

As soon as you sit down:

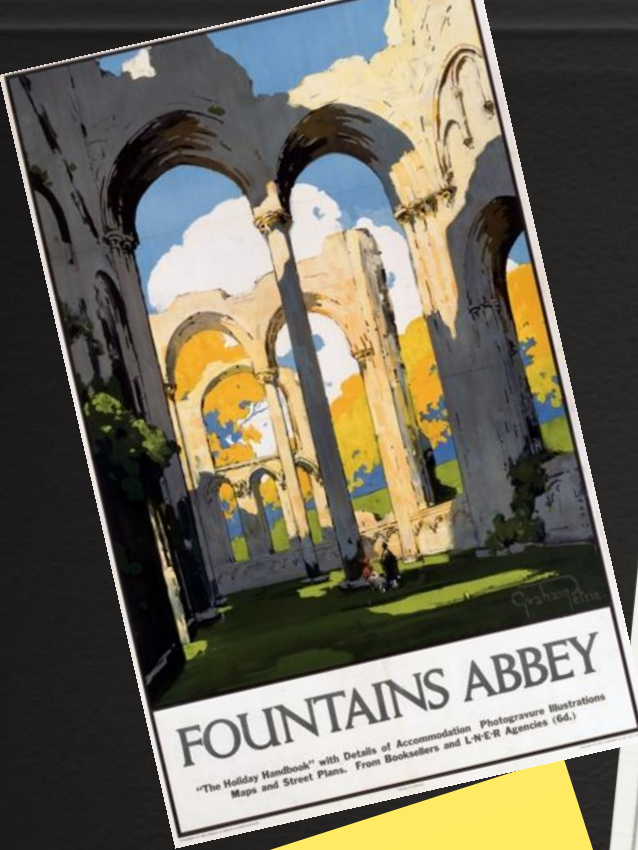
- o Memory task

- o How much of a timeline of Fountains Abbey can you draw?

- o Make a rough one that stretches from 1132-2017. Highlight the key moments.

How did English Monasteries develop over time?

Where does Fountains fit in?



Topic

AIMS

Explore the long story of English Monasteries

Explain where Fountains fits into this story

Key Information

- The story of the monasteries in Britain has three main phases:
- **C.500AD to c. 1066: Anglo-Saxon monastic growth followed by Viking destruction of them**
- **1066 to 1530s: revival of monasteries as the Benedictines are challenged by the new orders like the Cistercians**
- **1536-2017: Ruinous Dissolution and gradual re-establishment, but monasticism a tiny fraction of the powerful force it once was**

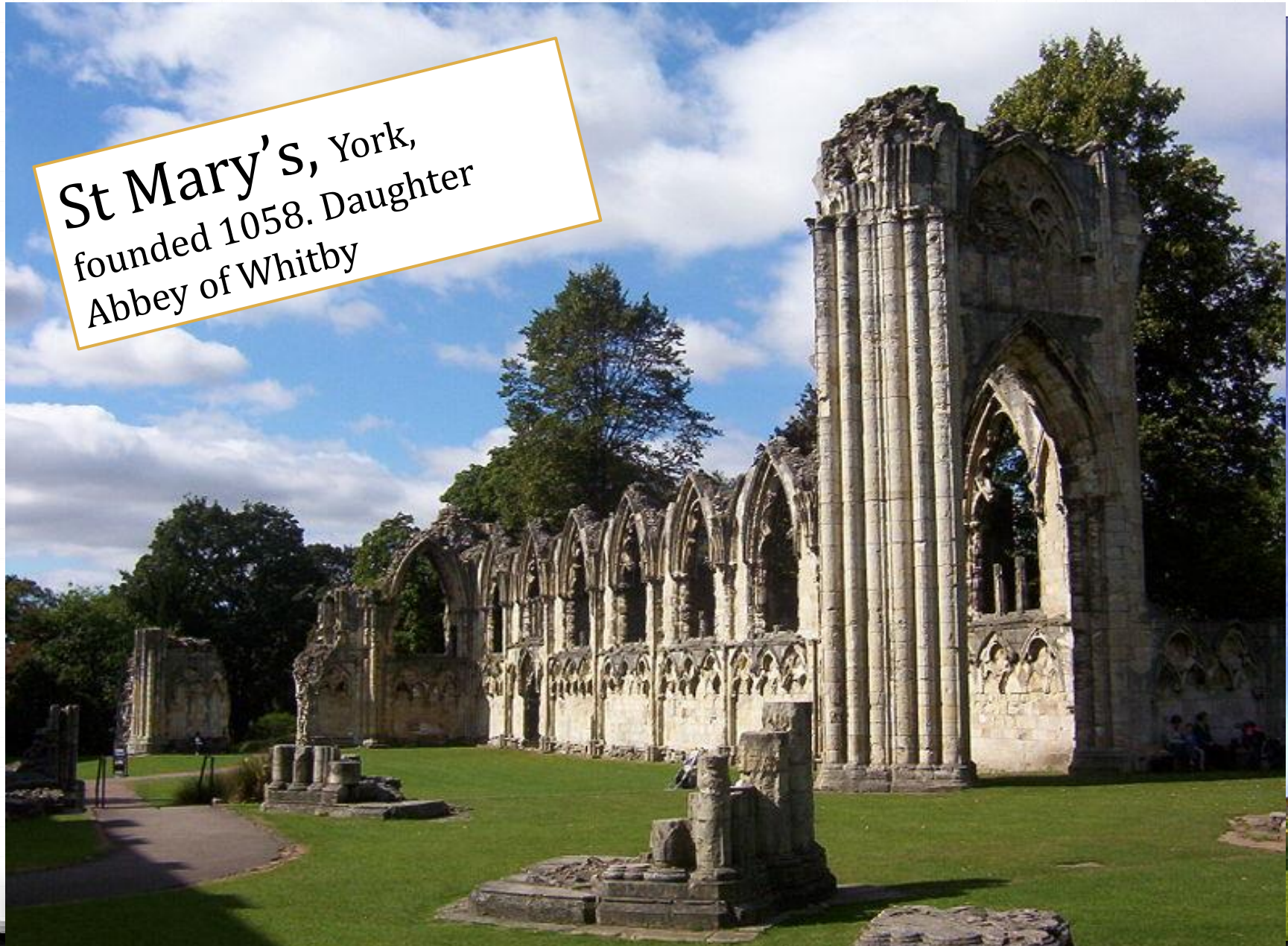


Create an analytical timeline

- Split a double page in two across the middle, with a timeline:
- Start at 433, finish in 1539
- Use a separate colour for anything relating to Fountains
- Add information from the sheet, and the last lesson (dates of monasteries), to show the development of monasteries in England over time.
- We will then add a bit more from the slides

Examples of Benedictine Monasteries

St Mary's, York,
founded 1058. Daughter
Abbey of Whitby



Examples of Cistercian monasteries



Kirkstall, Britain,
founded 1152.
Daughter Abbey of Fountains.

founded 1152

Early monasteries and Viking destruction: 793-1066



- Although the Anglo-Saxon monasteries like Whitby flourished, there was a problem: the Vikings did not share the Christian religion, and so saw these rich monasteries as easy targets.
- Viking raids looted and burned many monasteries, especially in the North, around the coasts and in Scotland and Ireland.
- The Monastic system came close to complete destruction.





Gravestone depicting Viking marauders, outside the ruins of Lindisfarne Priory, attacked in AD 793. The men shown on this stone grave marker are Viking raiders.

The Norman Revival

- Normans build many abbeys, all of them following the Rule of St Benedict
- Battle Abbey a good example
- Sparked a huge growth in monasteries – became a common practice to donate land to monasteries in return for prayers for your soul.
- People who could not afford this may have become monks themselves.

- o The Cistercians are part of the backlash against the softening of the Benedictine monks.
- o This is where Fountains fits into the story – the early leaders of a protest movement!
- o Fountains and Rievaulx founded in same year, 1132 Between them they lead the Cistercian Order in England over the next 400 years.
- o A renewed focus on **austerity and piety**.

The Cistercians Arrive: 1132



Monk numbers in England:

o 1066: 1000 monks

o 1215: 13,000

o 1300: 0.5% of the country (1 in 200!)
were monks – a total of 26,000.

Cistercians were not the only protestors!

The first new order to challenge the Benedictine order was that of the Cluniacs, from Cluny in Burgundy, France. Monasticism spread in England in the tenth and eleventh centuries, and several other orders had developed by the thirteenth century, including the Cistercians, Carthusians, Franciscans and Dominicans (see table below). So many different orders existed that by 1215 the Pope resorted to banning any new orders; new monasteries had to adopt one of the existing orders.

Monastic orders.

Order	Foundation	Aims	Details
Cluniac	Cluny, France	To lead a strict life and be more centralised in their organisation	Became large and wealthy; criticised by the Cistercians for their elaborate buildings and rituals; had 38 monasteries in England by the sixteenth century
Cistercian	Cîteaux, France	To lead a more holy life	Included choir monks and lay brothers who were not educated but took vows and worked as labourers; undyed woollen habits gave them name of 'White Monks'; became the most popular order in England
Franciscan	St Francis of Assisi	To live in poverty	Became the 'Friars'; they travelled the world preaching and begging for their food, totally rejecting any worldly possessions and wealth
Dominicans	Spanish priest called Dominic de Guzman	To live in total poverty but as highly educated men	Called 'Blackfriars' in England because of their black woollen habits (robes)
Carthusian	St Bruno of Grenoble	To live a solitary life keeping strictly to vows	Lived in individual cells and spent most time there praying and studying; most strict of all the orders, almost constant fasting and harsh living conditions, few in number

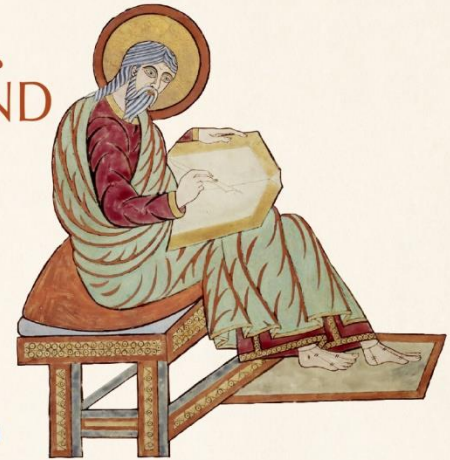
Can we add
anything from
the video clip?



JANINA RAMIREZ
THE PRIVATE
LIVES OF
THE SAINTS



POWER,
PASSION AND
POLITICS
IN ANGLO-
SAXON
ENGLAND



*'What a wonderful book
this is.'* TOM HOLLAND



*'Ramirez blasts a powerful
spotlight into the so-called
Dark Ages.'* DAN SNOW

How is
Fountains'
position in the
development
of monasteries
reflected in the
site evidence
at the abbey?

HISTORICAL GROUND PLAN FOUNTAINS ABBEY

- Twelfth Century 1132-1147
- Twelfth Century 1147-1179
- Thirteenth Century 1203-1247
- Fourteenth and Fifteenth Centuries
- Sixteenth Century to 1526
- Part of the buildings believed to have been roofed at the Suppression.

