

The Plagues and The Pastons

Outbreak of the most devastating disease, killing up to a quarter of the population of Europe

Clement Paston
buys land
abandoned by
plague victims
making the Pastons
very wealthy

Margaret writes a letter to her son John II in London telling him to be careful of the Plague

William writes to his father about a strange sweating disease killing the people of Cambridge

15% of the population of England perished in the summer of the Great Plague

Black Death

Black Death Black Death Sweating Sickness Small pox

Plague (London) Great Plague

1300s

1348

1349

1350

1454

1471

1479

1495

1520

1563

1665

1700s

The Plague reaches the city of Norwich near Paston

William Paston makes the link between dirty towns and the spread of the plague. He writes from London declaring he will flee to the countryside

The population of England is now half what it was 100 years before the Plague



The Plague kills both John Paston II and his grandmother Agnes