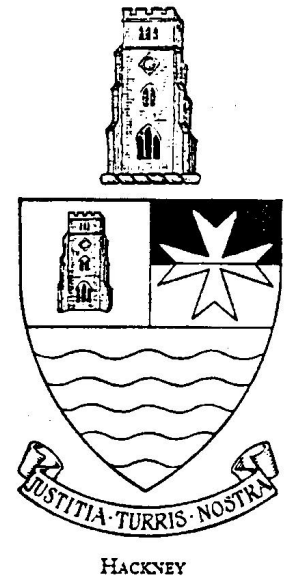


I have had some very interesting, useful, colourful and detailed answers to this query. Many thanks to **Alastair Walter, Michael Blackman and Ken Dee** who all appear to be able to find their way around the Internet.

Mike Blackman says, "The arms are relevant to Hackney. The illustration here is for the coat of arms granted to *Hackney Borough Council* in **1924**. At the time of the cover (1916) my guess is that Hackney was using the device illustrated in Bulletin 314 without authority and that they regulated the position with a proper grant, including other changes, in 1924. The motto 'Justitia Turris Nostra' means 'Justice is our Tower'".



The Tower is that of St. Augustine's Church and is the only part of the 13th century fabric that remains. This was used on the Corporation seal before arms were obtained. The Maltese Cross stands for the Knights of the Temple and the Knights of the Hospital of St. John of Jerusalem who successively held the manor of Hackney. The Templars' cross was in red on white, that of the Hospitalers' white on black and the colours are combined on the arms. The wavy white and blue bars represents the rivers and canals in and bounding the Borough.

Alastair Walter gives the added information about the present "**The London Borough of Hackney**". The Borough Arms were granted on **July 25th 1969** and formed by the amalgamation of the Metropolitan Boroughs of Hackney, Shoreditch and Stoke Newington.

The two golden oak trees with red acorns derive from the arms of the Metropolitan Borough of Stoke Newington and recall the forest, which once covered the northern part of the Borough. The three golden

bells represent the Bells of St. Leonard's Church, Shoreditch, referred to in the nursery rhyme, "Oranges and Lemons". The green mound represents the island in the River Lea - "Halcon's Eyot" - from which the name "Hackney" is thought by some authorities to be derived.

From this description, The London Borough of Hackney arms seems to be similar to the Hackney Borough Council Arms but the tower and oak trees as in the illustration in Bulletin 314, used in 1916, are as this post 1969 arms.

Ken Dee has sent me a large number of coat of arms and descriptions of the arms for various London Metropolitan Borough Councils, taken from <http://www.ciricheraldry.co.uk/lcc.html> I know that many members collect Council Perfans as a theme. The above web site would perhaps be of help if you wish to write up your different council dies and covers.