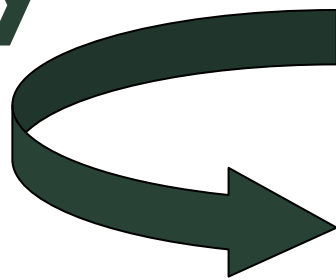


Oxfordshire Way

Points of interest from Weston-on-the-Green to Islip

To be used in cross-reference with the letters marked on the map



Points of interest

A **Weston-on-the-Green** is now a village of mixed architectural styles and periods. The **stocks** still stand on the green. The **church** has unexpectedly grand door-cases, for a little village church. The font is Norman and the altarpiece is a painting attributed to Pompeo Batoni. **Weston Manor**, now a hotel, was originally a medieval building and was remodelled about 1540 by Lord Williams of Thame, who also built Beckley Park. The present façade was built around 1820 and during the nineteenth century much of the interior was remodelled.

B **Islip** has many attractive buildings including the **Old Rectory**, built in 1690 by the Rector Dr South who also founded and endowed the village school in 1710. Other buildings included **Manor Farm** in Upper Street (sixteenth century) and a **house in High Street** (seventeenth century), formerly the King's Head Inn. Islip lay on the coach route from London to Worcester and had at one time twenty-one inns. Now there are only two, **the Red Lion and the Swan Inn**. In the last field you crossed before entering the village once stood a palace of Ethelred the Unready, where in AD 1004 King Edward the Confessor was born. When King Edward built Westminster Abbey he gave it to the manor of Islip. Simon of Islip became Archbishop of Canterbury in 1348, and John of Islip became Prior of Westminster in 1500 and presided over the building of the Henry VII chapel.

As befitting for a village with such history, **Islip church** dominates the village. In the Civil War, Islip was an important outpost in the Royalist defence of their headquarters at Oxford, and in 1645, Cromwell defeated the Royalist forces at Islip Bridge, the **bridge over the River Ray** at the southern end of the village. The old stone bridge was rebuilt in 1878. Until the latter part of the nineteenth century, when drainage and new cuttings partially tamed the River Ray, Islip was a prime source for fish supplies.



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