



Lambeth Palace Library Research Guide

The Diocese of Canterbury and the Archbishop of Canterbury's Peculiar Jurisdiction

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1 Introduction

Until the mid-19th century the diocese of Canterbury comprised parishes in Kent, east of the river Medway. But with the rearrangements of the boundaries of the sees of London, Rochester, and Canterbury following the abolition of exempt jurisdictions in 1845, a number of parishes in the deaneries of Malling and Dartford and the archbishop's peculiar of Shoreham were transferred to the diocese of Canterbury.

In addition the Canterbury diocese gained the Surrey parishes of Croydon, a former archiepiscopal peculiar, and of Addington, formerly in the diocese of Winchester, but including Addington Park, purchased as an archiepiscopal residence in 1807. With the exception of Croydon and Addington, all the parishes gained in 1846 reverted to the diocese of Rochester following the founding of the diocese of Southwark in 1904.

2 List of Parishes of the Diocese

The numbers in the table below refer to the location of the parish, and can be found in the map below (3). Roughly, numbers 1-100 are to be found to the left, numbers 101-200 in the centre, and 201 onwards to the right.

227	Acol
175	Acrise
219	Adisham
138	Aldington
209	Alkham
223	All Saints, Thanet
11	Appledore



232	Ash
113	Ashford
106	Badlesmere
89	Bapchild
249	Barfreton
205	Barham
41	Bearsted
200	Bekesbourne
20	Benenden
77	Bethersden
243	Betteshanger
69	Bicknor
19	Biddenden
121	Bilsington
226	Birchington
203	Bishopsbourne
131	Blackmanstone
55	Bobbing
136	Bonnington
54	Borden
111	Boughton Alulph
154	Boughton under Blean
74	Boughton Malherbe
31	Boughton Monchelsea
42	Boxley
146	Brabourne
68	Bredgar
49	Bredhurst
7	Brenzett
202	Bridge
147	Brook
4	Brookland
36	Broomfield
2	Broomhill
254	Buckland near Dover
94	Buckland near Faversham
134	Burmarsh
275	Canterbury, All Saints
275	Canterbury, Holy Cross
275	Canterbury, St Alphage
275	Canterbury, St Andrew
275	Canterbury, St Cosmus & Damien le Blean
275	Canterbury, St George
275	Canterbury, St Margaret
275	Canterbury, St Mary Bredman
275	Canterbury, St Mary Magdalen
275	Canterbury, St Mildred
275	Canterbury, St Peter
184	Canterbury, St Dunstan
181	Canterbury, St Mary Bredin



185 Canterbury, St Mary, Northgate
198 Canterbury, St Martin
199 Canterbury, St Paul
211 Capel le Ferne
108 Challock
80 Charing
256 Charlton
115 Great Chart
79 Little Chart
162 Chartham
32 Chart Sutton
172 Cheriton
152 Chilham
246 Chillenden
193 Chislet
251 Coldred
24 Cranbrook
150 Crundale
97 Davington
272 Deal
206 Denton
43 Detling
85 Doddington
258 Dover, St James
257 Dover, St Mary
259 Dover, St Peter
133 Dymchurch
135 Eastbridge
61 Eastchurch
262 East Langdon
244 Eastry
34 East Sutton
102 Eastling
110 Eastwell
12 Ebony
75 Egerton
176 Elbam
60 Elmley
165 Elmsted
233 Elmstone
215 Ewell
250 Eythorne
8 Fairfield
99 Faversham
173 Folkestone
189 Fordwich
71 Frinsted
25 Frittenden
151 Godmersham
156 Goodnestone near Faversham



247 Goodnestone near Wingham
23 Goudhurst
157 Graveney
255 Guston
186 Hackington
178 Upper Hardres
179 Lower Hardres
52 Halstow
242 Ham
161 Harbledown
72 Harrietsham
48 Hartlip
62 Harty
166 Hastingleigh
22 Hawkhurst
210 Hawkinge
26 Headcorn
190 Herne
155 Hernehill
18 High Halden
148 Hinxhill
192 Hoath
45 Hollingbourne
129 Hope, All Saints
114 Hothfield
212 Hougham
46 Hucking
137 Hurst
141 Hythe
220 Ickham
6 Ivychurch
56 Iwade
125 Kenardington
112 Kennington
87 Kingsdown
117 Kingsnorth
204 Kingston
245 Knowlton
38 Langley
230 St Lawrence in Thanet
104 Leaveland
37 Leeds
73 Lenham
63 Leysdown
29 Linton
197 Littlebourne
30 Loose
96 Luddenham
1 Lydd
216 Lydden



170	Lyminge
139	Lympne
92	Lynsted
40	Maidstone
28	Marden
261	St Margaret's at Cliffe
228	Margate, St John the Baptist
130	St Mary's in the Marsh
119	Mersham
3	Midley
183	Milton near Canterbury
57	Milton near Sittingbourne
84	Milsted
59	Minster in Sheppey
231	Minster in Thanet
107	Molash
273	Great Mongeham
268	Little Mongeham
168	Monks Horton
224	Monkton
65	Murston
180	Nackington
127	Newchurch
14	Newenden
86	Newnham
171	Newington by Hythe
53	Newington by Sittingbourne
225	St Nicholas at Wade
248	Nonington
269	Northbourne
93	Norton
98	Oare
132	Orgarswick
123	Orlestone
101	Ospringe
39	Otham
82	Otterden
263	Oxney
229	St Peter's in Thanet
174	Paddlesworth
201	Patixbourne
163	Petham
78	Pluckley
169	Postling
213	Poulton
100	Preston near Faversham
221	Preston near Wingham
58	Queenborough
50	Rainham
191	Reculver



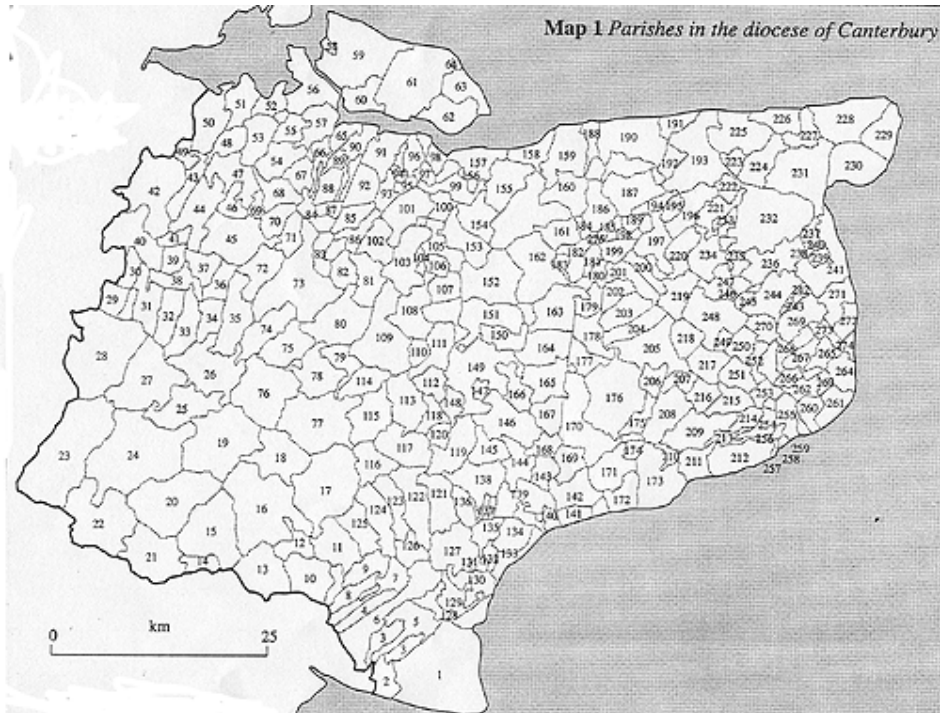
264 Ringwould
265 Ripple
214 River
88 Rodmersham
15 Rolvenden
128 New Romney
5 Old Romney
122 Ruckinge
142 Saltwood
21 Sandhurst
240 Sandwich, St Clement
239 Sandwich, St Mary
238 Sandwich, St Peter
158 Seasalter
144 Sellinge
153 Selling
120 Sevington
116 Shadoxhurst
105 Sheldwich
271 Shoulden
217 Sibertswold
66 Sittingbourne
76 Smarden
145 Smeeth
9 Snargate
126 Snave
81 Stalisfield
143 Stanford
235 Staple
27 Staplehurst
177 Stelling
47 Stockbury
195 Stodmarsh
237 Stonar
10 Stone in Oxney
95 Stone near Faversham
167 Stowting
222 Stourmouth
187 Sturry
267 Sutton
33 Sutton Valence
188 Swalecliffe
208 Swingfield
91 Teynham
16 Tenderden
182 Thanington
103 Throwley
44 Thurnham
270 Tilmanstone
90 Tonge



67	Tunstall
35	Ulcombe
51	Upchurch
252	Waldershare
274	Walmer
164	Waltham
64	Warden
124	Warehorne
194	Westbere
260	West Cliffe
140	West Hythe
266	West Langdon
109	Westwell
253	Whitfield
159	Whitstable
196	Wickhambreux
118	Willesborough
234	Wingham
83	Witchling
13	Wittersham
17	Woodchurch
236	Woodnesborough
218	Womenswold
70	Wormshill
241	Worth
207	Wootton
149	Wye



3 Map of the Parishes of the Diocese of Canterbury



This map and list of parishes is reproduced by kind permission from *The Speculum of Archbishop Thomas Secker* ed. J. Gregory (Church of England Record Society 2; publ. Woodbridge: Boydell for the Church of England Record Society 1995).

4 Peculiar Jurisdiction of the Archbishop of Canterbury

'Peculiarities' were those parishes or places which were exempt from the jurisdiction of the bishop in whose diocese they were physically located, and were answerable directly to another. In the case of the Archbishop, he exercised episcopal jurisdiction over a number of parishes in various parts of southern England outside the diocese of Canterbury.

For administrative purposes, these parishes were formed into eight deaneries: the Arches (city of London parishes); Bocking (Essex and Suffolk), Croydon (Middlesex and Surrey); Monks Risborough (Bucks., and Oxon.), Pagham, South Malling, and Tarring (Sussex), and Shoreham (Kent).

From the abolition of peculiar jurisdictions in 1845, some of the Kent and Surrey parishes were incorporated within the diocese of Canterbury, while others were transferred to the diocese in which they were geographically located (ie. city of London to the diocese of London).



4.1 Deanery of the Arches

Thirteen parishes in the city of London, exempt from the bishop of London. Some of the churches were united with other churches which were not exempt - the latter have been noted in brackets.

All Hallows, Bread Street w. St. John the Evangelist, Watling Street
All Hallows, Lombard Street
St. Dionis Backchurch
St. Dunstan-in-the-East
St. Leonard, Eastcheap w. (St. Benet, Gracechurch)
St. Mary Aldermary w. St. Thomas the Apostle
St. Mary Bothaw w. (St. Swithin)
St. Mary-le-Bow w. (St. Pancras, Soper Lane, and All Hallows, Honey Lane)
St. Michael, Crooked Lane
St. Michael Paternoster Royal w. (St. Martin Vintry)
St. Vedast, Foster Lane w. (St. Michael-le-Querne)

4.2 Deanery of Croydon

With the exception of four parishes in Middlesex (Harrow, Hayes, Norwood and Pinner), all the parishes were in Surrey. The Middlesex parishes were exempt from the bishop of London and the Surrey parishes from the bishop of Winchester.

Barnes
Burstow
Charlwood
Cheam
Croydon
East Horsley
Harrow w. Harrow Weald chapelry
Hayes
Merstham
Mortlake
Newington (Newington Butts)
Norwood
Pinner
Putney
Roehampton
Walworth
Wimbledon



4.3 Deanery of Shoreham

Parishes in Kent, exempt from the bishop of Rochester, and under the jurisdiction of the Archbishop of Canterbury

The map below is reproduced by kind permission from The Speculum of Archbishop Thomas Secker ed. J. Gregory (Church of England Record Society 2; publ. Woodbridge: Boydell for the Church of England Record Society 1995)



- Map 2 Peculiars in the diocese of Rochester
(Deanery of Shoreham)*
- Bexley w. Bexley Heath
 - Brasted
 - Chevening
 - Chiddingstone
 - Cliffe
 - Crayford
 - Darenth
 - Downe
 - East Malling
 - East Farleigh
 - East Peckham
 - Eynsford
 - Farningham
 - Gillingham w. Lydsing chapelry
 - Grain, St. James in the Isle of
 - Halstead
 - Hayes
 - Hever
 - Hunton



Ifield
Ightham
Keston
Knockholt
Meopham
Northfleet
Orpington
Oxford
Penshurst
Riverhead
St. Mary Cray
Sevenoaks
Sevenoaks Weald
Shoreham
Sundridge w. Ide Hill chapelry
Wrotham w. Plaxtol and Stansted chapelries

4.4 Deanery of Bocking

Parishes in Essex and Suffolk, exempt from the bishop of London and the bishop of Norwich respectively, and under the jurisdiction of the Archbishop of Canterbury.

Bocking, Essex
Hadleigh, Suffolk
Monks Eleigh, Suffolk
Latchingdon w. Lawling, Essex
Moulton, Suffolk
Southchurch, Essex
Stisted, Essex

4.5 Deaneries of Pagham and Tarring

Parishes in Sussex, exempt from the bishop of Chichester, and under the jurisdiction of the Archbishop of Canterbury.

Bersted
Bognor
Chichester, All Saints Pallant
East Lavant
Pagham
Patching
Slindon
Tangmere
West Tarring w. Heene and Durrington

4.6 Deanery of South Malling

Parishes in west Sussex, exempt from the bishop of Chichester, and under the jurisdiction of the Archbishop of Canterbury.

Buxted w. Uckfield chapelry



Cliffe (St. Thomas at Cliffe in Lewes)
Edburton
Framfield
Glynde
Isfield
Lindfield
Mayfield
Ringmere
South Malling
Stanmer w. Falmer
Wadhurst

4.7 Deanery of Monks Risborough

Parishes in Buckinghamshire and Oxfordshire, originally exempt from the bishop of Lincoln, and under the jurisdiction of the Archbishop of Canterbury.

Halton
Little Brickhill
Newington
Risborough
Wootton Underwood