



Lambeth Palace Library
Research Guide
Diocese of Canterbury





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

1	Introduction.....	1
2	List of Parishes of the Diocese	1
3	Map of the Parishes of the Diocese of Canterbury.....	8
4	Peculiar Jurisdiction of the Archbishop of Canterbury.....	8
4.1	Deanery of the Arches	9
4.2	Deanery of Croydon.....	9
4.3	Deanery of Shoreham.....	10
4.4	Deanery of Bocking.....	11
4.5	Deaneries of Pagham and Tarring	11
4.6	Deanery of South Malling.....	12
4.7	Deanery of Monks Risborough.....	12

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



Lambeth Palace Library Research Guide

209	Alkham
223	All Saints, Thanet
11	Appledore
232	Ash
113	Ashford
106	Badlesmere
89	Bapchild
249	Barfreston
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



Lambeth Palace Library Research Guide

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



Lambeth Palace Library Research Guide

99	Faversham
173	Folkestone
189	Fordwich
71	Frinted
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



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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



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174	Paddlesworth
201	Patricbourne
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



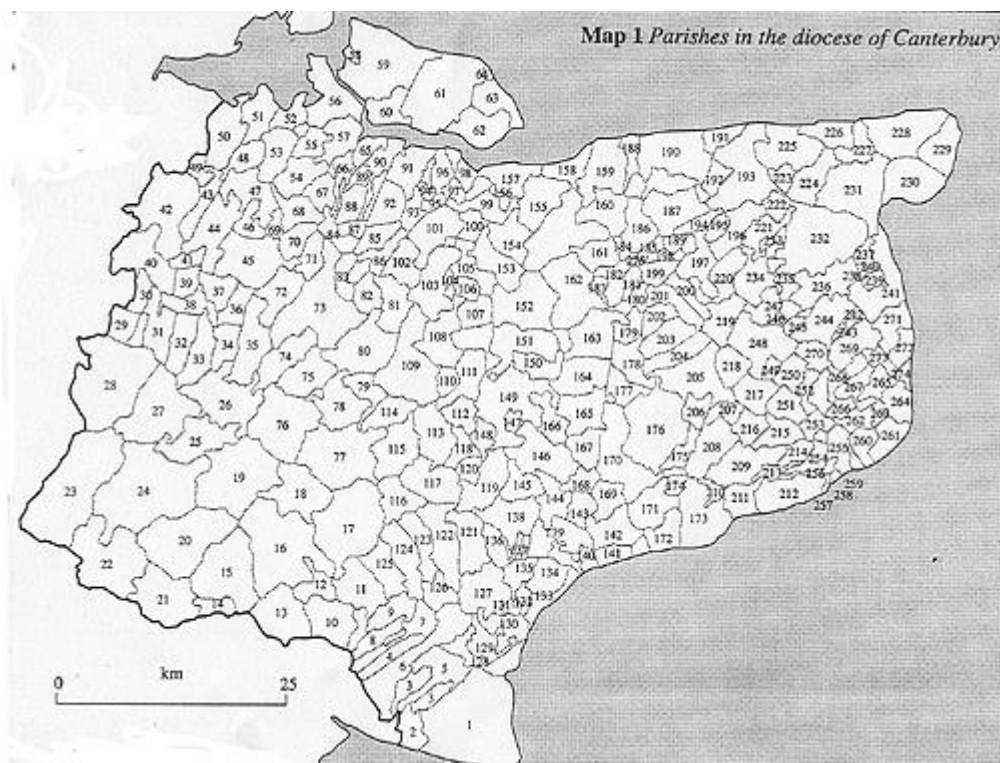
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222	Stourmouth
187	Sturry
267	Sutton
33	Sutton Valence
188	Swalecliffe
208	Swingfield
91	Teynham
16	Tenterden
182	Thanington
103	Throwley
44	Thurnham
270	Tilmanstone
90	Tonge
67	Tunstall
35	Ulcombe
51	Upchurch
252	Waldershare
274	Walmer
164	Waltham
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



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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

'Peculiars' 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).



Lambeth Palace Library Research Guide

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



Lambeth Palace Library Research Guide

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



Lambeth Palace Library Research Guide

Hever
Hunton
Ifield
Ightham
Keston
Knockholt
Meopham
Northfleet
Orpington
Otford
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



Lambeth Palace Library Research Guide

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