

Herne Bay Clock Tower



Herne Bay Clock Tower stands some 82 feet high to the weather vane, and cost some £4000. It was the gift of great benefactor to the town, Kingsland, Middlesex native Mrs. Ann Thwaytes (née Hook) (1789 – 1866), who when visiting Herne Bay, resided with her friends at 30, Marine Terrace. The foundation stone was laid on 3 October 1836, and the tower, with a brick interior and Portland stone cladding was completed by 5 October 1837. On its northern face, the plaque shown above was added later, early in the twentieth century as a tribute to the men of Herne Bay and the surrounding area who had volunteered for service in the Second Boer War of 1899 – 1902.



The picture above which includes the Herne Bay Clock Tower, is thought to date from the early 1900's, possibly at about the same time that the Second Boer War tribute panel was added. Although clearly not a war memorial, and therefore falls outside our usual remit, but we felt that in view of its military significance to residents from the county of Kent, it warranted inclusion here.