

The manor was given to the Dean and Chapter of St. Paul's by King Athelstan. It is thus described in the "Doomsday Book":—"The Canons of St. Paul's, London, hold Berne. In the time of King Edward it was assessed at 8 hides, which were included in the rate with the Archbishop's manor of Mortlake, as they are at present. . . . In the time of King Edward it was valued at £6, now at £7." In the taxation of Pope Nicholas, about the year 1291, the manor is valued as the property of the canons at £12. It has been held by the Canons of St. Paul's ever since, except during the period of the Commonwealth.

Edward II. granted to the canons a charter of free-warren and an exemption from the charge of purveyance. From the Patent Rolls of 10 Henry IV., it appears that the Archbishop of Canterbury was entitled to a sparrow-hawk, or 2s. in money annually, and also £2 every twentieth year, for ever, from the lords of the manor of Barnes, that they might be excused from serving the office of reeve in his manor of Wimbledon.

The estate of Barnes, as we learn from Brayley's "Surrey," has been generally let on lease for long terms. In 1467 Sir John Saye and others were lessees of this manor, which they held with the advowson, and presented to the living that year, and again in 1471 and 1477. Both the manor and advowson had been transferred, in or before 1480, to Thomas Thwayte, Chancellor of the Exchequer and of the Duchy of Lancaster. In 1504 a lease was granted to Sir Henry Wiatt, and in 1513 and 1524 Sir Henry presented to the living as patron and grantee of the Dean and Chapter of St. Paul's. About the middle of the sixteenth century the lease of the estate was held by Queen Elizabeth's favourite Secretary of State, Sir Francis Walsingham, who resided at the manor-house of Barn Elms, in the eastern part of the parish, of which we shall have more to say presently. Here he entertained her Majesty in 1585, 1588, and 1589. Previously to the queen's first visit to Sir Francis, her Majesty had taken a lease of the manor from the Dean and Chapter, to commence from the termination (1600) of the lease granted to Sir Henry Wiatt, and by deed dated in her twenty-first year she assigned her interest to Walsingham and his heirs. Frances, the sole surviving daughter and heiress of Sir Francis, was thrice married: first to the celebrated Sir Philip Sidney; secondly, to Robert, Earl of Essex, the unfortunate favourite of Queen Elizabeth; and, after his death, to the Earl of Clanricarde. Essex occasionally resided at Barn Elms; and Lady Walsingham, his mother-in-law, died there in 1602, and was buried privately

on the following night by the side of her husband in St. Paul's Cathedral.

Early in the seventeenth century the dean and chapter granted a new lease of the manor for twenty-one years to a Mr. John Cartwright, who, when the Church property was exposed for sale by the Parliament, purchased the estate, one Robert Shute, of London, becoming the owner of the manor and advowson. After the Restoration of Charles II., the dean and canons recovered their interest, and Mr. Cartwright, or his representatives, held it on lease as before. In the last century, Mr. Richard Hoare (a son of Sir Richard Hoare, Knt., and Lord Mayor of London in 1745) became lessee of Barnes. He was created a baronet in 1786, and was succeeded by his only son, Sir Richard Colt Hoare (known as an antiquary, and especially as the historian of Wiltshire), who enlarged the mansion and made many improvements here. Early in the present century his interest was sold to the Hammersmith Bridge Company, but it was afterwards transferred to Sir Thomas Colebrooke.

Barnes is a rectory and rural deanery in the diocese of Rochester, but the living is in the gift of the Dean and Chapter of St. Paul's.

The church is, or was, an ancient building, dating from, or even before, the time of Richard I., at which period, a hospital having been founded within the liberties of St. Paul's Cathedral by one of the canons, the dean and canons bestowed on it the church of Barnes, with the glebe and tithes. It has, however, been so much altered at different times by repairs, "restorations," and enlargements, that comparatively little of the original now remains. Towards the end of the last century the church was considerably enlarged, and further additions were afterwards made, and the walls stuccoed. The tower, of red brick with stone quoins, and repaired with cement, is supposed to have been built about the latter part of the fifteenth century, and has a staircase and turret at the south-east angle. The body of the fabric is built with stone and flint, rough-cast, and whitewashed over. In the chancel are three lancet windows, Early English, which were opened in 1852, at which time the church was restored throughout.

Near the altar is a brass of William Millebourne, who died in 1415; and against the north wall is a monument in white marble, representing a female leaning upon an urn, and holding a medallion of Sir Richard Hoare, Bart., who died in 1787. His second wife and relict, Dame Frances Anne Hoare, who erected this memorial, died in 1800. Another individual who was buried