

A By-pass for Henley

Henley-on-Thames has always been an important town on the route from London to Oxford. It has a river bridge dating back to before 1200. In times past it provided coaching inns with rooms for an overnight stay or fresh horses for the coaches. Today the M40 relieves some of the road traffic, but there are still frequent queues at the bridge.



Henley Bridge 2008

In 1935-8 one of the country's first dual carriageways was built on the hill from Bix to Lower Assendon. The Traveller's Rest inn at Lower Assendon (*picture right*) was demolished to make room for its construction. The photograph shows the original chalk road from Assendon to Bix on the left.



The Travellers Rest Inn

The intention was that the dual carriageway would be extended over the Mount, cross the River Thames near Remenham and link up with the existing roads near The Black Boy inn. This would have provided a useful by-pass for Henley-on-Thames.



The approximate by-pass route