

Abington History Group (AHG) - Projects and activities undertaken since 2000

2000	Abington History Group formed. Founding members - Judith Allen, Mary Miles, Derek Turnidge, Jennifer Hirsh.
2000/01	Abington Hall Estate sale in 1929 (and 1954) – project and exhibition from documents, photographs and memories.
2000	Abington and Abington people image database set up.
2001 June	Exhibition of Abington photographs and appeal for more.
2001	Collection of house deeds and sale catalogues set up.
2002/03	Setting up and completing a database of all extant parish records, baptisms, marriages, burials and all the census records then available. Many of these were not online. Funded by grant from Community Champions (June 2002).
2002 June	Queen Elizabeth II's Golden Jubilee – exhibition.
2002	Historical photograph competition for Golden Jubilee event.
2002	Village History trails for: Lt Abington (Jennifer Hirsh), Gt Abington (Judith Allen). Private copyright. Almost 1000 copies sold 2002-2012. Out of print.
2002-2006	Annual calendars produced and sold: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Images of Abington (2002) ➤ Early Farming in Abington (2003) ➤ Maps of Abington (2004) ➤ Cottages of Abington (2005) ➤ Abington on the Move (2006)
2002-2010	Abington Chronicle - annual record of significant events, distributed to every house in Abington.
2003	Sale of Abington maps at Sotheby's.
2003 Nov	Maps of Abington 1603 – 2003 exhibition. Included a display of maps acquired by Cambridgeshire Archives at Sotheby's.
2004	Oral history project - recordings made mainly with older villagers. Some recorded at the Forget-Me-Not Club.
2004	Scans taken of photos and paintings relating to the Mortlock family belonging to Elizabeth Clarke-Kennedy.
2004	March and Nov: Exhibitions of parish records and photos.
2004	Two guided village history walks.
2004/05	Abington Land and People database set up.
2005	Cutter family day organised.
2005	Deadman Hill book – publication of selected passages of Colin Franklin's Deadman Hill contributions to the Parish magazine over many years. Part funded by Edward Smith (ex-Abington resident) and partly by sales income. Out of print.
2005	World War II – Memories of Abington and Abington People. Research, exhibition and major publication. This was awarded the Local History Book Award 2005. Out of print.
2005	Historical photographic quiz for Parish Plan event.
2005 July	Quiz prepared and operated at Abington Fayre.
2006	Geophysical survey of field near Great Abington Church by the Archaeology RheeSearch Group.
2007-2008	History of Land Settlement Association (LSA) in Abington 1936-1983. Memories of those who lived and worked on the LSA. Exhibition and major publication produced. Project partly funded by grant from LSA Charity. Out of print.
2008	AHG visited the Cambridge University Collection of Aerial Photography (CUCAP) to research Abington aerial images.
2009	Abington wills in National Archive – online research.
2009	Jeremiah Lagden information sheets produced for Institute.
2010	Film evenings of 1980s Abington drama productions. The original video films were digitised.

2012	Exhibition – Abington maps.
2012	Queen Elizabeth II's Diamond Jubilee. Slide show of Abington during 60 years of Queen's reign.
2012	Recording of 60 people born in each year of Queen Elizabeth II's reign by Mary Miles and Dianne Dawson.
2013 Mar	AHG open day.
2013	Aspects of Abington History (AAH1) publication. Out of print.
2014	WW1 project - Exhibition and talk.
2015	Abington Crime and Punishment. Searching the Cambridge Independent Press using British Newspapers Online.
2015	Guided walks for Cambridge Antiquarian Society members.
2015	Aspects of Abington History 2 (AAH2) – publication and presentation. Out of print.
2014	Abington Pottery. Jennifer Hirsh researched, produced and funded a private history of the Pottery. Out of print.
2016 April	Abington Open Day presentation.
2016 Nov	WW1 – Somme film evening.
2017	Aspects of Abington History 3 (AAH3) – Great & Little Abington 1900 to 1930, A Time of Change. Publication and presentation. Received the Cambridge Association for Local History (CALH) book award 2018. Out of print.
2018 Oct	Cambridge University Library map department – AHG visit.
2018 Nov	WW1 Remembrance – AHG assisted with school lessons.
2020	Covid epidemic - AHG meetings via Zoom.
2021	Abington Chronicle 2020 – recording the effect of Covid.
2021	History of restoration of the ford.
2021	Researching the Cambridgeshire Cottage Improvement Society (COTTIMPS) history in Abington.
2021	Jennifer Hirsh received the British Association for Local History (BALH) Personal Achievement Award.
2022 June	Platinum Jubilee of Queen Elizabeth II – AHG stall at event.
2022 Sept	Death of Queen Elizabeth II – Publication chronicling the history of Abington during her life and reign. Out of print.
2023 Feb	AHG visited Abington Hall to see completed renovation work.
2023	Aspects of Abington History 4 (AAH4) - Abington through the Ages – publication and launch event. Copies available for sale £6.
2023	Publication of 2024 calendar – Abington Past and Present.
2024	AHG received the Cambridge Association for Local History (CALH) commendation award for AAH4 publication.
2025	Abington History Group's 25 th Anniversary year.
2025 May	WW2 history display at VE tea party in the Institute.
2025 June	Assisted School with their local history project.
2025	Transcription of School log book 1873-1904 and School Board minutes 1873-1903.
2025 June	Talk to Tuesday Club on 70 years history of their club.
2025 Oct 18	Publication and launch of Aspects of Abington History 5 - 25th Anniversary Edition, Copies available for sale £6.
2025 Oct 18	Publication of 2026 calendar – Abington Flowers.

AHG November 2025

Abington History Group (AHG) - Publication List

1. Village history Trails – Little and Great Abington (out of print)

2. Aspects of Abington History 1 - 2013 (out of print)

- The Inns of Bourn Bridge
- World War I rolls of honour and memorials for the Abingtons
- The People of the Abingtons who served in WW1 1914-1918
- Turnpikes and Tolls in and around Abington
- Abington cottages as painted in 1932 by Bertha Clark Kennedy
- Newmarket and Chesterford Railway 1845-1851
- Hettie Pavitt's childhood reminiscences before WW2
- River Course and Parish Boundaries between the parishes
- What the papers said 1857-1913 (British Newspaper Archive)

3. Aspects of Abington History 2 - 2015 (out of print)

- Proposal for a First World War aerodrome at Grange Farm
- The Railway Inn, Pampisford, much used by Abington villagers
- The Domesday Book and the Abingtons
- Five men from a Cutter family in the First World War
- Memories of the village by Muriel Taylor from the 1930s
- Cambridgeshire Cottage Improvement Society, Abington Cottages
- Joseph Cutter who worked at Grange Farm for 72 years
- Attempted murder in Little Abington in 1866
- A malting in Little Abington
- Rev Brandon Whittington, vicar of the Abingtons 1906 to 1943

4. Aspects of Abington History 3 - 2017 - Great and Little Abington 1900 to 1930 – A Time of Change (out of print)

1900 to 1930 - A time of change

- The Emersons
- Population trends in the Abingtons
- Housing in the Abingtons
- Impact of The First World War

Farms and dwellings

- Landownership in the Abingtons
- Agriculture and Taxation
- Abington farms in the June 1929 sale catalogue
- A walk through Little Abington 1911
- A walk through Great Abington 1911

Abington People

- The Rev Brandon Whittington – Vicar
- Mr Edward Herbert Lewis – Schoolmaster
- Mrs Alice Mortlock – Abington Lodge
- Neville Pegg – Agent for the Abington Hall Estate
- Businesses and Trades People
- John James Rickett
- Edwin Fletcher Dyball
- The Playles in Church Lane
- The Goodes family & the Post Office

Abington Community and Infrastructure

- Abington Churches
- Abington Village Institute

- Great Abington School
- Health and Medical Services
- Public Houses and Beer Houses
- Sports
- Parish Council and Parish Meetings
- Railways, Buses and Other Transportation
- Cars and Roads in Abington
- Services and Telephones

The Estate Sales

- 1929 Sale of the Abington Hall Estate
- 1930 Sale of the remaining properties

5. The Abington Chronicle 2020 – village life during Covid

6. Chronicling the history of the Abingtons during the life and reign of Queen Elizabeth II 1926 -2022 (copies available for sale £3)

- Highlighting events during the Queen's life, significant other 'world events' and what was happening in the Abingtons in the same period.

7. Aspects of Abington History 4 (AAH4) – Abington through the Ages (copies available for sale £6)

Constructing the Abington history timeline

- The Anglo-Saxon presence in the Abingtons
- The Owners of the Abington Estate
- Abington Hall - Location, Setting and History

Abington people and places

- The 1921 Census for the Abingtons
- The Morleys of Great and Little Abington
- Who was Jeremiah Lagden?
- Using old house deeds to trace Abington development
- The Ford and Bridge between Little and Great Abington

Abington village life and community

- Abington Haymaking - 1877
- Victorian Village health and medical services in the Abingtons
- Abington and District Rifle Club 1906 - 2000
- Great Abington Primary School Admissions Register 1891-1927
- Hidden Stories in the Little Abington Parish books 1894 – 1992

8. Aspects of Abington History 5 (AAH5), published to celebrate 25 years of the Abington History Group (copies available for sale £6)

Part 1 – Celebrating 25 years of AHG research

- AHG Projects and activities undertaken since 2000
- "View from Deadman Hill" - a selection of articles by Colin Franklin, published by AHG in 2005
- "World War II - Memories of Abington and Abington people", published by AHG 2005
- "Memories of the Land Settlement Association in Abington 1936 to 1983", published by AHG 2008

Part 2 – Recent research and anniversaries

- 70 years of Magna Close - a few early photographs
- The memoirs of John James Rickett
- Great Abington Primary School – over 150 years of learning
- 70th anniversary of the Tuesday Club (1955-2025) formerly known as the Forget-Me-Not Club
- Owners of The Old House, High Street, Lt Abington