Exploring History: Medieval to Modern 1400 – 1900
Beauchamp's chapel

Narrator
The Chantry Chapel founded in the 15th century by Richard Beauchamp, Earl of Warwick acts as a stage set in Beauchamp's own personal drama. It reflects not only contemporary ideas on death, purgatory and salvation, but also the status and connections of one of the most powerful English noblemen of the 15th century.

Work on Richard's chapel began in 1443 but was finally completed 25 years later. A major investment of money and time. The Chapel had first call on Richard's estate and at a cost of £2500 it nearly bankrupted his heirs. But it was a status symbol with a practical and spiritual purpose. The salvation of Richard's soul and the celebration of his earthly status.