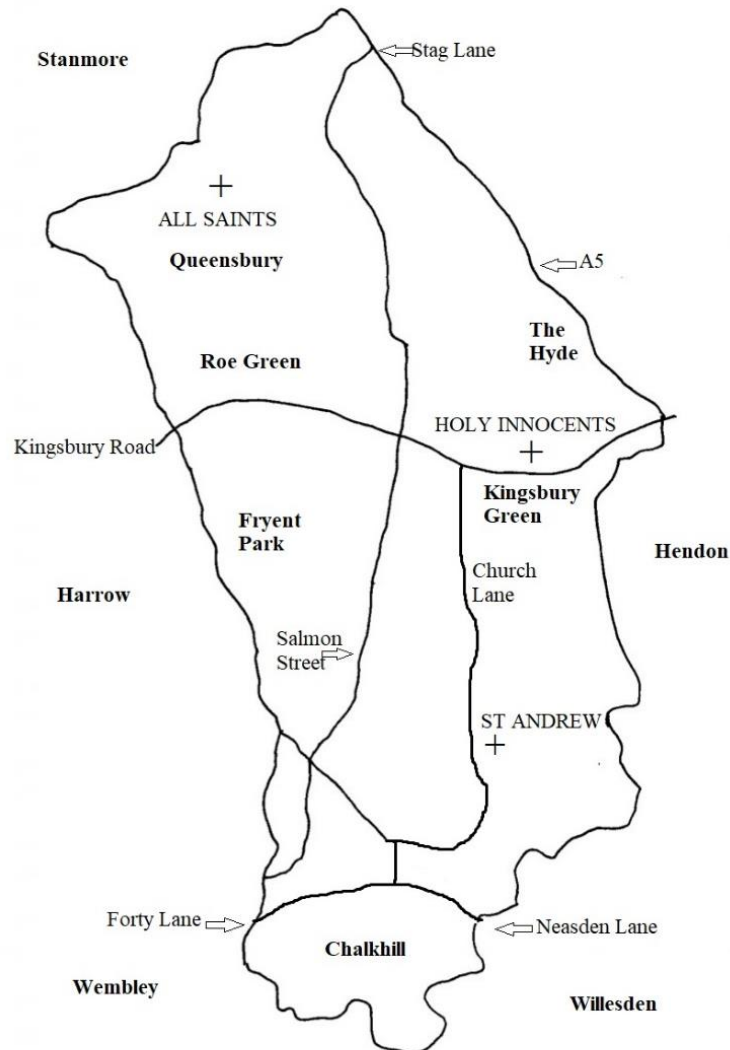




LONDON WESTMINSTER & MIDDLESEX FAMILY HISTORY SOCIETY

KINGSBURY

The ancient parish of Kingsbury formed part of the Gore hundred subdivision of the county of Middlesex. Civil parishes took over from ancient parishes in the 1860s, followed by Urban District Councils in 1894. Kingsbury formed part of Wembley Urban District but became Kingsbury Urban District in 1900. It was amalgamated back into Wembley Urban District in 1934 and from 1965 Kingsbury has formed part of the London Borough of Brent.



The parish of Kingsbury lies about eight miles from central London between two ancient routes, Watling Street (later Edgware Road, the A5) and Honeypot Lane (known in ancient times as Eldestrete). The name 'Kingsbury' means 'a place belonging to the King' and a record of 957 shows teenage King Eadwig the Fair giving land in the parish to one of his followers. King Edward the Confessor was the grandson of Eadwig's brother. One of Edward's housecarls (that is, a member of his bodyguard) Thurstan, later gave the manor at Chalkhill, which lay to the south of the parish, to St Peter's Abbey in Westminster to help finance the building of the new Westminster Abbey in 1050. The *Domesday Book* of 1086 shows that the Abbey then owned some 300 acres of land in the parish, half of which was farmed and half of which was woodland used to raise pigs.

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



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Old St Andrew Church



This church dates from the 12th or 13th century and is believed to be the oldest standing building in the London Borough of Brent. It was appropriated by the Knights Hospitaller from about 1245. The ancient church became too small for the needs of the parishioners and so in 1884 a new church, dedicated to Holy Innocents, was built about a mile further north and this became the parish church for Kingsbury with St Andrew turned into a chapel of ease, subsequently being known as the Consolidated Chapelry of Neasden-cum-Kingsbury. All of the parish records of St Andrew were supposed to be transferred to Holy Innocents, although a couple went to the new St Andrew, see below.

Records including baptisms (1732-1868), marriages (1735-1837) and burials (1732-1879) are at London Metropolitan Archives, Ref: DRO/045.

Holy Innocents, Kingsbury Road, Kingsbury



After the ancient parish church of St Andrew became too small for the parish's need, a new church dedicated to Holy Innocents was built in 1884 on land donated by All Souls College, Oxford, who were major landowners in the parish. Holy Innocents became the parish church of Kingsbury and the records of the ancient church were transferred here.

Records including baptisms (1732-1913), marriages (1735-1837) and burials (1732-1879) are at London Metropolitan Archives, Ref: DRO/045.



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All Saints, Waltham Drive, Queensbury



The parish of All Saints, Queensbury, was formed in 1932 from some of Kingsbury together with the southern part of Little Stanmore.

Records including baptisms (1933-1955) and marriages (1932-1959) are at London Metropolitan Archives, Ref: DRO/145.

St Andrew, Church Lane, Kingsbury



In 1933 the Victorian church of St Andrew, Wells Street, Marylebone was re-erected in Kingsbury. It had become redundant to needs in central London and its Victorian Gothic interior in particular was deemed worthy of saving. There was space next to the ancient St Andrew's church and the area was growing in population, so there was a need for a new church here. A new parish of St Andrew was consecrated in 1934.

Records include: baptisms (1932-1949), marriages (1886-1970), burials (1879-1959) and are at London Metropolitan Archives, Ref: DRO/028.

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