

Wantage

Ψανετινζ

Town Centre

Statue of King Ælfred the Great

Grid ref SU 398 879

Notes

Wantage is traditionally regarded as the birthplace of King Ælfred the Great. A statue of him in the centre of the town has the following inscription.

ALFRED THE GREAT
THE WEST SAXON KING
BORN AT WANTAGE A.D. 849
ALFRED FOUND LEARNING DEAD
AND HE RESTORED IT
EDUCATION NEGLECTED
AND HE REVIVED IT
THE LAWS POWERLESS
AND HE GAVE THEM FORCE
THE CHURCH DEBASED
AND HE RAISED IT
THE LAND RAVAGED BY A FEARFUL ENEMY
FROM WHICH HE DELIVERED IT
ALFRED'S NAME WILL LIVE AS LONG
AS MANKIND SHALL RESPECT THE PAST
THIS STATUE
THE WORK OF H.S.H. COUNT GLEICHEN
WAS PRESENTED TO THE TOWN OF
WANTAGE
BY COLONEL R. LOYD LINDSAY V.C. M.P. FOR
BERKSHIRE
AND WAS UNVEILED BY
H.R.H. THE PRINCE AND PRINCESS OF WALES
JULY 14TH 1877

