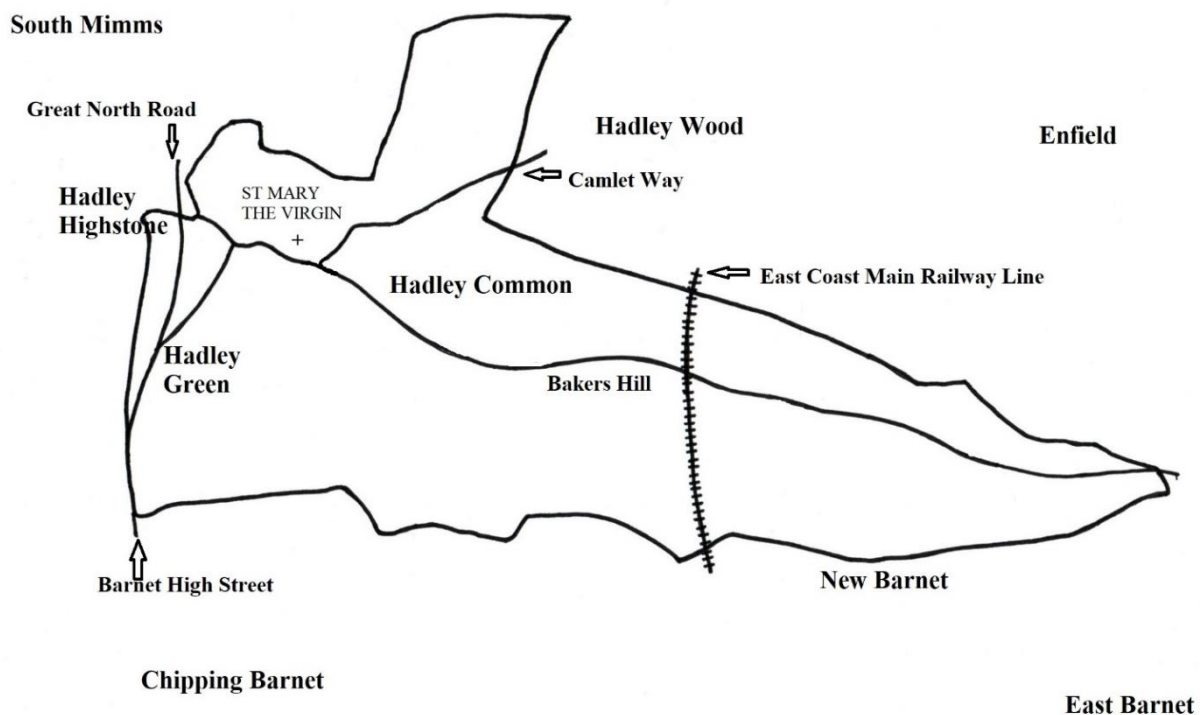




LONDON WESTMINSTER & MIDDLESEX FAMILY HISTORY SOCIETY

MONKEN HADLEY

Monken Hadley was an ancient parish in the county of Middlesex and formed part of the Edmonton hundred of the county. Civil parishes took over from ancient parishes in the 1860s and Monken Hadley became part of Barnet local board district. In 1889 Monken Hadley was transferred from the county of Middlesex to Hertfordshire. The parish was split in two in 1894 with Hadley civil parish (the part next to Chipping Barnet) transferred to Barnet Urban District Council (UDC) and Monken Hadley civil parish to East Barnet Valley UDC. From 1965 both of the Hadley civil parishes have formed part of the London Borough of Barnet.



Monken Hadley, also called just Hadley, lies about 12 miles north of London between the old Great North Road (now the A1000) and the south-western corner the forest tract known as Enfield Chase. According to antiquarian Daniel Lysons and others, Hadley owes its name to its elevated situation, 'Headleagh' signifying in the Saxon a high place. The 'ley' in the name probably points to it as a clearing in the high forest land. The manor of Hadley belonged to Geoffrey de Mandeville, Earl of Essex, who donated land for a hermitage to Walden Abbey in about 1136. This is thought to have led to the 'Monken' prefix to Hadley. The parish of Hadley itself was established in about 1175 and also came under the control of the abbots of Walden. At the suppression of religious houses in 1538, Hadley manor was given to Thomas Lord Audley who licensed it to local man Francis Goodere in 1540. Since then, the manor has changed hands many times.

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



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St Mary the Virgin, Hadley Green Road



This church was built on the site of a small chapel in the late 15th century, with the date 1494 being inscribed over the west door.

Records include baptisms (1619-1941), marriages (1619-1986), burials (1619-1952) and are at London Metropolitan Archives, Ref: DRO/017.

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