

Charlton, Kent, England

Historical Description

Charlton, a parish in Kent, 9 miles from Charing Cross railway station, with a station of its own on the North Kent railway. The village lies among the low hills between Blackheath and Woolwich, near the river Thames, 8 miles E by S of London Bridge. It is within the parliamentary borough of Greenwich. It is supplied with water from works situated at Crayford and Lewisham. The assembly-rooms, erected in 1881, form a handsome building of red brick, and are used for lectures and concerts. The parish has grown into a fine suburb. It has a head post, money order, and telegraph office. The manor was given by William Rufus to Bermondsey Abbey; went at the dissolution to the Newtons; passed to the Langhorns, the Ducies, and the Maryons. Charlton House was built about 1612 by Sir Adam Newton; forms a fine specimen of the architecture of its age; contains a good portrait of Henry, Prince of Wales, to whom Sir Adam Newton acted as tutor; was the death-place, in 1679, of Lord Doune. It is the seat of the Wilson family. The grounds connected with it have some very old cypresses; the 'Hanging Wood,' adjoining it, affords a charming walk, and some sand-pits in the vicinity present great attractions to geologists. A farmhouse in the parish, called Cherry Garden, is said to have been erected by Inigo Jones for his own residence. Several handsome villas have recently been built. Acreage of parish, 1236; population, 11,742. The living is a rectory in the diocese of Rochester; net value, £287 with residence. The church is a plain brick edifice of 1640. The rectories of St Thomas and St Paul, and the chapelries of Blackheath Park and St Germans-Blackheath, are separate charges; value of St Thomas, £300; of St Paul, £174. St Thomas' Church stands at New Charlton, is a handsome structure, and was built in 1850, at a cost of over £5000. St Paul's Church was built in 1867, is in the Second Pointed style, cruciform, and highly ornate, and has a SW tower and spire. There are a Wesleyan chapel, the cottages on Woolwich Common, Morden College for decayed merchants, and Langhorne's school and almshouses.

Source: UK Genealogy Archives

<https://ukga.org/england/Kent/towns/Charlton.html>