

THE MEDIEVAL CHURCH OF ST MARY'S, BEVERLEY

The Church of St Mary's in Beverley was founded in about 1120 A.D, over 900 years ago. In the medieval period, Beverley was one of the largest towns in England, and amongst the wealthiest. This wealth came from two particular sources:

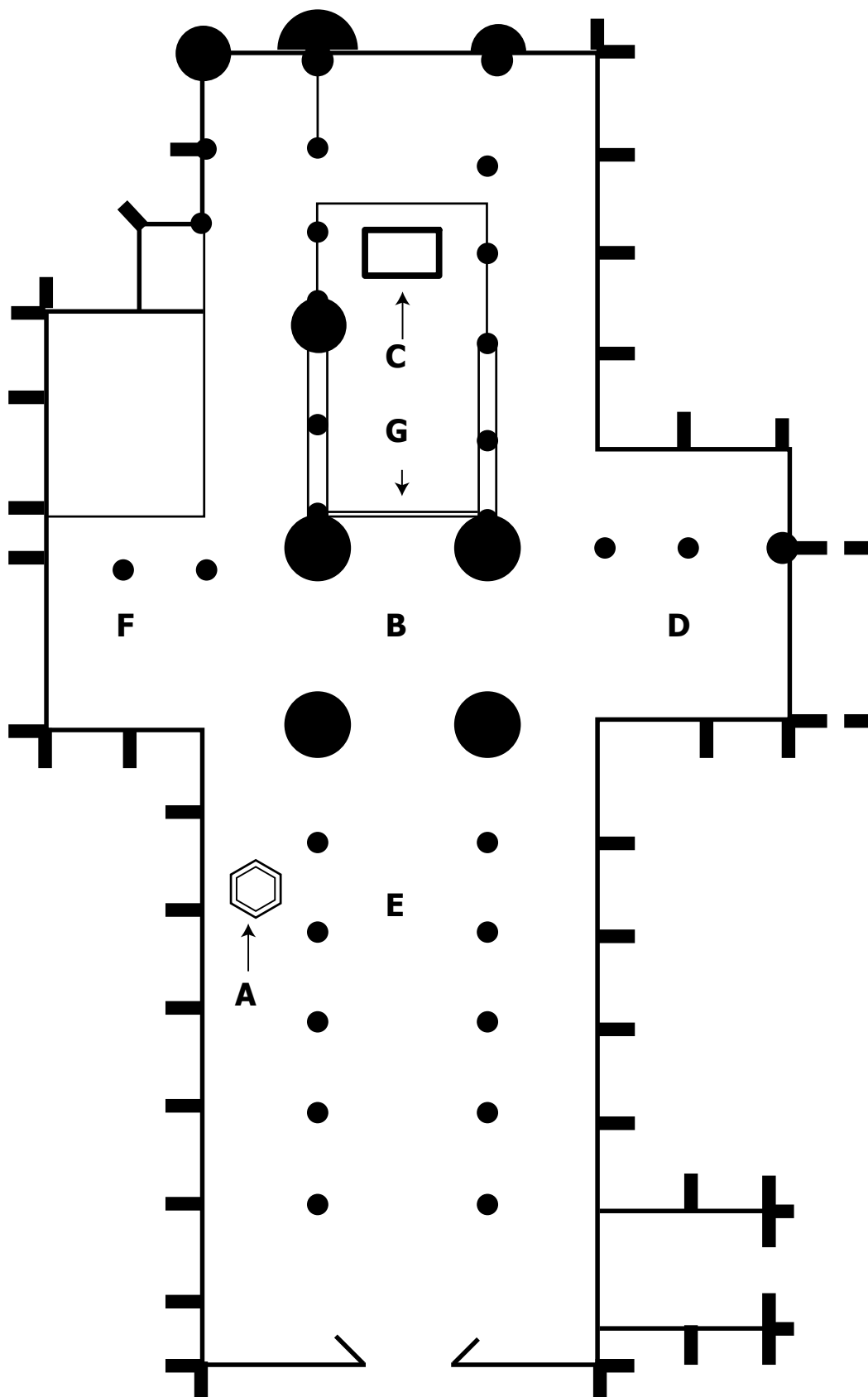
1. Pilgrimages to the Shrine of St John in Beverley Minster. Visiting Holy places on pilgrimage could help your soul get into heaven. The shrine of St John was one of the most important pilgrimage sites in England. Pilgrims needed food and accommodation, and this trade was very profitable.
2. The trade in wool and cloth. Beverley was a centre for the sale of high quality English wool and cloth to Western Europe. This is remembered in street names such as Dyer Lane and Walkergate (walking on the cloth to bind it together).

Donating to the Church was a key way of helping the soul to get into heaven, so much of this wealth was given to the Church. This is why St Mary's is one of the largest parish churches in England.

Over the page is a plan of the medieval Church of St Mary's in Beverley, in about 1480 A.D. with descriptions of the features of a medieval Church.

Can you match the descriptions to the letter on the plan?

MEDIEVAL CHURCH OF ST MARY'S, BEVERLEY:



TASK

Can you match the descriptions to the letter on the plan?

1. The Rood Screen.

This screen separated the clergy from the congregation.

Letter _____

2. The High Altar.

This was where the clergy performed the services.

Letter _____

3. The Nave.

This was the part of the Church where the congregation gathered during services.

Letter _____

4. The Transepts.

The Church was shaped as a cross, to reflect the cross on which Jesus was crucified. The arms of the cross in the design of the Church are known as Transepts. There are two of them.

Letters _____

5. The Tower.

The tower was at the centre of the Church, where the arms of the cross met. In 1520 AD, the Tower of St Mary's fell down, killing many of the congregation.

Letter _____

6. The Font.

The font is where people were baptised. Baptism is a very important act within Christianity and represents a person's entry into the Church. The font in St Mary's dates to 1530 AD.

Letter _____