

Waltham Forest Archives

This catalogue was digitised by The National Archives as part of the National Register of Archives digitisation project

NRA 39250



The National Archives

LONDON BOROUGH OF WALTHAM FOREST ARCHIVES

VESTRY HOUSE MUSEUM, VESTRY ROAD, LONDON E17 9NH

W 85.32

Accession 8682

Records of Higham Hill Baptist Church, Higham Hill Road, Walthamstow.

Date of deposit : 16 August 1988

Condition : Permanent loan

Higham Hill Baptist Church originated in 1885 when a meeting of people living in Higham Hill was held to discuss establishing a Baptist Chapel. A house and shop near Manor Road was opened as the Gospel Hall in December 1885 and shortly afterwards it became affiliated as a branch mission of Boundary Road Baptist Church, Walthamstow. In 1887 the Mission Hall in Gloucester Road, Higham Hill, belonging to the Quaker Cooper Trustees was made available. With the rapid development of the area in the 1890s, a plot of land in Higham Hill Road was purchased in 1896. The church affiliated to the London Baptist Association in 1900 and in line with the Association's policy of building one new church in the London area each year, Higham Hill was chosen as the church for 1903. The building, which was opened in December 1904, was erected by Coxhead to the designs of Edgar Stones at a cost of £5,800 which left the Church with a debt of £2,200 which was paid off by 1919. The church organ was partly funded by the gift of £600 by the Scottish-American millionaire, Andrew Carnegie.

The Church bought the Mission Hall, now an institute, from the Cooper trust in 1921, but it was so badly damaged by bombing during the Second World War that it was sold to the Borough of Walthamstow then engaged in redevelopment based around the Priory Court Estate. The Church was also damaged but gave much assistance to homeless people during the war and was well-known for its youth groups and social clubs which flourished in spite of financial difficulties.

After the rebuilding of St. Andrews Parish Church, St. Andrews Road, Higham Hill (see parish records handlist W 83.4) the possibility of uniting the Anglican Parish and Baptist Church to form a Local Ecumenical Project which had been suggested in 1971, was actively pursued.

The L.E.P. area, when formed, took in part of St. Johns Parish and consolidated on the St. Andrew's site by extensions to the building, completed in 1988. The Baptist Church, Higham Hill Road was sold in 1987.

Records of Higham Hill Baptist Church, Higham Hill Road, Walthamstow.

REGISTERS

V 85.32 ✓ R1 Roll book 1886 - 1904
 includes names and addresses of members
 dates of receipt, details of transfers,
 removals and deaths.

(1 volume, indexed, fungal damage)

See also D4 absent members,
lapsed members roll 1941 & 1944.

CHURCH MEETINGS

V 85.32 CM1 Minutes of Church and Committee meetings 1885 - 1896
 includes copy correspondence between
 George Young at Manor Road and Sidney Cooper
 at 48 Threadneedle Street and elsewhere
 concerning proposed use of Mission Hall belonging
 to Cooper Trustees, papers concerning affiliation
 with Boundary Road Baptist Church, newspaper
 cuttings, rules.

(1 volume, indexed)

CM2 Minute book 1894 - 1907
 includes programme for foundation stone
 ceremony of new church 26 May 1904 and
 newspaper account of same, programmes for
 Sacred Cantata and opening services.

(1 volume)

CM3 Minute book 1907 - 1920
 includes programme for Grand Victory
 Bazaar, 1919.

(1 volume)

CM4 Minute book 1920 - 1930
 includes handbooks of bazaars.

(1 volume)

CM5 Minute book 1930 - 1941
 includes suggested revision of church rules,
 1933, draft constitution of Loan and Thrift
 Society, bazaar handbook 1937.

(1 volume)

V 85.32

Accession 8682

HIGHAM HILL BAPTIST CHURCH (cont'd)

✓ CM6 Minute book

1941 - 1954

✓ CM7 Church rate books.

n.d.

(1 booklet, printed).

DEACONS MEETINGS

V 85.32 ✓ D1

Minute book
includes rules 1896, newspaper cuttings
notices re. opening services 1904,
programme for Band of Hope New Year's Welcome,
1905.

1896 - 1913

(1 volume)

✓ D2 Minute books
includes Social Club rules and
constitution, 1923.

1913 - 1925

(1 volume)

✓ D3 Minute book.

1925 - 1935

(1 volume, indexed)

✓ D4 Minute book
includes absent members and lapsed members
rolls 1941 and 1944.

1935 - 1945

(1 volume, indexed)

✓ D5 Minute book.

1945 - 1954

(1 volume, indexed)

✓ D6 Motion that Diaconate be dissolved
and replaced by a Business Committee and new
Diaconate consisting of representatives of church
organisations.

1926

(1 paper, typescript)