

Statue of Alfred the Great in Winchester



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Plaque accompanying Statue of Alfred the Great in Winchester



Alfred, king of the West Saxons (AD 871-899) drove the Danish invaders from Wessex. He created fortified centres, of which Winchester, the largest, was his capital. During his reign, the streets in use today were first established. Alfred was the most esteemed of English kings. He encouraged the revival of learning and monastic life, and laid the foundation for a single kingdom of England. This statue by Hamo Thornycroft, was erected in 1901.