

How has our local area been described in the past - teacher's notes

One source of historical gazetteers is the Vision of Britain website. To access an historical description of your local area use the website www.visionofbritain.org.uk/index.jsp

A VISION OF BRITAIN THROUGH TIME
A vision of Britain between 1801 and 2001. Including maps, statistical trends and historical descriptions.

PLACE INFORMATION → EXPERT SEARCH → CENSUS REPORTS → HISTORICAL MAPPING → TRAVELLERS TALES

STEP ONE - SELECT A LOCATION

There are three easy steps to finding detailed historical information on places in Britain. The first is to select a place:

Enter either a **full postcode** or a **place name (just a name, NO county)** in the box below to find information on a place.

Alternatively click on a region of the **map**.

Place or postcode search:

[national overview](#)

HIGHLIGHTED CONTENT

News about the site
Why we have to include advertising to keep A Vision of Britain through Time running.
[Read more](#)

Artisans & Agitators
A new special collection of 19th century political travellers, including Chartist leaders.
[Find out more](#)

Agriculture and Land Use
Much more farm census data! — direct access to national totals and maps.
[Access overview](#)

Enter your town or postcode into the box.

You then need to click on the box 'Your location in general'. This is found at the bottom of the page.

This stage is sometimes missed out depending on the information which is entered into the blue box on the previous screen.

Language
About 45% of children aged 5-14 went to school in 1851. Today, 78% of 16-17 year olds stay on at school.
[more information](#)

Agriculture & Land Use
How we use the land; crops and farm animals.
[more information](#)

Boundaries
The modern boundaries of Aylesbury Vale shown on 19th and 20th century maps.
[more information](#)

Aylesbury Vale, in general
Information about Aylesbury Vale as a place, and other administrative units based on it.
[more information](#)

Other units
Other administrative units which also contained the location -- point, postcode or place -- you last specified.
[more information](#)

Relationships and changes
Discover other units Aylesbury Vale was related to, and how its boundaries changed.
[more information](#)

Whilst there is a partial gazetteer entry on this page, a more detailed entry can be accessed by clicking on the location in the table.

A vision of Aylesbury
For the best overall sense of how the area containing Aylesbury has changed, please see our redistricted information for the modern district of **Aylesbury Vale**.
[more information](#)

Travellers' Tales
There are sixteen references to Aylesbury in our collection of historical travel writing, describing Britain between the twelfth and nineteenth centuries.
[more information](#)

Highlighted gazetteer entry
In 1887, John Bartholomew's *Gazetteer of the British Isles* described Aylesbury like this:
"Aylesbury.-- market town and par., Bucks, 16 miles SE. of Buckingham and 43 1/4 miles NW. of London by rail, 3302 ac., pop. 7795; 4 Banks, 3 newspapers. Market-days, *Wednesday* and *Saturday*. Mfrs. of lace and straw-plaiting are carried on. Great numbers of ducks are reared for the London market. Aylesbury returned 2 members to Parliament until 1885."

These other entries in our collection of descriptive gazetteers are also about Aylesbury. You may be able to find further references to Aylesbury in the descriptive gazetteers by doing a full-text search [here](#).

Place	Type of entry	Source
Aylesbury	a town, a parish, a subdistrict, a hundred, and a district	Imperial

Historical Statistics for Aylesbury
The largest part of Vision of Britain is our collection of historical statistics, but these are always for precisely defined areas, usually administrative units, not "places". We know about the following units named after Aylesbury. Each has its

Text from the historical gazetteer can then be copied and pasted into a Word document so that pupils can analyse the text.