

It is constructed chiefly of stone, and consists of a nave and chancel, short transepts, and a square tower rising from piers at the intersection. The aisles are separated from the nave by Pointed arches springing from octagonal columns. The ceiling is panelled, and ornamented with bosses; the pulpit is of stone, and is entered from the vestry, and most of the windows are filled with stained or painted glass.

In 1872 the church of St. Andrew, in Maple Road, was built as a chapel-of-ease to St. Mark's. It is a brick building, in the Italian style, and consists of chancel, nave, transepts, and a campanile.

On the western side of the town, close by the river, and opposite to the grounds of Hampton Court Palace, stands the Roman Catholic church dedicated to St. Raphael. It was built, in the Italian style, in 1846-7, at the expense of the late Mr. Alexander Raphael, of Surbiton Place, some time M.P. for St. Albans, on whose estate it stands. It consists principally of nave, aisles, and chancel, with a square tower of three storeys projecting from the centre of the west front. The external walls are chiefly of Bath stone, and the pulpit and font are of Sicilian marble. The door of the tabernacle is an ancient carved-oak panel, representing the Crucifixion, and supposed to date from the fourteenth century.

Norbiton is probably another suburb cut off from Kingston-on-Thames, and called *Norbiton* in contrast to *Surbiton*, from lying to the north, as the latter lies south of the parent town. It lies on the road towards London *via* Wimbledon, but, like the locality just described, it is scarcely old enough to have a history.

Norbiton was formed into a separate ecclesiastical parish in 1842. The church, dedicated to St. Peter, built by Sir Gilbert Scott, is a brick building, consisting of chancel, nave, and aisles, and a tower. The district of St. Paul's, Kingston Hill, was formed out of St. Peter's in 1881. The church, which is situated in Queen's Road, is of stone, and of Gothic design.

In this neighbourhood are several charitable institutions. The Children's Convalescent Institution, Kingston Hill, is one of the philanthropic features of this locality. It is in connection with the Metropolitan Convalescent Institution at Walton-on-Thames, and has for its object the relief of poor children recovering from serious illness, or suffering from complaints which require change of air and rest for their removal, and was erected from the design of Mr. Henry Saxon Snell, the architect. It contains 150 beds, and is open for children of either sex between the ages of two and fourteen, of whom more than 1,000 are admitted yearly.

Patients are admitted on the recommendation of annual and life subscribers only.

The Royal Cambridge Asylum for Soldiers' Widows, situated on the brow of a hill on the Cambridge estate at Norbiton, was opened in February, 1854. It is the only institution which provides for the soldier's widow, and was founded in memory of the late Duke of Cambridge. The Queen, the Prince of Wales, and other members of the royal family, are among its patrons; the Duchess of Cambridge is lady president, and the Duke of Cambridge, president, whilst many noblemen, ladies, and officers of distinction, assist in its management. The foundation-stone was laid by the late Prince Consort. The widows must be those of non-commissioned officers and privates of the army, not less than fifty years of age. Each widow has a furnished room, and receives 7s. weekly, besides a monthly allowance of 2s. 6d. for coals. The house has been enlarged, and is now capable of containing seventy widows. The building is of brick, in the Italian style, from a design by Mr. Thomas Allom, architect; and a chapel, detached from the main building, has been added. The funded income of the charity yields only £550, with an additional £50 from the Princess Mary's Fund for Nurses, to meet an estimated expenditure of £3,000 per annum. The inmates are admitted by election, the governors and subscribers voting by ballot for the election of candidates.

Not far off on the high ground stands Coombe House, the favourite residence of Lord Liverpool during his long premiership. Here he was frequently visited by the Prince Regent during the progress of the war against Napoleon. Here the Duke of Wellington dined and slept—in August, 1814—on his way to the Netherlands and to the field of Waterloo. The Prince Regent, the Emperor Alexander of Russia, the King of Prussia, and Generals Blucher and Platoff, were also hospitably entertained by the Earl here on their way to Portsmouth, in the same year. Here, too, in December, 1828, died the Earl of Liverpool, after lying ill from paralysis for about two years. His first wife has a monument in Kingston church. Lord Liverpool was Prime Minister of England under the Regency, and for the first seven years of the reign of George IV., and he divided his time at his country residence here and Fife House, Whitehall. He had lived, in his earlier days, at Addiscombe, near Croydon.

Coombe Wood is the name of a rather extensive property here, between Wimbledon, Richmond Park, and Kingston-on-Thames, belonging to His Royal Highness the Duke of Cambridge. Around