

Gloucester Park is currently used for a wide range of community events, from Saturday morning Park Runs and recent Black Lives Matter events to carnival, funfairs and fireworks.

The park began life in 1815 as part of the Spa Pleasure Grounds, and was opened as a park in 1848. A war memorial at the park entrance commemorates both World Wars and the Korean War.

On the way to the bandstand, you will pass a 1930s statue to Robert Raikes, born in Gloucester 1736, and best known as one of the founders of the Sunday School movement.

## Bandstand in Gloucester Park

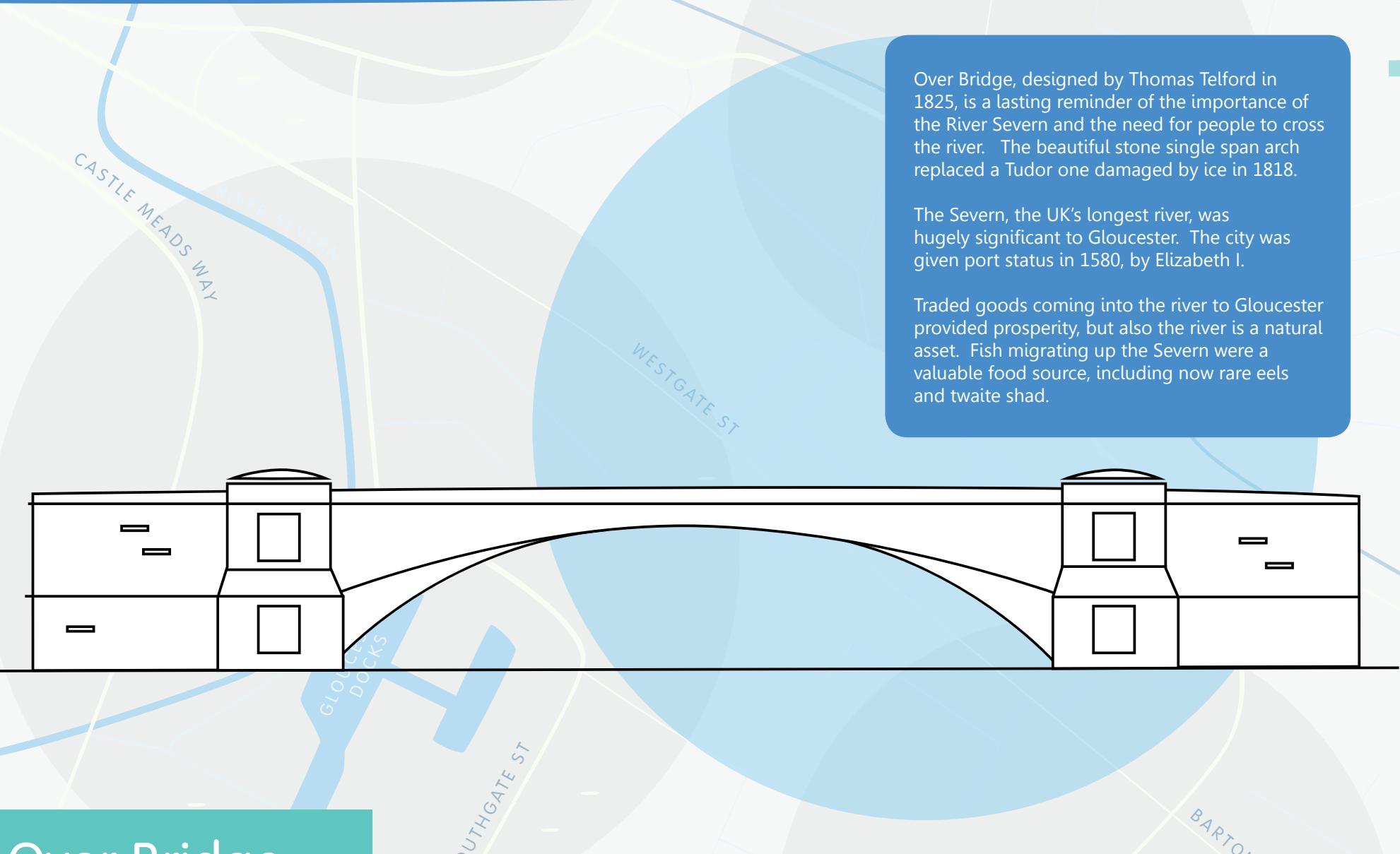
# Blackfriars Priory



The priory is the best preserved medieval Dominican house in Britain. The followers of St. Dominic arrived in Gloucester in 1239 and built their priory over the following 40 years. The site chosen was a vacant part of the outer bailey of the Norman castle.

The impressive remains are ranged around a cloister with the church on the north side containing the original scissor-braced oak roof. Other notable buildings house the prior's lodging and the friar's dormitory on the east. To the south is the magnificent scriptorium and library, lined with the friar's study cells.





Over Bridge, designed by Thomas Telford in 1825, is a lasting reminder of the importance of the River Severn and the need for people to cross the river. The beautiful stone single span arch replaced a Tudor one damaged by ice in 1818.

The Severn, the UK's longest river, was hugely significant to Gloucester. The city was given port status in 1580, by Elizabeth I.

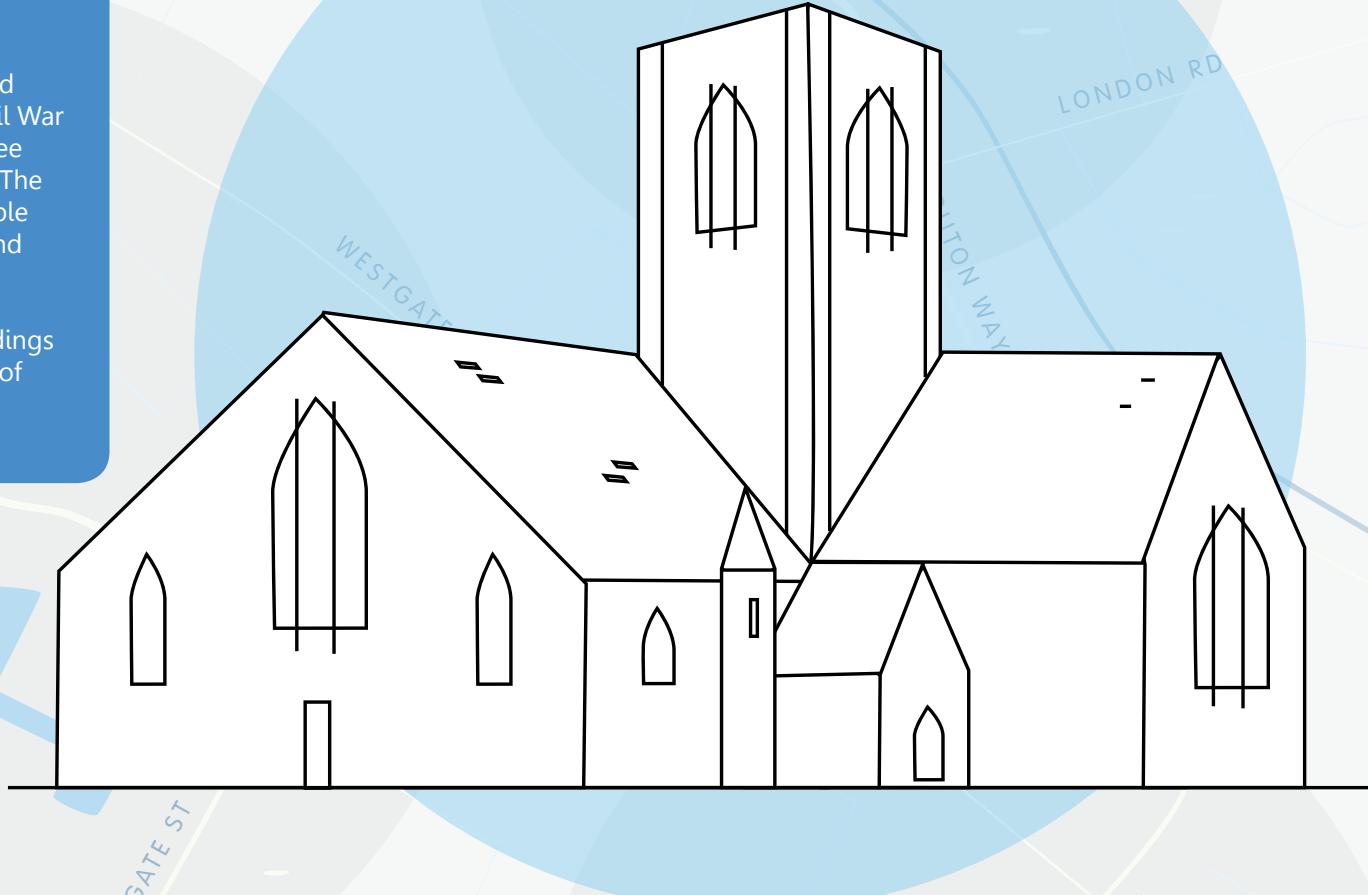
Traded goods coming into the river to Gloucester provided prosperity, but also the river is a natural asset. Fish migrating up the Severn were a valuable food source, including now rare eels and twaite shad.

## Over Bridge

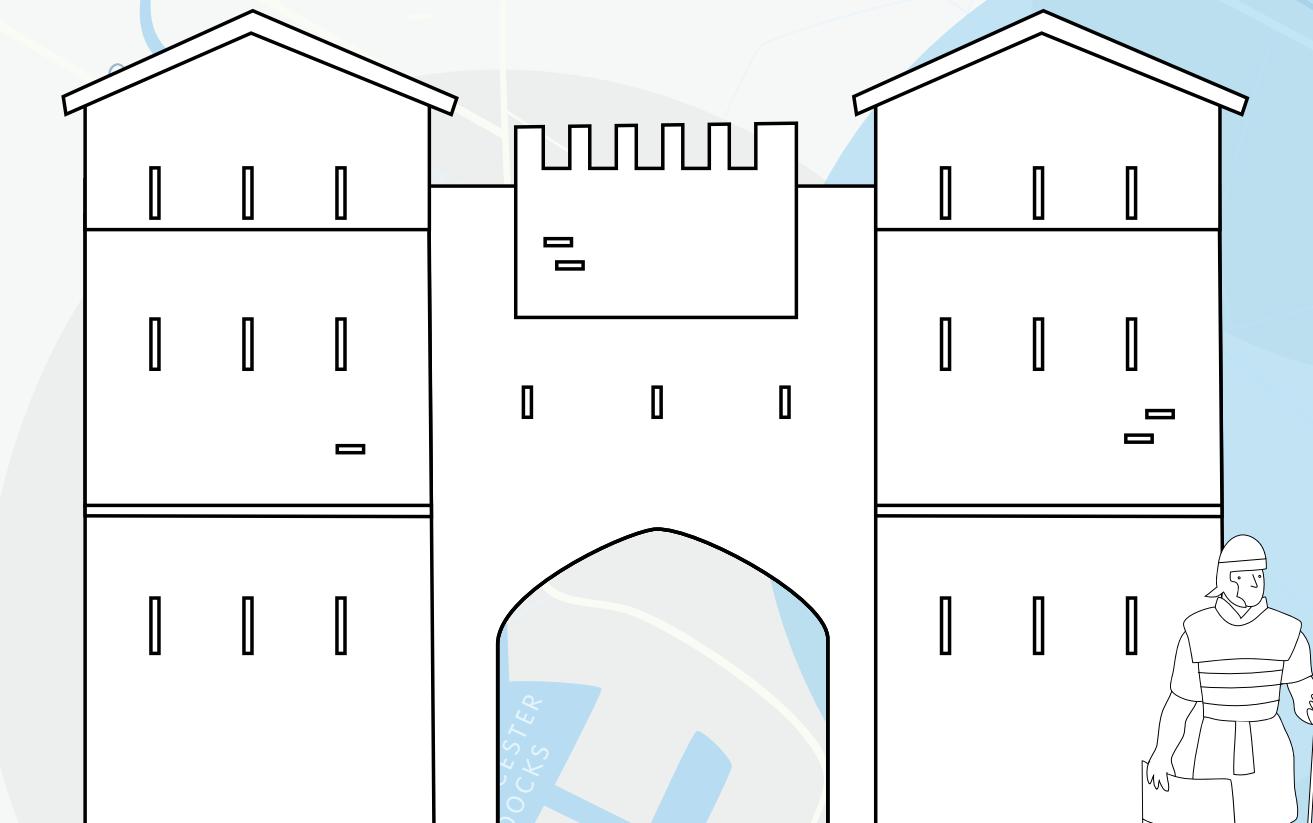
The Church of St Mary de Crypt and the Old Crypt Schoolroom stand in the historic heart of Gloucester. The medieval church, remodelled in the 1400s, has been called 'a cathedral in miniature'.

You'll find the remains of a wall painting and fine Victorian stained glass. During the Civil War it acted as a munitions store; you can still see the pock mark from a Royalist cannonball. The schoolroom, dating to 1539, is a rare example of a Tudor school, with original panelling and schoolboy graffiti.

Interesting figures associated with the buildings include Robert Raikes, one of the founders of Sunday Schools and preacher George Whitefield, a founder of Methodism.



## Discover DeCrypt

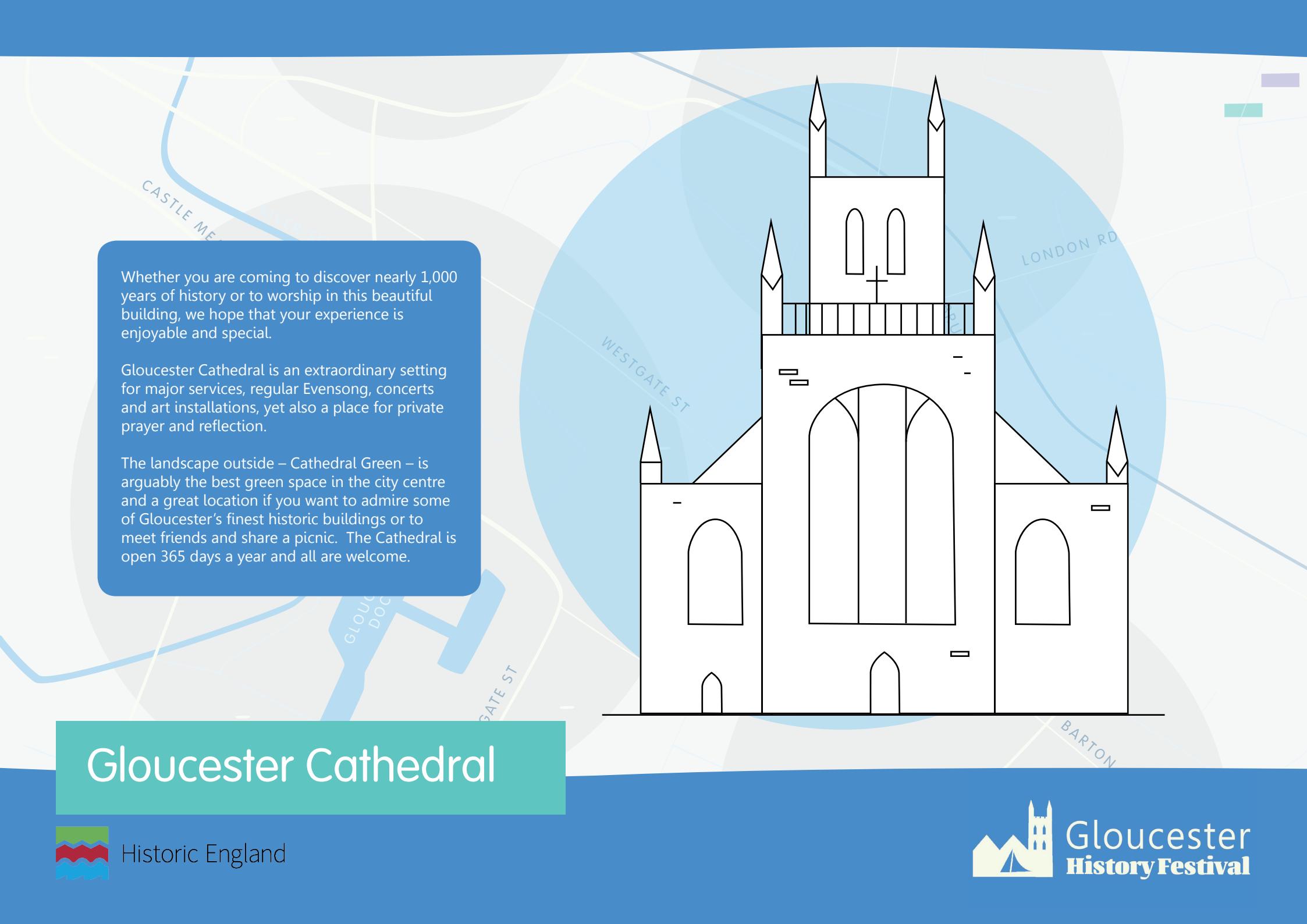


## Eastgate Chambers

This underground chamber on Eastgate Street reveals the remains of city defences and the East Gate, dating back to about AD 68 when Gloucester was founded as a Roman settlement.

The site includes Roman remains, the base of a 13th century tower and the Tudor "horse-pool" where wagons and livestock were washed before market. A section of the chamber can be viewed through glass panels in the floor outside Boots.

The King's Bastion contains remains of the Roman city wall and a defensive tower probably constructed during the reign of Henry III, and is located under a trapdoor in the King's Walk Shopping Centre.



Whether you are coming to discover nearly 1,000 years of history or to worship in this beautiful building, we hope that your experience is enjoyable and special.

Gloucester Cathedral is an extraordinary setting for major services, regular Evensong, concerts and art installations, yet also a place for private prayer and reflection.

The landscape outside – Cathedral Green – is arguably the best green space in the city centre and a great location if you want to admire some of Gloucester's finest historic buildings or to meet friends and share a picnic. The Cathedral is open 365 days a year and all are welcome.

## Gloucester Cathedral

# Heritage Hub

Gloucestershire Heritage Hub is home to Gloucestershire Archives, Gloucestershire Family History Society and Gloucestershire Police Archives. Our 10 miles of unique archive collections and resources offer a one-stop destination for those wanting to find out about the county's people and places.

A large, on-site community garden provides a tranquil oasis for all to enjoy and showcases heritage-inspired pieces of artwork. Our main building has been a familiar landmark in Kingsholm since starting life as a school in the 1920s. The site previously housed Alvin Street ironworks, and Wheeler's Nursery which supplied fruit trees to Queen Victoria.

# Llanthony Secunda Priory

Situated within five acres of landscaped grounds beside Gloucester Docks, Llanthony Secunda Priory is the remains of a once large and important Augustinian Priory. It is the sister site to Llanthony Prima in Monmouthshire, Wales.

From its founding in 1136, Llanthony Secunda has played an important part in Gloucester's history for over 900 years.

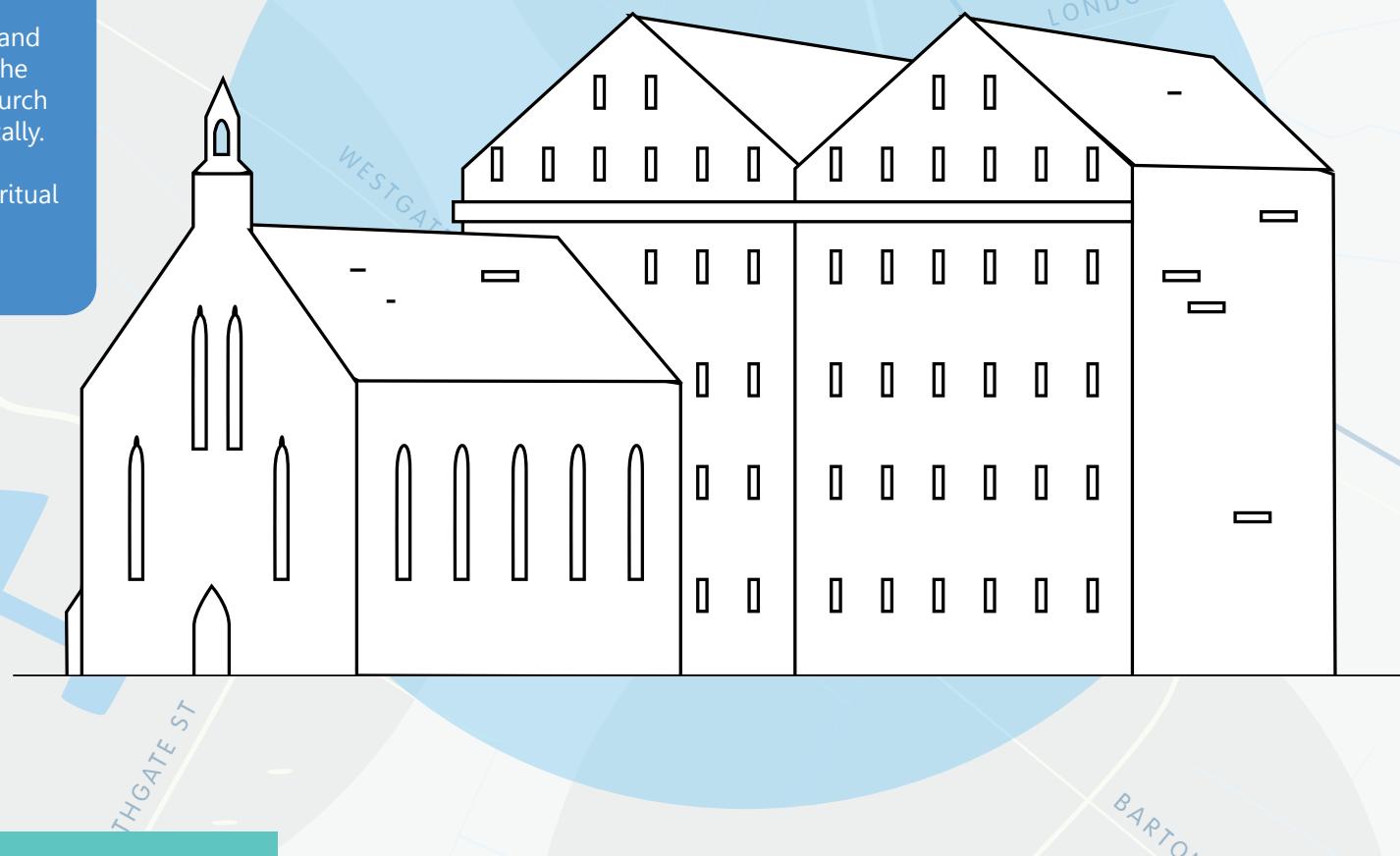
It played host to Henry VII's retinue in 1501 and the Siege of Gloucester in 1643. After the Dissolution, Llanthony was used for agricultural purposes before the Industrial Revolution left its mark. Miraculously Llanthony survived, its listed buildings and grounds now lovingly restored and open for visitors.

Mariners Chapel was built in 1849 to meet the needs of the sailors and boatmen arriving at the docks from around the world and the inland waterways. The chaplain met arriving ships and services could be held on the quayside as ships turned round quickly.

The church also provided lessons in literacy and a coffee bar to combat drunkenness. While the commercial docks have gone the present church is still serving the area spiritually and practically.

The chapel in its simple beauty is a quiet spiritual space for those visiting the docks.

## Mariners Chapel



The Museum of Gloucester holds an internationally important collection of treasures of nearly one million objects.

The museum tells the story of the city's origins as a Roman settlement and its subsequent development through the Dark Ages, Medieval period and beyond. Situated in a fine Victorian building in the city centre, the museum also houses a significant collection of art, including paintings by Richard Wilson and Thomas Gainsborough, and an archaeology collection including the world-famous Birdlip Mirror, Roman tombstones and city walls plus the Gloucester Tables Set, the oldest complete backgammon set in the world.



## Museum of Gloucester

The Olympus Theatre was built as a 700-seater cinema in 1923 in the style of the Theatre Royal Drury Lane.

Based in the heart of the community of Barton and Tredworth, the building holds many cherished memories of Gloucester residents. The vision is to restore it to its full glory sharing its history and heritage with the widest possible community, while also creating a fantastic community arts centre. The faded exterior belies the hidden gem of the interior – watch out for progress soon.

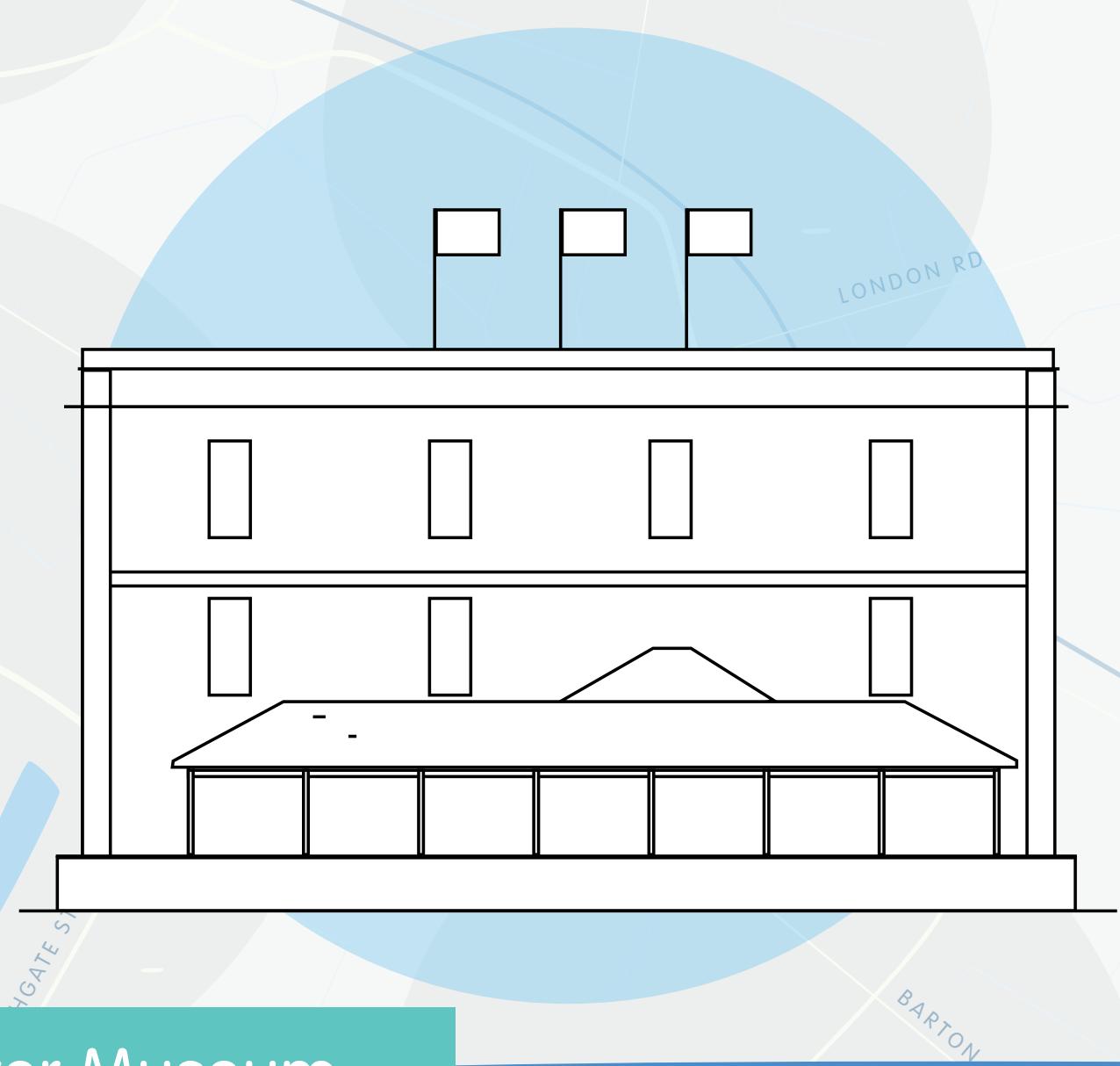
## Olympus Theatre

Located in Gloucester Docks, on the site of the former custom house since 1980, the Soldiers of Gloucestershire Museum reopened in 2014 and allows visitors to learn about the history of Gloucestershire soldiers and war history from 1694 to the present day.

The collections focus mainly on the Gloucestershire Regiment, formerly the 28th Regiment of Foot and 61st Regiment of Foot, both of which recruited soldiers largely from the Gloucester and Bristol areas.



Gloucester  
Docks



## Soldiers of Gloucester Museum

# St Michael's Tower

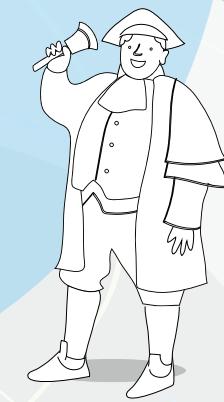
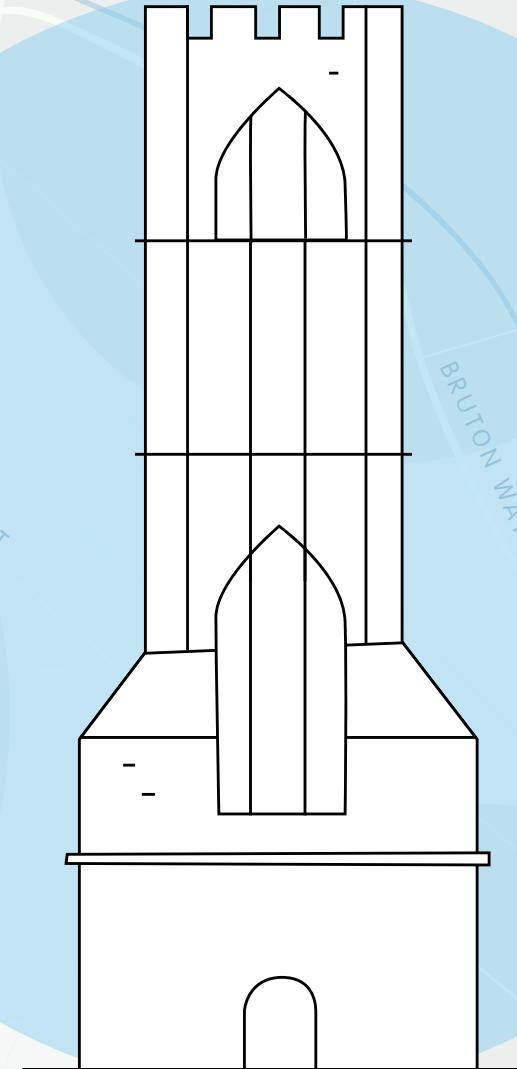


Historic England

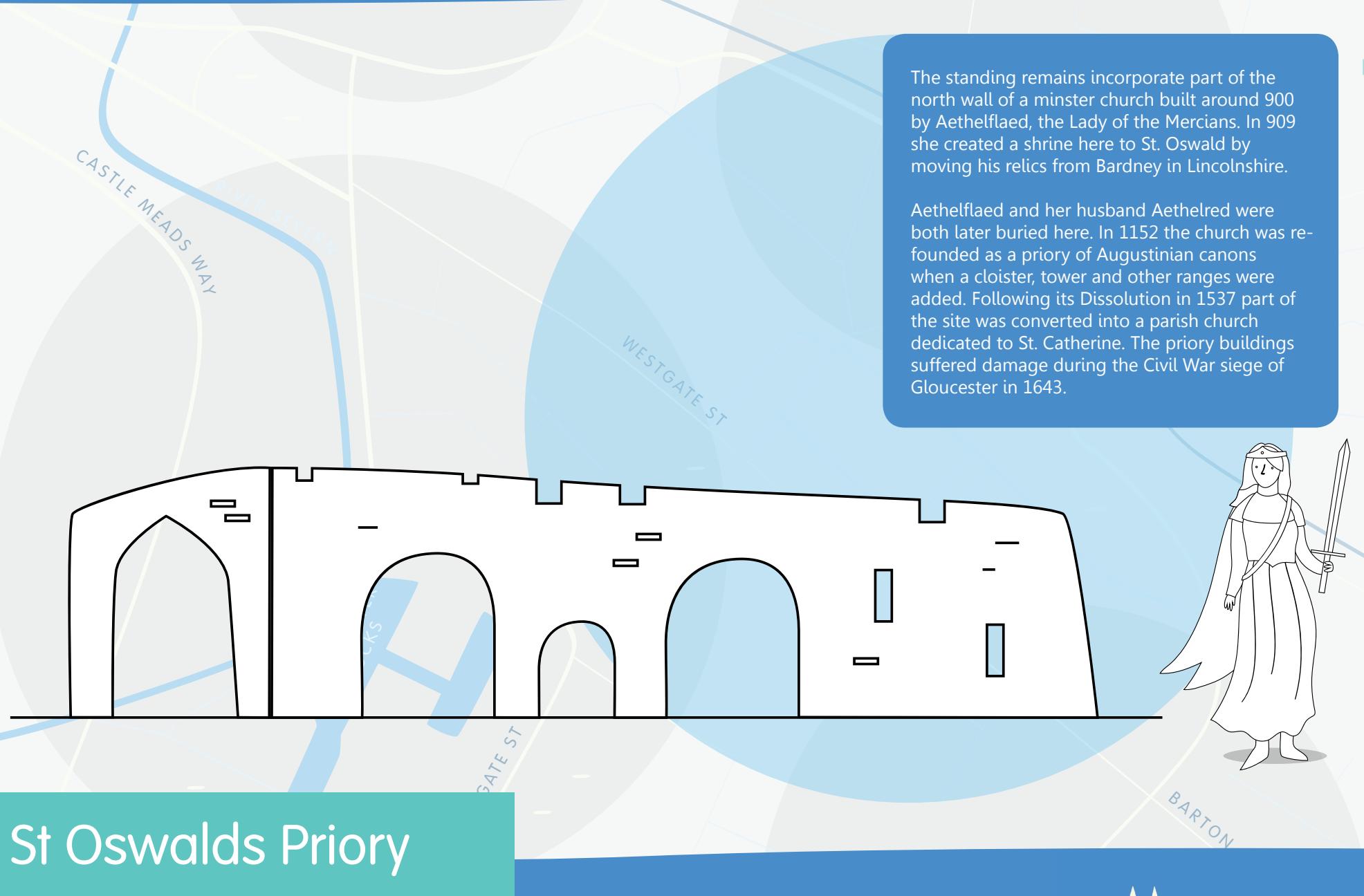
St Michael's Tower is all that is left of the church of St Michael the Archangel, which had existed on this site since 1307. The last surviving structure was demolished in 1956 leaving the Tower as a prominent city centre landmark.

It is presently the headquarters of the Gloucester Civic Trust and the departure point for city guided tours.

The present tower was built in 1465 and for many years a curfew bell was rung at 8pm and 4am each day to warn householders when to extinguish and re-ignite their fires.



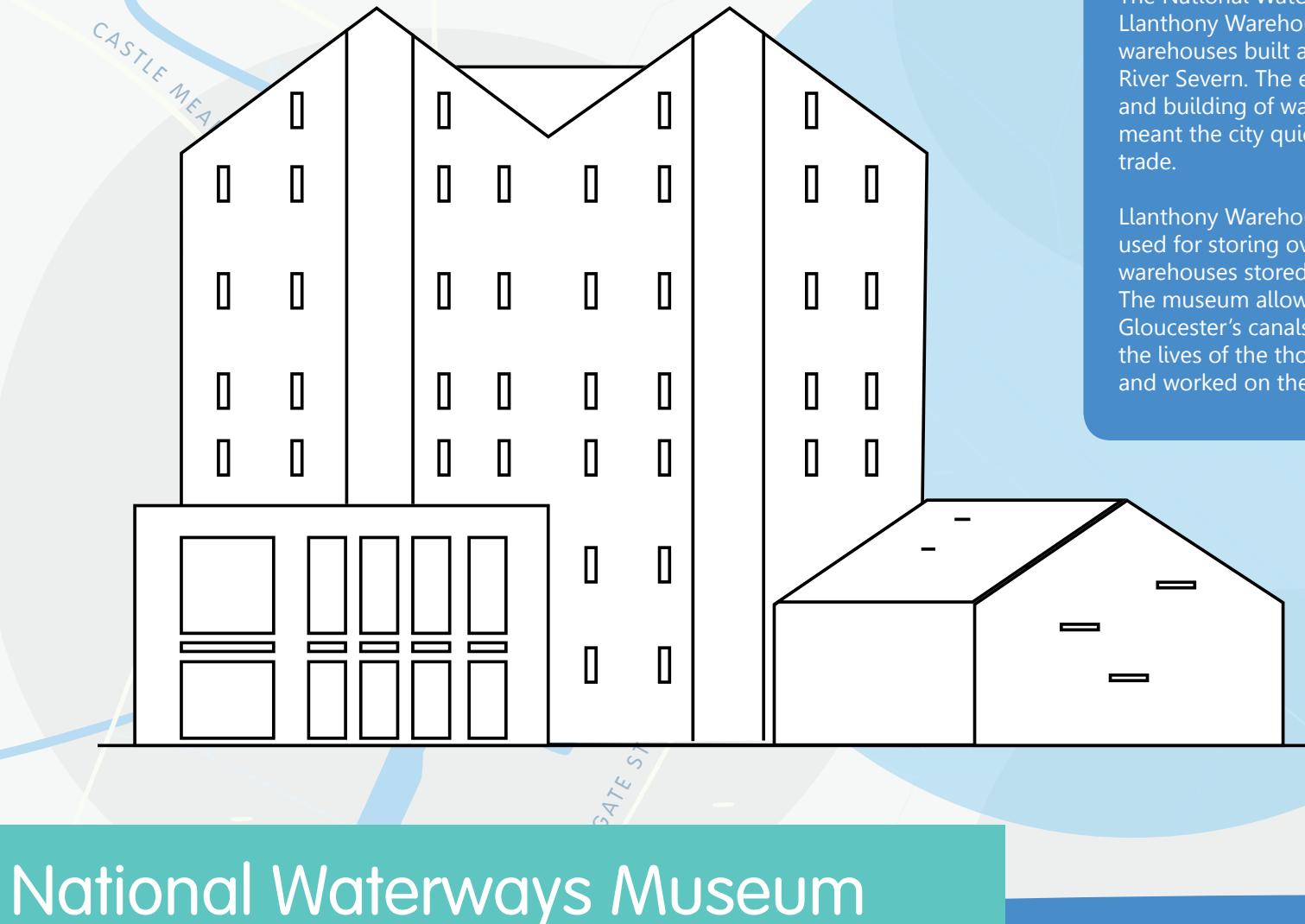
Gloucester  
History Festival



The Folk of Gloucester, formerly the Folk Museum, is a collection of historic buildings in lower Westgate Street. The oldest of the buildings date from the mid to late 15th century with additions from the 16th and 17th centuries including, famously, a large pin factory.

The museum closed in 2018 but is being brought back to life by the Gloucester Civic Trust for events, exhibitions and as a social hub for the community. It houses many interesting items including the medieval south gates of Gloucester, a Victorian kitchen, a replica pin factory and two Cotton motorcycles.





The National Waterways Museum is located at Llanthony Warehouse, the largest of the warehouses built at Gloucester Docks on the River Severn. The expansion of the Docks and building of warehouses in the early 1800s meant the city quickly became a hub for world trade.

Llanthony Warehouse was built in 1873 and was used for storing over 2,000 tons of grain; other warehouses stored timber, corn, wine and spirits. The museum allows visitors to learn the story of Gloucester's canals, rivers and trade history, and the lives of the thousands of people who lived and worked on the waterways.

## National Waterways Museum