THE MIDDLESEX BIBLIOGRAPHY

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One of the first tasks of the Middlesex Local History Council (now incorporated with the London and Middlesex Archaeological Society) on its formation in 1951, was to arrange for the compilation of this Bibliography. An editorial board was set up consisting of public librarians within the area. Mr. J. E. Walker, Chief Librarian of the then Borough of Hendon was appointed General Editor. The first draft included entries up to June, 1956, and duplicated copies of this were made and sent to all the Borough and Urban District libraries in the then County of Middlesex. In addition copies went to the then Middlesex County Library, Middlesex Record Office, London County Council Members' Library, and Guildhall Library. A master copy recording locations was housed with the South-Eastern Regional Bureau at the National Central Library.

Additions were subsequently prepared up to January, 1960 and later it was decided to extend these additions to 31st March, 1965, the date on which Middlesex ceased to be a local government area under the London Government Act, 1963.

These additions have now been collected and formed into a supplementary volume, duplicated copies of which will be sent to all libraries holding the original volume. It was the intention of the Local History Committee of the London and Middlesex Archaeological Society to print the Bibliography but for various reasons, mainly financial, this has not been possible.

The area covered by the Bibliography is that of the administrative county of Middlesex before it was abolished by the London Government Act, 1963. The material recorded is works on any subject relating to Middlesex as a whole, or any of its districts, whether those works are printed (including periodical articles) or in typescript or manuscript. The Bibliography does not include archives or pictorial records (if without text) and biographies are included only if the local references are of sufficient importance to warrant it. Other omissions are sermons, lectures and speeches delivered in the area but dealing with other than local subjects.

Maps of special subjects such as geology, railways, roads, and canals, and maps of districts are included but general maps of the County were excluded because at the time of the preparation of the Bibliography, it was understood that a catalogue of London and Greater London maps was being compiled by another body.

Local newspapers were omitted because of the lack of information about them, and the time required to obtain such information would have caused a delay in the issue of the Bibliography out of all proportion to the value of including them. It had been hoped that a separate list of these might have been compiled at a later date.

The Bibliography is not merely a list of the holdings in the local collections of the Middle-sex public libraries, but includes works held by libraries outside the County. These include Guildhall Library, Greater London Council Members' Library, Greater London Council Record Office (Middlesex Records), Justices' Library at the Middlesex Guildhall, S.W.I. Society of Antiquaries Library, and the Bishopsgate Institute Library which also houses the

library of the London and Middlesex Archaeological Society. The Bibliography also includes rare Middlesex items in the British Museum Library, Bodleian Library, National Library of Wales, the Libraries of Cambridge University, Trinity College, Dublin, Natural History Museum at Kew Gardens, and the London public libraries.

The Bibliography is in two parts; the first part comprising works relating to the County as a whole and the second those relating to the Boroughs and Urban Districts within the County, which are arranged alphabetically. It should be noted that the Boroughs and Urban Districts are those existing before the creation of the London Boroughs by the London Government Act, 1963. A list of these boroughs and districts is appended.

The material in both the County section and the section covering the individual districts, is classified under a scheme the main headings of which are as follows:—

A. General bibliography

B. ScienceC. History and topography

D. Economic history

E. Political and military history

F. Social history

G. Religion. Churches

H. BiographyI. Architecture

J. General periodicals

K. Directories and almanacs

L. Works of fiction, verse, drama, etc.

The sub-division of these main classes varies slightly in each district according to the material dealt with, but the same general scheme has been used for all. A full schedule of the subjects covered by these sub-divisions is given at the beginning of each district in the main volume of the Bibliography. The entries under each sub-division are arranged chronologically according to the date of publication.

The following indexes are provided:—(1) an index of names of authors, editors, compilers, and of persons who are subjects of books or whose names appear in the title. (2) a subject index listing in alphabetical order all the subjects covered by the sub-divisions of the classification. (3) an index of localities (not being boroughs or urban districts) showing under which district each comes, e.g., Crouch End under Hornsey, Grange Park under Enfield.

The Local History Committee of the Society very much regrets that it has not been possible to print the Bibliography, but it is hoped that, even in its present form, it may be a useful bibliographical tool for librarians, students and others.

APPENDIX I

The former Boroughs and Urban Districts covered by the Bibliography.

Acton Feltham Hendon

Brentford and Chiswick Friern Barnet Heston and Isleworth

Ealing Finchley Hornsey
Edmonton Harrow Potters Bar
Enfield Hayes and Harlington Ruislip-Northwood

Southall Tottenham Willesden
Southgate Twickenham Wood Green

Staines Uxbridge Yiewsley and West Drayton

Sunbury-on-Thames Wembley

APPENDIX II

Libraries where copies of the Bibliography may be consulted.

London Borough Libraries:-

Barnet, Brent, Ealing, Enfield, Haringey, Harrow, Hillingdon, Hounslow, Richmond-on-Thames.

Hertfordshire County Library (Potters Bar branches).

Surrey County Library (Staines and Sunbury-on-Thames branches).

Greater London Council Members' Library. Greater London Council Record Office (Middlesex Records), Dartmouth Street, S.W.I.

Guildhall Library.
Library of the London and Middlesex Archaeological Society at the Bishopsgate Institute, E.C.2.

South Eastern Library Bureau, Store Street, W.C.I., which holds the master copy showing the location of items.