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WELCOME
TO
SOUTHWELL MINSTER
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Southwell Minster was founded in Saxon times and rebuilt by the Normans as an independent church in the Diocese of York served by a group of priests supported by prebendal endowments of land and tithes. There were never any monks here. A Palace was needed for when the Archbishop of York visited and the first such residence is mentioned in Domesday Book.

The Palace was damaged during the Civil War, 1642–51, (as was the Minster) and partly dismantled. Many of the original stones can be found in homes throughout the town. The ruins you see adjacent to the Minster are those of the Palace. The Minster became a Cathedral in 1884 and, during Edwardian times, a Manor was built for the Bishop into the south western corner of the ruins.

Please also visit the Cathedral Shop and Refectory, located on Church Street (to the south of the Minster).

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CONTACT
AND
GENERAL INFORMATION
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With the exception of the Chapter House and Pilgrims' Chapel, the Minster and the Archbishop's Palace are wheelchair friendly.

Stewards (wearing blue badges), the information desk staff and vergers are present to answer enquiries.

Tower tours and organ recitals often take place on Bank Holidays.

Guided tours can be arranged for groups. Please contact the Minster Office for details of special events and concerts.

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VISITOR GUIDE
TO
SOUTHWELL MINSTER
&
THE ARCHBISHOP'S
PALACE SOUTHWELL
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Please use this free leaflet
to explore the site.
Donations are greatly appreciated.



Features of the Minster

- 1 The North Porch** with its fine Romanesque doorway and 14th Century wooden door.
- 2 The Nave**, completed in 1150, is built of Mansfield stone in the Norman (Romanesque) style. The original wooden roof was destroyed in a fire in 1711. The present roof is Victorian.
- 3 The West (Angel) Window**, painted by Patrick Reyntiens in 1996.
- 4 The font**, 1661. The original, of which this is a copy, was destroyed in the Civil War.
- 5 Christus Rex** by Peter Ball, 1987. Christ the King or the Risen Christ, above the crossing arch.
- 6 Bread Pews**, in which the poor received bread. Roman mosaic tiles, possibly part of the floor of the Saxon church.
- 7 Bath House** ceiling painting from the Roman villa that lies partly beneath and to the east of the Minster and the Palace. A further ceiling fragment is on display in the Palace.
- 8 Chapel of Christ the Light of the World.** For candles and prayer cards.

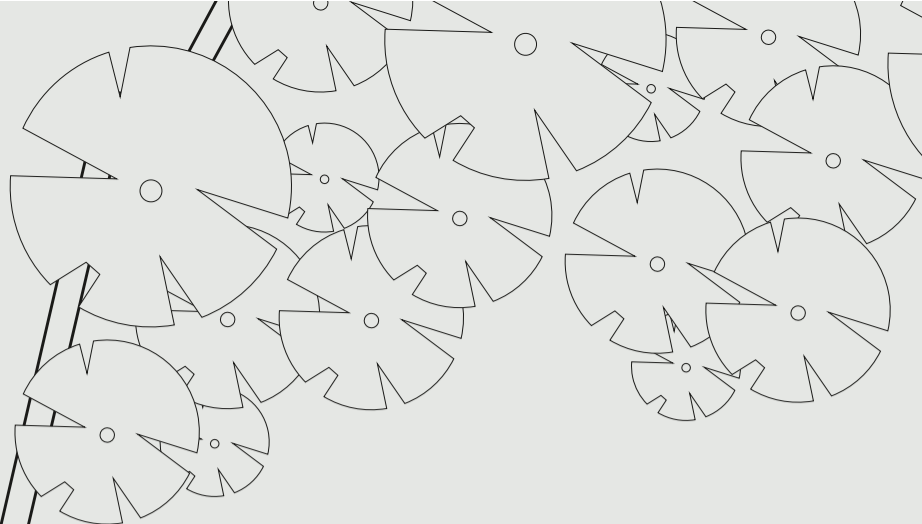
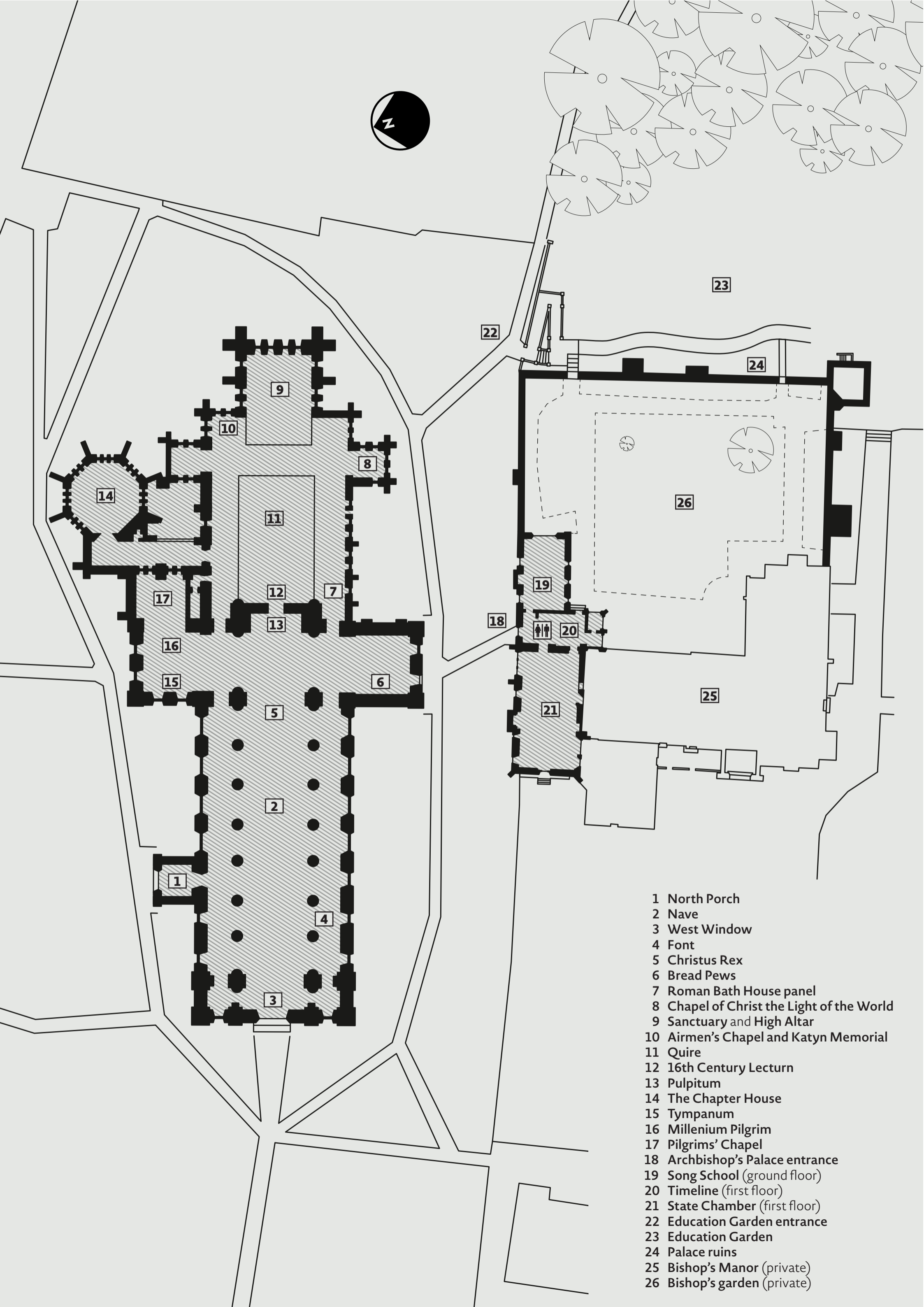
- 9 Sanctuary and High Altar.** The four lower windows are of 16th Century Flemish glass.
- 10 Airmen's Chapel and Katyn Memorial.**
- 11 The Quire**, Rebuilt in c.1234 in the Early English (Gothic) style.
- 12 16th Century Lectern** found in a lake at Newstead Abbey.
- 13 Pulpitum.** 14th Century decorated style with many carved heads.
- 14 The Chapter House.** 13th Century. The famous *Leaves of Southwell*. Noted for the exquisite carvings of leaves, plants, animals and green men.
- 15 Tympanum**, 9th/11th Century. The oldest carving in the Minster.
- 16 Millennium Pilgrim** by Rory Young.
- 17 Pilgrims' Chapel** for private prayer. We have a prayer-led tour of the building, *A Pilgrim's Guide to Southwell Minster*, available to purchase.

Further information can be found in our booklet *A Visitor's Companion* and the more detailed *Southwell Minster – A History & Guide*. Both are available from the Information Desk, or the Cathedral Shop.

Features of the Archbishop's Palace

- 18 The entrance pathway** designed to reflect the evolution of language and of the people who have occupied this site.
- 19 The Song School**, where the Choristers of the Minster Cathedral Choir rehearse.
- 20 Timeline** of objects representing key periods in the history of the Palace (first floor).
- 21 The State Chamber**, used by Cardinal Wolsey and King Charles I.
- 22 The Education Garden** brings to life time periods important to the history of the Palace. The design features a medieval herb parterre; a Tudor knot garden; a border planted in the style of Edwardian plants woman Gertrude Jekyll; wildlife areas including a winter border and woodland and wild meadow.
- 23 The ruins** of the Medieval Palace.
- 24 Bishop's Manor** (private). The home of the Bishop of Southwell & Nottingham, built into one corner of the Palace ruins in Edwardian times

More details can be found inside the Palace.



- 1 North Porch
- 2 Nave
- 3 West Window
- 4 Font
- 5 Christus Rex
- 6 Bread Pews
- 7 Roman Bath House panel
- 8 Chapel of Christ the Light of the World
- 9 Sanctuary and High Altar
- 10 Airmen's Chapel and Katyn Memorial
- 11 Quire
- 12 16th Century Lectern
- 13 Pulpitum
- 14 The Chapter House
- 15 Tympanum
- 16 Millenium Pilgrim
- 17 Pilgrims' Chapel
- 18 Archbishop's Palace entrance
- 19 Song School (ground floor)
- 20 Timeline (first floor)
- 21 State Chamber (first floor)
- 22 Education Garden entrance
- 23 Education Garden
- 24 Palace ruins
- 25 Bishop's Manor (private)
- 26 Bishop's garden (private)