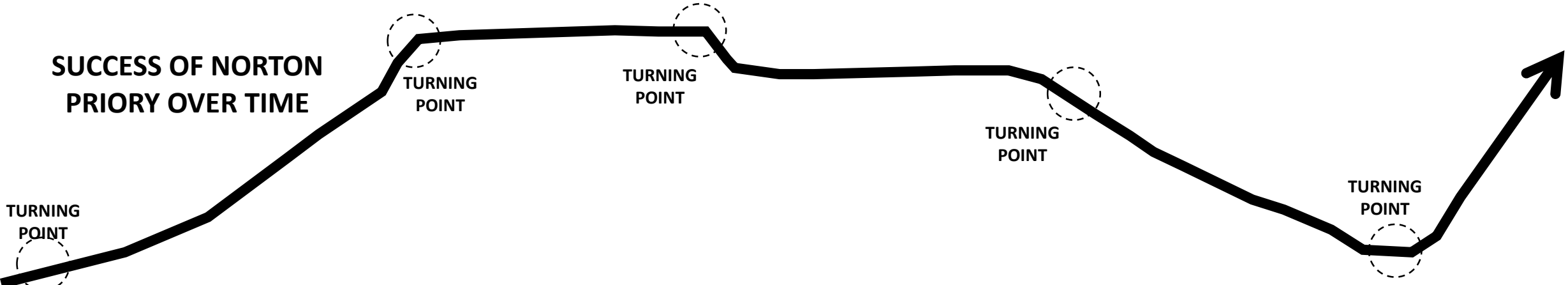


SUCCESS OF NORTON PRIORY OVER TIME



<p><u>1115</u> Priory founded in Runcorn</p> <p><u>1134</u> Priory moves 4km to Norton</p>	<p><u>1236</u> A fire causes vast damage to the priory</p> <p><u>1248</u> Burial of Sir Geoffrey Dutton</p>	<p><u>1366</u> Richard Wyche made Prior</p> <p><u>c.1375</u> Statue of St. Christopher erected in the Church</p> <p><u>1391</u> Status of the priory is raised to an Abbey. Richard Wyche is made the Abbot</p>	<p><u>c.1400</u> The community at Norton Priory numbered 16. This made it twice the size of other Augustinian houses</p>	<p><u>1535</u> Sir Piers Dutton made Royal Commissioner for Cheshire</p> <p><u>1536</u> Norton Priory closed down as part of the Dissolution</p> <p><u>1545</u> The site is purchased by Sir Richard Brooke and undergoes transformation into stately manor</p>	<p><u>1643</u> The estate is besieged by Royalist soldiers during the Civil War</p>	<p><u>1739</u> Richard Brooke, 4th Baronet, starts work on a mansion to replace the Tudor home</p> <p><u>1776</u> The Bridgewater Canal is extended through the site at Norton Priory</p>	<p><u>1881</u> Census reveal the Brooke household has 19 servants and numerous other assistants</p>	<p><u>1921</u> Richard Brooke, 9th Baronet, auctions the estate</p> <p><u>1964</u> Runcorn assigned status of 'New Town'. The 'Town Park' area is designated as an area free of development – Norton Priory falls within this.</p> <p><u>1970</u> First archaeological dig takes place on site</p>	<p><u>2016</u> The museum at Norton Priory is opened to the public</p>
<p>12th century 1100s</p>	<p>13th century 1200s</p>	<p>14th century 1300s</p>	<p>15th century 1400s</p>	<p>16th century 1500s</p>	<p>17th century 1600s</p>	<p>18th century 1700s</p>	<p>19th century 1800s</p>	<p>20th century 1900s</p>	<p>21st century 2000s</p>

CHURCH (1, 2, 3, 4, 5)

Where canons committed to their religious duties on a daily basis.

Daily life: The size of the Church signifies the importance of religious work for the canons.

Sections: 1 – North East Chapel, 2 – Chancel, 3 – Choir, 4 – Nave, 5 – North Aisle

Roles: The nave was the only section of the priory opened to the public, accessible through the passageway (13). The coffin of Geoffrey Dutton is in the centre of the nave, signalling his importance in the eyes of the canons.

Values/Attitudes: Demonstrates the commitment to religious work that the canons had. Proves that an ascetic lifestyle was being adhered to.

CLOISTER (9)

Open garden surrounded by covered walkways.

Daily life: Canons used space to write and copy religious texts.

Appearance: Arches decorated with fine stone carvings.

Change: Became a dumping ground when site purchased by the Brookes family.

CHAPTER HOUSES (6, 7)

Rooms in which canons met daily.

Daily life: Canons used this space to organise their day. They also spent time reading a chapter of the Order of St. Hippo on a daily basis.

Values/Attitudes: Demonstrates the commitment to religious work that the canons had. Proves that an ascetic lifestyle was being adhered to.

Change: The original chapter house (6) was extended (7), likely due to the growing number of canons on site over time.

INFIRMARY (not yet located)

A building in which canons cared for the sick from the local community.

Daily life: A canon would have been nominated as the 'infirmarer'. Their role would have focused on administering care.

Values/Attitudes: Demonstrates the commitment to the order of St. Augustine of Hippo; a key feature being to provide care for people in need.

ABBOT'S TOWER (16)

A private dormitory for the Abbot/Prior.

Daily life: A place for the Abbot to rest during sleeping hours.

Significance: Shows the elevated status of the Abbot compared to the canons. Canons slept in the dormitory (8)

Change: Became part of the estate and mansion that was built following the Brookes purchase.

UNDERCROFT (14)

A large storage cellar.

Daily life: Canons used space to store supplies and materials essential for their survival.

Appearance: Has features that show its existence through different periods e.g. Tudor window. Victorian tiling.

Significance: Is the only part of the priory that remains intact.

Change: Became part of the estate and mansion that was built following the Brookes purchase.

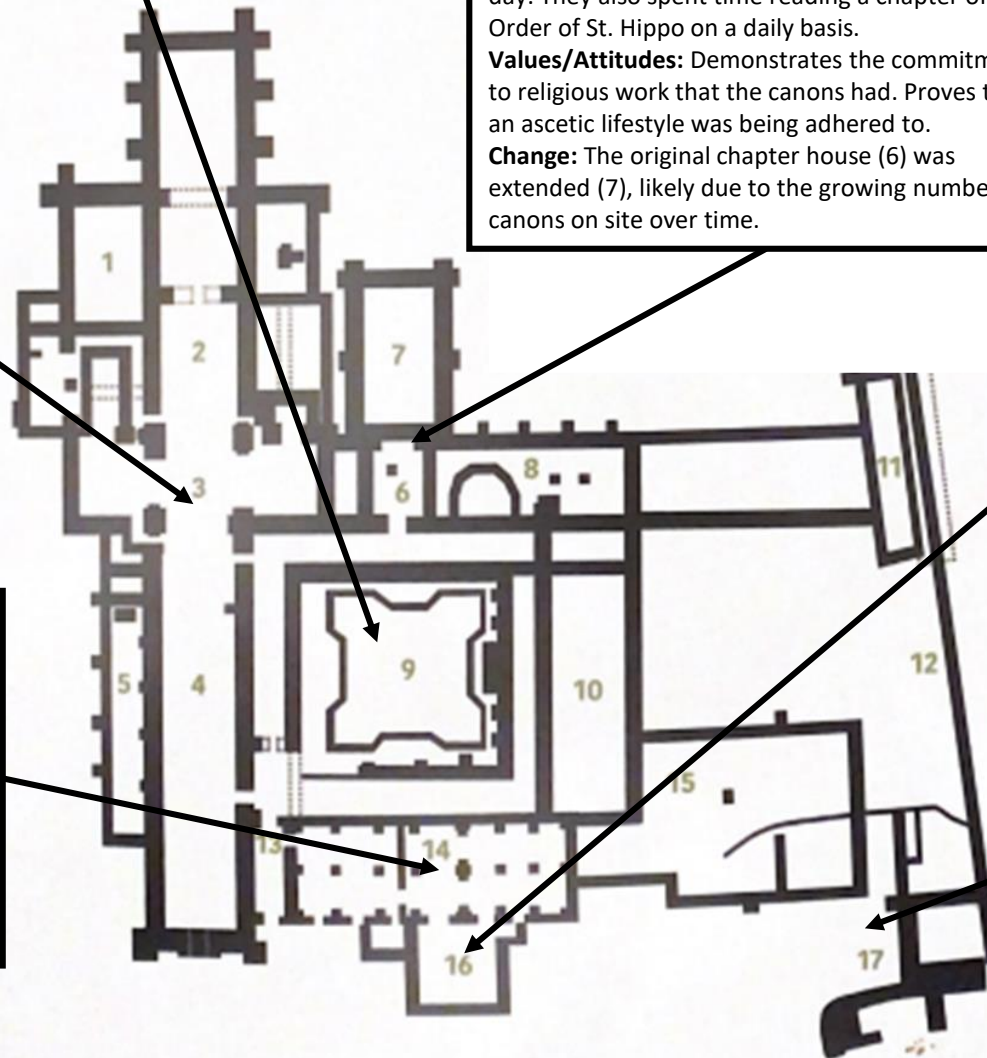
GUEST QUARTERS (17)

Where important visitors would be welcomed and reside during their stay.

Daily life: Canons used this space to organise their day. They also spent time reading a chapter of the Order of St. Hippo on a daily basis.

Values/Attitudes: Demonstrates the commitment to religious work that the canons had. Proves that an ascetic lifestyle was being adhered to.

Change: The original chapter house (6) was extended (7), likely due to the growing number of canons on site over time.



REASONS FOR WHY NORTON PRIORY IS LOCATED WITHIN ITS SURROUNDINGS	SIGNIFICANT TURNING POINTS IN THE SITES HISTORY	DIVERSITY OF ACTIVITIES AND PEOPLE ASSOCIATED WITH THE SITE	HOW PHYSICAL FEATURES REVEAL THE ATTITUDES AND VALUES OF CANONS
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Access to resources <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Abundance of wildlife in local area – food and fish from River Mersey • Resources such as timber – building • Sand from the River Mersey – used in building • Natural habitat – plants and herbs for treatment of sick • Opportunity for future expansion <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Virgin site was chosen • Vast open fields surrounded the original site • Gave canons opportunity to expand the site from its original size • Proximity to Norton <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Site was chosen on the outskirts of Norton town • Gave canons a community to serve • Kept the community at a safe distance – ascetic lifestyle 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Move from Runcorn 1134 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Original priory was created in Runcorn, 1115 • Moved to Norton in 1134 • Key reason – ascetic lifestyle • Status of Abbey 1391 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Richard Wyche becomes Abbot • Special status - mitre • First Augustinian house to be given status in 160 years • Dissolution 1536 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Closed down by Piers Dutton on behalf of Henry VIII • Seizes to be a religious house • Purchased by Brooke family in 1545 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Role changes to that of a family estate • Mansion built on site of priory in 1730s • Extension of Bridgewater Canal 1776 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Changed the landscape of the site • Opened the door to future development in the area 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Canons <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Devotion to religious lifestyle • Care for the community • Brooke family <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Family estate • Changed site into a status symbol • Bridgewater Canal <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Made the land significant nationally as part of an important trade and communication link • Excavations from 1970 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Gave the site national significance • Unearthed significant artefacts highlighting the activities of Augustinian canons 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Church <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Demonstrates the devotion canons had to God and religious work • Makes up the main part of the priory – significant building for the priory • Cloister <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Demonstrates the commitment canons had to writing religious scriptures and their own religious texts • Infirmary <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Demonstrates the commitment canons had to servicing the local community • Undercroft <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Only remaining part of the original priory • Shows its significance as a structural building • Became part of the main entrance to the estate in later years