

Worth the Waite



John Waite

1580s – 1604

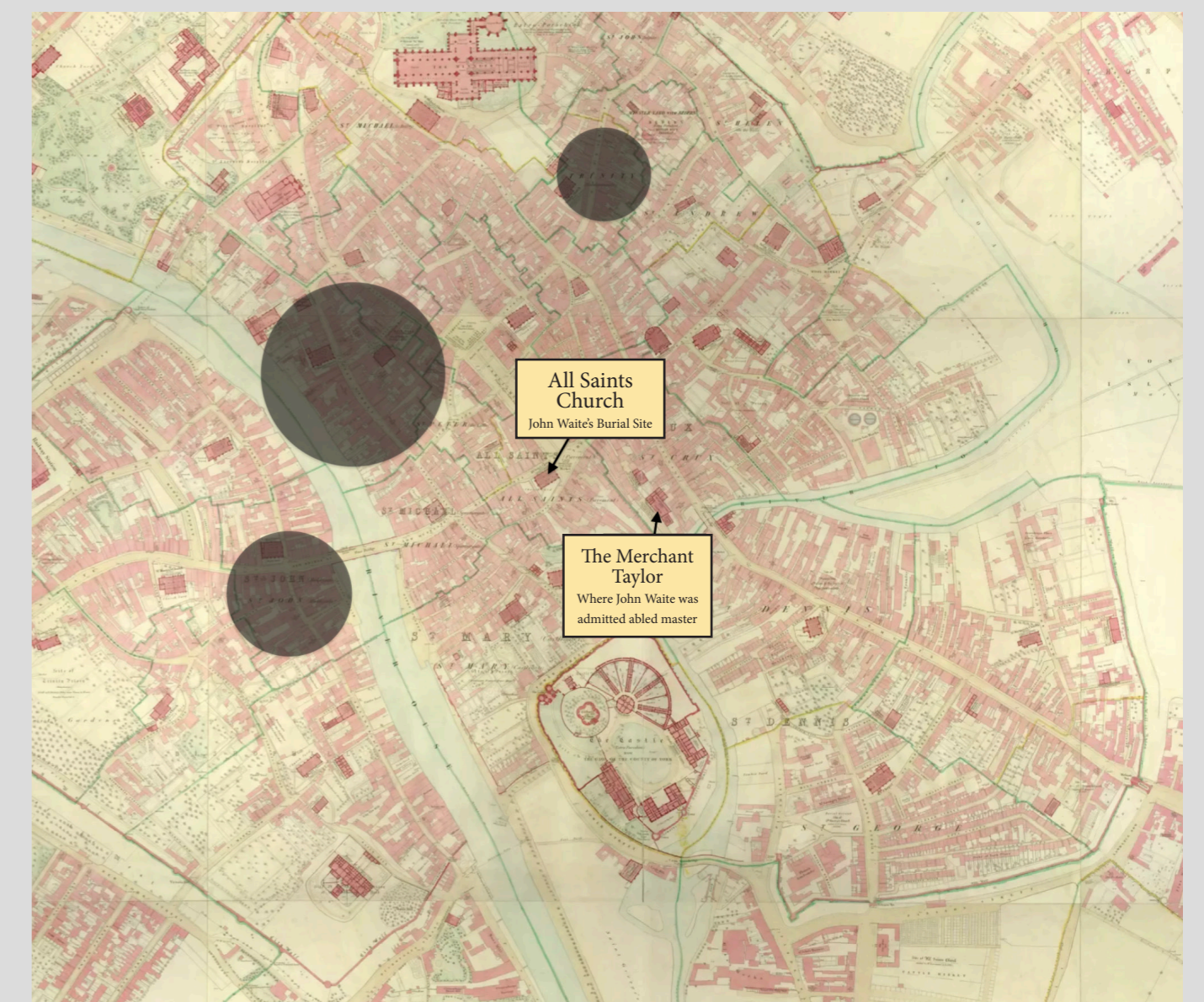
Abled Master Tailor

York

John Waite has a tragic story. Born in the 1580s, he was able to achieve an accomplished position as an abled master at the Company of Merchant Taylors on 8 April 1601 but sadly passed away three years later in the Black Death. He was a flamboyant character, who was very prideful about his tailoring projects. Just as he rose to impressive success, the plague hit. Due to his early position in his career, he wasn't wealthy enough to flee York and met his unfortunate end. He was buried in the All Saints Church Pavement on 22nd August 1604. His stylish legacy was carried on by his apprentices.

Map of Key Places in John's life

Black circles represent plague hotspots.



Studio Waite

Garments made in John's studio.



Bringing John to Life

(1) **Costumed Character:** Guild visitors will have the unique opportunity to be accompanied by a physical actor portraying John Waite. Dressed in flamboyant garments designed by Waite himself, the actor will exude his captivating personality and style. Through interactive storytelling, the actor will guide visitors through Waite's journey at the guild, providing insights into his trade and his tragic demise from the plague. This immersive experience encourages guests to actively participate and role-play, enhancing their connection with Waite's character and the historical context.

(2) **Augmented Reality:** The Guild offers an immersive experience for visitors through an augmented reality adventure utilizing an iPad-like screen and a set of headphones. This would enable visitors to physically submerge themselves in a virtual replica of a historical Merchant Hall. With the ability to time travel backwards, guests can choose one of the eight Merchant Taylors of the Guild and follow their life story. Voice actors bring these characters to life, expressing their unique personalities through tone, storytelling, and the use of charisma or lack thereof, creating a first-hand account that feels incredibly real.



(1)



(2)