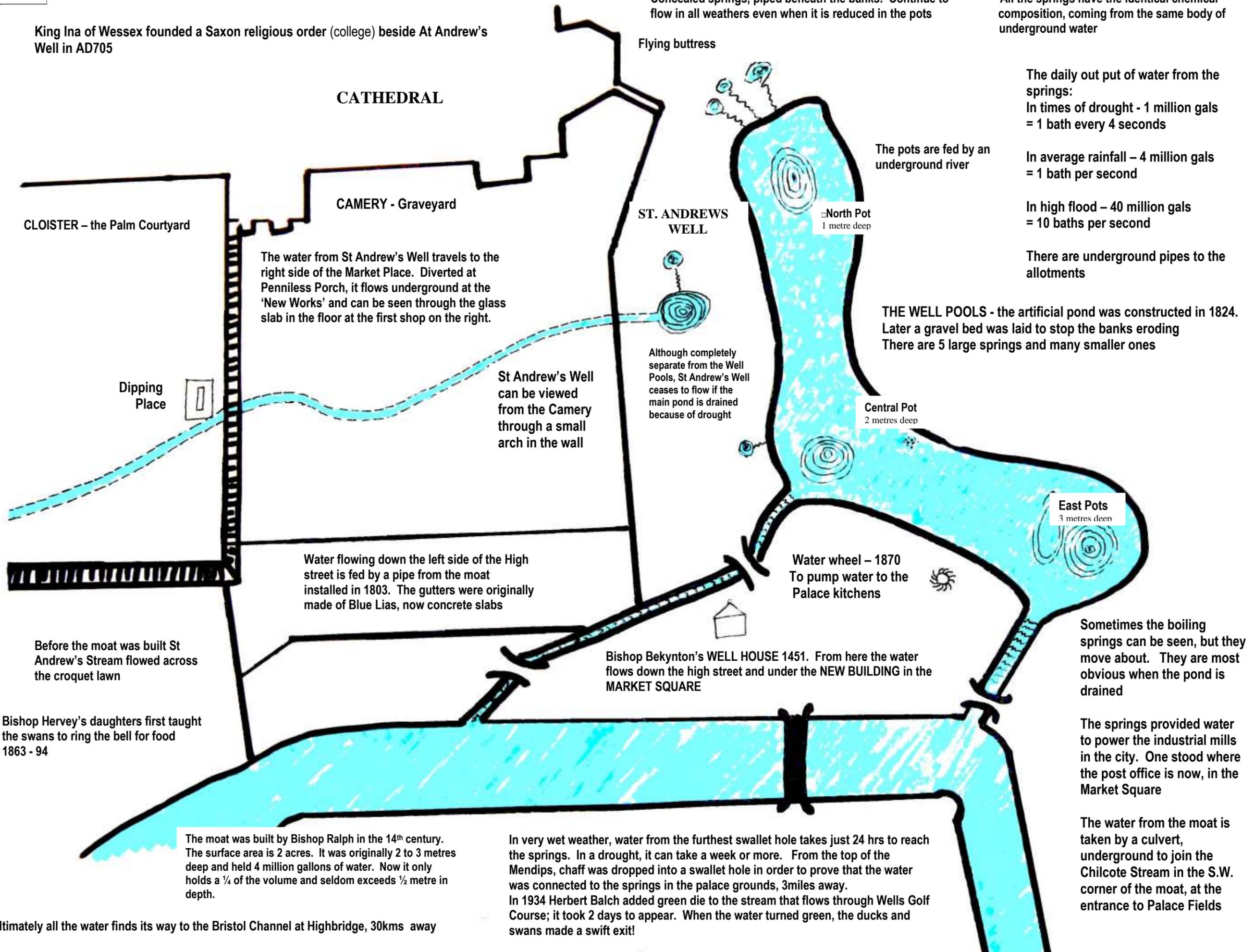


King Ina of Wessex founded a Saxon religious order (college) beside At Andrew's Well in AD705

Concealed springs, piped beneath the banks. Continue to flow in all weathers even when it is reduced in the pots

All the springs have the identical chemical composition, coming from the same body of underground water



Flying buttress

CLOISTER – the Palm Courtyard

CATHEDRAL

CAMERY - Graveyard

ST. ANDREWS WELL

North Pot 1 metre deep

The pots are fed by an underground river

The daily out put of water from the springs:
In times of drought - 1 million gals = 1 bath every 4 seconds

In average rainfall – 4 million gals = 1 bath per second

In high flood – 40 million gals = 10 baths per second

There are underground pipes to the allotments

THE WELL POOLS - the artificial pond was constructed in 1824. Later a gravel bed was laid to stop the banks eroding. There are 5 large springs and many smaller ones

The water from St Andrew's Well travels to the right side of the Market Place. Diverted at Penniless Porch, it flows underground at the 'New Works' and can be seen through the glass slab in the floor at the first shop on the right.

St Andrew's Well can be viewed from the Camery through a small arch in the wall

Although completely separate from the Well Pools, St Andrew's Well ceases to flow if the main pond is drained because of drought

Central Pot 2 metres deep

East Pots 3 metres deep

Water wheel – 1870
To pump water to the Palace kitchens

Bishop Bekynton's WELL HOUSE 1451. From here the water flows down the high street and under the NEW BUILDING in the MARKET SQUARE

Water flowing down the left side of the High street is fed by a pipe from the moat installed in 1803. The gutters were originally made of Blue Lias, now concrete slabs

Sometimes the boiling springs can be seen, but they move about. They are most obvious when the pond is drained

The springs provided water to power the industrial mills in the city. One stood where the post office is now, in the Market Square

The water from the moat is taken by a culvert, underground to join the Chilcote Stream in the S.W. corner of the moat, at the entrance to Palace Fields

Before the moat was built St Andrew's Stream flowed across the croquet lawn

Bishop Hervey's daughters first taught the swans to ring the bell for food 1863 - 94

The moat was built by Bishop Ralph in the 14th century. The surface area is 2 acres. It was originally 2 to 3 metres deep and held 4 million gallons of water. Now it only holds a ¼ of the volume and seldom exceeds ½ metre in depth.

In very wet weather, water from the furthest swallet hole takes just 24 hrs to reach the springs. In a drought, it can take a week or more. From the top of the Mendips, chaff was dropped into a swallet hole in order to prove that the water was connected to the springs in the palace grounds, 3miles away. In 1934 Herbert Balch added green die to the stream that flows through Wells Golf Course; it took 2 days to appear. When the water turned green, the ducks and swans made a swift exit!

Ultimately all the water finds its way to the Bristol Channel at Highbridge, 30kms away