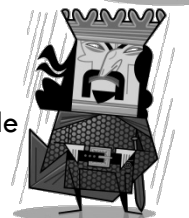


1154

1189

King John

Bad King John, he was a cruel and horrible man. He died eating too many peaches!



1199

1216

King Edward I

He invaded and conquered both Wales and Scotland ruling both of them!



1272

1307

King Edward III

He was a good king, even if he did start the 100 years' war.



1327

1377

King Henry IV

He stole the throne from Richard when he was fighting in Ireland. Hard luck Richie!



1399

1413



King Edward IV

He secretly married Elizabeth Woodville. Some say she was a witch!



King Richard III

He was a bad king. People say he had his nephews murdered in the Tower of London so he could be king instead.

1422

King Henry VI

He became king at 8 months old! He was weak and hated war. He never fought in any battles.



1461

King Edward V

He was 10 when he became king for 86 days. Then uncle Richard put him and his brother in a tower.



1483

1483

King Henry VII

He defeated bad King Richard and became the first Tudor king. Hooray!



1485



Meet King Henry III – who ruled when this Landmark was built.

Hi Henry!

So when did you become king?

I became King on 19 October 1216 when I was only 9 years old!

What are you most famous for?

I was very religious and rebuilt Westminster Abbey.

What is your favourite thing to do?

I love praying, I went to mass every day.

What is the naughtiest thing you've ever done?

I put all leaders of the Jews in England into prison and made them pay me tax on all the goods they sold. I also made them pay me £40,000 in 1244. Hah that'll teach them for being rich! Today, you might think I was picking on them – I say serves them right for not being Christians and for being so rich!





How has Wilmington Priory changed?

Wilmington Priory wasn't a normal priory where monks lived and worshipped. Wilmington was like a big manor house where only a Prior and three monks lived (with all their servants!) They had the special job of looking after all the land and buildings that the Abbey owned in England. This meant that they had to travel round the estates collecting rent and didn't have much time to live like normal monks and pray.

The picture below shows what Wilmington Priory looked like in 1725. By then it was being used as a manor house by the Sackvilles – no monks anymore!

Have a good look at this drawing. Add arrows to where you think each of these things are:

Drum Tower

Gatehouse

Prior's Garden

Front Door

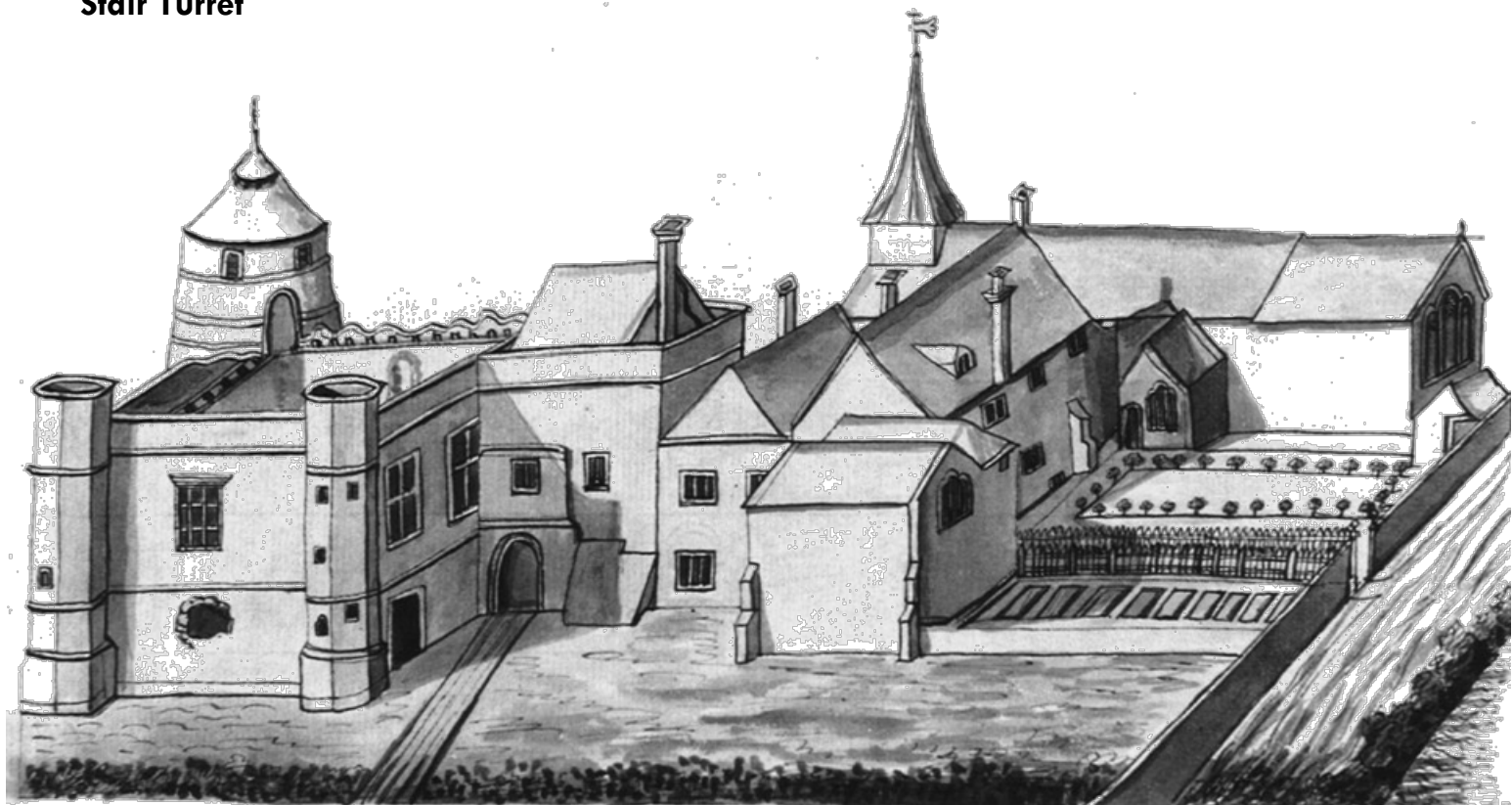
Church

Great Chamber

Spire

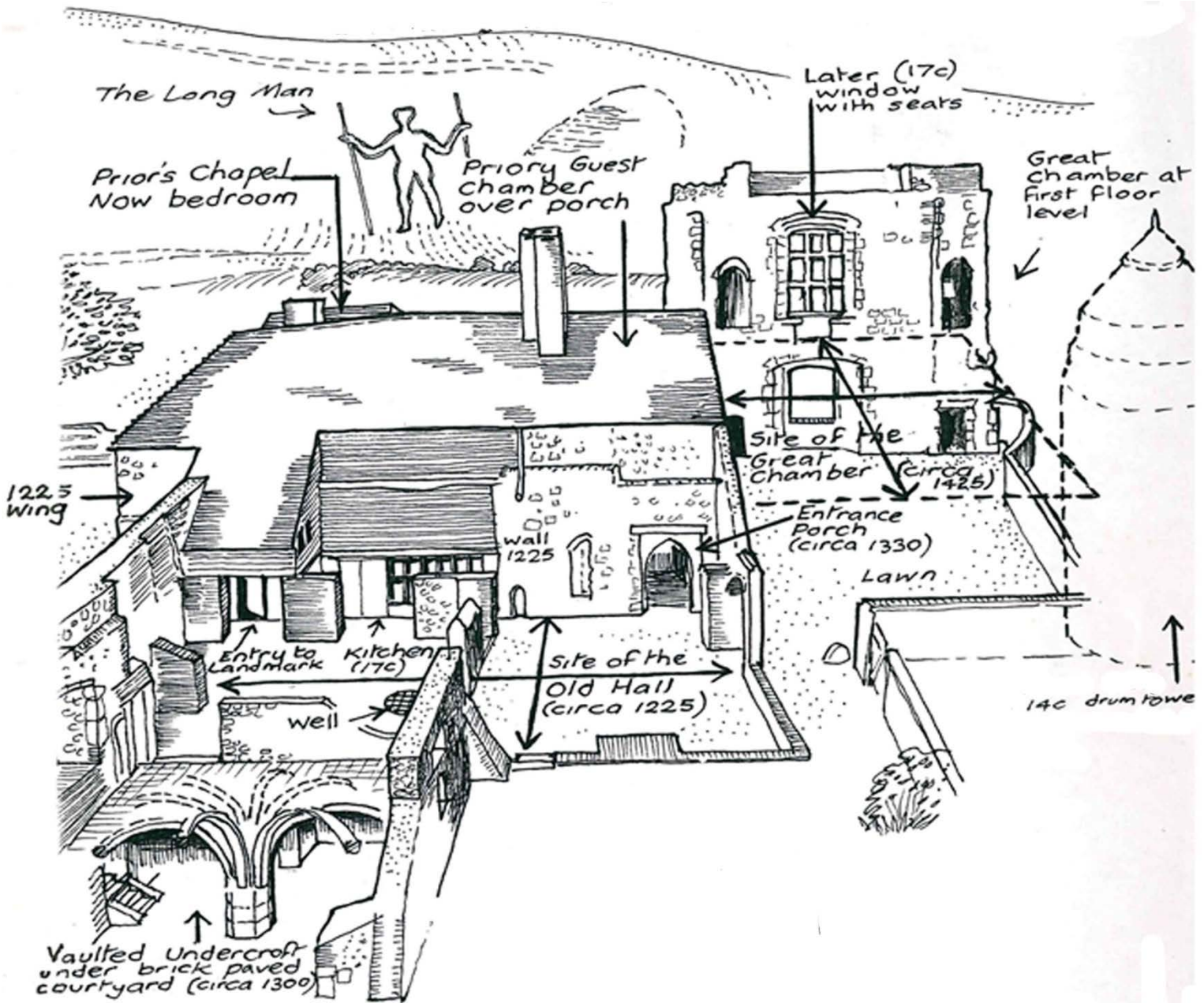
Kitchen Garden

Stair Turret





Since 1725 Wilmington Priory has changed a lot. Parts of the building have fallen down and crumbled away, and other parts of the building have been added onto over the years. Have a look at the drawing below to see what is still there and what has gone.



Here's a key to help you understand the new words and abbreviations (say 'ab-ree-vee-ay-shuns'):

Circa = means "the time" around that date.

17c = means the 17th century – in other words dates in the 1600s. Colour these bits in yellow.

14c = means the 14th century, or dates in the 1300s. Colour these bits in green.

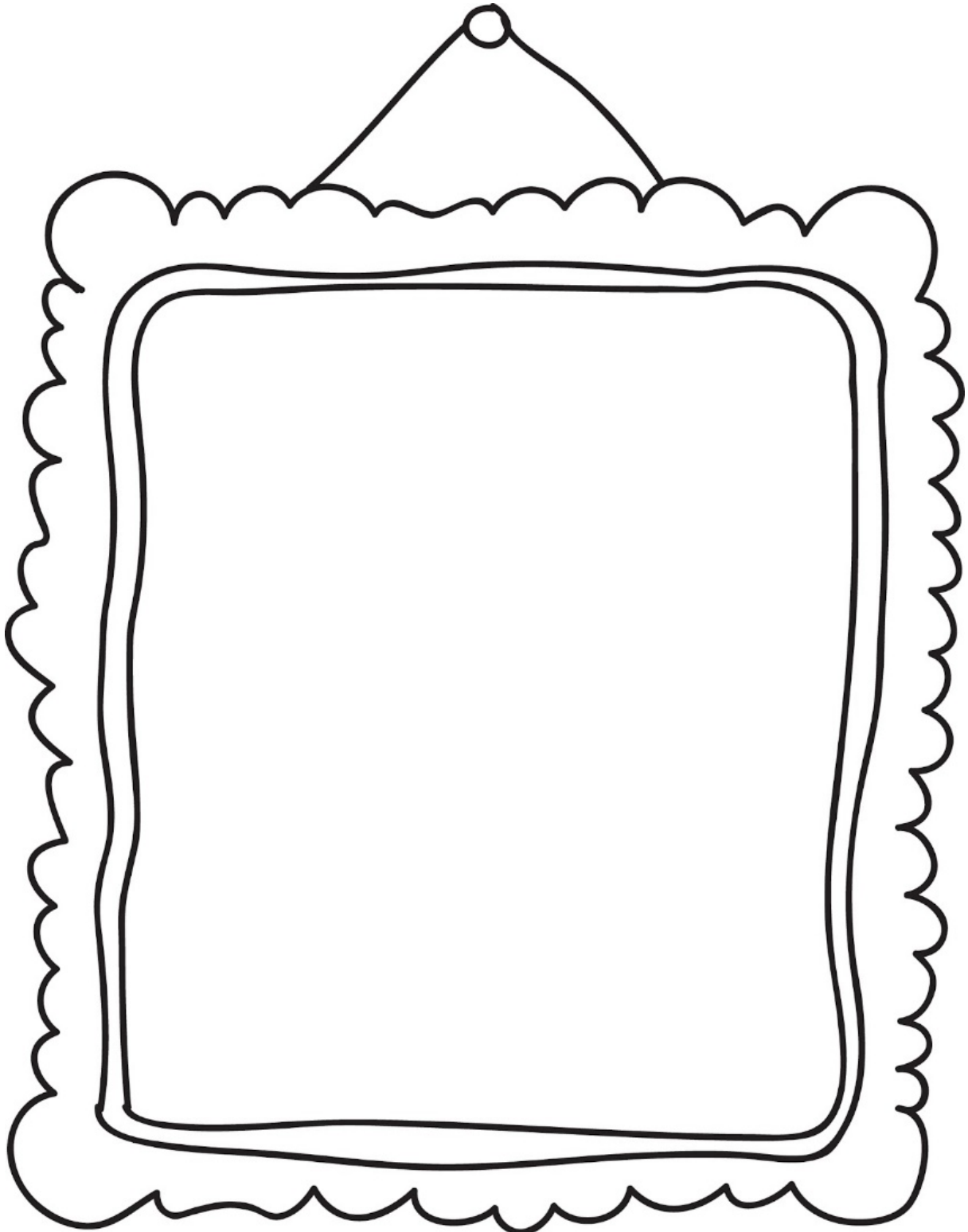
Chamber = means a room. The Great Chamber was used for special occasions.



Buildings are quite easy to draw. They are usually made up from lots of geometric shapes, like squares, triangles and circles.

Choose a bit of Wilmington Priory and draw it in the frame.

Please tell an adult where you are going so they don't worry about where you are!





What is Wilmington Priory built from?

Stone is the solid foundation of the earth. It exists as huge mountains, rocks, stones or small pebbles washed smooth by water. There are lots of different types of stone, with different colours and textures. Some are better to build with than others.

Fact:

Some buildings were built from stone that was dug out of the ground when farmers ploughed the fields, other buildings were made from stone that was dug out in a quarry and cut into neat shapes and sizes. There are still many stone quarries around the country today, where people get stone out of the ground.

Stone houses were once cheaper to build than brick ones. Once we could move bricks up and down the country on canals and railways, brick buildings become cheaper and more popular.



In medieval and Tudor times stone was taken out of the ground by hand. Today, a quarry is a place where stone is blasted out of the ground with explosives! The one in the picture shows what quarries look like now.

People who work with stone are called stonemasons. They build walls, carve the stone into shapes or add patterns to its surface. They use a big hammer called a mallet and special tools called chisels to shape the stone.



Mallet

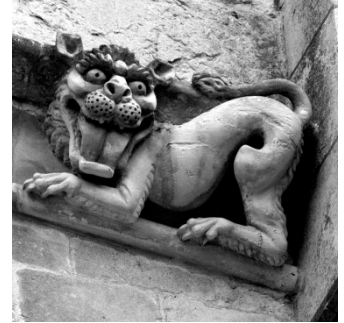


Chisels



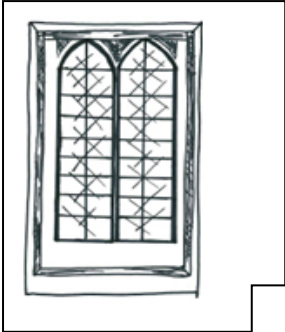


Sometimes stone masons carved faces and animals called gargoyles. You often find these in churches, up near the roof. Here are some examples. Have a go at designing your own gargoyle. Make it as ugly as you like!

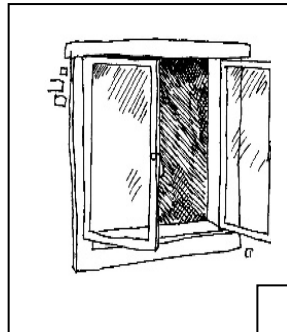




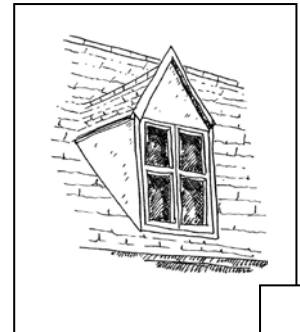
The size and shape of windows tells you a lot about the age and style of the building. What type of windows can you find at Wilmington Priory?



Pointed or Gothic

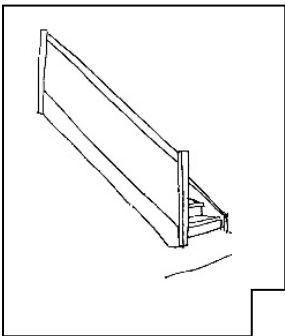


Casement (it opens)

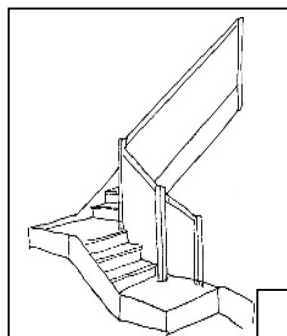


Dormer or attic (in the roof)

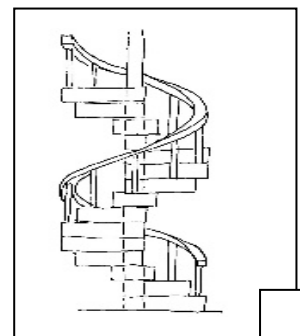
There are many different styles of staircases. Which style is closest to the staircase at Wilmington Priory?



Straight



Quarter turn



Spiral

What other building materials can you find outside and inside Woodspring Priory?

Circle what you can see and note down where you found them.

Stone

Glass

Wood

Plastic

Metal

Clay

Brick

Concrete

Quest



Discover more about Wilmington Priory

Wilmington Priory has seen many changes since it was first built around 1225. That's about 800 years ago! During that time, many things have changed both inside and outside the building. Follow this Quest to discover more about it.

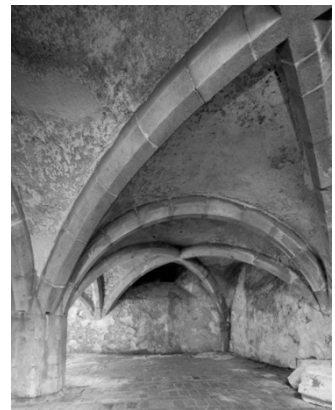
Can you find this boss? Clue: look up at the ceiling in the porch.

A boss is a piece of carved stone that sticks out where different parts of stone meet. Doesn't he look funny?



Can you find the undercroft? Clue: Follow the stairs outside in the garden; be careful you'll need a torch!

Can you see how the roof has arches? This is called a vaulted ceiling. The undercroft was used to store food and wine as it is nice and cool.



Can you find this doorway? Clue: Follow the stairs outside in the garden; be careful you'll need a torch!

You'd have to be very small to fit through this!

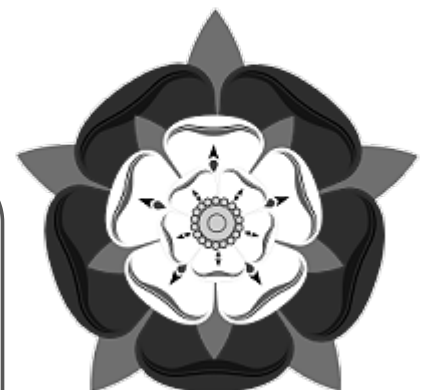


Can you find the Tudor rose in the ceiling? Clue: You'll find it in the master (or best) bedroom. This used to be the Prior's chapel.

The Tudor Rose has been modelled out of plaster so that it stays on the ceiling.

Fact:

The Tudor rose was a symbol of unity between two families. The Lancasters used a red rose as their symbol and the Yorks used a white one. They had fought each other for 30 years during what is called the War of the Roses (1455-85). Then Henry Tudor came to the throne (red rose) and married Elizabeth of York (white rose). To show there were to be no more wars, they merged the white and red roses into one Tudor rose.





The Long Man of Wilmington

Have you seen the Long Man of Wilmington on the hillside yet? No-one knows exactly when he was created.

Archaeologists (say 'ar-kee-ol-o-jists') think that he was created in the 1500s. Imagine how much running back and forth it took to see that they were drawing the right shape of a man!

Originally he wasn't white but his shape was marked out by cut grass. Now he is marked out using white painted blocks. He is 72 meters tall, that's the same as 8 and a half double decker buses!

In the box below design your person to go on the hillside. Would they be tall or short? What would they be holding? You can even draw people walking up the hill to visit it!



Fact:

Archaeologists study things found underground to help understand a place's history.

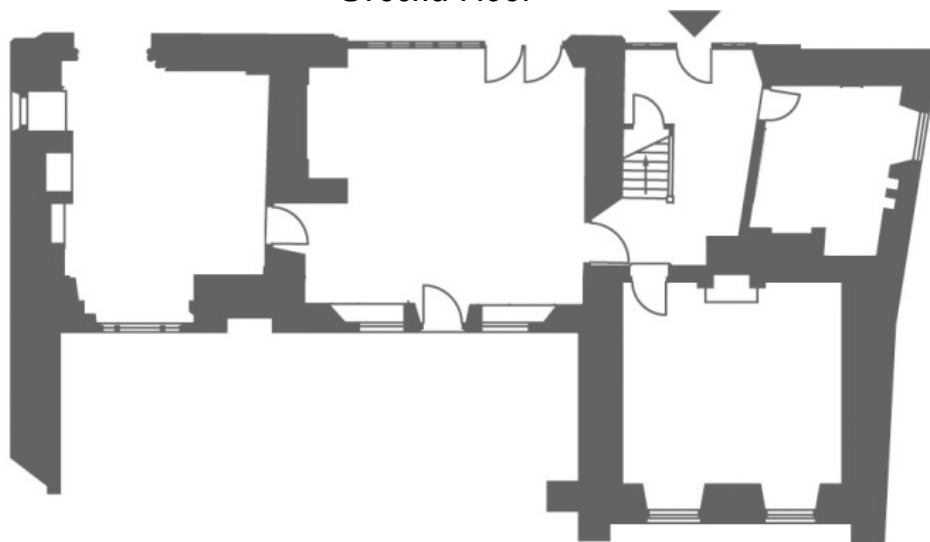
A large, empty rectangular box with a black border, intended for a student to draw their own person or scene on a hillside.



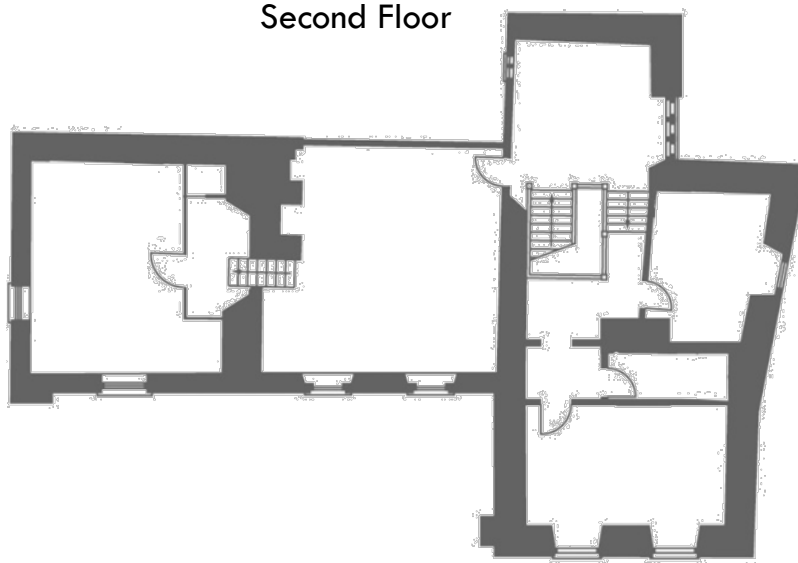
Living in Wilmington Priory

The floorplan of a building is a map of the rooms. Wilmington Priory has two floors. The plans below show you the shape of each room. Take a walk around and write on the plans what each room is used for.

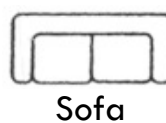
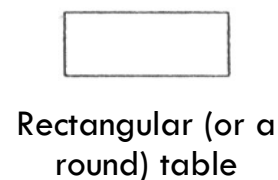
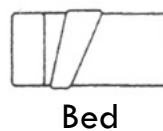
Ground Floor



Second Floor



We use these symbols to show where beds, tables and bathrooms are. Add the symbols on to the floorplans to show where the furniture is.





Can you find an example of each of these things inside Wilmington Priory. Describe, or draw the object when you find it.

Your favourite chair

The fireplace (is it an open fire or does it have a stove?)

The pattern of a rug on the floor

In the box below, draw the view from your bedroom window. What can you see in the distance? Are there any animals in the fields or any trees that look very old and interesting?

A large, empty rectangular box with a black border, intended for drawing a view from a bedroom window.



Can you answer these questions correctly?

1. What rules do Benedictine monks follow?

Rules of St. Augustine

Rules of St. Benedict

Rules of St. Francis

Rules of St. Bob

2. What county is Wilmington Priory in?

Wiltshire

East Sussex

Somerset

Dorset

3. How tall is the Long Man of Wilmington

100m

27m

56m

72m

4. What was stored in the undercroft?

Food and wine

Snakes

Books

Blankets

5. What is the symbol of the Tudors?

A horse

A rose

A trumpet

A spider

6. Around what year was Wilmington Priory built?

1100

1066

1225

1600

7. What was the title of the man who looked after the Priory?

Abbot

Prior

Monk

Canon

8. What was the master bedroom originally?

A bathroom

A chapel

A kitchen

A play room

To find the answers skip two pages...



Countryside Word Search

Now have a go at the countryside word search. When you were exploring the countryside around Woodspring Priory did you see any of these? The words to find are at the bottom of the page.

H V G I O H L U K A E S S I
C E F C M E A S A L D A T D
O G D E I N D T B E O U I D
N A A G N S N M E D P S L E
T T T R E M A D E G U T E L
U T G A G R L N S H E E P F
T O E S B L O T R T P Y B L
A C O W S E N W E A P D H O
E A O T S T G U W P U E C W
F I E L D S M I O T I O R E
U S P A T R A C T O R C U R
F O S R T U N O L O A K H S
K B A R N A F P F F N T C O

**HEDGEROW
LONGMAN
STILE
TRACTOR**

**FOOTPATH
BRAMBLE
COTTAGE
BARN**

**OAK
SHEEP
FIELD
COWS**

**HENS
SEA
CHURCH
FLOWERS**

How many of these words did you find? Put your score in the box.

16



Who caught what?

Each object played an important part of a monk's life. Match the monk to the object.

1 2 3 4 5



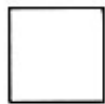
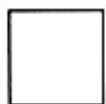
cup

candle

fish

bell

book



Did you match them all correctly? Put your score in the box.

/
5

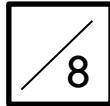


Answer sheet:

Quiz answers:

1. Rules of St. Benedict
2. East Sussex
3. 72m
4. Food and wine
5. A rose
6. 1225
7. Prior
8. A chapel

How many did you get right?



In the space below make your own Wilmington Priory quiz and test the adults! Remember to make it super hard!

1.

2.

3.

4.

5.

6.

7.

8.

Create

Illuminate a letter

Most people in the medieval times couldn't read and write. The monks could, and they recorded history in big beautiful books full of pictures and illuminated (say 'ill-oo-min-ay-ted') letters. Illuminated letters are when the first letter of a page or a paragraph is bigger and in colour while the rest of the text is black. Sometimes the monks made them crazy – like this person with bird's feet and a dragon's tail. Use the first letter of your name and create an illuminated letter! They loved to use colour in medieval times so make it as bright and bold as you like!





Bake a honey cake

In medieval times cakes were very simple. People either bought the ingredients in a market or grew their own. Honey was used to make things sweeter as sugar came from the Middle East (and later Europe) and was very expensive.

Here's a simple recipe for you to try. You might need the help of an adult.

250g clear honey, plus extra 2 tbsp to glaze	100g dark muscovado sugar
225g unsalted butter	3 large eggs, beaten
	300g self-raising flour

Remember to pre-heat the oven: fan 140 °C or electric 160 °C: Gas 3

- Butter a 20cm round cake tin and line it with baking paper
- Cut the butter into pieces and drop them into a medium pan with the honey and the sugar, let it melt slowly
- When the mixture looks like liquid, turn up the heat under the pan and boil for about 1 minute
- Leave to cool for 15-20 minutes (important - this stops the eggs cooking when they are mixed in!)
- Beat the eggs into the melted honey mixture using a wooden spoon
- Sift the flour into a large bowl and pour in the egg and honey mixture. Beat until you have a smooth, quite runny batter
- Pour the mixture into the cake tin and bake for 50-60 minutes. You can tell it's ready as it will be golden brown and spring back when pressed. Push a skewer into the centre of the cake and it should come out clean.
- Turn the cake out on a wire rack
- Warm 2tbsp honey in a small pan and brush over the top of the cake to give it a sticky glaze, then leave it to cool.
- If you want, serve with vanilla ice cream! This is making me feel hungry...