

ABNEY'S HABITATS AND WILDLIFE

The habitats in Abney Park Cemetery support a rich diversity of creatures, plants and fungi. A nationally-rare habitat is dry heath – on the sandy brickearth between Church Street entrance and the Chapel.



Silver birch and bracken fern are typical plants of dry heath.

Flowers and Plants The greatest variety of plants occurs along sunnier path edges. Some areas have been sown with a wildflower grass mix to increase diversity and to provide nectar for bees and butterflies. There are many naturally-occurring wild plants and herbs, and some which have naturalised from the cultivated plants around the memorials.

Fungi and Lichens Closely associated with plants, these organisms thrive on live, dying and dead wood and on old stone. Fungi range from ordinary and exotic edible types to giant bracket species which grow on tree trunks. 'Fungus forays' are held in Autumn. A survey of lichens found 37 species which had colonised the limestone, marble, sandstone and slate of the gravestones and monuments, walls and Chapel, and the trunks and branches of some trees.

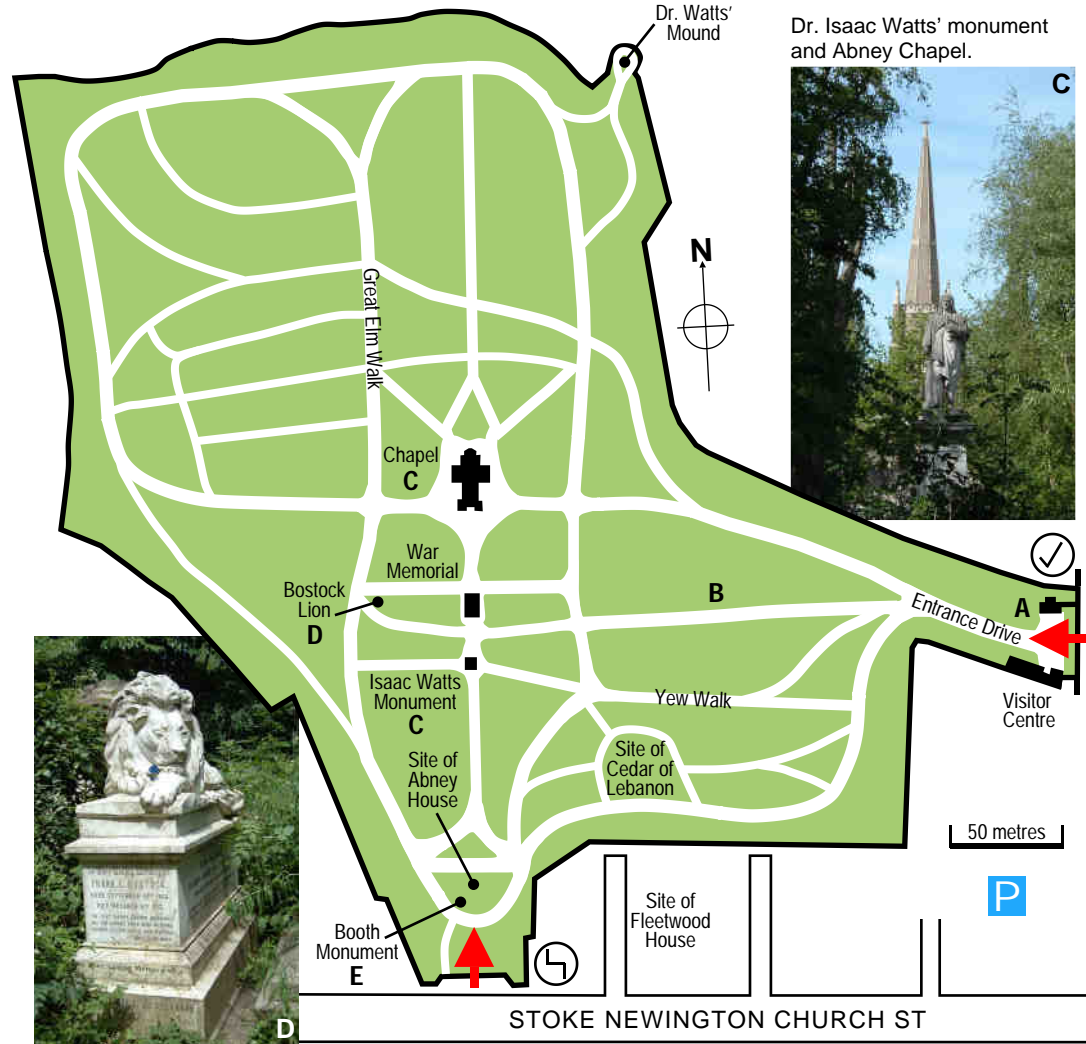
Animals and Birds Animals include foxes, rats, grey squirrels, wood mice, house mice and bats. The area is also a place for migrating birds to stop off and refuel and for the resident birds to nest and bring up their young; less common species include tawny owl, firecrest, nuthatch and bullfinch.

Butterflies and Moths Abney Park holds the largest population of the Speckled Wood butterfly in Inner London and is an important inner-city habitat for White-letter and Purple Hairstreak, and Large Skipper.

See also: ABNEY'S ARBORETUM & TREES

This leaflet was prepared by Anne Woollett and Mike Trier with assistance from Russell Miller. Photos © Mike Trier. For copies of this leaflet, and further information about Abney Park Cemetery NR, its history and wildlife, see

www.hackneyenvironment.org.uk



KEY

- Main paths
- Other paths
- Steps or other access problems
- Step-free access

Above: The popular 'Bostock Lion' is often found with a posy of flowers. Right: William and Catherine Booth, founders of the Salvation Army, are buried near Church Street entrance.



Dr. Isaac Watts' monument and Abney Chapel.



STOKE NEWINGTON



Headstones, angels and an urn, dwarfed by an avenue of Lombardy Poplars.

CAZENOVE RD

NORTHWOLD RD



Stamford Hill forecourt, and gates to Entrance Drive.

STAMFORD HILL

STOKE NEWINGTON HIGH ST

STOKE NEWINGTON CHURCH ST

BUILDINGS AND MONUMENTS

The architect William Hosking designed the pillars, entrance gates and lodges **A**. Also the Chapel **C** – the first non-denominational cemetery-chapel in England. In a similar style to Gothic revival, it has unusual rose windows (now without glass). Monuments **B, D, E**, of many different materials, support a variety of lichens. Styles range from simple headstones to sculptures and tombs. The War Memorial honours those who gave their lives in WW1 & 2. There is a civilian memorial near by.