

Records of Wallingford Independent (later Congregational) Chapel, 1776-1905.

(1 vol, 3 bdls)

Deposited in March 1985 (acc. 3574); June 2006 (acc. 8049)

Cat : LS 7/2006

Introduction

Wallingford Independent Church was formed in 1785 by a secession from St Mary's Church. A Presbyterian church dating back to the late 17th century had existed in Wallingford until 1774, when the congregation, lacking a minister, moved to St Mary's, where there was an evangelical Calvinist incumbent. The Presbyterian meeting house was demolished in 1781. It seems likely that the former Presbyterians were leaders of the secession when the incumbent adopted more moderate views.

Worship was held initially in a private house, and later in a chapel in the Market Place, built in 1799. The congregation declined after the mid 19th century, and the church closed in 1881. There were some attempts to revive the work, but in 1905 the premises were sold.

For a brief history, see W H Summers, *History of the Berkshire, South Bucks, and South Oxon Congregational Churches* (Newbury, 1905), pp. 300-306. For the Presbyterians, see pp. 289-290.

BERKSHIRE RECORD OFFICE

WALLINGFORD INDEPENDENT/CONGREGATIONAL
CHURCH RECORDS

D/N 12

Schedule of accessions

Acc. 3574 : 8/1/1

Acc. 8049 6/2/1; 6/5/1-2

BERKSHIRE RECORD OFFICE

WALLINGFORD INDEPENDENT/CONGREGATIONAL
CHURCH RECORDS

D/N 12

Summary

PROPERTY RECORDS : deeds of chapel, 1776-1905; correspondence concerning attempt to revive the church, 1898-1899; papers relating to sale of chapel, 1904-1905.

REGISTRATION AND MEMBERSHIP : register of births and baptisms, 1788-1812.

BERKSHIRE RECORD OFFICE

WALLINGFORD INDEPENDENT/CONGREGATIONAL
CHURCH RECORDS

D/N 12

6	PROPERTY DEEDS		
6/2	<u>Title Deeds</u>		
6/2/1/1-7	Deeds of the chapel, Market Place, Wallingford (including appointments of new trustees), 1776-1858. (1791 conveyance endorsed with memorandum of sale of premises, 1905.)	1 bdl	1776-1905
6/5	<u>Miscellaneous</u>		
6/5/1/1-6	Correspondence and press cuttings concerning proposals to revive the church. (Includes letters discussing the state of nonconformity in Wallingford and the surrounding villages, 1898; printed circular produced by the trustees outlining the position of the church and proposed recruitment of a minister, n.d. [c.1898-1899]; and press cuttings from <i>The Christian World</i> (letters to the editor responding disapprovingly to the proposals), 1899.)	1 bdl	1898-1899
6/5/2/1-3	Papers relating to the sale of the former chapel and former burial ground, Market Place, Wallingford, and a cottage adjoining the same, 71 Wood Street, Wallingford. (Includes sale particulars, 1905, and Charity Commission Schemes authorising the sale, 1904-1905.)	1 bdl	1904-1905

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8 REGISTRATION AND MEMBERSHIP

8/1 Registers of birth, baptism, marriage, death and burial

8/1/1 Copy register of births and baptisms, June 1788- November 1812. 1 vol n.d. [c.1837?]

[The original registers of births and baptisms, 1788-1837, and burials, 1814-1836, are held at the National Archives. Copies are available here on MF599. D/N12/8/1/1 may perhaps be an unfinished copy made at the time of the register's surrender to the Registrar General in 1837. The last entry is incomplete. For a transcript, *see* T/R 97.]