

## DARENTH PARISH.

Taken from Bagshaws directory.

Sutton at Hone Lathe, 1841  
15,239 inhabited houses.  
618 uninhabited houses, 180 being built.  
86,666 inhabitants, 42,638 males; 44,028 females.  
19,612 males + 19,351 females were under 20.

In 1831 there were 12,728 houses, 72,981 inhabitants.

### AXTON, DARTFORD & WILMINGTON HUNDRED

Contains Parishes:-Ash; Darenth; Dartford; Eynsford;  
Farningham; Fawkham; Hartley; Horton Kirby; Kingsdown;  
Longfield; Lullingstone; Ridley; Southfleet; Stone; Sutton-at-  
Hone; Swanscombe & Wilmington.

The Parish of Darenth, 1841.

Darenth parish & scattered village, on the river Darent. 2 1/2 miles SE by E from Dartford, sometimes called North Darenth to distinguish it from South Darenth, (a hamlet chiefly in Horton Parish). Darenth contains 2,180 acres of land, of which 388 acres are in woodland, and 57 in commons. It is principally a light flinty soil, and considered a healthy district, and in 1841, had 116 houses and 698 inhabitants, of which 9 houses & 39 inhabitants were in South Darenth. Population in 1801 = 407; in 1831 = 588. Value £3,282. The church, dedicated to St.Margaret is a small Norman edifice with nave, chancel, side aisles, a spire steeple at the west end, and three bells. It was new "Pewed" in 1737, and contains an antique font, composed of eight sides with columns alternately circular & angular, with semi-circular arches; some of the figures appear to be chimerical (wildly fanciful, imaginary. BME), & others symbols of the sacraments, one representing King Edgar, who raised St.Dunstan to the see of Canterbury; another illustrates the saints conflicts; one St.Dunstan playing the harp; another shows the sharp encounter the saint had with the devil, in beating whom he broke his pastoral staff. There is also an ancient piscina & basin (sic) for holy water. The living is a vicarage, valued in the kings books at £9:18:11 1/2d; now £346 (1841). Dean & Chapter of Rochester patrons and appropriators, Rev.John Eveleigh incumbent. The vicarage is a good residence, a little north of the church. A neat Sunday School was erected in 1839.

Hilles St.Margarets, about 1 mile SE from the church, with the hamlets of Green Street Green, & South Darenth, appears to have been a separate parish, yet according to its ecclesiastical jurisdiction, it was only a chapel to Darenth. Notwithstanding a decree of Archbishop Peckham concerning its support, it soon afterwards fell to decay, & in 1557 Cardinal Pole united it to the parish of Darenth: the ruins of it are still seen in a field a little SW of the manor house: in the building are many Roman bricks, part of an arch is entirely turned with them. Thomas Chapman Esq., is lord of St.Margarets

. The principal landowners are the Dean & Chapter; Thomas Chapman; George Andrew; & Charles & William Fleet Esqs. Henry Chapman Esq., is lessee under the Dean & Chapter.

An extensive Paper manufactory is carried on in the parish.

GREEN STREET GREEN is a hamlet of stragglng houses, partly in Stone parish, extending from 1-2 miles ESE from the church. GRUB STREET, consists of a few scatered houses, 2 1/4 miles SE.

SOUTH DARENTH is a hamlet principally in Horton Kirby.

CHARITIES:-Sir Thomas Smith in 1621, left the yearly sum of £4:6:8d for a distribution of bread to 5 poor persons every Sunday, in addition to the above, the surplus rents are occasionally received & distributed in clothing. Bernard Ellis in 1713 bequeathed 12s. in addition to a like sum left by his father, & charged on the "Cock Inn" in Dartford. The property was sold in 1812, since which the payment has been discontinued.

Prominent people of the area:-

(marked 1, are at Darenth Lane End: 2, Green Street Green; 3, Grub Street;

Stephen (Artherfold) Wheelwright(3)

Susanna Bartlett, Victualler of the "Fox & Hounds".(1)

Richard Rodgers Worthington Beard, Registrar (1)

Mr.George Cates (2)

Henry Chapman, Farmer.

Thomas Chapman, Farmer at St.Margarets.

William Cripps, Maltster (2).

William Davey, Shoemaker (2).

Rev.John Eveleigh, Vicar.

William Fleet Esq., Grange.

William Hayward Esq., Downs.

Nathan Langlands, Shopkeeper.

George Mackney, Tailor & Victualler at the "Chequers".

Thomas Parkhurst, Farmer.

William Peat, Grocer & Baker (2).

William Reynolds, Victualler at the "White Hart" (2).

William Round, Farmer & Fruiterer (3)

Thomas H Saunders, Paper manufacturer.

Jas. Seager, Carpenter & Parish Clerk.

James Smith, Carpenter (2).

Richard Thorpe, Farmer (2).

John & William Ware, Blacksmiths (2)

Henry White, Market Gardener (1).

## HORTON KIRBY PARISH. (1841).

Horton Kirby or Horton Kirkby parish& scattered village, 4 miles SSE from Dartford, includes the hamlets of Dean Bottom, part of South Darenth & that of Pinden, & contains 1813 acres of land, of which 450 are in woods, & 130 in hop cultivation. The soil is much inclined to chalk, & covered with flints;

generally hilly district & poor, except in the valleys & towards the Darent, which runs on the eastern verge of the parish. The parish in 1841 contained 141 houses, & 714 inhabitants; population in 1801 was 365; in 1831 was 666.

The provost & scholars of Queens College, Oxford are lords of the manor, & principal landowners. The Drapers company & others are also owners. The church, dedicated to St. Mary, is a cruciform structure, with a tower rising from the intersection; among other monuments & inscriptions in this church, are several for the family of "Batherhurst" of Franks, in this parish. In the chancel is an arched recess in the wall, ornamented with Gothic carved work, & underneath, a tomb, probably for one of the "Ross's", lords of this place.

The living is a vicarage valued in the kings books at £5:7:6d., now £214 (1841). in the patronage & incumbency of the Rev. George Rashleigh. Sir John de Cobham, in the 1st year of King Richard II, gave the church of Horton to the master & chaplains of the chantry of Cobham, & their successors, & procured the appropriation of it to them.

The bull of pope Gregory XI for this purpose, bears date that year in the 6th year of his pontificate; & this was confirmed by Thomas, Bishop of Rochester in 1378, who by his decree, then endowed the vicarage of this church saving to himself the accustomed pension of one marc.

In this state the church of Horton remained till the suppression of religious houses, & was afterwards in the possession of the Bathurst family of Franks. There was a perpetual chantry founded in this church, which was surrendered & given up to the king in the 37th year of Henry VIII.

This manor was anciently held by Roger de Kirkby, who at the inthronization of Archbishop Robert Winchelsea, made claim to servr him on that day with the cup at his dinner, & to have the cup as his fee, by reason of the manor of Horton, which he held of the Archbishop. He re-edified Horton Castle, & new-built the mansion of Kirkby Court; & so considerable was his property in this place, that the parish itself had the addition of his name to it, having been ever since called "Horton Kirkby". John Mickel in the year 1736, devised this castle & manor with other estates, to the provost & scholars of Queens College in Oxford, & their successors for ever, & in them to represent possession & inheritance of this castle & manor is now vested.

## MELVILLES DIRECTORY & GAZETTEER, 1858.

(MICROFICHE NO.6.)

### DARENTH.

Darenth or Darent is an ancient village & parish, 2 miles & 3/4 from Dartford SE, & 7 miles SW from Gravesend. The population in 1851 was 624. The church is dedicated to St. Margaret, & is a small ancient building. The living is a vicarage in the patronage of the Dean & Chapter of Rochester, & incumbency of the Rev. John Eveleigh, MA.

GREEN STREET GREEN is a village 3 1/2 miles SW from Northfleet, & 1 1/2 miles east from Dartford. In the village is a very curious old inn. St. Margarets is 1 mile SE of Darenth; St. Johns (the church at Sutton-at-Hone) is 1/2 mile South; Gills is 1 mile & 1/2 SE.

Post Office - William Peat receive, letters are received through Dartford, which is also the nearest money order office.

### GENTRY.

George Cotes Esq.; Rev. John Eveleigh MA, vicar;  
William Fleet Esq, Grange;

### TRADERS.

George Andrus, farmer at Gills farm,  
John Ludlow victualler at the "White Hart".  
Richard R W Beard, registrar.  
George Mackney, victualler at the "Chequers".  
Thomas Chapman, farmer.  
John Martin, victualler at the "Fox & Hounds".  
Edward Cresy, architect.  
William Peat, Postmaster & shop keeper.  
Edward Cripps, farmer.  
Thomas Parkhurst, farmer.  
William Cripps, Maltster.  
James Round, farmer.  
.Mrs. Adah Walker, school mistress.  
Thomas H Saunders, paper manufacturer.  
William Wallace, bootmaker.  
James Seager, carpenter.  
John & William Ware, blacksmiths.  
John Sears, farmer.  
Henry White, market gardener.  
Frederick Thorpe, farmer.