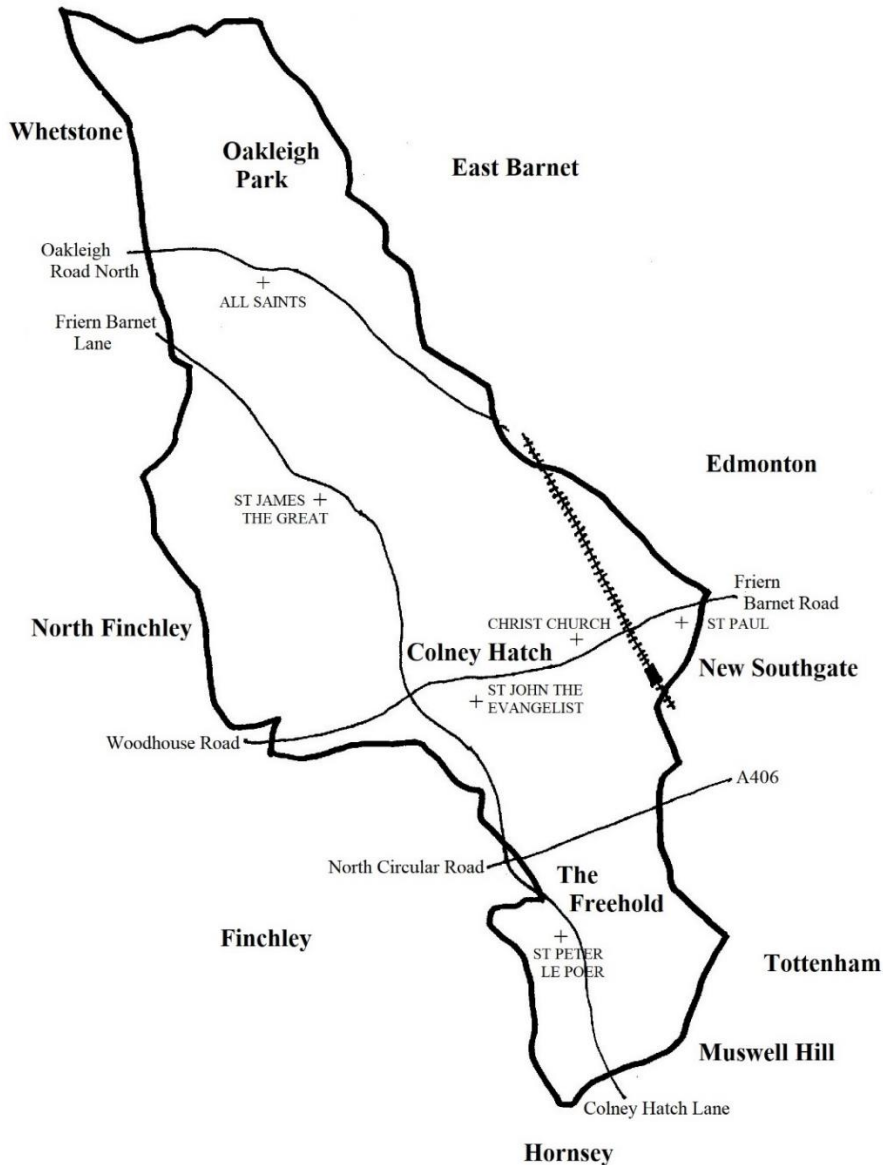




LONDON WESTMINSTER & MIDDLESEX FAMILY HISTORY SOCIETY

FRIERN BARNET

The ancient parish of Friern Barnet formed part of the Finsbury division of the Ossulstone hundred subdivision of the county of Middlesex. Civil parishes took over from ancient parishes in the 1860s and Friern Barnet Urban District Council was formed in 1894. Since 1965, Friern Barnet has been part of the London Borough of Barnet.



The area which is now Friern Barnet formed part of the Bishop of London's Manor of Fulham at the time of the *Domesday* book. In 1199 a charter from King John confirmed that the Bishop had given the land to the Knights of the Order of St John of Jerusalem, whose English base was in Clerkenwell. It was for this reason that the parish, previously referred to as Little Barnet to distinguish it from Chipping and East Barnet in Hertfordshire, became known as Friern Barnet – the Barnet of the Friars. When the Order was suppressed at the time of the dissolution in 1540, their lands at Friern Barnet were granted to the Dean and Chapter of St Paul's Cathedral, who were still patrons as late as 1976.

The Society has produced a Parish Guide to Friern Barnet which includes further information about the churches below as well as nonconformist and other denominations.



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St James the Great, Friern Barnet



This church has medieval origins with the south doorway still showing its Norman origins, despite being restored. The building was largely rebuilt in 1853 with an octagonal parish room being added in 1977. The church is currently leased to the Greek Orthodox community and is known by them as St Katherine's.

Records of the parish including baptisms (1674-1963), marriages (1674-1974) and burials (1674-1927) are at London Metropolitan Archives, Ref: DRO/012/I.

All Saints, Oakleigh Road North



Standing on the corner of Oakleigh Road North and Myddleton Park, this church was paid for by one John Miles. The baptism register started in 1882 but it has not been deposited at LMA.

St John the Evangelist, Friern Barnet Road



This was built as a chapel of ease to St James to serve a growing population in the area about a mile to the south of the parish church. An iron chapel was built in 1883 with a stone chancel being consecrated in 1892 and the nave in 1911. St John's font is reputedly built of oak from the belfry of Exeter Cathedral.

Records of the parish including marriages (1940-1963) are at London Metropolitan Archives, Ref: DRO/012/II.



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St Paul, Woodland Road, New Southgate

This new parish was created in 1873 from that part of Friern Barnet parish which lay east of the Great Northern Railway Line. It has since been united with St Michael's, Brunswick Park.

Records of the parish including baptisms (1873-1961) and marriages (1874-1961) are at London Metropolitan Archives, Ref: DRO/031.

St Peter le Poer, Colney Hatch Lane, Muswell Hill



A mission was started in 1866 to serve Muswell Hill and a temporary iron church built at the junction of Sydney Road and Hampden Road in 1886. A permanent church was built in 1909 on what is now Albion Avenue. This was funded using money raised from the sale of the site of the church of the same name in Old Broad Street in the City of London, which was demolished in 1907. The font and other items were moved from the old church to Muswell Hill. The parish mainly comprised that part of Friern Barnet parish south of the North Circular

Road. There is an archive included in the collection of St James, Friern Barnet at LMA, Ref: DRO/112, which includes correspondence relating to the site for St Peter's church dating from 1883 but no registers have been deposited.

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