

# Eynsham

Some interesting and notable  
dates in the history of our village

1086 Egleſham 1107 Eggleſham 1130 Eynſham 1137 Egheneſham Ene  
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First published by Eynsham History Group, 1977

- ca 250,000 Stone Age flint axe (found at Eynsham Station pit)  
BC
- ca 2,000 BC Bronze Age and Iron Age settlements at Farmoor, New Wintles, and  
to 43 AD probably also at Eynsham
- ca 100 Some evidence for a Roman settlement – (various coins and pottery  
to 400 AD found)
- 571 Cuthwulf of Wessex fights the Britons to the east, and captures  
‘Egonesham’
- 777 Offa of Marcia fortifies Beacon Hill – ‘castellum super montem de  
Witham’
- 1005 Benedictine Abbey founded at ‘Egnesham’ by Aethelmar, Earl of  
Cornwall. Aelfric, distinguished Anglo-Saxon scholar, first  
abbot. Parish boundaries established; similar to those of 1900
- 1066 The Norman Conquest – the monks ‘fled in terror and their abode  
was devastated’
- 1086 Domesday Book includes a paragraph on ‘Eglesham’
- 1094/1100 Abbey re-founded by Bishop Robert Bloet, with authority from King  
William Rufus
- 1135/40 King Stephen grants privilege of holding market; on Sundays
- ca 1150 Earliest known deed for a conveyance in Eynsham
- 1196 Brother Edmund has a vision of the next world during a 2 day trance  
in Holy Week; allegedly known to and used by Dante
- 1196/7 Compilation of the Abbey records (the Cartulary) begins
- 1215 New borough of Newland (Nova Terra) created for settlers attracted  
by the market
- 1217 Royal patent permits Abbey to divert Stanton Harcourt/Eynsham  
road (Abbey St.) to line of present Station Road
- 1264/8 First reference to the ‘Chapel of St. Leonard’
- 1274 ‘Hundred Rolls’- royal survey of manorial rights & privileges
- 1296 Affray between Eynsham folk and Oxford students at Eynsham Fair.  
Several students killed; perpetrators excommunicated
- ca 1300 Chancel and south aisle of church built
- 1302 Eynsham Wharf established on Thames from which in . . .
- 1310 Taynton stone shipped to Oxford for building Merton College
- 1349 The Black Death. Complete depopulation of nearby Tilgarsley
- 1353 Edward III grants Eynsham tithes of the wild beasts of Cornbury  
Park
- 1360/6 Detailed descriptions of village properties
- 1440 Market day altered from Sunday to Monday and Friday
- ca 1450 Nave, north aisle and tower of Parish church are added
- 1476 First reference to a Mayor of Eynsham.
- 1539 Dissolution of the monasteries. Entire Abbey estates granted to Sir  
George Darcy
- 1583 Queen Elizabeth I's Silver Jubilee

- 1615 Large-scale maps of surrounding meadows, common lands and arable, commissioned by Corpus Christi College
- 1646 Charles I escapes from Oxford to Burford, evading Parliamentary troops stationed at Eynsham
- 1647 John Aubrey describes the Abbey remains
- 1650 Market Place still extensive; bounded by present Lombard Mill St, Thames St and church
- 1657 Anthony Wood's drawing of the Abbey remains; two west towers and part of the north walls
- 1663/5 Church records of marriages and burials begin
- 1681 Major fire. 20 houses destroyed
- 1701 Bartholomew schoolroom in the Square – Schoolmaster's salary £10 per annum
- 1762 Ensham workhouse built – (junction of Mill Street & Spareacre Lane)
- 1764 John Wesley, journeying to preach at South Leigh, is nearly drowned fording the Thames
- 1769 Swinford toll bridge opened
- 1782 Large-scale maps of Ensham town and parish by Thomas Pride
- ca 1785 Witney Road/Old Witney Road is built – the turnpike road
- 1800 The open fields are enclosed. Detailed maps of town and fields are drawn
- 1801 The first Census. Population 1,166
- 1824 Buckler's drawing of Eynsham Mill, then manufacturing paper
- 1842 Last Abbey remnants (a doorway) are pulled down
- 1846 Ensham National School opened (Station Road) on site of old cock-fighting ...
- 1854 A great fire reported by Jackson's Journal
- 1860 Oxford to Fairford railway reaches Eynsham
- 1862 Queen Victoria, mourning Albert, forbids Silver Jubilee celebrations
- 1870 Eynsham gasworks built; (north side of Spareacre Lane)
- 1876 Eynsham has two breweries, a mineral water factory, and many pubs (see map on back cover)
- 1899 Mains drainage installed
- 1901 Population 1,757
- 1903 Water works built
- 1925 Mains electricity laid
- 1936 The A.40 is constructed; Oxford to Witney section opens
- 1951 Population 2,373
- 1962 The last passenger train through Eynsham station
- 1971 Population 4,424; nearly doubles in 20 years
- 1977 Queen Elizabeth II's Silver Jubilee

# EYNESHAM

Mount Pleasant

## 1876

Reduced from the first edition 1:2500 scale  
Ordnance Survey map by Capt. G. W. Archer.  
Courtesy of the Bodleian Library, Oxford.

