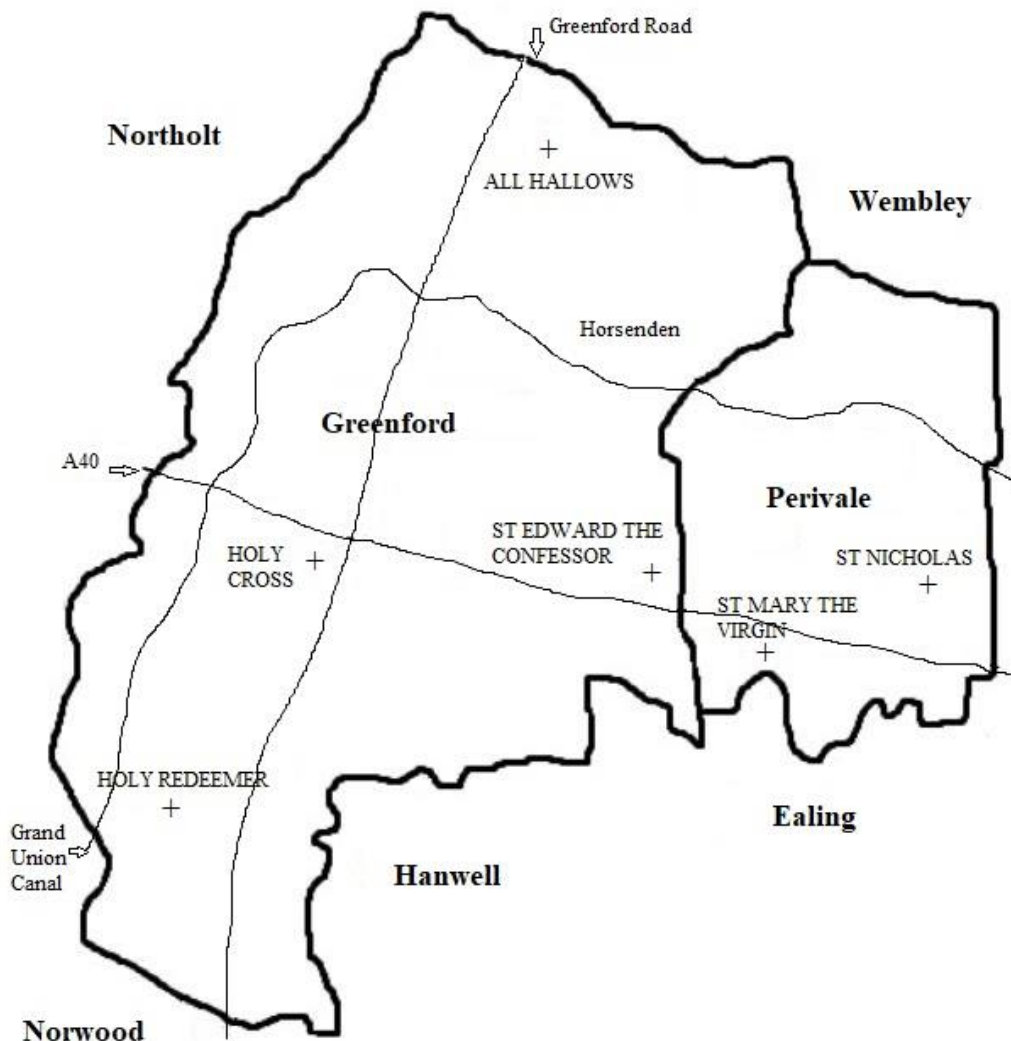




# LONDON WESTMINSTER & MIDDLESEX FAMILY HISTORY SOCIETY

## GREENFORD

Greenford, also called Greenford Magna or Great Greenford, was an Ancient Parish in the county of Middlesex, where it formed part Elthorne hundred subdivision. Part of Sudbury is also included in the parish of Greenford. In 1894 the urban district of Greenford was created, which consisted of the civil parishes of Great Greenford, Perivale and Twyford Abbey (this last appears in our Willesden Parish Guide). Greenford urban district was abolished in 1926 when the urban district and civil parish of Greenford became part of the municipal borough and civil parish of Ealing. Greenford now forms part of the London Borough of Ealing.



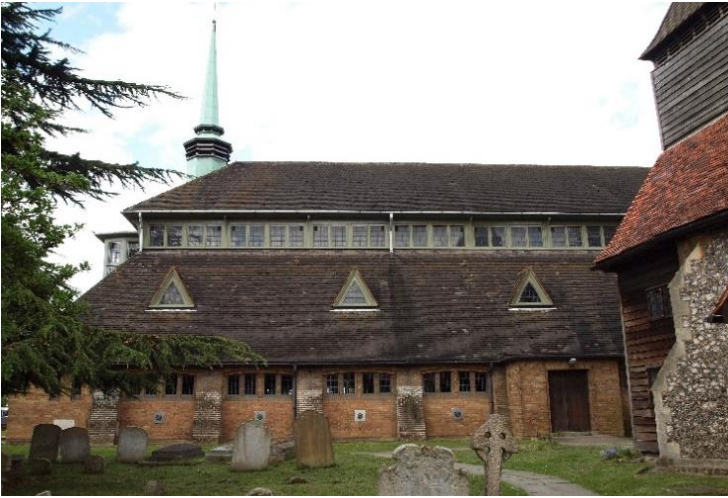
Greenford Magna, or Great Greenford as it was called to differentiate it from the hamlet of Greenford Parva or Perivale, existed before the Norman Conquest. In the *Domesday Book* Greenford is listed as belonging to Westminster Abbey to whom it had been given by King Ethelred. The soil here is London clay and since Roman times had been noted for its wheat growing - so much so that Queen Elizabeth I ordered it to be supplied to the Royal Household. The old Church of the Holy Cross on the west side of the original village street has been altered and rebuilt many times including at the end of the 15th century and most of the oldest surviving parts date from this period.

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



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## Holy Cross, Ferrymeads Gardens, Greenford



A chapel has stood at Greenford since at least 1157 but the current Holy Cross church building probably dates from around 1700. Despite various repairs and restorations over the years, the church was closed in 1951 and was due to be knocked down. However, it was subsequently restored and reopened in 1956. Three mission churches were built in the 1930s due to population increases in the area but despite this, the church was too small and a larger one was constructed about 1940 just to the west of the old church.

Records of the parish include baptisms (1539-1989), marriages (1539-1987) and burials (1539-1976) are at London Metropolitan Archives, Ref: DRO/175.



The old Church of the Holy Cross.

The new church can be seen in the background.

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