

7. Station Road



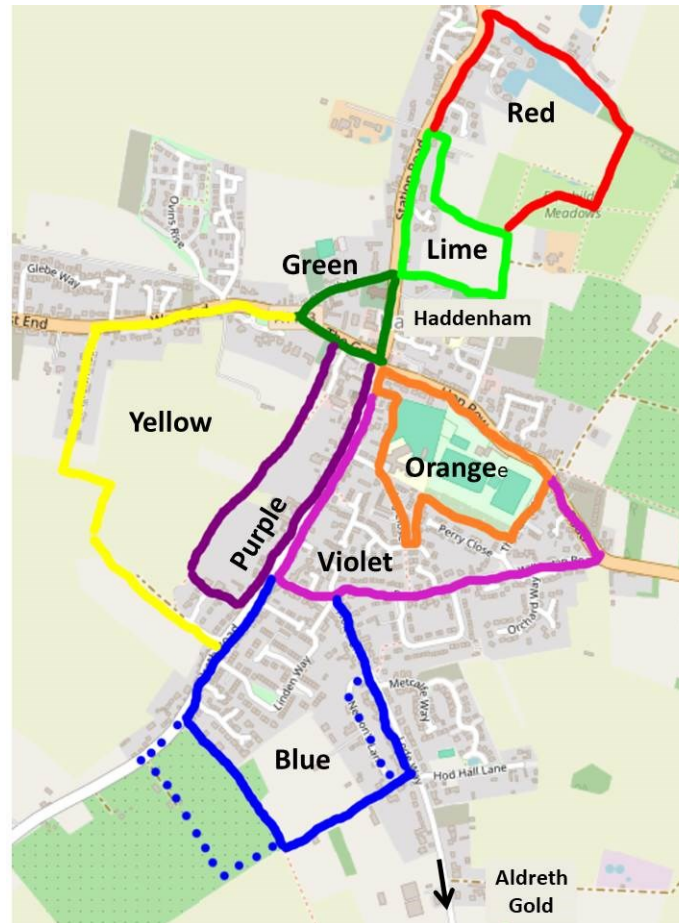
Haddenham Station c. 1890

Station Road became so called in 1866 when the railway came to Haddenham and a station was built. There was a passenger service until 1931, and a special train was put on for the foundation ceremony for the restoration of Holy Trinity church on 26th July 1871.

There was freight use after this with annual seaside excursions until 1958. It was finally closed in 1964. The Station Hotel was used as an office building when the site became Ansons Packaging factory from 1970s– 2016, employing 100s of people at its height.



Other available routes



Gold Walk in Aldreth

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Copies available in Haddenham Library, 7 Station Road,
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Haddenham History Walks

Explore Haddenham

Haddenham Lime Walk



Robert Pate at The Limes c. 1870

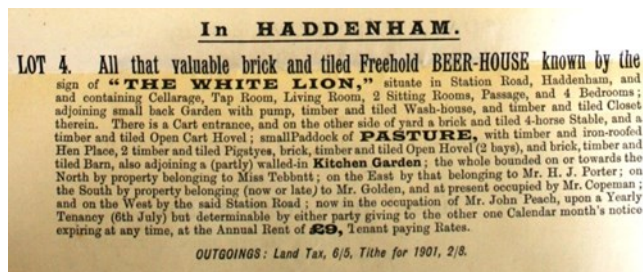
An interesting walk down the hill of Haddenham past some impressive houses and onto the vestiges of Haddenham's industrial past and then back up the lane behind them to Chewells Lane cemetery.

4. White Lion

One of the 17 inns and 27 beerhouses that Haddenham once boasted of. Still a pub in the early 1900s. It was run by William Peacock and his wife, Eliza for 20 years in the 1870s and 80s, followed by Charles Cox and then John Peach who put it up for auction in 1902.



The White Lion Inn is now 38 Station Road and is a Grade II listed building. This is because it retains the coherence of a period building with its early 18th century origins. A horizontal sliding sash window is visible in the north-facing gable.



5. The Limes

The Limes is one of Haddenham's important listed buildings, whose earliest timber-framed features date to the 16th Century. It was home to some of the most prestigious residents, Drage and Pate, through the centuries, who added and developed the property over the years. The entire front of the building on the edge of Station Road was added in around 1870s. The 1870's was a period of significant development in Haddenham. The parish church was being restored; the Rectory, Hinton Hall and Manor House were being built with the brighter bricks that were manufactured down the hill. Houses like The Limes and Madingely House were given new frontages, which hid the older parts of the properties, built of soft red bricks.



6. Madingley House



This early 20th century view up Station Road shows the Limes on the left, Madingley House on the right, followed by The Beristead, Hill Farm, now York Villa, Vine House and then Holy Trinity Church at the top of the hill. Madingley House fronts onto Station Road with two generous double height bays linked by a balcony with railings over the front porch. This whole feature was added in 1875 to a much earlier building. By looking at the north side of the house, the join between the new white bricked frontage and the sedate 18th century red brick residence can be clearly seen. Between this house and the Beristead there used to be a formal garden that was owned by the people in the Limes. In 1756 someone scratched their initials and a date into the soft red bricks of Madingley House (now hidden).



1. Merrick Lane



Merrick Lane was an important route between the sites of the original two manor houses of Graies *sic* (now the Manor House in Church Lane) and the manor house at Hinton Hall (pulled down in 1757) and the parish church. No-one knows why it is called Merrick Lane. The house-but-one up the road is called Merrick House, but whilst this house, built in 1868 by Edward Peters (see EP 1868 on plaque on front) the plot's history goes back much further. A John Merrick is recorded in the poll book for the year 1722 as having voted in Haddenham. He would have had to be a landowner and/or pay tax, as well as be a man over the age of 21 to be eligible to vote. Maybe John Merrick owned the land through which or alongside the path that led to Hinton Hall in 1722.

2. Vine House

According to the present owner it was built around 1665, although timber frames and building proportions indicate that some parts may be earlier. It was originally thatched with later undated additions. Mac Dowdy, one of TV's House Detectives, indicated that the part of the building to the right of the portico may have been part of a "hall house". The property had extensive outbuildings with stables, maltings and brewing sheds. The owners were one of the principal families of Haddenham, the Porters, who were farmers, brickmakers and brewers supplying many of the village public houses. The Porter family lived there for at least 11 generations, ownership passing from father to eldest son until 1955, when it was sold to a local Haddenham resident who built the adjacent bungalow and then sold the main house. At one time it was home to a family of 2 adults and 11 children. It did not have a bathroom until the 1920's. The shop, at the left as you look at it, was a butchers, with the adjacent building being the abattoir, meat being stored in the cellar below the main house. William Porter paid tax for having two hearths in the hearth tax of 1664.



3. Hill Farm

York Villa and nos. 19 & 21 Station Road made up the land that was once Hill Farm. The farm extended behind the properties and around Vine House. Arthur Hephher had the farm in the 19th century and was known for his cheese making. It may have been like the more famous, "Cottenham Cheese", which was a soft cheese with a delicate flavour of the herbage from this area. He also had De Freville Farm in Aldreth. Originally the farm had been run by the Roberts family, but the two cottages in which they lived burnt down and were replaced by York Villa in 1852. The land behind these properties still hosts a massive pond and garden, now part of No 19 Station Road.



A surprising story associated with York Villa is that it was bought by the writer, Leslie Stewart, with the royalties of the song "Mistletoe and Wine", which was such a hit for Cliff Richard in 1988. It was originally written in 1976 jointly by Leslie Stewart and musician, Keith Strachan, and fellow writer Jeremy Paul for the musical, "The Little Match Girl".

Haddenham History Walks



Walk down the Station Road from the church, past several houses of note towards what used to be the industrial heart of the village and then turn right past 42A Station Road and right again up the green path up to Chewells Lane. Follow the path around the field. Turn right through the kissing gate by the cemetery, and follow the path through to Merrick Lane and back to Station Road.

Haddenham Lime Walk

Haddenham at work and rest



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|-----------------|--------------------|-------------------------|---------------|
| 1. Merrick Lane | 2. Vine House | 3. Hill Farm | 4. White Lion |
| 5. Lime House | 6. Madingley House | 7. Industrial Heartland | |

Explore Haddenham

About the walk: 1 mile –moderately easy –hill

