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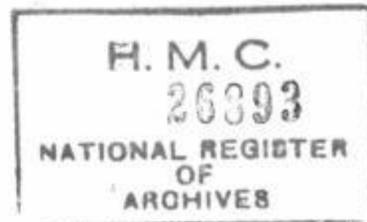
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STOCKPORT UNITARIAN CHURCH (NU/SK)

These records were deposited by [REDACTED] in October 1981. A series of vestry minute books was deposited some years earlier and a list of these volumes is given in the appendix.

High Street Chapel was the first Unitarian meeting house in Stockport. Built in 1721 it was originally Presbyterian and only became clearly Unitarian during the late eighteenth century. (The move from Presbyterianism to Unitarianism in the eighteenth century virtually extinguished English Presbyterianism). Following the Toleration Act of 1690 Congregational and Presbyterian Ministers in Cheshire had united under the 'Cheshire Classis' and the Stockport congregation built Tabernacle Chapel in 1702. As a result of a doctrinal dispute with the minister of Tabernacle, who refused to resign although unacceptable to the Classis, a seceding group founded High Street Chapel. Tabernacle itself eventually became Congregational.

Many of the leading figures of nineteenth century Stockport, such as the Marslands of Woodbank Hall and Henry Coppock, who was Town Clerk from 1835 to 1848 and again from 1864 until 1870, were deeply involved in the Unitarian church.

A new church on St. Petersgate was opened in 1842 and the old chapel was demolished in 1860 although the burial ground was retained. St. Petersgate Church, which was designed by Tattersall, was extended by two classrooms and a chancel in 1888. It was sold in 1971 (Petersgate House now stands on the site) and after a homeless period the congregation, which had merged with the Denton Unitarians in 1968, moved into the former Methodist Church on Stockport Road, Cheadle in 1973.

The records deposited do not include formal registers of baptisms, marriages or burials although there is one volume (NU/SK/1/1) which contains entries for baptisms 1848-1874, marriages 1843-1873 and burials 1883-1908; the burials at least were later copied into another register. A notebook accompanying one of the vestry minute books deposited earlier (B/EE/5/12) records the surrender of the registers 1761 to 1837 to the Registration Commission and gives extracts from them as well as some details of baptisms, marriages and burials 1837-1845. (Microfilm copies of baptism registers 1791-1837 and burials 1785-1835 can be consulted in Manchester Central Library where they are described as Presbyterian registers).

The earliest records listed here are the account books and vouchers dating from the 1790s. The correspondence, particularly that concerning the resignation and appointment of ministers 1810-1848 (NU/SK/5/1-5) and the building of St. Petersgate Church (NU/SK/5/9-13), is interesting. The latter complements the Building Committee minutes (NU/SK/2/4) and the vouchers etc (NU/SK/4/33-38). The scrapbook of programmes for Christmas and other entertainments 1848-1909 (NU/SK/6/14) and that on the Entertainment Society productions 1919-1924 (NU/SK/6/15) illustrate the lighter side of church life.

The Library of Local Studies, Stockport Central Library, has the church newsletter, the Calendar, 1915 to 1924 and 1934 to date and Stockport Unitarian Church Yearbook 1953-4.

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STOCKPORT UNITARIAN CHURCH

1. Register

	One volume containing:	NU/SK/1/1
1848-1874	Baptisms	
1883-1908	Burials, with note by Registrar, Oct 1908, that burials re entered in new register	
1843-1873	Marriages	
	With letters pasted in front: 20.1.1834, Henry Coppock to Rev Wicksteed re lecture series; 2.3.1834, seatholders to ? offering pastorship	
	(See also NU/SK/7/8 & 10; appendix)	

2. Minutes

1829-1863	Seatholders, Committee and General Meetings minute book	NU/SK/2/1
1864-1869	Seatholders and General Meetings Minute book	/2
1964-1971	Vestry minute book (See also appendix)	/3
1839-1843	Building Committee minute book Includes accounts, list of shareholders	/4
1886-1891	Guild minute book	/5
1908-1918	Literary and Social Union minute book	/6

3. Deeds, agreements etc

Chapel Trustees

1830	Trust deed, High Street Chapel Draft	NU/SK/3/1
9.5.1861	Trust deed, St Petersgate Church Copy	/2
nd	Epitome of above with added notes re trustees	/3
2.11.1904	Appointment of new trustees	/4

High Street Chapel

15.1.1817	Acknowledgement by Thomas Worthing that no right of way established into chapel yard	NU/SK/3/5
1886	Agreement re wall adjoining Reform Club, Stockport, trustees of ? Building Society to Mrs A B Coppock Draft	/6
27.8.1886	Agreement re window lights and openings in Wellington Street property, trustees of Congleton Equitable Benefit Building Society to trustees of High Street Unitarian Chapel Draft, 2 copies, 1 incomplete	/7
1887	Particulars of sale of Stockport Reform Club and two shops in High Street, Ann Bancroft Coppock to Joseph Leigh With plan	/8 2 items

St Petersgate Church

10.11.1835	Release of land on St Petersgate for building, Lawrence Wright to Thomas Hooper Copy	/9
1.2.1842	Appointment of land in St Petersgate, Thomas Hooper to Messrs Hall, Orrell and Coppock for £200 Copy	/10
6.5.1842	Schedule of title deeds to Unitarian Church, St Petersgate, in mortgage to William Tinker for £800	/11
28.3.1842	Certificate of registration as a place of worship	/12
29.7.1845	Agreement to lease schoolroom under church, Henry Coppock to Ralph Blackett of the Executive Council of the Ancient Foresters, for 13 days at £7 7s	/13
2.3.1858	Plan of land purchased by Stockport Corporation from trustees of Unitarian Church	/14
15.12.1858	Paving order, Lawrence Street	/15
13.7.1887	Release re Unitarian Church lights, Stockport Corporation and trustees With 2 plans	/16 2 items

Heaton Norris property

1 & 2.2.1810	Lease and release of six houses in Heaton Norris, William Coppock to Peter Marsland and others, in trust for High Street Chapel	NU/SK/3/17
	2 items	
22 & 23.12 1833	Lease and release of above, Peter Thornley and others to Henry Marsland and others in trust for High Street Chapel	/18
	2 items	
11.5.1874	Conveyance of above, William Shawcross to Henry Alott Marsland and others in trust	/19
15.9.1900	Notices to provide privies etc, 24, 26 & 28 Great Egerton Street, 4 & 6 Hatton Street With related notes	/20
	5 items	
15.6.1917	Appointment of new trustees, O Coppock and others to R Coppock and others	/21
16.1.1925	Charity Commissioners order re proceeds of sale of trust property With copy	/22
	3 items	

Mile End chief rent

18.3.1910	Particulars and conditions of sale of chief rents at Mile End	/23
7.4.1910	Requisitions on title and replies, Hidderley to Peirce and others, with apportionment account of 20.4.1910	/24
	2 items	
18.4.1910	Conveyance of freehold chief rent of £18 from property in Seymour Road, Thomas Hidderley and others to Oliver Coppock and others Draft	/25
21.4.1910	Apportionment account re above	/26

Singers and organist

25.3.1842	Agreement to sing, wardens of Unitarian Church and James Dickson; salary £8 pa	/27
25.3.1842	Agreement to sing, wardens of Unitarian Church and Thomas Hull; salary £8 pa for 1 year, then £10 pa	/28

22.10.1842 Agreement to play organ, wardens of Unitarian Church and Edward Williams; salary £23 pa until 25.3.1843, then £25 pa NU/SK/3/29

4. Financial

Chapel accounts

Chapel account books:

1790-1791	With 3 vouchers	NU/SK/4/1
1793-1794		/2
1795-1809		/3
1809-1815		/4
1816-1820		/5
1820-1831	With 6 vouchers	/6
1831-1836	With 1 loose sheet	/7
1837-1857	With 1 loose sheet	/8
1830-1837	Account book 'Henry Coppock in account with the Chapel Wardens of High Street Chapel, being an account of sundry extra expenditure & receipts not including the Pew Rents nor Rents of Houses etc nor Minister's salary'	/9
1830-1837	Rough book as above (not identical)	/10

Seat and house rents, property accounts

1792-1795	House rent receipt book With 1 voucher	/11
1795-1809	House rent receipt book Includes repairs etc, chapel and houses	/12
	House and seat rent receipt books:	
1820-1829		/13
1829-1831		/14
1831-1833		/15
1833-1834		/16
1834-1835		/17
1835-1836		/18
1830-1831	'Accounts of repairs and alterations up to 1st April 1832' High Street Chapel	/19
June 1840	'Account of rent received from the cottages... by Mr Blake' Described on reverse as 'Mr Coppock's acct of cottage rents'	/20
Dec 1840	'Mr Coppock's acct of cottage rents'	/21

	Seat rent subscription lists	
1809-1812	2 items	NU/SK/4/22
1820-1821		/23
1822-1823		/24
1824-1825		/25
1830-1837	7 items	/26
1838-1907	Seat rent account book With 1 loose sheet	/27
1846-1852	Rough accounts of income from rents etc 21 sheets	/28
16.1.1848	Notice of reduction in pew rent, W E Champion	/29
Dec 1851 & nd	Notes re Martineau's hymn books; singing arrears 2 items	/30
7.10.1910	Return re duties on land values (St Petersgate Church)	/31
1834	Specification and plan for four houses with tender from Peter Shawcross 3 items	/32
1839-1843	Trustees bank book [new church]	/33
Jan-July	Tenders for building work etc, St Petersgate Church, with summary sheet 29 items	/34
1840-1842	Vouchers, new church building 24 items	/35
9.12.1841	Tender for palisade	/36
21.12.1841	Tender for store	/37
1842	Vouchers and accounts for upholstery etc, new church 6 items	/38
25.5.1850	Account for improvement, part of Hatton and Great Egerton Streets	/39
1910-1917	Throstle Grove Trust quarterly rent account statements 78 items	/40
1908-1911	Vouchers, associated correspondence etc, including cheque book, Throstle Grove Tavern 33 items	/41
1908-1910	Bank book, Throstle Grove account	/42
1914	Provisional valuation, land value duty, houses and shop, Hatton and Great Egerton Street 2 sheets	/43

Vouchers and miscellanea

Vouchers:		
1793-1797	43 sheets	NU/SK/4/44
1811	7 sheets	/45
1815-1819	With related papers	/46
1836	13 sheets	/47
5.4.1845	Agreement re payment for burial in vault, Mr Barrow	/48
25.6.1883	Receipt for £100 lent to Mechanics Building Society 2 items	/49

5. Correspondence

Ministers

1810-1812	Correspondence etc re resignation of Rev E Higginson, election of Rev S Parker 20 items	NU/SK/5/1
1829-1830	Correspondence etc re election of Rev S Allard as assistant minister Includes voting papers 100 items	/2
1833-1834	Correspondence etc re resignation of Rev S Parker, election of Rev W Smith 25 items	/3
1845	Correspondence re election of Rev D Davis 11 items	/4
1848	Correspondence etc re resignation of Rev D Davis, election of Rev J Bayley 15 items	/5
13.4.1821	Letter, S D Darbishire to Rev R Parker transmitting resolution of thanks for contribution to Manchester College York funds	/6
29.3.1841	Letter, Rev C Barker to Rev W Smith transmitting thanks for use of High Street Chapel by Baptists during rebuilding of their chapel	/7
22.12.1842	Letter, Rev W Smith to J Hall re proposed changes in liturgy Copy	/8

St Petersgate Church

17.6.1839	Instructions to architects for competition	/9
June 1839	Applications for instructions 13 items	/10

24.6.1839	Letter, Henry Bowman to Henry Coppock re position of altar	NU/SK/5/11
July 1839	Letters to accompany submitted designs (Designs not included) 19 items	/12
1839-1841	Correspondence etc with R Tattersall, architect Includes agreement with J Frost re building work, Aug 1840 31 items	/13
1886-1887	Correspondence etc re dispute with Corporation over right of light Includes 5 plans 53 items	/14
1968-1970	Correspondence etc re sale of St Petersgate Church 10 items	/15

Stockport Road Church, Cheadle

1971-1972	Correspondence etc re purchase of Stockport Road Methodist Church Includes plan of land 16 items	/16
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Miscellanea

1830-1852	Letters to H Coppock on various matters: preachers, property etc 13 items	/17
1839-1841	Letters, J Slack to H Coppock re mortgage etc (mainly private not church matters)	/18
1970-1973	Correspondence re deposit of church records etc	/19

6. Sunday School

1869-1881	Teachers meeting minute books: With 4 loose sheets	NU/SK/6/1
1881-1891	With 2 loose sheets	/2
1891-1905	With 1 loose sheet	/3
1885, 1903	Manchester District Sunday School Association Good Friday Meeting Minute book Includes printed items, details of provisions etc With 3 loose sheets	/4
1887-1912	Quarterly returns book With 2 loose sheets	/5

1876-1906	Admission register With notes in front on procedure for filling up register etc, Jan 1893	NU/SK/6/6
1868-1872	Girls school attendance register	/7
1872-1875	Boys school attendance register	/8
1876-1906	List of prizewinners (volume) Includes book given, remarks on it, etc	/9
1863-1916	Accounts	/10
1828-1830	Vouchers 10 items	/11
1845	Vouchers re alterations 12 items	/12
? 1849	Subscription list, fitting of schoolroom under St Petersgate Church	/13
1848-1909	Scrapbook of programmes, tickets etc for Christmas tea parties, entertainments etc With 12 loose sheets	/14
1919-1924	Scrapbook pages of programmes, photographs, reviews etc of Entertainment Society Productions 9 sheets	/15
1903	Stockport Unitarian Church and Sunday School: historical and biographical notes An illustrated supplement to the <u>Unitarian World</u> to commemorate the Good Friday meeting of the MDSSA at Stockport, 10 April 1903 2 copies	/16

7. Miscellanea

Stockport Unitarian Church

1813	Primitive Christianity or discourses on subjects relating to zeal and practice, faith and hope delivered at the Unitarian Chapel, in the High - Street, Stockport: to which are	NU/SK/7/1
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	added, critical and explanatory notes, by Samuel Parker Longman & Co Inscriptions include 'from the author'and 'presented to the church by Rev. John Kielty April 21st 1948'	NU/SK/7/1
1834	List of lecturers and lectures (See also NU/SK/1/1) 3 sheets	/2
1894	Appendix: [to words of anthems, by the Rev E Ceredig Jones, M.A.] compiled by Orlando E Heys, edited by E Ceredig Jones, M.A., for the use of the Stockport Unitarian Church 2 copies	/3
c1914	Roll of honour Printed on crepe paper with coloured decoration, MS amendments	/4
1922	Leaflet advertising bicentenary services etc. Sept-Oct 1923, with historical notes ascribed by MS addition to H.E. Perry	/5
1922	Programme, bicentenary organ recital and musical service, Sept-Oct 1922	/6
1929	Leaflet advertising arrangements for sale of work, 5 Dec 1929	/7
nd [after 1945]	List of gravestones in burial ground, High Street Gives only name, initial and whether covered by stone	/8
nd [1951]	Half tone printing block, St Petersgate Church	/9
July 1951	High Street burial ground: copies of inscriptions on gravestones Indexed	/10
nd [1970s]	Drawing: 'Cheadle plans (DLP's suggestion) not used'	/11
Dec 1975 - Dec 1979	Church Calendars (monthly newsletters) 43 items	/12
c1979	Drawing, photographic work etc for Church Calendar heading with related letter, 12.6.1979, Mrs Bee, Calendar Secretary, to Miss Perry 6 items	/13

Printed material from other bodies

May 1811	Circulars re petition against Sidmonth's bill respecting Protestant dissenters 4 items	NU/SK/7/14
c1825	Rules of the Society of Protestant Dissenters, South Place, Finsbury, agreed 10.1.1825 Repaired; MS amendments 2 sheets	/15
c1825	Declaration of trusts, Finsbury Unitarian Chapel, dated 1.2.1825	/16
1841	Stockport Cemetery trust deed, dated 29.4.1839	/17
nd [post 1844]	Certificate of registration of pew proprietor (blank) and abstract of the trusts, Renshaw Street Unitarian Chapel, Liverpool Original pamphlet nd, cover watermark 1817, final page added c1844 (See also NU/SK/7/21)	/18
1847	A summary of the proceedings of the committee appointed by the conference to enquire into the eligibility of a plan for the settlement of Methodist Chapels etc. with a correct copy of the model deed... Covers loose	/19
1850	A treatise on the rights, duties and liabilities of trustees of Wesleyan Methodist chapels... by Thomas Cooper	/20
c1855	Renshaw Street Chapel, Liverpool: Synopsis of new trust deed and proposed bye-laws With MS amendments (See also NU/SK/7/18)	/21
c1855	Circular re establishment of trust to replace Hewley Fund With draft trust deed for Ministers' Stipend Augmentation Fund 2 items	/22
1860	Constitution and rules of Crook Street Chapel, Chester...	/23

Appendix

Vestry and Congregational minute books previously deposited

1857-1882	Includes some inserted material	B/EE/5/11
1882-1891	Includes much inserted material With, loose, part of a notebook containing notes by Rev W Smith about the surrender of registers dating from 1761 to the Registration Commission in Nov 1837, comments on and extracts from those registers and details (not all in full) of baptisms, marriages and deaths Oct 1837 - June 1845 Also loose, nd, notes on Sunday School rules etc.	/12
1891-1903	Includes much inserted material	/13
1903-1921	Includes much inserted material	/14
1922-1933	Includes some inserted material	/15
1933-1946	Includes some inserted material	/16
1946-1956	Secretary's annual reports inserted	/17
1957-1964	Secretary's annual reports inserted	/18