

HYDE ABBEY - REDISCOVERING THE LOST MINSTER OF ALFRED THE GREAT

A Site of National Historical Importance

When HYDE ABBEY was demolished in the late 1530s during the dissolution of the monasteries, there was a deliberate attempt to erase the history of the abbey and what it represented.

This included the graves of two of Anglo-Saxon England's most important kings - ALFRED THE GREAT and EDWARD THE ELDER - who had played vital, leading roles in resisting invasion by the Viking forces and establishing the vision of a united English nation in the late 9th and early 10th centuries.

HYDE900 believes that their place of burial - where almost certainly, their bones still remain (albeit scattered) should be recognised as a site of national historic significance.

Today the precincts of the abbey are partly built over but fragments of the original buildings remain. There is enough space in the Hyde Abbey Garden and around the Hyde Gateway to let the imagination roam so that its significance as a royal burial place and an important medieval building is understood and cherished.

The challenge is to use digital technology, human interpretation, appropriate signage and art to interpret the abbey to local people and visitors.

The HYDE ABBEY KING ALFRED PROJECT led by HYDE900 aims to answer that challenge.



Hyde Abbey precincts (in yellow) overlaid on an image of central Hyde today showing the abbey's principal buildings (marked in red)

www.hyde900.org.uk

HYDE900

talk
design&print

ADAM ARCHITECTURE