

A gazetteer of  
nonconformist places of worship in  
Shrewsbury

by Rosemary Thornes, Lyn Leach and Jonathan Davies

VICTORIA COUNTY HISTORY SHROPSHIRE  
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## CONTENTS

Introduction	v
Abbreviations	vii
A. Places of Worship designed exclusively as chapels	
A1	Abbey Foregate, Congregational Chapel (United Reformed Church) 1
A2	Albert Street [Beacall Lane], Wesleyan Methodist Reformers (later Methodist Free Church)
A3	Barracks Lane, Cadogan Gardens, the Mount, Exclusive Plymouth Brethren Meeting House
A4	Belle Vue Rd, Cemetery Chapel (Wellspring Apostolic Christian Centre)
A5	Belle Vue Road, Primitive Methodist Chapel (Methodist Chapel)
A6	Belmont Bank, Presbyterian Church of Wales / Welsh Calvinist Methodists (St David's Presbyterian Church)
A7	Betton Street, Exclusive Brethren Meeting Room
A8	Chapel Court, Castle Foregate, Particular Baptist Chapel
A9	Castle Gates, Independent Chapel
A10	Castle Street, Castle Court (House of Correction Shut), Sandemanian (or Scotch) Baptist Chapel (Primitive Methodist Chapel).
A11	Castle Street, St. Nicholas, Presbyterian Church of England
A12	Chester St, Congregational Chapel
A13	Claremont Street (formerly Dog Lane) Baptist Chapel (Shrewsbury Baptist Church)
A14	Corporation Lane, Quaker Meeting House (former St Catherine's Anglican Mission Hall)
A15	Crowmere Road, Crowmoor Baptist Church (Shrewsbury Baptist Church)
A16	Dogpole, Tabernacle Welsh Independent Chapel
A17	Field Crescent Harlescott, Methodist Church Hall
A18	Frankwell Quay, Welsh Calvinistic Methodist Chapel
A19	High Street (formerly Bakers Row), Presbyterian Chapel (Unitarian Church)
A20	Hill's Lane, Cole Hall Chapel, Sandemanian Baptist Chapel
A21	Hill's Lane, Wesleyan Methodist Chapel (later Welsh Calvinistic Methodists)
A22	Horsefair, Seventh Day Adventists Church
A23	Hotspur Street, Wesleyan Methodist Chapel (Greenfields United Methodist Church)
A24	Lancaster Road, Elim Pentecostal Church (Riversway)
A25	Long Row, formerly Dog Kennel Lane, Old Heath, Ditherington Primitive Methodist Chapel
A26	Longden Coleham, Barnabus Church
A27	Longden Coleham, Greyfriars Bridge, Greyfriars Hall, Exclusive Brethren (Christian Scientists)
A28	Meadow Farm, Drive, Church of the Holy Spirit
A29	Milk Street, Shearman's Hall, Wesleyan Methodist Chapel
A30	Monkmoor Road, Christadelphian Chapel (former Holy Cross Parish Room)
A31	Mount Pleasant Road, Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints
A32	Mount Pleasant Road, Emmanuel Church
A33	Mytton Oak Road, Copthorne House, Methodist New Connection Chapel
A34	Mytton Oak Road, Plymouth Brethren Christian Church

- A35 New Park Road, Non-Denominational Mission Room (now John Street Church)
- A36 New Park Road, Castle Fields Wesleyan Methodist Chapel
- A37 New Street, Bethesda Chapel, Wesleyan Methodist
- A38 Pride Hill, Seventy Steps (Formerly Waggon and Horses Passage), Jerusalem Welsh Independents Chapel
- A39 Salter's Lane Non-Denominational Mission (Coleham Mission Room, Salvation Army Hall)
- A40 Shepherds Lane, off Holyhead Road Bicton, Plymouth Brethren Christian Church Gospel Hall
- A41 Spring Gardens Wesleyan Methodist Chapel, Ditherington (Independents or Congregationalists)
- A42 St. John's Hill Quaker Meeting House
- A43 St John's Hill Wesleyan Methodist Chapel (St John's Hill Methodist Church)
- A44 Swan Hill Independent or Congregationalist Chapel (Welsh Independents)
- A45 Town Walls, Ebenezer Chapel, Methodist New Connection (Christian Science Society)
- A46 Upton Lane Crowmere, Kingdom Hall of Jehovah's Witnesses
- A47 Welshpool Road Bicton Heath, Bethel Chapel (Methodist New Connection)
- A48 Weeping Cross, Plymouth Brethren Christian Church
- A49 Wyle Cop, Particular Baptist Chapel (Salvation Army Barracks)
- A50 York Road, Grafton Mews (Hope Church)

## B. Other places of nonconformist worship

## INTRODUCTION

This Gazetteer has been prepared for the Victoria County History of Shropshire (VCH) to describe the history of the places of worship of Nonconformist Congregations in Shrewsbury. It stretches from the Toleration Act of 1689, when dissenting congregations were first allowed to license their meeting houses, to the present day. It builds on the earlier work of Mrs Janice Cox including a paper she published in the *Transactions of the Shropshire Archaeological and History Society* in 1997 and an account of Protestant Nonconformity with gazetteer which she prepared for the projected VCH History of Shrewsbury. (These texts, in a revised and updated form, are available on the VCH Shropshire website.) The present gazetteer is structured rather differently to Mrs Cox's, covers a wider area, is much fuller and takes advantage of the avalanche of material which has become available in recent years, both in documentary sources but also in the digitisation of newspapers and the development of on-line catalogues.

The Gazetteer is divided into two parts. The first comprises the 50 Places of Worship that were built specifically as chapels; or in three cases were altered to become chapels – the 1851 Religious Census uses the term 'exclusive'. This section does not include general halls that were used by congregations for their services but also had other uses; nor does it include dwellings, some of which were licensed as places of worship.

The second part is a list of 89 other places of nonconformist worship that have come to light in our research. They include factories, malt houses, community halls, schools, stables, rooms in big houses and many family homes.

Throughout the Gazetteer, entries are in alphabetical order by the modern street name; any former street name at the time the chapel was built follows in brackets. The congregation that originally built the chapel is then named. In cases where a chapel changed hands and became known by another name, that is added to the title. An example is: Castle Court, Castle Street, Sandemanian Baptist Chapel (Primitive Methodist Chapel).

### Principal Sources consulted

The research has been carried out by a volunteer team. The major source of information has been Shropshire Archives, with its extensive collection of original documents, newspapers, maps and the local studies collection. The printed ephemera, including chapel histories, cited in this gazetteer, should be sought there. Local newspapers were an important resource, but the whole run of nineteenth-century newspapers is not yet available on-line and so we admit to some marked lacunae in our coverage. We have dipped into the twentieth-century newspaper files in Shropshire Archives, but readers will understand that exploiting newspapers fully would be an immense project (and would result in an unwieldy book.) A third resource has been the internet, which we have referred to widely especially for recent information on individual chapels. The Shropshire Nonconformist Chapels website has also been very useful for checking and comparing our data (<http://www.users.waitrose.com/~coxfamily/>). We have drawn also on reports on news websites but these are prone to be transitory and some reports available to us when we were gathering material have already disappeared.

The team has not had time to visit the 22 extant chapels or talk to the current congregations. Such an exercise could produce additional information on the buildings themselves and solve any misunderstandings on the congregations worshipping in them.

### Photographs and illustrations

Modern photographs are all by the authors (Nonconformist Shrewsbury Volunteer Team). Others are reproduced with permission of Shropshire Archives or other owners.

### Terminology

We have used the term ‘Place of Worship’ as a generic term for chapels, churches, meeting houses, non-sectarian mission halls, gospel halls, preaching houses, tabernacles and several other buildings used for worship. The generic term ‘minister’ has been employed for all leaders of congregations to replace the many other terms that have been used in the past 300 and more years. This is for simplicity and ease of use of the Gazetteer and we trust it will not offend some congregations.

### Places of Worship today

Twenty-two of the 50 chapels are still in use today as places of worship. Fifteen have been redeveloped to provide different uses and thus can still be seen today. The remaining 13 have been demolished.

### Acknowledgements

We are grateful to the staff at Shropshire Archives, especially those manning the information desk, whose experience and knowledge of the archival collections guided us to many ephemeral documents. Whilst walking around Shrewsbury locating and photographing former chapels, the current occupants were unfailingly helpful and encouraging. Above all, our thanks go to Richard Hoyle whose advice, guidance and encouragement kept us involved and interested in what turned out to be a fairly large project lasting two years.

RT, LL and JD  
October 2021

VCH Shropshire wishes to thank the three authors of the gazetteer for their research effort and for drawing together a mass of material into a comprehensive and coherent form. We are also sure that users will appreciate their efforts.

We also wish to thank Mrs Janice Cox, most directly for helping with the revisions to the text of the account of nonconformist chapels and congregations which will appear in volume two of the Shrewsbury history. Although she is no longer active in the field, we are grateful to have been able to draw on her knowledge. Isabel Syms undertook editorial work on the text to prepare it for publication.

The compilation of a gazetteer such as this is a never-ending project. We already have additional material to incorporate into the text so this version must be considered to be provisional. In particular, as more newspapers are digitised, more material will become available. We hope that readers finding references in newspapers not included here will recognise that they may have ready access to sources which the team here could only utilise by undertaking protracted searches and scanning by eye. We hear of other work being undertaken which we would gladly have drawn on, notably a history of Swan Hill Chapel. Any acquaintance with the records of the Shrewsbury chapels persuades the reader of the rich experience of nonconformity in the town and of the possibility of producing much fuller accounts of the denominations than any which have been attempted so far.

As a historical note, the final revisions to and first publication of this volume were delayed by the COVID-19 pandemic of 2020-21. This explains the references to 2019 and the delay between the Dr Thornes, Mrs Leach and Mr Davies finishing their work and the publication of the book.

Richard Hoyle  
Chair, VCH Shropshire  
January 2022

## Abbreviations

Bagshaw, <i>Gazetteer</i>	S. Bagshaw, <i>History, Gazetteer and Directory of Shropshire</i> (1851).
Barker, <i>Shrewsbury Free Churches</i>	John Barker, <i>Shrewsbury Free Churches. Their history and romance</i> (?1913)
Collis, <i>Baptist Churches</i>	Michael J. Collis, <i>An account of the Baptist Churches of Shropshire and surrounding area</i> (2008).
Cox and Cox, ‘Protestant Nonconformity’	David Cox and Janice V. Cox, ‘Protestant Nonconformity’ (draft text for VCH Shropshire, VI, <i>Shrewsbury</i> , pt 2, forthcoming).
Cox, “‘Simplicity without meanness””	Janice V. Cox, “‘Simplicity without meanness, commodiousness without extravagance””; the nonconformist chapels and meeting houses of Shrewsbury in the nineteenth century’, <i>TSAHS</i> 72 (1997), pp. 52-97.
Elliot, <i>Congregationalism ESJ, SJ</i>	E. Elliot, <i>A History of Congregationalism in Shropshire</i> (1898) <i>Eddowes’s Salopian Journal; Salopian Journal</i>
Field (ed.), <i>Church and Chapel</i>	C. D. Field (ed.), <i>Church and Chapel in early Victorian Shropshire, the 1851 Census</i> (Shropshire Rec. Ser., 8, 2004).
Foxall, <i>Gazetteer</i>	H. D. G. Foxall, <i>A gazetteer of streets, roads and place names in Shropshire</i> (1967).
HER	Historic Environment Record
Jones, <i>History of the Christian Science Society, Shrewsbury</i>	A. P. Jones, <i>History of the Christian Science Society, Shrewsbury from the date of its inauguration on July 23</i> [1940], 3pp., ts a copy at SA D98.9.
Morris, <i>History of Methodism</i>	W. E. Morris, <i>The history of Methodism in Shrewsbury and district</i> (1961).
NLW	National Library of Wales
OS 1:500 survey (1882)	Ordnance Survey 1:500 survey of Shropshire, 1882
Owen and Blakeway, <i>Shrewsbury</i>	H. Owen, and J. B. Blakeway, <i>A History of Shrewsbury</i> (2 vols, 1825).
Pattison, <i>On Severn shore</i>	A. Pattison, <i>On Severn shore. The story of the Drill Hall, Coleham, Shrewsbury</i> (2004).
QS	Quarter Sessions
Reavley, <i>Presbyterianism</i>	J. Reavley (comp.), <i>Presbyterianism in Shrewsbury and District 1647-1925, written in connection with Diamond Jubilee Celebrations of St Nicholas Church Shrewsbury</i> (n.d.).
SA	Shropshire Archives
SC	<i>Shrewsbury Chronicle (and North Wales Advertiser for Shropshire ...)</i> .
SCCAS	Shropshire County Council Archaeology Service
SCPR	Shropshire Council Planning Register (online at <a href="http://pa.shropshire.gov.uk">pa.shropshire.gov.uk</a> )
Stell, <i>Inventory</i>	Christopher Stell, <i>An inventory of nonconformist chapels and meeting houses in central England</i> (1986).
SS	<i>Shropshire Star</i>
TNA	The National Archives
TSAHS	<i>Transactions of the Shropshire Archaeological and Historical Society</i>
Trinder, <i>Beyond the Bridges</i>	B. Trinder, <i>Beyond the Bridges the Suburbs of Shrewsbury, 1760-1960</i> (2006)
Trinder (ed.), <i>Victorian Shrewsbury</i>	B. Trinder (ed.), <i>Victorian Shrewsbury. Studies in the history of a County Town</i> (1984).
Trumper, ‘Primitive Methodism’	David R. Trumper, ‘The origin and growth of Primitive Methodism in Shrewsbury, 1822-1850’ (unpublished diss., 1976), copy in SA, q D 98.7.
VCH <i>Shrewsbury</i> , part 1.	W. Champion and A. T. Thacker (eds), <i>Shrewsbury - General History and Topography</i> (Victoria County History of Shropshire, VI (i), 2014).
WJ	<i>Wellington Journal and Shrewsbury News</i>

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## Part one

### Places of Worship designed exclusively as chapels

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# A1 Abbey Foregate, Congregational Chapel (United Reformed Church)<sup>1</sup>

Grid reference: SJ 4898 1224    Shropshire HER: 167415    1851 Census no: post-1851

Registers: C 1872-1907. Stell, Inventory, no. 91.

Website (2018): <http://shrewsburyurc.co.uk/wp/>



Photographs 2019

Other images: SA, PH/S/13/A/5/7, pencil sketch c. 1900, signed J. N. Heath, of ‘Temporary Congregational Church’. Interior with painted roof panels. The temporary church is also illustrated in Eldred, *History of Abbey Foregate Congregational Church*, p. 4.

## Construction

### Date

1863        13 Apr. Memorial stone laid by Mr T. Barnes.

1864        31 May. Chapel and Sunday School opened.

### Cost/Funding

1862        Site purchased for £750; it was formerly a public house, carpenter’s shop and a stable range. The total cost was about £6,000.<sup>2</sup>

1863        Donation to building fund of £500 by Mr T. Barnes.

1864        On opening, offerings of £1000 given and promised.

1897        £500 given in memory of Richard Maddox by Henry Excell Rogers towards purchase of a caretaker’s house for £2,264.

1897        Total spent on the property and buildings reached £11,300.

### Architect

George Bidlake of Wolverhampton.<sup>3</sup>

<sup>1</sup> Unless indicated, this account is based on Elliot, *Congregationalism*, pp. 294-302; H. B. Eldred, *The history of the Abbey Foregate Congregational Church, 1862-1949* (1949), revised as *Abbey Foregate Congregational Church Centenary Souvenir* (1962) and Cox, “‘Simplicity without meanness’”, p. 86. See also SA D98.4, a volume of annual reports and manuals, 1872-1915.

<sup>2</sup> John Franklin, ‘Notes on Abbey Foregate Congregational Church’ (ts, SA, D94.4), p. 2. [This appears to be a modern ts of an early twentieth-century memoir.]

## **Builder**

Messrs Trow of Wednesbury.

## **Additions/Alterations**

- 1888-9 Sunday school enlarged at a cost of £1300.
- 1897 The property adjoining the church was bought for £1,088 and a lecture hall (29ft x 21ft), infants' class room (27ft x 21ft), 3 classrooms, library, tea room, cloakrooms and lavatories were built. The new premises and a portion of the church were fitted with electric light.
- 1906 A new organ was installed; the full cost including chapel alterations was over £1000.
- 1909 A new manse was provided; the cost including alterations was £938.
- 1911 Mrs Mitchell, 73 Abbey Foregate, bequeathed her house to the church, possibly as a manse.<sup>4</sup>
- 1999 Change of use from residential house to church office and flat.<sup>5</sup>
- 2003 Alterations to site to improve pedestrian access and provision of additional parking spaces.<sup>6</sup>

## **Description<sup>7</sup>**

### **Size**

- 1864 70ft x 45ft. Including the galleries capable of holding 900 persons. School premises were built adjacent and included a large ground floor room and five first floor rooms. Provision was made for an organ to be added later.
- 1882 1000 seats<sup>8</sup>

### **Exterior**

Geometric Gothic style; faced with rubble work and dressings of white Grinshill stone, with red bands. Tower 115ft high. Central doorway in west front.<sup>9</sup>

### **Interior**

Large tracery window of coloured glass; roof stencilled between timbers. Organ gallery and vestry at east end with central pulpit in front. Two side aisles.<sup>10</sup>

### **Additional Buildings/Facilities**

- 1897 Sunday school with three classrooms and an Infants' class room, lecture hall, library, tea room, cloakrooms and lavatories and a caretaker's house were built.
- 1909 A manse was acquired.
- 1922 Tennis courts and bowling green were revived at a cost of £30, the work being done by the youth of the church.
- 2018 Parking provided to the rear.<sup>11</sup>

## **Congregations meeting in this chapel**

### **Denomination<sup>12</sup>**

- 1862 Congregational: became United Reformed in 1972.

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<sup>3</sup> For the 1864 building, see SC, 3 June 1864.

<sup>4</sup> SC, 19 May 1911.

<sup>5</sup> SCPR, SA/99/0015 (planning application, change of use from residential house to church office and flat, 1999).

<sup>6</sup> SCPR, 03/1613/F (planning application, alterations to access to improve pedestrian access and provision of additional parking spaces, 2003).

<sup>7</sup> SC, 3 June 1864.

<sup>8</sup> OS 1:500 (1882)

<sup>9</sup> SC, 3 June 1864; Franklin, 'Notes on Abbey Foregate Congregational Church'.

<sup>10</sup> Ibid.

<sup>11</sup> Local information/Personal observation (2018-19).

<sup>12</sup> <https://www.shrewsburyunitedreformedchurch.com/about-us> (viewed 18 Oct. 2021).

#### Number of members

- 1862 About 30 on the foundation of the church in November 1862.<sup>13</sup>  
1864 (late in the year) 54.<sup>14</sup>  
1873 184.<sup>15</sup>  
1897 270.<sup>16</sup>  
1917 135 names on the books of the 'Young Worshippers League'.<sup>17</sup>  
1962 A list of members printed in the *Centenary Souvenir* gives 224 names.<sup>18</sup>

#### Language

English

#### Events

- 1862 First divine service held in a former stable.<sup>19</sup>  
1864 31 May. Chapel opened.<sup>20</sup>  
1872 Joined in a united service at Swan Hill Chapel together with Independent Chapel, Castle Gates.<sup>21</sup>  
1874 Building debt was paid off and the chapel was refurbished, redecorated and the organ rebuilt.<sup>22</sup>  
1896 The church joined the Shrewsbury and District Evangelical Church Council.  
1910 All United Free Churches in Shrewsbury came together for a Memorial service for King Edward VII.<sup>23</sup>  
1910 Free Church Meeting held here. Address by Rev J. E. Rattenbury of London.<sup>24</sup>  
1910-11 Advertisements each week for services with music and choir. Importance of organ.<sup>25</sup>  
Musical services and concerts continued throughout the year, with named music/songs/organist.<sup>26</sup>  
1910 Advertisement for a monthly men's service.<sup>27</sup>  
1911 Shropshire Federation of Free Church Councils held here. Sermon by Rev F. B. Meyer of London. 150 for tea.<sup>28</sup>  
1911 Lecture and Recital. Organ Music by Dr H. Walford Davies.<sup>29</sup>  
1911 Anniversary celebrations for Sunday school with sermons, singing, prizes for success in scripture examinations. Parents had a social the following day.<sup>30</sup>  
1911 Congregational Tennis and Bowling Club. Opening meeting for this year. Forty for tea on the green.<sup>31</sup>  
1911 Rev T. Townsend's resignation accepted (he was emigrating to New Zealand) and arrangements for the election of new minister made.<sup>32</sup>

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<sup>13</sup> Eldred, *Centenary Souvenir*, pp. 18-19.

<sup>14</sup> *Ibid.*, p. 20

<sup>15</sup> *Ibid.*, p. 23.

<sup>16</sup> *Ibid.*, p. 26.

<sup>17</sup> *Ibid.*, p. 31.

<sup>18</sup> *Ibid.*, pp. 47-8.

<sup>19</sup> *Ibid.*; SA, PH/S/13/A/5/6 (Abbey Foregate United Reform Church, sketch of temporary church, a former stable).

<sup>20</sup> SC, 3 June 1864.

<sup>21</sup> SC, 1 Mar 1872.

<sup>22</sup> *ESJ*, 23 Sept. 1874.

<sup>23</sup> SC, 27 May 1910.

<sup>24</sup> SC, 28 Oct. 1910.

<sup>25</sup> SC, 28 Apr. 1911.

<sup>26</sup> SC 9 Sept. 1910.

<sup>27</sup> SC, 23 Dec. 1910.

<sup>28</sup> SC, 27 Jan. 1911.

<sup>29</sup> SC, 3 Feb. 1911.

<sup>30</sup> SC, 14 Apr. 1911, 6, 8.

<sup>31</sup> SC, 5 May 1911, 6-10.

- 1911 Harvest festival, organ recital, musical service.<sup>33</sup>
- 1911 The Abbey Foregate Literary Society was closely connected with the church, though meetings were held in the Working Men's Hall. Mr W. J. Speers of London gave a sermon and then lectured the following evening.<sup>34</sup>
- 1911 Christmas Eve concert 'on the grand organ'.<sup>35</sup>
- 1915 9 May. Brigadier Edwin of the Salvation Army took services and the church was filled to capacity.
- 1919 July, social held for returned soldiers at a cost of £21 and a Thanksgiving Service held.
- 1919 War Memorial erected, Window £84 10s. 0d., Tablet £75.
- 1919 Pastor's stipend raised to include war bonus and an attempt was made to raise the weekly offertory to £200 pa to cover it.
- 1920 The accumulated rent on the Coleham Mission room was used to clear the debt on the Manse.
- 1921 A proposal to appoint of women deacons was considered but the proposition was not carried.
- 1922 May, a stained glass window, offered by his widow, was unveiled in memory of the late Thomas Corbett.
- 1925 11 Jan, interchange of pulpits by Free Church Pastors. Also United Communion service at Claremont Baptist Church.<sup>36</sup>
- 1935 Concert in aid of Sunday school funds.<sup>37</sup>
- 1958 Throughout the year, notices of Sunday School parties and anniversaries and special services.<sup>38</sup>
- 1961 July, church objected to road works which would have left them isolated on a traffic island.<sup>39</sup>
- 1962 The County Council was offered a piece of land on the Coleham site for £250.
- 1962 July, a new body of trustees was elected and a new Trust Deed signed.
- 1962 A gift of £50, from J. A. Crooks, was used to set up and furnish a Youth Corner in the church.
- 1962 Abbey Foregate Drama Group, Girls Brigade, Boys Brigade and Women's Circle all actively raising funds.
- 1962 Centenary celebrations: the Souvenir Booklet includes a full listing of the planned activities together with lists of officeholders and activities of the church in that year.
- 1975 St Nicholas' Castle Gates closed and its congregation joined this chapel.<sup>40</sup>
- 1999 Existing house on site changed to a church office and flat.<sup>41</sup>
- 2018 Many groups/activities still functioning as an outreach arm of the church. Abbey Foregate Drama Group presented Oscar Wilde's 'The Importance of Being Earnest'.<sup>42</sup>

## Missions

The church maintained missions at Coleham (See below and **A39**) and Longden [common]. In the 1950s it toyed with the idea of a new church on the Springfield estate.

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<sup>32</sup> SC, 13 Oct. 1911, 7.

<sup>33</sup> SC, 15 Sept. 1911.

<sup>34</sup> SC, 27 Oct. 1911, 6-7.

<sup>35</sup> SC, 22 Dec. 1911.

<sup>36</sup> SC, 16 Jan. 1925, 6.

<sup>37</sup> SC, 12 Apr. 1935.

<sup>38</sup> SC, 3 Jan. 1958, 6.

<sup>39</sup> SA, NO4212/4/2/27.

<sup>40</sup> Cox, "Simplicity without meanness", p. 91.

<sup>41</sup> SCPR, SA/99/0015 (planning application, change of use from residential house to church office and flat, 1999).

<sup>42</sup> Local information/personal observation (2018-19).

### **Longden Common chapel**

- 1897 Abbey Foregate church accepted responsibility for Longden chapel and borrowed £100 to take over the outstanding mortgage of £70 and put the property into good repair.<sup>43</sup>
- 1904 Repairs cost £50.<sup>44</sup>
- 1916 Extensive repairs carried out. The proposal that a church should be formed was rejected by the congregation.<sup>45</sup>
- 1944 The mortgage on Longden chapel was repaid.<sup>46</sup>
- 1947 Resignation of G. W. Chelmick from Longden mission. (He had served since at least 1937 when he complained about the workload.)<sup>47</sup>
- 1948 Revival of the Longden mission with 37 in the congregation and 19 scholars.<sup>48</sup>
- 1966 11 July. The last service held in the chapel; its trustees agreed to sell the property which was valued in 1968.<sup>49</sup>
- 1978 1 Aug. the trustees met for the last time and agreed that no further meetings would be necessary.<sup>50</sup>

### **Outreach work in Coleham (see A39)**

- 1897-8 The Mission Room and cottage in Pound Close, Coleham were given to the church, to be used for religious purposes, by J. Evans of Bebbington in Cheshire.<sup>51</sup>
- 1915 A portion of land at the Coleham Mission Room was sold to Shrewsbury Corporation to increase the size of the playground at their school.
- 1916 'Extensive repairs' carried out, including 20 new chairs.
- 1920 The Coleham Mission Room was let to the Salvation Army on a seven-year lease.<sup>52</sup>
- 1962 The Salvation Army bought the Coleham Mission Room and caretaker's cottage for £2000 which was invested in 5 per cent stock. The piece of land adjoining the mission Room that was not bought by the Salvation Army was offered to the County Council for £250.<sup>53</sup>

### **Projected church at Springfield**

- 1951 'The possibilities of work and witness in the Springfield estate and possible provision of a church or room thereon was fully discussed and considered during 1951 and 1952 and a canvass of the area arranged.'<sup>54</sup>
- 1954 A further canvass of the Springfield estate was undertaken but it was concluded that the costs of a new church and Sunday school were prohibitive.<sup>55</sup>
- 1957 The idea seems to have been revived and a further canvass undertaken.<sup>56</sup>

### **Mission work**

- 1958 The Ladies Missionary Auxiliaries joined with Swan Hill Chapel for a recital and film on Madagascar.<sup>57</sup>

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<sup>43</sup> Eldred, *Centenary Souvenir*, p. 26.

<sup>44</sup> *Ibid.*, p. 31.

<sup>45</sup> *Ibid.*, p. 36.

<sup>46</sup> *Ibid.*, p. 37.

<sup>47</sup> *Ibid.*, p. 37; SA, 4212/4/1/7, letter 12 Feb. 1937.

<sup>48</sup> Eldred, *Centenary Souvenir*, p., p. 38.

<sup>49</sup> SA, 4212/4/1/19 (trustees' minute book, 1956-78); 4212/4/1/18/31.

<sup>50</sup> SA, 4212/4/1/19.

<sup>51</sup> Elliot, *Congregationalism*; Eldred, *Centenary Souvenir*, p. 26.

<sup>52</sup> *Ibid.*, p. 32.

<sup>53</sup> *Ibid.*, p. 45.

<sup>54</sup> *Ibid.*, p. 40.

<sup>55</sup> *Ibid.*, p. 41.

<sup>56</sup> *Ibid.*, p. 42.

<sup>57</sup> SC, 17 Jan. 1958.

## **Ministers<sup>58</sup>**

1862	Mr James Llewellyn (later Rev J. Llewellyn).
1865-72	Rev Charles Croft.
1872-6	Rev W. R. Noble.
1877-11	Rev Thomas Townsend.
1912-20	Rev William John Farrow.
1921-8	Rev W. J. Lewis.
1929-35	Rev D. Edwin Davies.
1936-45	Rev George B. Dibden.
1946-53	Rev Hilary A. Wilson.
1953-64	Rev Hector Macdonald.
1965-73	Rev George Markham.

## **History since closure as chapel (if applicable)**

Still in use as a chapel

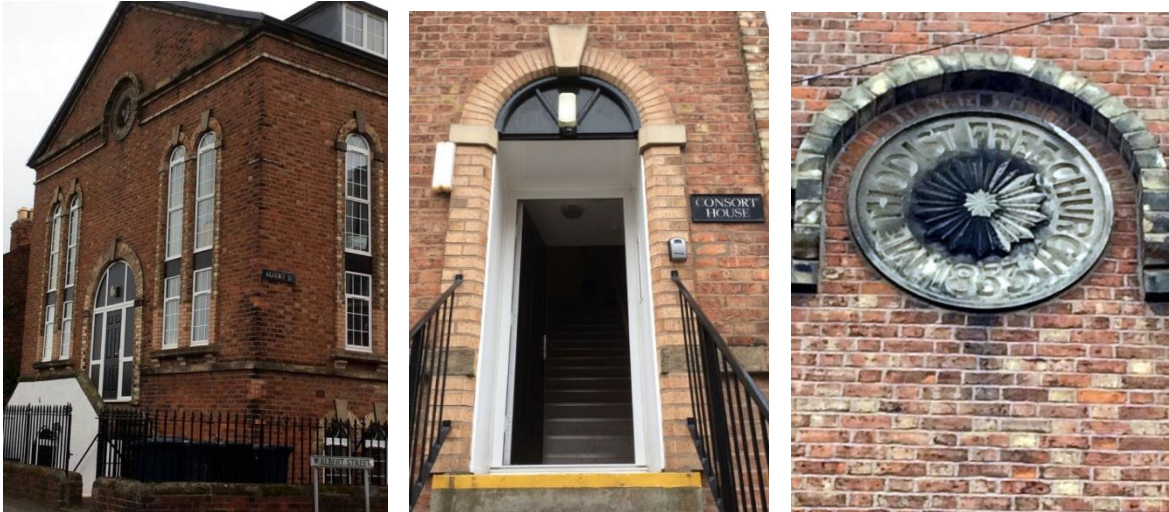
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<sup>58</sup> Names of ministers are taken from Eldred, *Centenary souvenir*, p. 2.



## A2 Albert Street [Beacalls Lane], Wesleyan Methodist Reformers (later Methodist Free Church)

Grid reference: SJ 49658 13093      Shropshire HER: 29025      1851 Census no: Post-1851  
Registers: C 1909-1937; M 1894-1904



Photographs 2019

### Construction

#### Date

1853/4      Chapel and Sunday School. The foundation stone was laid by Rev. James Everett on 26 April 1853.<sup>59</sup>

#### Cost/Funding

1853/4      Site purchased from Shrewsbury Freehold Land Society.<sup>60</sup>

1860      Reduced the debt by £135 over the year.<sup>61</sup>

#### Architect

No information.

#### Builder

No information.

#### Additions/Alterations

No information.

### Description

#### Size

1853      Measured 49ft x 31ft.<sup>62</sup>

1882      300 seats.<sup>63</sup>

#### Exterior

1853      Polychrome brick. Round-headed windows. Main door approached by steps.<sup>64</sup>

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<sup>59</sup> SC 29 Apr. 1853.

<sup>60</sup> Ibid.

<sup>61</sup> SC, 14 Dec. 1860.

<sup>62</sup> SC 29 Apr. 1853.

<sup>63</sup> OS 1:500 survey (1882).

<sup>64</sup> Local Information/Personal observation (2018-19).

1853 Date plaque 'Methodist Free Church 1853'.<sup>65</sup>

### **Interior**

Described at the time as being 'neat and commodious'.<sup>66</sup> A schoolroom and two vestries were located at semi-basement level.<sup>67</sup>

### **Additional Buildings/Facilities**

1888-9 Minister and Chapel Keeper were living in numbers 1 and 2 Albert Street.<sup>68</sup>

1937-8 Minister's house at 17 Albert St was sold.<sup>69</sup>

## **Congregations meeting in this chapel**

### **Denomination**

1850 A schism in the St John's Hill congregation led to the secession of a group who met in the Linen Factory in Severn St from 1 Oct. 1850 until the chapel was built.<sup>70</sup>

1853 Wesleyan Methodist Reformers.<sup>71</sup>

1857 Became United Methodist Free Church.<sup>72</sup>

1913 Joined Ebenezer Chapel, Town Walls to form Shrewsbury Town Walls Circuit.<sup>73</sup>

1935 Joined with the Wesleyan Methodists (St John's Hill, Greenfields, Castlefields, Frankwell) and the Primitive Methodists (Castle Court, Belle Vue, Ditherington) to become part of the Shrewsbury United Methodist Circuit.<sup>74</sup>

### **Number of members**

1851 Two years before this foundation stone was laid, 100 persons (excluding Sunday scholars) attended their services in Severn Street.<sup>75</sup>

1939 Only 10 members remained.<sup>76</sup>

### **Language**

English

## **Events**

1853 26 April. Rev James Everett, one of the ministers expelled by the Wesleyan Conference and national leader of the reform movement, laid the foundation stone.<sup>77</sup>

1853 Congregation moved here from temporary premises in the Linen Manufactory in Severn Street.<sup>78</sup>

1860 Anniversary sermon by Rev. B. Stubbs, 'Methodist Free Church' minister, from Wrexham. Tea and public meeting the following day raised £20 which, when added to other contributions, enabled the trustees to reduce their debt by £135 over the year.<sup>79</sup>

1910 Christmas breakfast provided (public subscription) for 228 poor children of Shrewsbury.<sup>80</sup>

1935 Jan. Sunday School concert in aid of school funds.<sup>81</sup>

1935 Feb. Sunday School tea; 50 scholars; prizes awarded.<sup>82</sup>

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<sup>65</sup> Local Information/Personal observation (2018-19).

<sup>66</sup> SC, 29 Apr. 1853.

<sup>67</sup> SC, 29 Apr. 1853.

<sup>68</sup> Wells and Manton, *Directory of Shrewsbury and its Environs, 1888*.

<sup>69</sup> SA, NM2045/1/19.

<sup>70</sup> Trinder, *Beyond the bridges*, p. 160; Field, *Church and Chapel*, p. 75 (no. 333, = B66 below)

<sup>71</sup> Trinder, *Beyond the Bridges*, p. 160.

<sup>72</sup> *ibid.*

<sup>73</sup> Morris, *History of Methodism*, p. 00. {Not Morris}

<sup>74</sup> SC, 21 May 1935, 9; Morris, *History of Methodism*, p. 26.

<sup>75</sup> Field (ed.), *Church and Chapel*, p. 75 (no. 333).

<sup>76</sup> Cox, "'Simplicity without meanness'".

<sup>77</sup> SC, 29 Apr. 1853.

<sup>78</sup> Trinder, *Beyond the Bridges*, p. 160.

<sup>79</sup> SC, 14 Dec. 1860.

<sup>80</sup> SC, 14 Jan. 1910.

<sup>81</sup> SC, 25 Jan. 1935.

- 1935 Feb. Miscellaneous concert in aid of church funds.<sup>83</sup>  
1939/40 On the sale of the chapel, the remaining congregation joined New Park Road Methodist Chapel.<sup>84</sup>

### **Mission work**

- 1934 Visiting preacher, Rev F. W. J. Cottrell from Yunnan, China.<sup>85</sup>

### **Ministers**

- 1856-85 Various.<sup>86</sup>  
1895 Rev John Greenwood Hartley.<sup>87</sup>  
1905-10 Rev George White.<sup>88</sup>  
1913 Rev William Henry Martin (Supt) and Rev Frederick G. Stoppard, shared with Ebenezer (Town Walls).<sup>89</sup>  
1922 Rev William Oats Meir, shared with Ebenezer (Town Walls).<sup>90</sup>  
1925 Rev J. Hindle.<sup>91</sup>  
1935 Rev Frank Taylor, Superintendent, shared with Ebenezer (Town Walls Circuit).<sup>92</sup>

### **History since closure as chapel (if applicable)**

- 1939-40 Sold as a commercial property.<sup>93</sup>  
2018 Residential / commercial.<sup>94</sup>

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<sup>82</sup> SC, 8 Feb. 1935.

<sup>83</sup> SC, 22 Feb. 1935.

<sup>84</sup> SA, NM2045/2/18-19 (Two packets of deeds and correspondence, 1937-57).

<sup>85</sup> SC, 26 Oct 1934.

<sup>86</sup> *Post Office Directory of Shropshire, 1856* and the following directories do not give the names of the clergy but just say 'various'.

<sup>87</sup> *Kelly's Directory 1895*.

<sup>88</sup> *Kelly's Directory 1905*; SC, 17 Jun. 1910.

<sup>89</sup> *Kelly's Directory 1913*.

<sup>90</sup> *Kelly's Directory 1922*.

<sup>91</sup> SC, 31 Jul. 1925, 6.

<sup>92</sup> SC, 25 Jan. 1935.

<sup>93</sup> Cox, "Simplicity without meanness", p. 84.

<sup>94</sup> Local Information/Personal observation (2018-19).

# A3 Barracks Lane, Cadogan Gardens, the Mount, Exclusive Plymouth Brethren Meeting House

Grid reference: SJ 480130 Shropshire HER: 1851 Census no: post-1851  
Website (2018): <http://theplymouthbrethren.org.uk/?s=Shrewsbury>

No contemporary photograph as the compound is gated.

## Construction

### Date

1965.<sup>95</sup>

### Cost/Funding

No information.

### Architect

No information.

### Builder

No information.

### Additions/alterations

No information.

## Description

### Exterior

Locked gate, leading to a long drive with the building out of sight around a corner. A notice on the gate provides contact information.<sup>96</sup>

### Interior

No information.

### Additional Buildings / Facilities

No information.

## Congregations meeting in this chapel

### Denominations

1965- Assembly of Exclusive Brethren.<sup>97</sup>

### Number of members

No information.

### Language

English.

## Events

1965 A group of the congregation from Greyfriars Hall moved to this new Assembly Room.<sup>98</sup>

1995 They were said to be 'in' with the 'London party'.<sup>99</sup>

## Mission work

No Information.

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<sup>95</sup> {reference needed}

<sup>96</sup> Local Information/Personal observation (2018-19).

<sup>97</sup> TNA, RG 70 no. 63670.

<sup>98</sup> Cox, "Simplicity without meanness", p. 78; TNA, RG 70 no. 63670.

<sup>99</sup> Cox, "Simplicity without meanness", p. 78.

Ministers

No information.

**History since closure as chapel (if applicable)**

Still in use.

## A4 Belle Vue Rd, Cemetery Chapel (Wellspring Apostolic Christian Centre)

Grid reference: SJ 49621 11722      Shropshire HER:      1851 Census no: post-1851  
Website (2018): <http://www.wellspringshrewsbury.org/>



Photograph 2019

See also SA, PH/S/13/B/2/103, Dec. 1978 B/W; View over a wall and a notice board with service times and the name of the pastor. PH/S/13/B/2/104 1978 B/W. Close up of exterior.

### First Chapel (Cemetery Chapel)

#### Construction<sup>100</sup>

##### Date

1856      24 Sept. Foundation stone laid.

##### Cost/Funding

No information

##### Architect

James Pickard.<sup>101</sup>

##### Builder

Mr John Cross of Smithfield Road.

##### Additions/Alterations

Destroyed by fire, 1943.<sup>102</sup>

#### Description

##### Size

No information.

##### Exterior

1854      The site comprised two acres.<sup>103</sup>

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<sup>100</sup> SC, 24 Sept. 1856; 1 Oct. 1856.

<sup>101</sup> EJ, 1 Oct. 1856.

<sup>102</sup> Trinder, *Beyond the Bridges*, p. 93.

This was a small plain stone chapel, Early English style, built of Red-Hill stone, with Grinshill stone dressings. On each side were four buttresses and three lancet-headed windows. The north end had a richly moulded entrance doorway. On each side of the doorway was a lancet-headed window; over the gable part was a large moulded wheel-window. The gable itself was surmounted by a well-proportioned bell turret, of Grinshill stone. The roof was covered with blue tiles with an ornamented blue crest.<sup>104</sup>

### **Interior**

The roof of the interior was open, showing the timbers. The reading-desk and seat were open-work, stained. The floor was laid with blue and red quarries, diamond wise.<sup>105</sup>

### **Additional Buildings/Facilities**

The chapel was located in the Dissenters' Cemetery opened in 1852 but which was little used after the General Cemetery opened in 1856.<sup>106</sup>

## **Second Chapel**

### **Construction**

#### **Date**

1948 Built not on the same site but nearer to the road, using materials from a disused chapel owned by the Apostolic Mission at Minsterley.<sup>107</sup>

#### **Cost/Funding**

No information.

#### **Architect**

No information.

#### **Builder**

No information.

#### **Additions/Alterations**

1978 photograph shows a section added to the entrance front.<sup>108</sup>

### **Description**

#### **Size**

No information.

#### **Exterior**

1948 Converted hut with porch and lancet windows added.<sup>109</sup>

2018 Rectangular building with pitched roof and small rectangular windows. Painted white.<sup>110</sup>

#### **Interior**

No information.

#### **Additional Buildings/Facilities**

Parking on site behind chapel.<sup>111</sup>

## **Congregations meeting in these chapels**

### **Denominations**

1856 Non-denominational cemetery chapel.<sup>112</sup>

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<sup>103</sup> OS, 1:2,500 map, Salop. XXXIV. 11 (1902).

<sup>104</sup> *EJ*, 1 Oct. 1856; *SC*, 20 Feb. 1857.

<sup>105</sup> *EJ*, 1 Oct. 1856.

<sup>106</sup> *SC*, 6 Jun. 1856; *SC*, 20 Feb. 1857. Draft text for VCH Shropshire, Shrewsbury pt 2, 'Burial grounds'.

<sup>107</sup> Trinder, *Beyond the Bridges*, p. 93

<sup>108</sup> SA, PH/S/13/B/2/104.

<sup>109</sup> SA, PH/S/13/B/2/104.

<sup>110</sup> Local Information/Personal observation (2018-19).

<sup>111</sup> Local Information/Personal observation (2018-19).

<sup>112</sup> *EJ*, 1 Oct. 1856.

1929- Apostolic Christians.<sup>113</sup>

### **Number of members**

No Information.

### **Language**

English.

### **Events**

- 1854 Cemetery was established according to Act of Parliament. It was open to all denominations and was backed by a group of shareholders.<sup>114</sup>
- 1901 Cemetery was closed except to existing plot owners.<sup>115</sup>
- 1929 The Apostolic Mission took over the chapel, moving here from Frankwell.<sup>116</sup>
- 1935 26 Aug, registered for marriages: the first wedding took place on 14 Sept.<sup>117</sup>
- 1943 The first chapel (the Dissenters' Cemetery Chapel) burned down.<sup>118</sup>
- 1948 Congregation built a new chapel on an adjacent site.<sup>119</sup>

### **Mission Work**

- 1932 Pastor John Williams of Bradford, a leading member of the Apostolic Church, who had just completed a tour of Nigeria, spoke on need for Missionary work.<sup>120</sup>

### **Ministers**

No information.

### **History since closure as chapel (if applicable)**

Still in use as chapel.

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<sup>113</sup> Wilding, *Directory of Shrewsbury* (1931).

<sup>114</sup> Draft text for VCH Shropshire, Shrewsbury pt 2, 'Burial grounds'.

<sup>115</sup> *Kelly's Directory 1913*.

<sup>116</sup> Wilding, *Directory of Shrewsbury* (1931).

<sup>117</sup> *SC*, 20 Sept. 1935.

<sup>118</sup> Trinder, *Beyond the Bridges*, p. 93.

<sup>119</sup> *Ibid.*

<sup>120</sup> SA, 3365/2312, (QS Rolls and Papers, 1720); *SC*, 4 Apr. 1932.



## A5 Belle Vue Road, Primitive Methodist Chapel (Methodist Chapel)

Grid reference: SJ 494 114    Shropshire HER: 29019    1851 Census no: post-1851  
Website (2018): <http://bellevue.shropshireandmarches.org.uk/aboutus/history/>  
[https://www.myprimitivemethodists.org.uk/content/chapels/shropshire/shrewsburybellevuep  
mchapel](https://www.myprimitivemethodists.org.uk/content/chapels/shropshire/shrewsburybellevuep<br/>mchapel)



Photograph 2019

See also SA: DA5/710/7/31, a plan showing the interior.<sup>121</sup>

### **Construction**

#### **Date**

1879        March, foundation stone laid.<sup>122</sup>

1879        June, opening ceremony.<sup>123</sup>

#### **Cost/Funding**

£700.<sup>124</sup>

#### **Architect**

John Wills of Derby. Rev John Quarmby was influential in planning of the chapel.<sup>125</sup>

#### **Builder**

William Harris of Shrewsbury.<sup>126</sup>

#### **Additions/Alterations**

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<sup>121</sup> SA, DA5/710/7/31, (planning application for School Room, Plan No. 27, 1883).

<sup>122</sup> SC, 21 Mar. 1879.

<sup>123</sup> SC, 27 Jun. 1879; *Kelly's Post Office Directory, 1885*.

<sup>124</sup> SC, 27 Jun. 1879.

<sup>125</sup> Trinder, *Beyond the Bridges*, p. 99.

<sup>126</sup> SC, 27 Jun. 1879.

1883 School room added at back.<sup>127</sup>

## Description

### Size

1879 200-210 seats.<sup>128</sup>

### Exterior

Red brick Gothic front with polychrome ornamentation. Entrance door with triple lancet windows above; single lancets on each side of door.<sup>129</sup> Original inscription over the door read 'Primitive Methodists 1879', it was subsequently over-written with the words 'Methodist Church'.<sup>130</sup>

### Interior

No information.

### Additional Buildings/Facilities

1883 New Sunday school erected opening on 24 Aug. 1883.<sup>131</sup>

1937-8 Purchase of The Hawthorns on West Hermitage as Minister's house to replace former house at 17 Albert St.<sup>132</sup>

## Congregations meeting in this chapel

### Denominations<sup>133</sup>

1879 Primitive Methodists.

1907 Until this date part of Shrewsbury Methodist New Connexion Circuit.

1907-32 included in Shrewsbury United Methodist Circuit.

1932-35 included in Shrewsbury Town Walls Methodist Circuit.

1935-54 Shrewsbury New Methodist Circuit with St John's Hill Methodist Church.

### Number of members

1989 117 members.<sup>134</sup>

### Language

English.

## Events

1911 Report of the chapel's literary society.<sup>135</sup>

1911 Sale of work in the Music Hall.<sup>136</sup>

1929 Chapel's jubilee; celebratory address by an American divine, Samuel Parkes Cadman, drew such crowds that it had to be delivered in the Abbey Foregate Congregational Church.<sup>137</sup>

1933 Represented at Union of Sunday Schools meeting at Abbey Foregate Congregational. Mayor and Mayoress present. Address by Sir James Startin.<sup>138</sup>

1935 Mar. Anniversary of Young Christian Endeavour.<sup>139</sup>

1958 Throughout the year, notices of Sunday School parties and anniversaries and special services.<sup>140</sup>

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<sup>127</sup> SA, DA5/710/7/31.

<sup>128</sup> *Kelly's Directory 1895*.

<sup>129</sup> Trinder, *Beyond the Bridges*, p. 99.

<sup>130</sup> Local Information/Personal observation (2018-19)

<sup>131</sup> *EJ* 13 June, 29 Aug. 1883.

<sup>132</sup> SA, NM2045/1/19 (Shrewsbury Methodist Circuit, property: manses, 1936-57).

<sup>133</sup> *SC*, 2 Aug. 1935.

<sup>134</sup> SA, NM6215/1/4 (Shrewsbury Methodist Circuit, Directory and Plan of Services, 1989).

<sup>135</sup> {Reference needed}

<sup>136</sup> *SC*, 10 Feb. 1911.

<sup>137</sup> *SC*, 29 Sep. 1929.

<sup>138</sup> *SC*, 2 Jan. 1933.

<sup>139</sup> *SC*, 22 Mar. 1935.

<sup>140</sup> *SC*, 3 Jan. 1958.

1958      Joined with Swan Hill, St Nicholas, St David's and Radbrook Free Church for the Evangelical Alliance Week of Prayer; also exchanged preachers.<sup>141</sup>

### **Mission work**

No information.

### **Ministers**

1876-80    Rev John Quarmby who built up the congregation and organised the building of the chapel.<sup>142</sup>  
1885      Various.<sup>143</sup>  
1895      Rev George Thomas Dunn Pidsley, shared with Castle Court.<sup>144</sup>  
1905      Rev Albert A. Birchenough (Superintendent) and Rev F. Morgan Ridge, shared with Castle Court and Ditherington.<sup>145</sup>  
1911      Rev J. W. Jenkinson.<sup>146</sup>  
1913      Vacant, still shared with Castle Court and Ditherington.<sup>147</sup>  
1922      Rev William Chapman, shared with Castle Court and Ditherington.<sup>148</sup>  
1932      Pastor J. J. Williams.<sup>149</sup>  
1958      Rev C. O. Munswick.<sup>150</sup>

### **History since closure as chapel (if applicable)**

Still in use as a church.

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<sup>141</sup> SC, 17 Jan. 1958.

<sup>142</sup> Trinder, *Beyond the Bridges*, p. 99.

<sup>143</sup> *Kelly's Post Office Directory, 1885* does not give the names of the clergy but just says 'various'.

<sup>144</sup> *Kelly's Directory 1895*.

<sup>145</sup> *Kelly's Directory 1905*.

<sup>146</sup> SC, 10 Feb. 1911.

<sup>147</sup> *Kelly's Directory 1913*.

<sup>148</sup> *Kelly's Directory 1922*.

<sup>149</sup> {Insert reference}.

<sup>150</sup> SC, 3 Jan. 1958.

## A6 Belmont Bank, Presbyterian Church of Wales / Welsh Calvinistic Methodists (St David's Presbyterian Church)<sup>151</sup>

Grid reference: SJ 492123  
Registers: M1927-1997

Shropshire HER: 29024

1851 Census no: Post-1851



Hall/provisional chapel building 2019



Front of building 2019

### 1905 Hall/Provisional Chapel

#### Construction

##### Date

1905 5 Apr. Opening ceremony.

##### Cost/Funding

Site (big enough for proposed later church) cost £2,320.<sup>152</sup>

Building cost £4,500.<sup>153</sup> 1909 The old chapel on Frankwell Quay (A18) was sold and its value (£435) added to the building fund.

##### Architect

G. Dickens Lewis.<sup>154</sup>

##### Builder

No information.

##### Additions/alterations

No information.

#### Description

##### Size

300 sittings.<sup>155</sup>

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<sup>151</sup> This account is largely based on O. Lloyd Jones, *St David's Presbyterian Church Belmont Shrewsbury, Fiftieth Anniversary 1936-1986* (1986).

<sup>152</sup> SC, 7 Apr. 1905.

<sup>153</sup> SC, 7 Apr. 1905.

<sup>154</sup> SC, 7 Apr. 1905.

<sup>155</sup> SC, 14 Oct. 1904.

## **Exterior**

Brick.

## **Interior**

A lecture hall to be used as a chapel, a connecting schoolroom, clubroom and library, parlour and committee room.<sup>156</sup>

## **Additional Buildings / Facilities**

No information.

## **1936 St David's Church**

### **Construction**

#### **Date**

1935 Jun., foundation stone laid.

1936 12 Mar., opened for worship. Internal connections to old Sunday School.

#### **Cost/Funding**

£6,918. A building fund was established as soon as chapel began to prosper. Boosted by £2,500 when Hill's Lane congregation joined in 1931.

#### **Architect**

Cecil E. M. Philmore of West Bromwich.

#### **Builder**

No information.

#### **Additions/Alterations**

No information.

### **Description**

#### **Size**

Seated 320.

#### **Exterior**

Brick. Plain except for gothic traceried windows.

#### **Interior**

Plain, but unusual plan with pulpit and reading desk either side of the communion table.

#### **Additional Buildings/Facilities**

The 1905 buildings were incorporated.

### **Congregations meeting in this chapel**

#### **Denominations**

Welsh Calvinistic Methodists or Presbyterian Church of Wales.

#### **Number of members**

1905-13 grew to 100 throughout this period.

#### **Language**

English, occasionally Welsh.<sup>157</sup>

### **Events**

1905 April. English speaking congregation moved into the Hall from Frankwell Quay. It was intended 'when circumstances permit' that a 'handsome church worthy of a great denomination' would be provided.<sup>158</sup>

1905 Social clubs founded - cycling, sewing, air gun, Literary and Social Committee and Young People's Social Guild.

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<sup>156</sup> SC, 7 Apr. 1905.

<sup>157</sup> SC, 5 Aug. 1932.

<sup>158</sup> SC, 7 Apr. 1905.

- 1909 Death of Mrs Ebenezer Williams, founder of this congregation (originally at Hills Lane).  
1911 Anniversary services in April, Preacher Rev Principal Prys from Aberystwyth.<sup>159</sup>  
1925 Interchange of Pulpits by Free Church Pastors on Sunday 11 Jan. Also United Communion service at Claremont Baptist Church.<sup>160</sup>  
1925 Rev Watcyn Pryce from Wrexham was preacher at Sunday School anniversary.<sup>161</sup>  
1931 Hill's Lane Congregation (formerly Welsh speaking) joined.<sup>162</sup>  
1932 Special preacher Rev Edward Williams from Rhyl. Well attended afternoon service in Welsh.<sup>163</sup>  
1933 Represented at Union of Sunday Schools meeting at Abbey Foregate Congregational. Mayor and Mayoress present. Address by Sir James Startin.<sup>164</sup>  
1934 Anniversary celebration preacher Rev G. Jones from Pwllheli.<sup>165</sup>  
1936 Generous gifts of money and much church furniture presented by the congregation, two hymn boards given by the workmen engaged in building the church.  
1936 Mr Richard McEwen Davies, elder for many years, died five months after the foundation stone was laid.  
1936 Mr P. J. Hughes died – 'beloved superintendent of the Sunday School'.  
1958 Throughout the year, notices of Sunday School parties and anniversaries and special services.<sup>166</sup>  
1958 Joined with Belle Vue Methodists, St Nicholas, Swan Hill Chapel and Radbrook Free Church for the Evangelical Alliance Week of Prayer; also exchanged preachers.<sup>167</sup>

## Mission work

No Information.

## Ministers

- 1900-25 Rev D. M. Rowlands.  
1934 Rev David Williams.<sup>168</sup>  
1937 Rev Merion Roberts.  
1938-47 Rev Maldwyn Davies.  
1949 Rev Howard Williams.  
1954 Rev Stephen Griffiths from Aberystwyth.  
1955-65 Rev Dennis Butler Jones.  
1977 Rev D Elwyn Jones, Pastor for a group of churches.  
1983 Rev Anthony Clement Jones.

## History since closure as chapel (if applicable)

- 2005 Closed.<sup>169</sup>  
2010 Converted to apartments.<sup>170</sup>

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<sup>159</sup> SC, 14 Apr. 1911, 6, 8.

<sup>160</sup> SC, 16 Jan. 1925.

<sup>161</sup> SC, 17 Jul. 1925, 6, 7.

<sup>162</sup> Lloyd Jones, *St David's Presbyterian Church Belmont*, p. 7.

<sup>163</sup> SC, 5 Aug. 1932; SC, 1 Jul. 1932.

<sup>164</sup> SC, 2 Jan. 1933.

<sup>165</sup> SC, 4 May 1934, 9.

<sup>166</sup> SC, 3 Jan. 1958, 6.

<sup>167</sup> SC, 17 Jan. 1958, 9.

<sup>168</sup> SC, 12 Jan. 1934, 7.

<sup>169</sup> <http://www.users.waitrose.com/~coxfamily/shrewchr.htm>, viewed 2019.

<sup>170</sup> Local Information/Personal observation (2018-19).

## A7 Betton Street, Exclusive Brethren Meeting Room

Grid reference: SJ 49836 11884      Shropshire HER:      1851 Census no: post-1851

Website (2018): <http://theplymouthbrethren.org.uk/?s=Shrewsbury>



Photographs 2019

### **Construction**

#### **Date**

c.1982.<sup>171</sup>

#### **Cost/Funding**

No Information.

#### **Architect**

No Information.

#### **Builder**

No Information.

#### **Major Additions/Alterations**

No Information.

### **Description**

#### **Size**

No information.

#### **Exterior**

Simple rectangular building of one storey, built of brick.<sup>172</sup>

#### **Interior**

No Information.

#### **Additional Buildings/Facilities**

No Information.

### **Congregations meeting in this chapel**

#### **Denominations**

Exclusive Brethren (those not in agreement with 'London Party').<sup>173</sup>

#### **Number of members**

No Information.

#### **Language**

English.

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<sup>171</sup> Cox website.

<sup>172</sup> Local Information/Personal observation (2018-19).

<sup>173</sup> Cox, "Simplicity without meanness", p. 78; TNA, RG 70 no. 76154.

## **Events**

1980-2 Congregation moved here from Greyfriars Hall to this, their newly-built meeting house.<sup>174</sup>

## **Mission work**

No Information.

## **Ministers**

No Information.

## **History since closure as chapel (if applicable)**

2008 Closed sometime after this year.<sup>175</sup>

2017 For sale with an asking price of £425,000.<sup>176</sup>

2018 Planning permission granted for seven houses.<sup>177</sup>

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<sup>174</sup> SC, 25 Sep. 1981, 5; TNA, RG 70 no. 76154.

<sup>175</sup> Cox website.

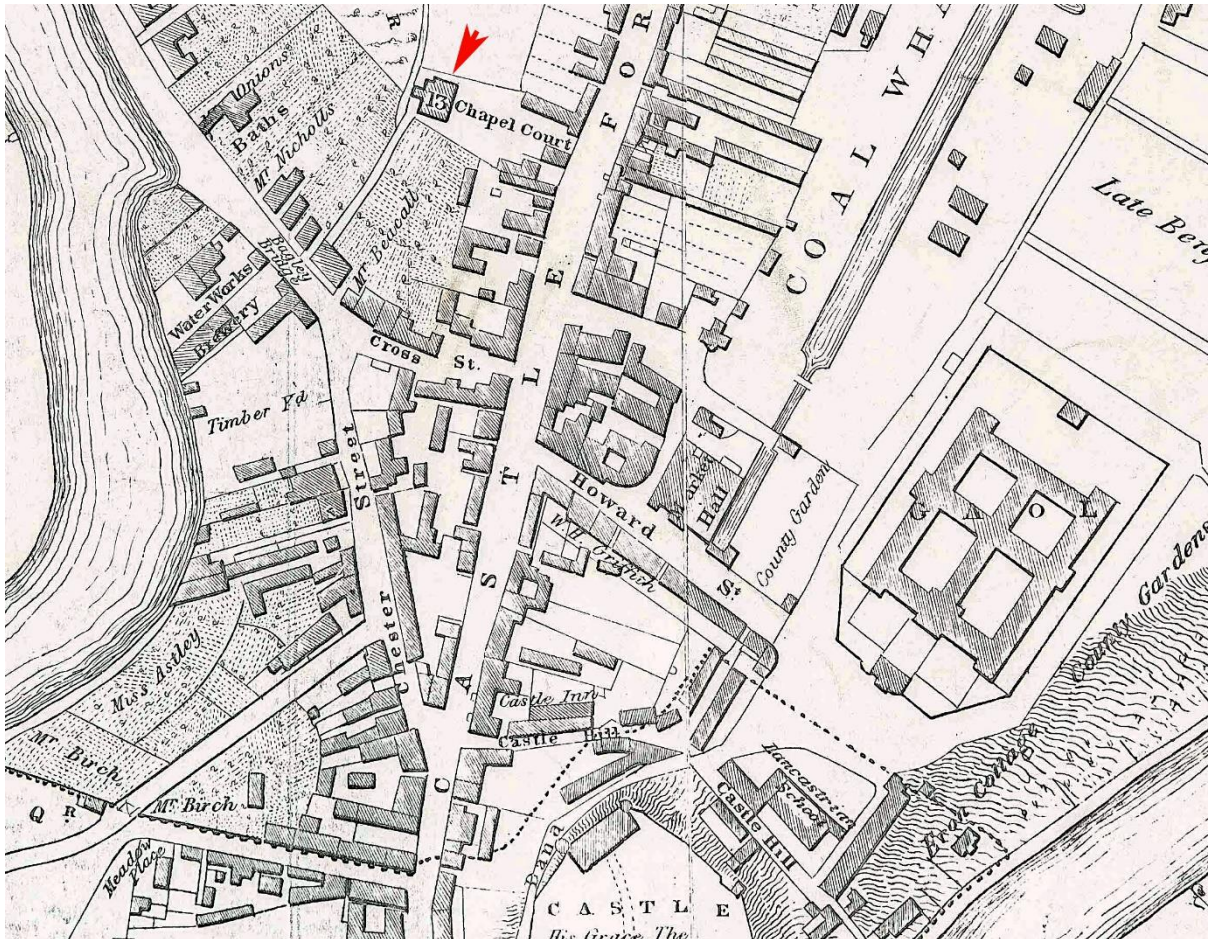
<sup>176</sup> Local Information/Personal observation (2018-19).

<sup>177</sup> SCPR, 18/04386/FUL (planning application, 7 Betton Street, for mixed development of seven houses and demolition of existing building. 2018).



## A8 Chapel Court, Castle Foregate, Particular Baptist Chapel<sup>178</sup>

Grid reference: SJ 49380 13170      Shropshire HER: 32077      Not in 1851 Census  
(demolished in 1849).



© Shropshire Archives MI3536 – extract from John Wood's map of Shrewsbury, 1838.<sup>179</sup>

### Construction

#### Date

1827      Reported that the Baptists hoped to build a chapel in Castle Foregate.<sup>180</sup>

1829      June, building commenced.<sup>181</sup>

1830      9 Apr. (Good Friday). Opening services.<sup>182</sup>

#### Cost/Funding

No information.

#### Architect

No information.

<sup>178</sup> Collis, *Baptist Churches*, p. 98.

<sup>179</sup> The chapel is also shown on the railway's deposited plan of 1845, reproduced in Cox, "Simplicity without meanness", p. 75.

<sup>180</sup> SA, 6001/3057, Henry Pidgeon, 'Salopian Annals', V, pp. 36-7.

<sup>181</sup> SA, 6001/3058, Henry Pidgeon, 'Salopian Annals' VI, p. 49.

<sup>182</sup> SA, 6001/3059, Henry Pidgeon, 'Salopian Annals', VII, p. 3.

### **Builder**

No information.

### **Additions/Alterations**

No information.

## **Description**

### **Size**

Seated 180.<sup>183</sup>

Measured 53 feet x 45 feet.<sup>184</sup>

### **Exterior**

Bricks with slated roof.<sup>185</sup> Rear extension, presumably a baptistery, since chapel backed onto Bagley Brook.<sup>186</sup>

### **Interior**

No information.

### **Additional Buildings/Facilities**

No information.

## **Congregations meeting in this chapel**

### **Denominations**

1830-44 Particular Baptists.<sup>187</sup>

1844 For a brief period, Independents seceding from Swan Hill.<sup>188</sup>

### **Number of members**

No information.

### **Language**

English.

## **Events**

1827 Seceders moved here from Claremont Street Baptist Church, following a disagreement over their minister and a desire to serve Castle Foregate's large population.<sup>189</sup>

1829 March, advertised for a builder; design could be examined at house of S. Bickerton in Castle Street.<sup>190</sup>

1830 Good Friday 9 Apr., chapel was opened.<sup>191</sup>

1832 Good Friday and Easter Day sermons by visiting preacher from Worcester, Rev. T Waters.<sup>192</sup>

## **Mission work**

No information.

## **Ministers**

No information.

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<sup>183</sup> *Baptist Magazine* (1848).

<sup>184</sup> SA, Deposited Plan 337 and Book of Reference (Shrewsbury, Oswestry and Chester Junction Railway, Deviation 1, and extension through Shrewsbury, 29 Nov. 1845).

<sup>185</sup> SC, 21 Jun. 1844.

<sup>186</sup> SA, Deposited Plan 337 and Book of Reference.

<sup>187</sup> SA, 6001/3057, Henry Pidgeon, 'Salopian Annals', V, pp. 36-7.

<sup>188</sup> Elliot, *Congregationalism*, pp. 268-70.

<sup>189</sup> SA, 6001/3057, Henry Pidgeon, 'Salopian Annals', V, pp. 36-7.

<sup>190</sup> *ESJ*, 4 Mar. 1829,

<sup>191</sup> SA, 6001/3057, Henry Pidgeon, 'Salopian Annals', V, pp. 36-7.

<sup>192</sup> SC, 13 Apr. 1832.

### History since closure as chapel (if applicable)

1836

1836 Offered for sale at auction to be held on 10 October with a suggestion it might be converted into warehousing.<sup>193</sup>

1844 6 July, building and contents were advertised as being for sale by auction when the chapel was said to be held 'by a society of dissenters called Independents [a secession from the Swan Hill chapel].<sup>194</sup>

1849 Demolished when Shrewsbury-Chester Railway line was built.<sup>195</sup>

[1851 The congregation was meeting in a room in St Austin's St as a temporary measure.<sup>196</sup> At a later date they rented the Friends Meeting House and a majority finally rejoined the Claremont St. Baptists in 1872. The remainder had a number of rented places of worship but eventually disappeared.<sup>197</sup>]

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<sup>193</sup> SC, 30 Sept. 1836

<sup>194</sup> SC, 21 Jun. 1844.

<sup>195</sup> [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Shrewsbury%E2%80%93Chester\\_line1846](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Shrewsbury%E2%80%93Chester_line1846), viewed 2018.

<sup>196</sup> Field, *Church and Chapel*, p. 79 (no. 349) = B72 below. Cox, "Simplicity without meanness", p. 75.

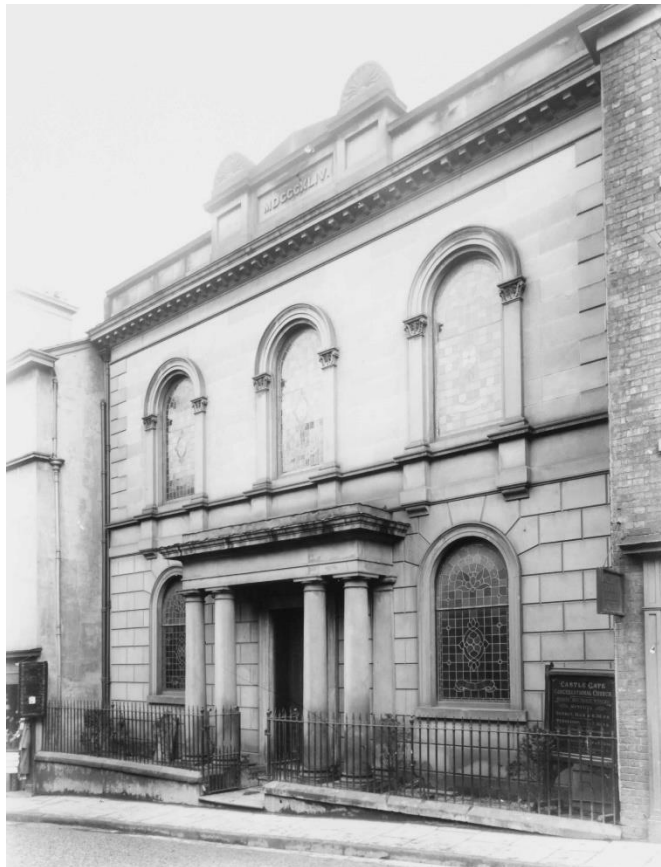
<sup>197</sup> For the later history of this congregation, Collis, *Baptist Churches*, p. 98.

## A9 Castle Gates, Independent Chapel<sup>198</sup>

Grid reference: SJ 49306 12657      Shropshire HER:      1851 Census no: 335



Photograph 2019



© Shropshire Archives, PH/S/13/C/4/59, c. 1880?

See also SA, PH/S/13/C/4/60 1933, Street frontage of this chapel in the process of being re-fronted and converted into a shop; PH/S/13/C/4/64, 1990 Temporary removal of the pediment after the earthquake of 2 April 1990.

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<sup>198</sup> This account is based on Elliot, *Congregationalism*, pp. 268-74; Cox, “Simplicity without meanness”, p. 81.

## Construction

### Date

- 1844 25 June, foundation stone laid.<sup>199</sup>  
1845 4 Mar., official opening.<sup>200</sup>

### Cost/Funding

- £3,000 including the site.<sup>201</sup>  
1858 The debt was paid off.<sup>202</sup>

### Architect

R. D. Hill of Birmingham.<sup>203</sup>

### Builder

Mr James Vaughan of Oswestry.<sup>204</sup>

### Additions/Alterations

- 1849 A gallery was added since all the pews were let.<sup>205</sup>  
1894 Restored at a cost of £700.<sup>206</sup>

## Description

### Size

- 1845 Chapel and integral Sunday School on top floor; the chapel was 50ft long by 42ft wide.<sup>207</sup>  
1851 572 seats.<sup>208</sup>  
1882 500 seats.<sup>209</sup>  
1885 400 seats.<sup>210</sup>  
1895 seated 572.<sup>211</sup>

### Exterior

Restricted site between the road and The Dana. Described as ‘a handsome building of free stone ... the most imposing structure in connection with the nonconformists in the town of Shrewsbury’ in 1851.<sup>212</sup> The front was of Grinshill stone with a handsome portico in the classic style.<sup>213</sup>

### Interior<sup>214</sup>

The Sunday school was an integral part of the original design, on the top floor, described as ‘very commodious’, and entered from The Dana at the back. The interior was described in 1851 as having ‘a very chaste and beautiful appearance’.

### Additional Buildings/Facilities

No information.

## Congregations meeting in this chapel

### Denominations

1845-1908 Independents.

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<sup>199</sup> SC, 28 Jun. 1844; Elliot, *Congregationalism*, pp. 270-2.

<sup>200</sup> *Kelly's Post Office Directory*, 1885.

<sup>201</sup> *Kelly's Post Office Directory*, 1885.

<sup>202</sup> *Evangelical Magazine*, 158 (1858).

<sup>203</sup> Elliot, *Congregationalism*, p. 272.

<sup>204</sup> *Ibid.*

<sup>205</sup> *Evangelical Magazine*, 597-8 (1849).

<sup>206</sup> *Kelly's Directory 1895*.

<sup>207</sup> SC, 28 Jun. 1844.

<sup>208</sup> Field (ed.), *Church and Chapel*, p. 75 (no. 335).

<sup>209</sup> OS 1:500 survey (1882).

<sup>210</sup> *Kelly's Post Office Directory*, 1885.

<sup>211</sup> *Kelly's Directory 1895*.

<sup>212</sup> Bagshaw, *Gazetteer*.

<sup>213</sup> *Kelly's Directory 1895*; SC, 28 Jun. 1844.

<sup>214</sup> Bagshaw, *Gazetteer*.

### Number of members

1845 56 came from Swan Hill Chapel.<sup>215</sup>

1851 On Census Sunday 264 adults attended in the morning and 406 in the evening.<sup>216</sup>

### Language

English.

### Events

1843 56 members of Swan Hill Independent Chapel resolved to build a chapel ‘as far as possible from Swan Hill’, following a dispute over the appointment of a pastor. Started to raise funds.<sup>217</sup>

1844 25 June. Foundation stone laid.<sup>218</sup>

1845 Congregation moved here from temporary premises at Ebenezer Chapel and the Baptist Chapel in Castle Foregate.<sup>219</sup>

1872 Joined in a united service at Swan Hill Chapel together with Abbey Foregate.<sup>220</sup>

1908 Decided to build a new chapel on a more spacious site since this was very restricted.<sup>221</sup>

1908 The four columns from the portico of this chapel were removed and incorporated into the upper stage of the tower of the new chapel on Chester Street (A12).<sup>222</sup>

### Mission work

No information.

### Ministers

No information.

### History since closure as chapel (if applicable)

1908 Chapel closed and congregation moved to temporary premises and then to a new chapel on Chester Street (A12).<sup>223</sup>

At one time the building was used as a cinema.<sup>224</sup> In 2018 the ground floor was used as shops.

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<sup>215</sup> *Evangelical Magazine*, 419 (1844).

<sup>216</sup> Field (ed.), *Church and Chapel*, p. 75 (no. 335).

<sup>217</sup> *Evangelical Magazine*, 419 (1844).

<sup>218</sup> *SC*, 28 Jun. 1844.

<sup>219</sup> J. Barker, *Shrewsbury Free Churches, Their History and Romance, being the Story of the Beginning and Growth of the Free Churches of Shrewsbury from the Great Ejection of 1662 to the Present Time* (c. 1914).

<sup>220</sup> *SC*, 1 Mar. 1872.

<sup>221</sup> Cox, “‘Simplicity without meanness’”, p. 81.

<sup>222</sup> *SC*, 10 Jul. 1908.

<sup>223</sup> *SC*, 10 Jul. 1908.

<sup>224</sup> Cox, “‘Simplicity without meanness’”, p. 81.

## A10 Castle Street, Castle Court (House of Correction Shut), Sandemanian (or Scotch) Baptists Chapel (Primitive Methodist Chapel)<sup>225</sup>

Grid reference: SJ 49308 12732 Shropshire HER: 290233  
Registers: C 1822-1837

1851 Census no: 331



Photographs 2019

### First chapel

#### Construction

##### Date

1811 built by Sandemanian Baptists who had been meeting in Cole Hall Chapel.<sup>226</sup>

##### Cost/Funding

1826 Bought by the Primitive Methodists for £850. Trustees were appointed to manage finances. Money was raised through collections after each service; renting of pews; cash box; letting cellars; rent from adjoining house; donations from 'friends'.<sup>227</sup>

##### Architect

No Information.

##### Builder

No Information.

##### Additions/Alterations<sup>228</sup>

1826-30 The chapel had been used as a billiard hall prior to being bought by Primitive Methodists. Immediate repairs and improvements were undertaken: plumbing, painting, glazing skylights, flooring bricks.

1830-5 Gallery added.

<sup>225</sup> For the history of the chapel to 1850 see Trumper, 'Primitive Methodism'.

<sup>226</sup> SA, 3365/2434 (QS Order Book, 1810-11), session Easter 1811.

<sup>227</sup> Trumper, 'Primitive Methodism', pp. 15-17.

<sup>228</sup> Trumper, 'Primitive Methodism'.

## Description

### Size

- 1811 Seats for about 300.<sup>229</sup>  
1838 176 sittings.<sup>230</sup>  
1851 Sittings 124 + 176.<sup>231</sup>

### Exterior

- 1811 Original chapel was built on a shut, above two old vaults, formerly part of House of Correction and which were used for warehousing.<sup>232</sup>  
1833-5 A balcony added.<sup>233</sup>

### Interior

No Information.

### Additional Buildings/Facilities<sup>234</sup>

- 1826 Adjoining house; mention of rent of £10 in rent in 1826.<sup>235</sup>  
1838 Warehouse; mention of rent of £6 16s. 0d.  
1844 Cellars: mention of rent of £16 9s. 9d.  
Schoolroom below, accommodated 270 scholars.<sup>236</sup>

## Second chapel

## Construction

### Date

- 1863 27 Sep, chapel with integral school and vestries on the ground floor and chapel on first floor.<sup>237</sup>

### Cost/Funding

Funding: cost kept down to £470 by re-using some of the materials.<sup>238</sup>

### Architect

No Information.

### Builder

No Information.

### Additions/Alterations

No Information.

## Description

### Size

About 800 in the chapel at the opening, with others turned away.

- 1882 200 seats.<sup>239</sup>  
1885 400 seats.<sup>240</sup>  
1956 On sale the chapel was described as a [first-floor] chapel (about 58 feet by 23 feet), approached by a flight of steps and with double doors, with an internal height of 21 feet, well-lit with eight large windows and with a gallery (about 25 feet 10 inches by 18 feet 6 inches) over the rear portion. At ground level there was an assembly room (about 43 feet 6

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<sup>229</sup> Cox, “Simplicity without meanness”, p. 74.

<sup>230</sup> SA, NM2123/421 (state of the chapels in Shrewsbury Circuit from Mar. 1838 to 1848).

<sup>231</sup> Field (ed.), *Church and Chapel*, p. 74 (no. 331).

<sup>232</sup> Cox, “Simplicity without meanness”, p. 71.

<sup>233</sup> Trumper, ‘Primitive Methodism’, pp. 61-2.

<sup>234</sup> SA, NM2123/421.

<sup>235</sup> Trumper, ‘Primitive Methodism’, pp. 16-17.

<sup>236</sup> Trumper, ‘Primitive Methodism’ [not found].

<sup>237</sup> SC 2 Oct. 1863. Cox, “Simplicity without meanness”, p. 74.

<sup>238</sup> Cox, “Simplicity without meanness”, p. 74.

<sup>239</sup> OS 1:500 survey (1882)

<sup>240</sup> *Kelly's Post Office Directory, 1885.*



inches by 23 feet and 8 feet 8 inches high), a vestry and a kitchen. There was an open yard with two toilets.<sup>241</sup>

### **Exterior**

Polychrome brick with stone dressings; church on first floor reached by flight of external steps.<sup>242</sup>

### **Interior**<sup>243</sup>

Good number of pews; gallery at back; neat rostrum at front. Two vestries below.

### **Additional Buildings/Facilities**

1872 Manse in Albert Street, Castlefields acquired for £280.<sup>244</sup>

## **Congregations meeting in this chapel**<sup>245</sup>

### **Denomination**

1811-25 Sandemanian Baptists.<sup>246</sup>

1826-1956 Primitive Methodists.<sup>247</sup>

Up to 1907 Part of Shrewsbury Methodist New Connexion Circuit.

1907-32 Included in Shrewsbury United Methodist Circuit.

1932-5 Included in Shrewsbury Town Walls Methodist Circuit.

1935-54 Included in Shrewsbury New Methodist Circuit with St John's Hill Methodist Church.

### **Number of members**

1822 44 members rising over 1822 to 60 (Sandemanians).<sup>248</sup>

1828 371 members (Primitive Methodists).<sup>249</sup>

1830 Down to 308 members, following arguments between preachers.<sup>250</sup>

1851 Adult attendance 120 in the morning and 250 in the evening.<sup>251</sup>

1956 27 members when chapel closed.<sup>252</sup>

### **Language**

English.

## **Events**

1811 Sandemanian Baptists moved here from Cole Hall Chapel.<sup>253</sup>

1815 The congregation split and a portion moved back to Cole Hall Chapel. Their chapel in Castle court then seems to have used as a billiard room.<sup>254</sup>

1826 4 June, The Primitive Methodists moved here from a malt house in Barker St. At the opening ceremony the speakers were Mr David Bower of Darlaston, Mr Samuel Jones late of Manchester and Rev Manoak Kent (Baptist Minister).<sup>255</sup>

1828 Singing meetings and reading meetings were held. The Sunday School started and classes were 'very large'.<sup>256</sup>

1830s Arguments broke out between preachers; also terrible financial situation.<sup>257</sup>

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<sup>241</sup> Sale particulars in 2104/3/1.

<sup>242</sup> SA, NM2123/421.

<sup>243</sup> Cox, "Simplicity without meanness", p. 74.

<sup>244</sup> SA, NM2045/2/22 (Albert Street Manse alterations: accounts and correspondence).

<sup>245</sup> Unless otherwise specified, congregation details taken from *SC*, 2 Aug. 1935.

<sup>246</sup> Pigot, *New Commercial Directory* (1835); SA, 3365/2434 (QS Order Book, 1810-11), session Easter 1811.

<sup>247</sup> Trumper, 'Primitive Methodism'.

<sup>248</sup> *Ibid.*, p. 11.

<sup>249</sup> *Ibid.*, p. 20.

<sup>250</sup> *Ibid.*, p. 20.

<sup>251</sup> Field (ed.), *Church and Chapel*, p. 74 (no. 331).

<sup>252</sup> SA, 2045/3/21, letter, 1 Aug. 1956. '... some of whom are inactive and nearly all elderly, no Sunday School or youth organization'.

<sup>253</sup> SA, 3365/2434 (QS Order Book, 1810-11), session Easter 1811.

<sup>254</sup> Cox, "Simplicity without meanness", p. 71.

<sup>255</sup> Trumper, 'Primitive Methodism', p. 15.

<sup>256</sup> *Ibid.*, pp. 20-1.

<sup>257</sup> *Ibid.*, ch. IV.

- 1836 Impressive sermons here and at Wesleyan Chapel St John's Hill by 16 year-old Master Thomas Watson, travelling preacher. Collections for Primitive Methodist Chapel in London.<sup>258</sup>
- 1836 Sept. Talk on abstinence by Messrs Louder and Mogg, agents of teetotal societies.<sup>259</sup>
- 1845 Arguments over finances resolved; the chapel back on even footing.<sup>260</sup>
- 1847 13 Nov. Appointment of new trustees (which recites the earlier appointment of 1826).<sup>261</sup>
- 1872 Manse in Albert Street, Castlefields acquired for £280.<sup>262</sup>
- 1920 Albert Street manse renovated with a mortgage of £200.<sup>263</sup>
- 1925 Sunday 11 Jan. Interchange of Pulpits by Free Church Pastors. Also United Communion service at Claremont Baptist Church.<sup>264</sup>
- 1911 Anniversary celebration.<sup>265</sup>
- 1933 Represented at Union of Sunday Schools meeting at Abbey Foregate Congregational Chapel. Mayor and Mayoress present. Address by Sir James Startin.<sup>266</sup>
- 1956 Congregation joined St John's Hill Methodist Church.<sup>267</sup>

## Mission work<sup>268</sup>

- 1826-72 Very active evangelical congregation, establishing new congregations in Brinkworth, Bishops Castle, Newtown, Hadnall, Minsterley and Church Stretton, even in Northern Ireland in 1832.

## Ministers

Before

- 1824 Travelling ministers, linked to Oakengates Circuit.<sup>269</sup>
- 1824 Three itinerant preachers based in Shrewsbury from March Circuit: Mr Parks, Mr S. Smith, Mr T. Wall.<sup>270</sup>
- 1826 Thomas Butcher became Superintendent of circuit; G. Cutler and C. Haywood local preachers.<sup>271</sup>
- 1851 Census signed by Philip Pugh minister.<sup>272</sup>
- 1870 John Butcher.<sup>273</sup>
- 1881 William Evans.<sup>274</sup>
- 1885 Rev James Davies.<sup>275</sup>
- 1891 Rev Richard Lush.<sup>276</sup>
- 1895 Rev George Thomas Dunn Pidsley shared with Primitive Methodist Church Belle Vue.<sup>277</sup>
- 1905 Rev Albert A. Birchenough (Supt) and Rev F. Megan Ridge, shared with Primitive Methodist Church Belle Vue.<sup>278</sup>

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<sup>258</sup> SC, 26 Aug. 1836.

<sup>259</sup> SC, 9 Sept. 1836.

<sup>260</sup> Trumper, 'Primitive Methodism', ch. IV.

<sup>261</sup> SA, 6000/19093.

<sup>262</sup> SA, NM2045/2/22 (Albert Street Manse alterations: accounts and correspondence).

<sup>263</sup> Ibid.

<sup>264</sup> SC, 16 Jan. 1925.

<sup>265</sup> SC, 28 Apr. 1911.

<sup>266</sup> SC, 2 Jan. 1933.

<sup>267</sup> SA, NM2045/VI/1 (papers re. amalgamation of Shrewsbury Methodist Circuits 1933-35).

<sup>268</sup> For mission work, see Trumper 'Primitive Methodism', ch. 3; Morris, *History of Methodism*, pp. 18-19.

<sup>269</sup> Trumper, 'Primitive Methodism', pp. 11-12.

<sup>270</sup> Trumper, 'Primitive Methodism', p. 17.

<sup>271</sup> Trumper, 'Primitive Methodism', pp. 17-18.

<sup>272</sup> Field (ed.), *Church and Chapel*, p. 74 (no. 331).

<sup>273</sup> SA, NM2045/2/22 (Albert Street Manse alterations: accounts and correspondence).

<sup>274</sup> Census 1881.

<sup>275</sup> *Kelly's Post Office Directory, 1885*.

<sup>276</sup> Census 1891.

<sup>277</sup> *Kelly's Directory 1895*.

- 1913 Vacant.<sup>279</sup>  
1920-5 Rev William Chapman.<sup>280</sup>  
1934 Rev E. Coles reported as leaving for another ministry.<sup>281</sup>

### **History since closure as chapel (if applicable)**

- 1956 The decision to close the chapel was taken in 1956 and it was offered for sale by auction. Subsequently it was converted into apartments.<sup>282</sup> The sale money was given to the Harlescott Trust, as was also the pipe organ.<sup>283</sup>

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<sup>278</sup> *Kelly's Directory 1905.*

<sup>279</sup> *Kelly's Directory 1913.*

<sup>280</sup> *SC*, 10 Jul. 1925, 6.

<sup>281</sup> *SC*, 3 Feb. 1934, 9.

<sup>282</sup> Cox, ““Simplicity without meanness””, p. 74.

<sup>283</sup> Morris, *History of Methodism*, p. 18.

# A11 Castle Street, St. Nicholas, Presbyterian Church of England<sup>284</sup>

Grid reference: SJ 4940 1275      Shropshire HER: 16745      1851 Census no: Post-1851  
Registers: C 1868-1975; M 1934-1942. Stell, *Inventory*, no. 96.



Photograph 2019

## Construction

### Date

- 1869      Feb., plans approved: Mar. tenders invited for the erection of Church, school room and offices.<sup>285</sup> The chapel replaced (and was named after) the medieval chapel of St Nicholas Chapel that had occupied the site.<sup>286</sup>
- 1870      18 Jan. Foundation stone laid which contained a bottle holding copies of the *Daily Telegraph*, three local newspapers, the *Weekly Review*, the *Monthly Messenger*, copies of ‘the historical account’ and some coins. It was laid by Mr Robert Stewart of Ryton Grove. He used a mallet made from oak taken from the medieval chapel.<sup>287</sup>

### Cost/Funding

- 1869      Presbyterians purchased the site from Dr W. J. Clement of the Council House for £1500. Cost of school and church £2,000.<sup>288</sup>
- 1870s      ‘Crushing debt’.<sup>289</sup>

<sup>284</sup> The earlier history is based on Reavley (comp.), *Presbyterianism*, pp. 16-41 and Cox, “‘Simplicity without meanness’”, pp. 89-91. See also *Presbyterian church of England. St Nicholas, Castle St., Shrewsbury. Centenary souvenir record* [1970], copy at SA, 4212/6/2/1.

<sup>285</sup> *SC* 12 Feb., 12 Mar. 1869.

<sup>286</sup> Reavley, *Presbyterianism*, pp. 19-20.

<sup>287</sup> *SC*, 21 Jan. 1870, 7; *ESJ*, 19 Jan. 1870, 5.

<sup>288</sup> Cox, “‘Simplicity without meanness’”, p. 89.

<sup>289</sup> Reavley (comp.), *Presbyterianism*, pp. 16-41.

### **Architect**

R. C. Bennet of Weymouth.<sup>290</sup>

### **Builder**

Mr Farmer of Ironbridge.<sup>291</sup>

### **Additions/Alterations**

No information.

## **Description**

### **Size**

1882 500 sittings.<sup>292</sup>

### **Exterior**

Three-storeyed stone building in the Norman style, remarkably tall in proportion to length. The chapel and its galleries occupied the upper storeys. Romanesque style with stone walls of Grinshill stone with Bath stone dressings and a tiled roof. The south-west front had a wide arched entrance of three orders flanked by pilaster buttresses and a circular staircase tower at the west corner.<sup>293</sup> The schoolroom and vestry were located below the chapel with access from two corner entrances.<sup>294</sup>

### **Interior**

The nave had two side aisles covered by galleries. At the west end a pierced arcade was erected in case an end gallery was needed in the future. The clerestory with circular windows was supported by moulded stone arches and piers with carved capitals. There was a semi-circular apse at the east end with a rostrum accessible not only from the nave but also from the vestry on the floor below.<sup>295</sup>

### **Additional Buildings/Facilities**

No information.

## **Congregations meeting in this chapel**

### **Denomination**

Presbyterian.

### **Number of members**

1888-90 Only 26; no minister as a result of a disagreement.

1904 80 and increasing, with new minister.

1914 200.<sup>296</sup>

1968 110.<sup>297</sup>

1975 150 when the chapel closed.<sup>298</sup>

### **Language**

English.

## **Events<sup>299</sup>**

1865 Sunday School started even before the chapel was built.

1870 Congregation moved here from temporary accommodation at the Lion Hotel.

1870 Opening services; preachers Rev Prof Lorimer and Rev John Edmund of London. Rev Dr William Raitt of Stepney came too and gave a lecture in the Lion Room 'Fossil History in Words'.

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<sup>290</sup> Ibid., p. 19.

<sup>291</sup> Ibid., p. 19.

<sup>292</sup> OS 1:500 survey (1882).

<sup>293</sup> Stell, *Inventory*, p. 202.

<sup>294</sup> *Kelly's Post Office Directory, 1885*; *ESJ*, 21 Dec. 1870, 8.

<sup>295</sup> *ESJ*, 21 Dec. 1870, 8.

<sup>296</sup> *SC*, 20 Mar. 1914, 5.

<sup>297</sup> SA, NO4212/1/11/73, 'Shrewsbury United Reformed Church: its formation and administration, 1833-1982'.

<sup>298</sup> SA, 4212/1/360 (Memorandum on the Union of Abbey Foregate and St Nicholas Churches, Sept. 1975).

<sup>299</sup> Unless otherwise specified, events taken from Reavley (comp.), *Presbyterianism*, pp. 16-41.

- 1882 Memorial Service for James Birrell, a senior elder, who had been influential in opening the church. Minister Rev J. Nisbet Wallace preached.<sup>300</sup>
- 1882 Anniversary services, preacher Rev J. T. Campbell Gullen, RGS of Reading; lecture on following evening on 'Rambles among the Lakes, English, Irish and Scottish', after tea in the Working Men's Hall for 200 people.<sup>301</sup>
- 1890 Boys' Brigade formed.
- 1906-14 Many notable preachers and missionaries: Dr Munro Gibson, Dr F. B. Meyer, Herbert Booth, John McNeil, Dr R. C. Gillie, Dr MacEwan, Joseph Rorke, Dr MacKay.
- 1910 Special preacher, Rev R. Mellis, Moderator of Presbyterian Church of England.<sup>302</sup>
- 1910 Special preacher John McNeill, 'the well-known preacher'.<sup>303</sup>
- 1911 20 Apr. to 1 May. Organised a mission at the Music Hall with Dr J. Wilbur Chapman, Mr Charles Alexander, Special railway facilities and ticket prices arranged. The Music Hall packed.<sup>304</sup>
- 1911 Presentation of medal to Mr T. S. Price attached to Sunday School as scholar, teacher and superintendent for 41 years.<sup>305</sup>
- 1911 Sunday School Anniversary in May with special children's service.<sup>306</sup>
- 1914 62 men from congregation joined the army.
- 1925 18 Oct. Diamond Jubilee Celebrations. Preacher Rev Prof. C. A. Scott Cambridge.<sup>307</sup>
- 1933 Represented at Union of Sunday Schools meeting at Abbey Foregate Congregational. Mayor and Mayoress present. Address by Sir James Startin.<sup>308</sup>
- 1935 March Visit of Rev T. MacKay, General Secretary of English Presbyterian Church.<sup>309</sup>
- 1958 Joined with Belle Vue Methodists, Swan Hill, St David's and Radbrook Free Church for the Evangelical Alliance Week of Prayer; also exchanged preachers.<sup>310</sup>
- 1970 Centenary celebrations.<sup>311</sup>
- 1975 Joined the United Reformed Church, Abbey Foregate.<sup>312</sup>

## Mission work

No Information.

## Ministers<sup>313</sup>

- 1868-72 Rev James W. Cree.
- 1872-3 Rev John Stevens Miller.
- 1874-5 Rev John Vance Moore.
- 1875-85 Rev James Nisbet Wallace.
- 1886-8 Rev George Bennett.
- 1890-1905 Rev William Robert Thompson.
- 1905 Rev David Rowlands.<sup>314</sup>
- 1906-17 Rev B. Harvey-Jellie.

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<sup>300</sup> SA, q3361 4012/1, G. A. Thom (comp.), 'James Birrell, Notes and extracts from family papers' (c. 1990).

<sup>301</sup> *ibid.*

<sup>302</sup> SC, 13 May 1910.

<sup>303</sup> SC, 1 Jul. 1910.

<sup>304</sup> [reference needed]

<sup>305</sup> SC, 21 Apr. 1911.

<sup>306</sup> SC, 2 Jun. 1911.

<sup>307</sup> Reavley (comp.), *Presbyterianism*, pp. 38-9.

<sup>308</sup> SC, 2 Jan. 1933.

<sup>309</sup> SC, 8 Mar. 1935.

<sup>310</sup> SC, 17 Jan. 1958, 9.

<sup>311</sup> *Centenary Souvenir Record*.

<sup>312</sup> Stell, *Inventory*, p. 202.

<sup>313</sup> Unless otherwise noted, names of ministers are taken from *Centenary Souvenir Record*, p. 6 which differs from the list in Reavley (comp.), *Presbyterianism*, pp. 22-37.

<sup>314</sup> *Kelly's Directory, 1905*.

1918-21 Rev William Reid.  
1922-9 Rev Joseph Reavley.  
1930-3 Rev J. McGregor.  
1934-6 Rev William Williams.  
1936-40 Rev James Goodlet.  
1941-3 Rev Kenneth Slack.  
1943-6 Rev George H. Lamb.  
1947-50 Rev G. Armstrong Bannister.  
1951-8 Rev George H. Lamb.  
1959-68 Rev Leslie H. Bunn.  
1969 Rev Herbert Baker.

### **History since closure as chapel (if applicable)**

1975 Church closed and congregation joined United Reformed Church Abbey Foregate.<sup>315</sup>  
1975-2005 The building was used as offices.<sup>316</sup>  
1992 Council Offices.<sup>317</sup>  
2016 Café-bar/ spa/retail.<sup>318</sup>  
2018 Café-bar, boutique hotel.<sup>319</sup>

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<sup>315</sup> SA, 4212/1/360 (Memorandum on the Union of Abbey Foregate and St Nicholas Churches, Sept. 1975).

<sup>316</sup> SC, 13 Feb. 1987, 3.

<sup>317</sup> Local Information/Personal observation (2018-19).

<sup>318</sup> Local Information/Personal observation (2018-19).

<sup>319</sup> Local Information/Personal observation (2018-19).

## A12 Chester Street, Congregational Chapel

Grid reference: SJ 49305 13134 Shropshire HER: 29020 1851 Census no: post-1851



Photographs 2019

See also SA, PH/S/13/C/26/35, 9 Jul 1908, Crowd at foundation stone laying.

### **Construction**<sup>320</sup>

#### **Date**

1908-09 Chapel, Lecture Hall and Sunday School.

#### **Cost/Funding**

Building and site cost £3500. Only £500 had to be found after the sale of the Castle Gates chapel (A9).

#### **Architect**

A. B. Deakin of Shrewsbury.

#### **Builder**

No information.

#### **Additions/Alterations**

1933 Renovation over a few weeks by members of the church; church reopened early in July.<sup>321</sup>

### **Description**<sup>322</sup>

#### **Size**

It seated 500.

#### **Exterior**

Ruabon brick with Grinshill stone dressings. The upper stage of the tower incorporated four columns from the portico of the Castle Gates Chapel (A9). Lecture hall and Sunday school at side.

#### **Interior**

Spacious Sunday school and lecture hall.

#### **Additional Buildings/Facilities**

No information.

### **Congregations meeting in this chapel**

#### **Denomination**

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<sup>320</sup> SC, 10 Jul 1908.

<sup>321</sup> SC, 30 Jun. 1933.

<sup>322</sup> *Kelly's Directory 1913*.



1909 Independents (or Congregationalists).<sup>323</sup>

### Number of members

By the 1930s the size of congregation had fallen considerably.<sup>324</sup>

### Language

English.

### Events

- 1909 Moved here from Castle Gates Chapel.<sup>325</sup>
- 1925 Interchange of Pulpits by Free Church Pastors on Sunday 11 Jan. Also United Communion service at Claremont Baptist Church.<sup>326</sup>
- 1925 Annual Choir services were so popular that it was decided to hold them more frequently.<sup>327</sup>
- 1933 Represented at Union of Sunday Schools meeting at Abbey Foregate Congregational. Mayor and Mayoress were present. Address by Sir James Startin.<sup>328</sup>
- 1935 Rev D. E. Davies and Rev A. Cole both present at anniversary.<sup>329</sup>
- 1935 Jan. Sunday School Party; 70 senior children attended.<sup>330</sup>
- 1935 Feb. Held monthly social to raise money for church funds.<sup>331</sup>
- 1935 Feb, Children's operetta in aid of Sunday School funds.<sup>332</sup>
- 1942 Closed because of declining membership.<sup>333</sup>

### Mission work

No information.

### Ministers

- 1911 Rev William Fry retiring.<sup>334</sup>
- 1935 Rev W. P. Cousins of Stockport (temporary pastor).<sup>335</sup>
- 1934 Rev J. W. Price.<sup>336</sup>

### History since closure as chapel (if applicable)

- 1942 Let to the Ministry of Supply.<sup>337</sup>
- 1975 Buildings sold.<sup>338</sup>
- Matthews and Peart, Coton Hill Glass Merchants.<sup>339</sup>
- 2004 Bought by Lullabyes nursery shop.<sup>340</sup>
- 2017 For let notice.<sup>341</sup>

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<sup>323</sup> SA, 4950/1/12 (Shropshire Congregational Union Records; file on Coton Hill Chapel).

<sup>324</sup> Cox, "Simplicity without meanness".

<sup>325</sup> SA, 4950/1/12 (Shropshire Congregational Union Records; file on Coton Hill Chapel).

<sup>326</sup> SC, 16 Jan. 1925, 6 Local Free Church interchange and combine.

<sup>327</sup> SC, 24 Jul. 1925, 6.

<sup>328</sup> SC, 2 Jan. 1933.

<sup>329</sup> SC, 12 Apr. 1935.

<sup>330</sup> SC, 4 Jan. 1935.

<sup>331</sup> SC, 1 Feb. 1935.

<sup>332</sup> SC, 22 Feb. 1935.

<sup>333</sup> Cox, "Simplicity without meanness", p. 81

<sup>334</sup> SC, 7 Apr. 1911.

<sup>335</sup> SC, 16 Aug. 1935.

<sup>336</sup> SC, 12 Oct. 1934.

<sup>337</sup> SA, 4950/1/12 (Shropshire Congregational Union Records; file on Coton Hill Chapel).

<sup>338</sup> Ibid.

<sup>339</sup> Cox, "Simplicity without meanness". p. 81

<sup>340</sup> SC, 29 Jan. 2004.

<sup>341</sup> Local Information/Personal observation (2018-19)

## A13 Claremont Street (formerly Dog Lane) Baptist Chapel (Shrewsbury Baptist Church)<sup>342</sup>

Grid reference: SJ 4898 1253 Shropshire HER: 16740 1851 Census no: 350  
Registers: M 1718-1868, transcript C 1766-1808; Bi 1808-1837. Stell, *Inventory*, no. 90.  
Website (2018): <https://shrewsburybaptistchurch.org.uk/>



© Shropshire Archives, PH/S/13/C/18/66, c 1877 (1st chapel)



Photograph 2019.

<sup>342</sup> Cox, “Simplicity without meanness”, pp. 64-5. [M. M. T.], *From Duns Shut to Claremont St, 1620-1970* [n.d., c. 1970]. Collis, *Baptist Churches*, pp. 93-7. There is also a *Tercentenary souvenir* by W. H. Compton (1920), a copy of which we have been unable to locate.

See also SA, PH/S/13/C/18/68.9, 1980.

## First Chapel

### Construction

#### Date

1780 22 Sept.<sup>343</sup>

#### Cost/Funding

No information.

#### Architect

No information.

#### Builder

No information.

#### Additions/Alterations<sup>344</sup>

1809/10 Chapel enlarged to hold double the congregation and insured for £800.

1810 Sunday school room added at rear, to accommodate 150 children.

### Description

#### Size

1851 Sittings 124 + 460.<sup>345</sup>

#### Exterior

1810 'Plain respectable brick building'.<sup>346</sup>

1810 Insurance says brick, slate, tile.<sup>347</sup>

#### Interior

In 1816 Thomas Howell visited and wrote 'with a well-furnished interior, it is perhaps, from the awkward situation of the pulpit, and its extreme lowness, one of the most unpleasant chapels in the town, especially when crowded, which is often the case on particular occasions'.<sup>348</sup>

#### Additional Buildings/Facilities

1829 The plot adjoining the old chapel was bought in this year for £670 (the proceeds from the old meeting house in Stillyard Shut, now Golden Cross passage).<sup>349</sup>

The chapel had its own burial ground. In 1855 the burial ground was still in existence between chapel and street, but was reported to be full with about 80 adults and more than 20 child interments.<sup>350</sup> It has been postulated that there may be a vault below the chapel, as the Act forbidding burial within a place of worship was not enacted until the 1850s. A probable vault was recorded in the GPR data to the east of the chapel forecourt.<sup>351</sup> In 1880 a few decayed grave-slabs of the early 19th century were reported to remain in the forecourt.<sup>352</sup>

## Second Chapel

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<sup>343</sup> [M. T. T.], *From Duns Shut to Claremont Street*, p. 7.

<sup>344</sup> N. Baker, 'An Archaeological Desk-based Assessment of Land at Barker Street' (SCCAS Report, 2007).

<sup>345</sup> Field (ed.), *Church and Chapel*, p. 79 (no. 350).

<sup>346</sup> T. J. Howell, *The Stranger in Shrewsbury* (1816), p. 72.

<sup>347</sup> SA, 4791/1/8 (Salop Fire Office), p. 300.

<sup>348</sup> Howell, *The Stranger in Shrewsbury*, p. 72.

<sup>349</sup> SA, 6001/3057, H. Pidgeon, *Salopian Annals*, VI, 3 Mar. 1829.

<sup>350</sup> Baker, 'Assessment of Land at Barker Street'.

<sup>351</sup> K. Saunders, 'Excavation Report: Land at Barker Street/Claremont Street: Additional Archaeological Evaluation' (Cotswold Archaeology, 2009); M. Roseveare, and M. Lafuente, 'Geophysical Survey Report Barker Street, Shrewsbury' (Archaeophysica, 2008).

<sup>352</sup> John Barker. *Shrewsbury Free Churches, Their History and Romance Being the Story of the Beginning and Growth of the Free Churches of Shrewsbury from the Great Ejection of 1662 to the Present Time* (c. 1914).

## Construction

### Date

- 1863 Failed attempt to raise funds for rebuilding. By the mid-1870s the building was in a poor state of repair.<sup>353</sup>
- 1877-8 A new chapel was built occupying the same site and also the adjoining plot. The foundation stone was laid in August 1877.<sup>354</sup>

### Cost/Funding

- 1877 The new chapel, with Sunday School, cost £2,500 with a mortgage of £1,000.<sup>355</sup>

### Architect

Richard Owen of Liverpool.<sup>356</sup>

### Builder

John Barrett, carpenter and joiner.<sup>357</sup>

### Additions/Alterations

- 1885 Reopened after a thorough cleaning and renovation.<sup>358</sup>
- 2009 and later A planning application was granted to demolish chapel and rebuild two storeys on the existing footprint, retaining the front elevation as part of a much larger redevelopment of the land between the chapel and Barker St. The larger project was never implemented but the chapel was substantially demolished except for its façade and rebuilt. There is a cafe and meeting rooms on the ground floor and a public hall on the first floor.<sup>359</sup>

## Description

### Size

- 1882 600 seats.<sup>360</sup>

### Exterior

- 1877 Italianate façade of Ruabon brick with stone dressings, the centre bay having a pediment supported by paired Corinthian pilasters and with open balustrades with urns above the flanking bays.<sup>361</sup> The sides are very plain with no ornamentation.<sup>362</sup>

### Interior

- 1877 The chapel measured 57' by 39' with a gallery at one end with two schoolrooms and a vestry behind.<sup>363</sup>

### Additional Buildings/Facilities

- 1911 A new organ was installed.<sup>364</sup>
- 1945 The war made it difficult to rent a house in Shrewsbury so 'Arran', a house in South Hermitage, was purchased as a manse by Mr Gee who rented it to Claremont at a generously low figure and bequeathed it to the church in his will.<sup>365</sup>

## Congregations meeting in this chapel

### Denomination

- 1780 Baptists.

### Number of members

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<sup>353</sup> [M. T. T.], *From Duns Shut to Claremont Street*, pp. 9-10.

<sup>354</sup> *Ibid.*, p. 10.

<sup>355</sup> *Ibid.*, p. 10.

<sup>356</sup> *ESJ*, 8 Aug. 1877.

<sup>357</sup> SA, 4791/1/8 (Salop Fire Office), p. 300.

<sup>358</sup> *WJ*, 14 Mar. 1885.

<sup>359</sup> SCPR, 09/00588 FUL; 09/02760 FUL, local information/personal observation (2018-19, 2021).

<sup>360</sup> OS 1:500 survey (1882).

<sup>361</sup> *Kelly's Post Office Directory*, 1885.

<sup>362</sup> *Stell, Inventory*, no. 90.

<sup>363</sup> *ESJ*, 8 Aug. 1877, 6.

<sup>364</sup> *SC*, 10 Nov. 1911, 7.

<sup>365</sup> [M. T. T.], *From Duns Shut to Claremont Street*, p. 11.

- 1815 about 600 worshippers.<sup>366</sup>  
1851 average adult attendance 200.<sup>367</sup>

## Language

English.

## Events

- 1780 Congregation moved here from Stillyard/Stillier Shut (now Golden Cross Passage).<sup>368</sup>  
1790 Church dissolved because of warring factions. New, strictly Calvinistic, declaration of faith were drawn up.<sup>369</sup>  
1794 John Palmer, then a medical student, began to preach.<sup>370</sup>  
1827 Due to overcrowding and a disagreement with their new minister some members moved from Claremont St. to form The Second Baptist Cause in a new chapel in Chapel Court, off Castle Foregate (A8).<sup>371</sup>  
1848 Missionary and Recognition Service. Rev F. A. Cox of Hackney and Rev J. P. Mursell of Leicester attended meetings in connection with the Baptist Mission and recognition of Mr P. J. Williams as pastor of this chapel.<sup>372</sup>  
1858 Members leased the Quaker meeting room in St John's Hill.<sup>373</sup>  
1872 6 Oct. Members from St John's Hill, Quaker meeting house re-joined Claremont Street.<sup>374</sup>  
1877 The old chapel having fallen into disrepair, a scheme for rebuilding was put in place and implemented after the arrival of Rev. W. Wright Robinson in 1876. Notice of removal of a furniture store from 2 & 3 Claremont St to allow building of the new chapel on the site.<sup>375</sup>  
1883 For the Anniversary of Claremont Street chapel a tea and entertainment was held in the Working Men's Hall. Miss Mary Baskin, a popular authoress and reciter, attracted an audience of about 400.<sup>376</sup>  
1910 Lecture with lantern slides, 'Our cruise in the Mediterranean'.<sup>377</sup>  
1910 Tea, with huge numbers, held at Working Men's Hall.<sup>378</sup>  
1911 Sunday school anniversary services held in June with special young person's service, Rev J. Meredith of Hereford preached. Recitations, dialogues and special hymns by scholars.<sup>379</sup>  
1911 Installation of new organ. Musical service. Organist from Abbey Foregate gave recital.<sup>380</sup>  
1914 School room used as a recreation room for soldiers, for letter writing, chatting and games.<sup>381</sup>  
1925 Sunday 11 Jan. Interchange of pulpits by Free Church Pastors. Also United Communion service held at this church.<sup>382</sup>  
1933 Represented at Union of Sunday Schools meeting at Abbey Foregate Congregational. Mayor and Mayoress were present. Address by Sir James Startin.<sup>383</sup>

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<sup>366</sup> *Salopian Magazine* 1825, pp. 459-60.

<sup>367</sup> Field (ed.), *Church and Chapel*, p. 79 (no. 350).

<sup>368</sup> For the earlier history of this congregation, Collis, *Baptist Churches*, pp. 93-5.

<sup>369</sup> *Ibid.*, p. 7.

<sup>370</sup> *Ibid.*, p. 7.

<sup>371</sup> J. Wood, Plan of Shrewsbury (1838); Cox, "Simplicity without meanness", pp. 64-5; Collis, *Baptist Churches*, p. 96.

<sup>372</sup> SC, 8 Dec. 1848.

<sup>373</sup> SA, 5187/MH/1 (lease, 1858).

<sup>374</sup> [M. T. T.], *From Duns Shut to Claremont Street*, p. 9.

<sup>375</sup> Collis, *Baptist Churches*, p. 96; WJ, 20 Jan. 1877.

<sup>376</sup> SJ, 14 Nov. 1883.

<sup>377</sup> SC, 23 Sep. 1910.

<sup>378</sup> SC, 21 Oct. 1910.

<sup>379</sup> SC, 16 Jun. 1911.

<sup>380</sup> SC, 10 Nov. 1911.

<sup>381</sup> [M. T. T.], *From Duns Shut to Claremont Street*, p. 10.

<sup>382</sup> SC, 16 Jan. 1925.

<sup>383</sup> SC, 2 Jan. 1933.

- 1934 Anniversary Service of Women's Fellowship with women officiating; preacher Mrs W. Cole.<sup>384</sup>
- 1934 Anniversary preacher Rev David Jerman from Southport.<sup>385</sup>
- 1935 Feb. Concert for church funds.<sup>386</sup>
- 1935 Mar. Anniversary of Women's Fellowship.<sup>387</sup>
- 1935 Apr. Concert in aid of church funds.<sup>388</sup>
- 1957 During the Christmas/New Year period, a service was broadcast nationally, with the Rev Matthew Francis preaching and the collection going to the British Empire Cancer Research Campaign.<sup>389</sup>
- 1958 Crowmoor Chapel opened as branch of Claremont St.<sup>390</sup>
- 1958 Throughout the year, notices of Sunday School parties and anniversaries and special services.<sup>391</sup>
- 2012 Amalgamated with Crowmoor Baptist Chapel. This chapel was renamed as Shrewsbury Central as a meeting place with a coffee shop.<sup>392</sup>

## Mission work

No information.

## Ministers<sup>393</sup>

- 1793-4 Pastor John Palmer.
- 1872 Rev Robert Shindler first pastor of the United Church: St John's Hill and Claremont Street.
- 1823-44 Rev Manoah Kent.
- 1848 Mr P. J. Williams.<sup>394</sup>
- 1851 Census return signed by John Simons, Deacon.<sup>395</sup>
- 1852-67 Rev Thomas How.<sup>396</sup>
- 1870 Rev Henry Angus.<sup>397</sup>
- 1876 Rev W. Wright Robinson.<sup>398</sup>
- 1876-85 Presentation to Rev. W. Wright Robinson, pastor of Claremont Street Chapel for nine years, on his removal to Redditch.<sup>399</sup>
- 1889-91 Rev Hector Thomas.<sup>400</sup>
- 1895 Rev William Manrich.<sup>401</sup>
- 1900-11 Rev T. W. Hart.<sup>402</sup>
- 1911-22 Rev W. H. Compton.<sup>403</sup>
- 1923-38 Rev E. G. Cole.
- 1939-45 Rev W. Galbraith.

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<sup>384</sup> SC, 23 Mar. 1934.

<sup>385</sup> SC, 26 Oct. 1934.

<sup>386</sup> SC, 1 Feb. 1935.

<sup>387</sup> SC, 29 Mar. 1935.

<sup>388</sup> SC, 12 Apr. 1935.

<sup>389</sup> SC, 3 Jan. 1958.

<sup>390</sup> [M. T. T.], *From Duns Shut to Claremont Street*, p. 12.

<sup>391</sup> SC, 3 Jan. 1958, 6.

<sup>392</sup> Local Information/Personal observation (2018-19)

<sup>393</sup> [M. T. T.], *From Duns Shut to Claremont Street*, p. 3.

<sup>394</sup> SC, 8 Dec. 1848.

<sup>395</sup> Field (ed.), *Church and Chapel*, p. 79 (no. 350).

<sup>396</sup> *Post Office Directory of Shropshire, 1856*.

<sup>397</sup> *Post Office Directory of Shropshire, 1870*.

<sup>398</sup> *ESJ*, 11 Mar. 1885.

<sup>399</sup> *Kelly's Post Office Directory, 1885*.

<sup>400</sup> *WJ*, 4 May 1889.

<sup>401</sup> *Kelly's Directory 1895*.

<sup>402</sup> SC, 10 Nov. 1911, 7.

<sup>403</sup> *Kelly's Directory 1913*.

1945-6	Rev C. H. Wooster.
1952-7	Rev Eric Haydon.
1957	Rev Matthew Francis.
1962-4	Deaconess Sister Heather Hunt (for Claremont and Crowmoor).
1964	Rev Walter C. Davey.
1967	Roger March for 2 years as assistant pastor.
1970	Ron Lycett (lay pastor). <sup>404</sup>
1973	Frank Davies (lay pastor). <sup>405</sup>
1978	Dr Peter Quinton. <sup>406</sup>
2004-19	Charles Crosland. <sup>407</sup>

### **History since closure as chapel (if applicable)<sup>408</sup>**

2018. Now called 'Central', the chapel is still consecrated and used by the congregation of the amalgamated Crowmoor and Claremont Baptists. Informal church gatherings, discussion groups and choir practices take place here.<sup>409</sup> The upstairs hall is available for rent, with a kitchen and Wi-Fi access. Weekly baby and toddler groups, sewing groups, exercise classes, self-defence classes and meetings of various charities. The ground floor is used as a café with an adjoining meeting room.

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<sup>404</sup> Pattison, *On Severn Shore*, p. 61

<sup>405</sup> *Ibid.*, pp. 61-6; *SC*, Sep. 1977.

<sup>406</sup> Pattison, *On Severn Shore*, p. 62.

<sup>407</sup> Local Information/Personal observation (2018-19).

<sup>408</sup> Local Information/Personal observation (2018-19).

<sup>409</sup> Local Information/Personal observation (2018-19); <https://shrewsburybaptistchurch.org.uk/>, viewed 2019.

# A14 Corporation Lane, Quaker Meeting House (former St. Catherine's Anglican Mission Hall)

Grid reference: SJ 49068 13503      Shropshire HER: 318751851      Census no: post-1851  
Websites (2018):      <http://https://shrewsbury.quakermeeting.org/history/>:  
<http://heritage.quaker.org.uk/files/Shrewsbury%20LM.pdf>



Photographs 2019

## Construction

### Date

1930      20 Mar. Bishop of Lichfield laid foundation stone of a mission room for St Mary's Church, St Catherine's Hall. Consecrated October 1930.<sup>410</sup>

1985-6      Bought by Quakers and altered to become a meeting house.<sup>411</sup>

### Cost/Funding

£30,000.<sup>412</sup>

### Architect

F. M. Drake of Shayler and Drake.<sup>413</sup>

### Builder

No information

### Additions/Alterations<sup>414</sup>

1990s      Attic rooms were converted into children's rooms by local architects Baart James Newall.

2003      The former stage at the west end was adapted as a library and separate meeting room, and a ramp was built along the north side of the building.

2014      A photovoltaic array was installed on the south pitch of the roof.<sup>415</sup>

## Description

### Size

No information.

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<sup>410</sup> 'Friends' Meeting House, Shrewsbury' (Architectural History Practice, 2015), unpaginated, copy held by HER.

<sup>411</sup> Ibid.

<sup>412</sup> <https://shrewsbury.quakermeeting.org/history/> (viewed 20 Oct. 2021).

<sup>413</sup> Trinder, *Beyond the Bridges*, p. 137.

<sup>414</sup> 'Friends' Meeting House, Shrewsbury'.

<sup>415</sup> 'Friends' Meeting House, Shrewsbury'.



## **Exterior**

Single storey, but with windows in roof. Brick with tile roof.<sup>416</sup>

## **Interior**

1985-6 Interior was subdivided to create a smaller hall for worship, with a classroom, kitchen and separate rooms at the east end; and a staircase and first floor were inserted in the south-east corner.<sup>417</sup>

## **Additional Buildings/Facilities**

1991-2013 The garden to the west of the meeting house was used for the scattering of ashes.<sup>418</sup>

## **Congregations meeting in this chapel**

### **Denomination**

1930 Consecrated as Anglican place of worship (St Mary's Parish) to serve a 1920s estate on Coton Hill.<sup>419</sup>

1986-2019 Quakers.<sup>420</sup>

### **Number of members**

2018 50.<sup>421</sup>

### **Language**

English.

## **Events**

1986 The Society moved from temporary premises into this chapel as their meeting house.<sup>422</sup>

2019 Several rooms were available for hire.<sup>423</sup>

## **Mission work**

No information.

## **Ministers**

No information.

## **History since closure as chapel (if applicable)**

Still in use as a meeting house.

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<sup>416</sup> Local Information/Personal observation (2018-19).

<sup>417</sup> 'Friends' Meeting House, Shrewsbury'.

<sup>418</sup> Ibid.

<sup>419</sup> Ibid.

<sup>420</sup> Ibid.

<sup>421</sup> <https://shrewsbury.quakermeeting.org/history/> (viewed 20 Oct. 2021).

<sup>422</sup> 'Friends' Meeting House, Shrewsbury'.

<sup>423</sup> Local Information/Personal observation (2018-19).

## A15 Crowmere Road, Crowmoor Baptist Church (Shrewsbury Baptist Church)<sup>424</sup>

Grid reference: SJ 50284 12732      Shropshire HER:      1851 Census no: post-1851  
Website (2018): <https://shrewsburybaptistchurch.org.uk/>



Photograph 2019

### **Construction**<sup>425</sup>

#### **Date**

1958      July-Oct. Chapel and Sunday School opened.

#### **Cost/Funding**

1958      The site was purchased by Claremont Baptist Church.

#### **Architect**

Not known.<sup>426</sup>

#### **Builder**

No Information.

#### **Additions/alterations**

1988      A new polygonal chapel was erected adjoining the original.<sup>427</sup>

### **Description**

#### **Size**

1958      200 seats.

#### **Exterior**

Rectangular hall with polygonal auditorium. Brick; porch at front.<sup>428</sup>

#### **Interior**

Large auditorium is fitted as main chapel. It has wooden roof with windows inserted. Walls are of brick. Seating is formed of individual chairs that can be arranged in a semi-circle. There is a

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<sup>424</sup> This account is largely based on Pattison, *On Severn Shore*, pp. 61-3 and Collis, *Baptist Churches*, pp. 99-100.

<sup>425</sup> Pattison, *On Severn Shore*, p. 61.

<sup>426</sup> Pattison, *On Severn Shore*. [Not in Pattison?]

<sup>427</sup> <http://www.users.waitrose.com/~coxfamily/shrewchr.htm>, viewed 2019.

<sup>428</sup> Local Information/Personal observation (2018-19).

designated place for a band. The pulpit is close to the congregation. Both auditorium and hall are equipped with audio-visual equipment, screens and Wi-Fi.<sup>429</sup>

### **Additional Buildings / Facilities**

1988 New building added to meet increase in membership.<sup>430</sup>

## **Congregations meeting in this chapel<sup>431</sup>**

### **Denomination**

1958 Baptist.

### **Number of members**

1977 Approximately 150 members.

2019 About 150 adults and 40 young people.

### **Language**

English.

## **Events<sup>432</sup>**

1958 Claremont Baptist Church purchased land on new housing estate in Monkmoor.

1958 July, Sunday school opened; October first Sunday service. Staffed by people from Claremont Church with short-term help from missionaries in training.

Early 1970s Became part of the Charismatic Movement and services became more modern, though church remained true to its Baptist roots and theology.

1977 Organised 'praise rallies' with other churches, featuring well-known speakers and attracting audiences of up to 500.

1977 Recognised that the chapel was too small and a temporary portacabin was erected. The church failed in its search for another building and Council turned down a planning application.

1978 The membership of Crowmoor is separated from that of Claremont and Crowmoor becomes a separate church.<sup>433</sup>

1983 Decision made to divide the church. Half stayed in Crowmoor under Ron Lycett and half formed a new church, the Barnabas Christian Fellowship under Frank Davies.<sup>434</sup>

1988 Congregation became too large, so a chapel was built adjoining the original hall.<sup>435</sup>

2012 This congregation merged with the congregation of Claremont Baptist Church, the two known collectively as the Shrewsbury Baptist Church.<sup>436</sup>

2018 Most services are held in this church, though Central is still consecrated and prayer meetings take place there.<sup>437</sup>

2019 Great interest in outreach and community work and in the provision of activities for children and young people.<sup>438</sup>

## **Mission work**

No information.

## **Ministers<sup>439</sup>**

1970 Ron Lycett (lay pastor).

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<sup>429</sup> <https://shrewsburybaptistchurch.org.uk/>, viewed 2019.

<sup>430</sup> <http://www.users.waitrose.com/~coxfamily/shrewchr.htm>, viewed 2019.

<sup>431</sup> Pattison, *On Severn Shore*, p. 61.

<sup>432</sup> Pattison, *On Severn Shore*, p. 61.

<sup>433</sup> Collis, *Baptist Churches*, p. 99.

<sup>434</sup> Pattison, *On Severn Shore*, p. 63; Collis, *Baptist Churches*, p. 100; *SC*, 4 Oct. 1985, 1.

<sup>435</sup> <http://www.users.waitrose.com/~coxfamily/shrewchr.htm>, viewed 2019; Collis, *Baptist Churches*, p. 100.

<sup>436</sup> Local Information/Personal observation (2018-19).

<sup>437</sup> Local Information/Personal observation (2018-19).

<sup>438</sup> <https://shrewsburybaptistchurch.org.uk/>, viewed 2019.

<sup>439</sup> Pattison, *On Severn Shore*, pp. 61-7.

1973 Frank Davies (lay pastor).  
1978 Dr Peter Quinton.  
2019 Charles Crosland.<sup>440</sup>

**History since closure as chapel (if applicable)**

Still in use as a chapel.

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<sup>440</sup> <https://shrewsburybaptistchurch.org.uk/>, viewed 2019.

# A16 Dogpole, Tabernacle Welsh Independent Chapel<sup>441</sup>

Grid reference: SJ 4934 1244  
1851. Stell, *Inventory*, no. 92.

Shropshire HER: 16742

1851 Census no: Post-



Photograph 2019

## Construction

### Date

1862 27 Apr. Chapel and integral Sunday School opened.<sup>442</sup>

### Cost/Funding

£1,821. The debt was finally paid off in 1880.

### Architect

Rev Thomas Thomas of Swansea, minister of religion and noted chapel architect.<sup>443</sup>

### Builder

Treasure.<sup>444</sup>

### Additions/alterations

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<sup>441</sup> This account is largely based on Elliot, *Congregationalism*, pp. 259-64. Also Cox, “Simplicity without meanness”, p. 79. This congregation had been founded in 1842 and initially met in a rented room in Howard St (B41). In 1845 they bought land on Pride Hill and erected a chapel (A38).

<sup>442</sup> SC, 25 Apr. 1862. It may have carried the date 1860 on the frontage (Elliot, *Congregationalism*, plate after p. 261).

<sup>443</sup> *Congregational Year Book, 1862-1873*; Cox, “Simplicity without meanness”, p. 79.

<sup>444</sup> SC, 25 Apr. 1862, 4.

- 1888 Building thoroughly renovated.<sup>445</sup>  
1910 Premises heated by low pressure hot water apparatus.<sup>446</sup>

## Description

### Size

- 1862 400 seats.<sup>447</sup>  
1882 500 seats.<sup>448</sup>  
1885 400 seats.<sup>449</sup>  
1895 350 seats.<sup>450</sup>  
1905 500 seats.<sup>451</sup>

### Exterior

Brick with a stone façade. Three-bay Italianate front of ashlar.<sup>452</sup> Described as ‘An ornament to the locality in which it is situated’.<sup>453</sup> ‘A memorial of 1662’ was inscribed on the façade on the 200th anniversary of ejection of puritan clergy from their livings by Act of Uniformity.<sup>454</sup>

### Interior

There was a large arch which could be opened to connect the schoolroom with the chapel, increasing the chapel’s capacity if required. At the back there was a vestry, schoolroom and a house for the chapel keeper.

### Additional buildings/Facilities

No information.

## Congregations meeting in this chapel

### Denomination

1862-1972 Welsh Independents (or Congregationalists).

### Number of members

1950s Membership had trebled to 126.<sup>455</sup>

### Language

Welsh.

## Events

- 1860 Due to confined space and increasing numbers in the Jerusalem Chapel, in Wagon and Horses Passage (Seventy Steps) the Welsh Independents purchased this site, formerly a coach house and stables.<sup>456</sup>  
1861 Tenders from builders and contractors were invited for the erection of a new chapel.<sup>457</sup>  
1862 The congregation moved here from Jerusalem Chapel.<sup>458</sup>  
1862 27 Apr. Opening Service.<sup>459</sup>  
1864 2 May. The chapel was registered for the solemnization of marriages.<sup>460</sup>

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<sup>445</sup> Elliot, *Congregationalism*, p. 264.

<sup>446</sup> SA, 4791/1/12.

<sup>447</sup> Cox, ““Simplicity without meanness””, p. 79.

<sup>448</sup> OS 1:500 survey (1882).

<sup>449</sup> *Kelly’s Post Office Directory, 1885*.

<sup>450</sup> *Kelly’s Directory, 1895*.

<sup>451</sup> *Kelly’s Directory, 1905*.

<sup>452</sup> Stell, *Inventory*, p. 201; *Congregational Year Book, 1862-1873*.

<sup>453</sup> *The Nonconformist*, 440, 14 May 1862.

<sup>454</sup> *Congregational Year Book, 1862-1873*; Elliot, *Congregationalism*. The illustration in Elliot, *Congregationalism*, p. 261, shows different lettering on the façade to that present today.

<sup>455</sup> SC, 7 Oct. 1955.

<sup>456</sup> *The Nonconformist*, 440, 14 May 1862.

<sup>457</sup> SC, 25 Jan. 1861.

<sup>458</sup> Elliot, *Congregationalism*, p. 000.

<sup>459</sup> SC, 25 Apr. 1862, 4.

<sup>460</sup> SC, 6 May 1864.

- 1872 Joint service at The Tabernacle with Hills Lane Chapel (Welsh Calvinists).<sup>461</sup>  
1910 House and school room were insured for £400, fixtures for £200.<sup>462</sup>  
1955 Partly due to an influx of Welsh engineering apprentices, membership had risen to 126.<sup>463</sup>  
1972 Congregation moved to share the premises of the Independents on Swan Hill.<sup>464</sup>

## Mission work

No information.

## Ministers

- 1863-70 Rev Richard Davies.<sup>465</sup>  
1870 Rev John Davies.<sup>466</sup>  
1885 Rev John Davies.<sup>467</sup>  
1895 Rev John Davies.<sup>468</sup>  
1905 Rev Jonathon Ernán Evans.<sup>469</sup>  
1913 Rev David Watkins Owen.<sup>470</sup>  
1922 Rev David Watkins Owen.<sup>471</sup>  
1927-32 No permanent minister.<sup>472</sup>  
1932 Mr J. T. Aubrey.<sup>473</sup>  
1934-50 No permanent minister.<sup>474</sup>

## History since closure as chapel (if applicable)

- 1972 Closed as chapel and sold to become commercial premises and offices: over the years it has been the home to Purbeck Pottery, United Friendly Insurance.<sup>475</sup>  
2019 Shop. To let notice.<sup>476</sup>

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<sup>461</sup> SC, 1 Mar 1872.

<sup>462</sup> SA, 4791/1/12.

<sup>463</sup> SC, 7 Oct. 1955, 8.

<sup>464</sup> *Congregational History Circle Magazine*, 3 (12) (Nov. 1979).

<sup>465</sup> *Post Office Directory of Shropshire, 1863*; *Post Office Directory of Shropshire, 1870*.

<sup>466</sup> *Kelly's Post Office Directory, 1879*.

<sup>467</sup> *Kelly's Post Office Directory, 1885*.

<sup>468</sup> *Kelly's Directory 1895*.

<sup>469</sup> *Kelly's Directory 1905*.

<sup>470</sup> *Kelly's Directory 1913*.

<sup>471</sup> *Kelly's Directory 1922*.

<sup>472</sup> SC, 7 Oct. 1955, 8.

<sup>473</sup> SC, 17 Jun. 1932.

<sup>474</sup> SC, 7 Oct. 1955, 8.

<sup>475</sup> Cox, ““Simplicity without meanness””.

<sup>476</sup> Local Information/Personal observation (2018-19).

## A17 Field Crescent Harlescott, Methodist Church Hall

Grid reference: SJ 51557 15190  
1851

Shropshire HER:

1851 Census no: post-



Photo of original building taken from the Facebook page  
'For the love of Shrewsbury'

### **Construction**<sup>477</sup>

#### **Date**

1955 Started search for suitable site in Harlescott. Found a large plot at the Meadows Estate.  
1958 7 June, stone-laying ceremony, including the laying of bricks by Sunday School scholars.<sup>478</sup> 6 Dec., hall opened and dedicated.

#### **Cost/Funding**

1955 Site cost £750.<sup>479</sup>

#### **Architect**

A. G. Chant.<sup>480</sup>

#### **Builder**

No information.

#### **Additions/Alterations**

No information.

### **Description**

#### **Size**

1958 Seats 200.<sup>481</sup>

#### **Exterior**

1958 This was designed as a Methodist church hall. The site had room for an adjoining church.<sup>482</sup>

#### **Interior**

Classrooms and other ancillary buildings.

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<sup>477</sup> Morris, *History of Methodism*, pp. 37-8.

<sup>478</sup> *WJ*, 6 Dec. 1958.

<sup>479</sup> Morris, *History of Methodism*, p. 37.

<sup>480</sup> *WJ*, 6 Dec. 1958.

<sup>481</sup> *WJ*, 6 Dec. 1958.

<sup>482</sup> *WJ*, 6 Dec. 1958.



### **Additional Buildings / Facilities**

No information.

### **Congregations meeting in this chapel<sup>483</sup>**

#### **Denomination**

1958-95 Shrewsbury Wesleyan Methodist Circuit.

#### **Number of members**

1989 47.

#### **Language**

English.

### **Events**

- 1955-8 Several new housing estates had been built in North Shrewsbury and Ditherington Chapel was too small and too far away.<sup>484</sup>
- 1958 The congregation from Ditherington Chapel moved here. At the opening ceremony Rev C. Leonard Tudor preached in the morning and Rev Brian S. O’Gorman in the evening.<sup>485</sup>
- 1958 19 Dec., 180 scholars were enrolled in the new Sunday School, the Women’s Fellowship met for a carol service and the Methodist Guild had its first meeting here.<sup>486</sup>

### **Mission work**

No information.

### **Ministers<sup>487</sup>**

- 1958 Rev H. Clifford Dibnah.
- 1960 Rev Eric Lloyd and Rev Donald G. Allan.<sup>488</sup>

### **History since closure as chapel (if applicable)**

- 1995 The church closed and was demolished soon afterwards when the dwindling congregation joined the nearby Anglican church of the Holy Spirit as an LEP.<sup>489</sup>
- 2018 Site used for residential properties.<sup>490</sup>

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<sup>483</sup> SA, NM 6215/1/4 (Shrewsbury Methodist Circuit, Directory and Plan of Services).

<sup>484</sup> Morris, *History of Methodism*, p. 37.

<sup>485</sup> Morris, *History of Methodism*, p. 38.

<sup>486</sup> SC, 19 Dec. 1958.

<sup>487</sup> Morris, *History of Methodism*, p. 38.

<sup>488</sup> No reference.

<sup>489</sup> SA, NM 6132/9/3 (Harlescott Chapel, Church Council Meeting Minutes, Oct. 1982-Oct. 1994); SC, 1 Jul. 1995, 14.

<sup>490</sup> Local Information/Personal observation (2018-19).

# A18 Frankwell Quay, Welsh Calvinistic Methodist Chapel<sup>491</sup>

Grid reference: SJ 4891 1285 Shropshire HER: 20333 1851 Census no: post-1851



Photographs 2019

See also SA, PH/S/13/F/3/11, Chapel after conversion to garage (1960).

## Construction

### Date

1863 27 Nov. The site was purchased.<sup>492</sup>

1865 May, chapel and integral Sunday School completed.<sup>493</sup>

### Cost/Funding

1863 The site was bought from the France family for £150 (described as cheap).<sup>494</sup>

1865 Building cost £1,000.<sup>495</sup>

### Architect

Thomas Tisdale, Borough Surveyor.<sup>496</sup>

### Builder

Mr Evan Davies.<sup>497</sup>

### Additions/Alterations

1909 Alterations carried out after its sale as a chapel.<sup>498</sup>

## Description

### Size

27ft 6in by 46ft.<sup>499</sup>

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<sup>491</sup> See Cox, “‘Simplicity without meanness’”, pp. 84-5; B. Watson and C. Phillpotts, ‘The Old Welsh Bridge, Shrewsbury: Excavations at the Severn Theatre Venue, Frankwell, Shrewsbury, 2006-7’, *TSAHS*, 90 (2015), p. 83-4 (2015).

<sup>492</sup> SA, D3651/B/69/5/2.

<sup>493</sup> Lloyd Jones, *St David’s Presbyterian Church Belmont Shrewsbury*, p. 2.

<sup>494</sup> SA, D3651/B/69/5/2.

<sup>495</sup> Lloyd Jones, *St David’s Presbyterian Church Belmont Shrewsbury*, p. 2.

<sup>496</sup> SC, 19 May 1865.

<sup>497</sup> Lloyd Jones, *St David’s Presbyterian Church Belmont Shrewsbury*, p. 2.

<sup>498</sup> Watson and Phillpotts, ‘The Old Welsh Bridge, Shrewsbury’, pp. 83-4.

1882 110 seats.<sup>500</sup>

### Exterior

Fronted by a wall and two iron gates. Built of red brick with yellow brick dressings and a slate roof. It was lit by ten iron-framed round-headed windows. The chapel was entered by two flights of external steps leading to a landing covered by a porch.<sup>501</sup> The site was liable to flooding and the schoolroom on the ground floor was sometimes submerged.<sup>502</sup>

### Interior

The chapel, on the first floor had a sloping floor.<sup>503</sup> The ground floor was used as a school.<sup>504</sup>

### Additional Buildings/Facilities

1863 On purchase, the site was already used for a warehouse.<sup>505</sup>

1863 A cottage was built at the back, at 160 Frankwell, for a schoolmistress.<sup>506</sup>

## Congregations meeting in this chapel

### Denomination

Welsh Calvinistic Methodists or Presbyterian Church of Wales.<sup>507</sup>

### Number of members

1895 50, with 68 in the Sabbath school, including the teachers, and 18 communicants.<sup>508</sup>

1900 Only 23.<sup>509</sup>

1904 70.<sup>510</sup>

### Language

English (being established for the children of the Welsh congregation at Hills Lane who had little or no Welsh).<sup>511</sup>

### Events<sup>512</sup>

1865 An English-speaking group of the Welsh Methodists founded their own chapel here, originally breaking from the Welsh Methodist Chapel on Hills Lane (A21), via temporary properties in St Alkmund's Square and Claremont Hill.

1865 4 May. Opening sermon by Dr Edwards of Bala.<sup>513</sup>

1884 Managed to pay off debts for building the chapel.

1891-1900 'Hard Times'. Flooding, 'low locality' and 'A God-forsaken neighbourhood'. Dr John Pugh said 'If I could believe the devil had anything to do with chapel building, Frankwell was that place'.<sup>514</sup>

1896 In desperate straits, very small congregation and no minister. Flooding a problem. Closed Sunday School.

1900 Social held to welcome new minister, Rev D. M. Rowlands. Stipend fixed at £70.

1900-03 Revival under new minister.

1900-02 £25 collected towards an organ.

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<sup>499</sup> NLW, 7B HZ1/5/15-24.

<sup>500</sup> OS 1:500 survey (1882).

<sup>501</sup> NLW, 7B HZ1/5/15-24.

<sup>502</sup> Lloyd Jones, *St David's Presbyterian Church Belmont Shrewsbury*, p. 2.

<sup>503</sup> SA, D3651/B/69/5/2; Watson and Phillpotts, 'The Old Welsh Bridge, Shrewsbury', p. 84.

<sup>504</sup> Watson and Phillpotts, 'The Old Welsh Bridge, Shrewsbury', p. 84.

<sup>505</sup> Ibid.

<sup>506</sup> SA, D3651/B/69/5/2.

<sup>507</sup> Lloyd Jones, *St David's Presbyterian Church Belmont Shrewsbury*, pp. 2-3.

<sup>508</sup> Watson and Phillpotts, 'The Old Welsh Bridge, Shrewsbury', p. 84

<sup>509</sup> SA, D3651/B/69/5/2.

<sup>510</sup> Ibid.

<sup>511</sup> Lloyd Jones, *St David's Presbyterian Church Belmont Shrewsbury*, p. 1.

<sup>512</sup> Unless otherwise noted, events are from Lloyd Jones, *St David's Presbyterian Church Belmont Shrewsbury*, pp. 2-4.

<sup>513</sup> SC, 19 May 1865.

<sup>514</sup> Lloyd Jones, *St David's Presbyterian Church, Belmont, Shrewsbury*, p. 2.

- 1901 Sunday School reopened; also Young People's Guild holding lectures of general interest, socials; Band of Hope: Sewing Meeting; Missionary Prayer Meeting (once a month); Guild (alternate weeks).
- 1905 Congregation moved to their new premises on Belmont Bank (A6). The premises were maintained for a period as a mission.<sup>515</sup>
- 1908 Appointment of new trustees of chapel and premises.<sup>516</sup>
- 1909 Freehold sold for £435 to John Edward Lewis and John Froggatt.<sup>517</sup>

## Mission work

No information.

## Ministers<sup>518</sup>

- 1862 Rev W. Hinton-Jones. Stayed for 25 years.
- 1892 Rev Robert Morris of Hill's Lane stood in as joint pastor, but only stayed nine months before moving to Hills Lane.
- 1900 Rev D. M. Rowlands.

## History since closure as chapel (if applicable)

- 1905 After the congregation departed, the building continued to be used as a mission chapel.<sup>519</sup>
- 1909 In July, the premises were sold for £435 to the ironmongers Lewis & Froggatt as a garage. The property was sold 'subject to the stipulation that the trade or business of a licensed victualler or seller of beers, wines or spirits or any other intoxicating liquor shall not be carried on upon the premises or upon any other buildings to be erected thereon ...'.<sup>520</sup>
- 1909-1960s The schoolmistress' house was used as a lodging house and as offices for several commercial ventures and was demolished in the 1960s.<sup>521</sup>
- 1910-16 A printing workshop was based in the upper floor.<sup>522</sup>
- By 2000 Auto Tyre Centre.<sup>523</sup>
- 2007 Integrated into Theatre Severn as a bar in breach of the 1909 covenant.<sup>524</sup>

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<sup>515</sup> Ibid., p. 11.

<sup>516</sup> SA, D3651/B/69/5/3.

<sup>517</sup> SA, D3651/B/69/5/2.

<sup>518</sup> Lloyd Jones, *St David's Presbyterian Church Belmont Shrewsbury*, pp. 2-3.

<sup>519</sup> SA, D3651/B/69/5/2.

<sup>520</sup> SA, D3651/B/69/5/4 (conditions of sale for the Frankwell Presbyterian Chapel and cottage adjoining, 1909).

<sup>521</sup> Watson and Phillpotts, 'The Old Welsh Bridge, Shrewsbury'.

<sup>522</sup> Ibid.

<sup>523</sup> As illustrated by Cox, "Simplicity without meanness", plate 29.

<sup>524</sup> SA, D3651/B/69/5/4

## A19 High Street (formerly Bakers Row), Presbyterian Chapel (Unitarian Church)<sup>525</sup>

Grid reference: SJ 4919 1244 Shropshire HER: 10009 1851 Census no: 352  
Registers: M 1916-2005; transcripts C Bi 1692-1812; C 1692-1706 (revised). Stell, *Inventory*, no. 88. Website (2018): <http://www.ukunitarians.org.uk/shrewsbury/history.htm>



Photographs 2019

See also SA, PH/S/13/H/3/15-27. 13 photos of Unitarian church, inside, outside, memorials, 1920-2003

### First Chapel

### Construction

#### Date

1691.<sup>526</sup>

#### Cost/Funding<sup>527</sup>

1691 No details available but deeds record the purchase of various properties in Baker's Row, now High Street.

1703 12 July. Trust Deed revoked by Francis Tallents.

1704 The site was assigned to Thomas Hunt of Borreaton and reconveyed to trustees for a term of 999 years.<sup>528</sup>

#### Architect

<sup>525</sup> For the early history of the chapel see [Richard Astley], 'Presbyterian Meeting House, Shrewsbury', *Christian Reformer*, new ser., III (1847), pp. 249-60, 323-32. Cox, "Simplicity without meanness", pp. 59, 62.

<sup>526</sup> A. Broadbent, *The Story of Unitarianism in Shrewsbury* (1962), pp. 4-5.

<sup>527</sup> SA, 4335/3/1-2

<sup>528</sup> SA, 4335/3/3, 8.

No information.

### **Builder**

No information.

### **Additions/alterations**

1703 Enlarged to incorporate parts of both of Thomas Oliver's houses in front of it.<sup>529</sup>

1715 Destroyed in anti-Presbyterian riots between 5 and 8 July.<sup>530</sup>

## **Description**

### **Size**

50ft by 29ft.<sup>531</sup>

### **Exterior**

Located in a garden behind two houses and reached by a narrow passage under one of the houses.<sup>532</sup>

No information.

### **Interior**

No information.

### **Additional Buildings/Facilities**

No information.

## **Second Chapel**

### **Construction**

#### **Date**

1716 Jan., the chapel was rebuilt and re-licensed.<sup>533</sup>

#### **Cost/Funding**

1716 £429. 16s. 0d. at Government expense.<sup>534</sup>

1839 John Carline was contracted to rebuild the chapel at a cost of approximately £557 including £80 for a new front.<sup>535</sup>

1840 Insured for £600.<sup>536</sup>

1884-85 £600 was paid to A. B. Deakin, local Shrewsbury architect, for designing an extension forward to the street line.<sup>537</sup>

#### **Architect**

1716 No information.

1839 John Carline.<sup>538</sup>

1884 A. B. Deakin.<sup>539</sup>

#### **Builder**

1715 Samuel Dod (local mason and bricklayer).<sup>540</sup>

1839 John Carline.<sup>541</sup>

#### **Additions/alterations**

1839 Part of the premises were sought by the Improvement Commissioners and as the Chapel was deemed unsafe, it demolished and rebuilt.<sup>542</sup>

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<sup>529</sup> SA, 4335/3/3, lease dated 7 Aug. 1704.

<sup>530</sup> [Astley], 'Presbyterian meeting house', p. 259.

<sup>531</sup> SA, 4335/3/2, lease dated 2 Feb. 1691-2.

<sup>532</sup> OS 1:500 survey (1882); SA, 4335/3/2, lease dated 2 Feb. 1691-2.

<sup>533</sup> TNA, E 178/6907.

<sup>534</sup> TNA, E 178/6907.

<sup>535</sup> Cox, "Simplicity without meanness", p. 59. For building accounts, SA, 6000/16063, 16064.

<sup>536</sup> SA, 4335/3/14.

<sup>537</sup> SC, 13 Mar. 1885.

<sup>538</sup> Cox, "Simplicity without meanness", p. 59.

<sup>539</sup> SC, 13 Mar. 1885, 9.

<sup>540</sup> TNA, E178/6907.

<sup>541</sup> Cox, "Simplicity without meanness", p. 59.

- 1839 Shrewsbury Street Act Trustees compulsorily purchased the vestry and the side passage for £180.<sup>543</sup>
- 1839-40 Front of chapel and 10 buildings on either side were set further back for street widening. The chapel lost between 5ft 10in and 7ft 9in of its forecourt.<sup>544</sup>
- 1884-5 Chapel renovated and extended over the forecourt by A. B. Deakin of Shrewsbury to provide new vestry and schoolroom.<sup>545</sup>
- 1903 Box pews removed and panelling used to line the walls.<sup>546</sup>
- 1911 Repairs to the manse (Claremont Hill).<sup>547</sup>

## Description

### Size

- 1837 70ft by 30ft.<sup>548</sup>
- 1839 300 seats.<sup>549</sup>
- 1895 250.<sup>550</sup>

### Exterior

- 1816 Described as ‘A plain building of brick neatly fitted up’.<sup>551</sup>
- 1839-85 ‘The old front’, before its removal, was described as ‘somewhat heavy and sombre-looking’.<sup>552</sup>
- 1885 New extension had an Italianate stone façade. Three bays, divided by pilasters; central pedimented double doors flanked by round-arched windows, a round-arched window above; deep cornice with central pedimented cartouche with inscription ‘The Church founded 1662’.<sup>553</sup>

### Interior

- 1851 Described as: ‘a simple and primitive appearance, the fittings are of old oak’.<sup>554</sup>
- 1860 Described as being: ‘fitted with the pews and pulpit of a former edifice’.<sup>555</sup>
- 1885 New extension, over the old forecourt, provided a vestry, with schoolroom above.<sup>556</sup>
- 1895 Memorial tablet erected to Charles Darwin.<sup>557</sup>
- 1903 Box pews removed in 1903 and their panelling used to line the walls.<sup>558</sup>
- 2019 Some early eighteenth-century features are still in place, including the west gallery, gallery clock, and arms of George I. The communion plate consists of two silver cups of 1735 and two pewter patens.

### Additional Buildings / Facilities

- 1790 A new manse was built on the site of the old one on Claremont Hill.<sup>559</sup>

## Congregations meeting in this chapel<sup>560</sup>

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<sup>542</sup> Astley, ‘Presbyterian Meeting House, Shrewsbury’, pp. 332.

<sup>543</sup> SA, 3365/2669 (Minutes of the Meetings of the Trustees of the Shrewsbury Street Act, with associated maps, drawings and plans, 1830-41).

<sup>544</sup> Cox, “‘Simplicity without meanness’”, p. 59.

<sup>545</sup> Stell, *Inventory*, p. 201.

<sup>546</sup> *Kelly's Directory 1895*.

<sup>547</sup> SC, 1 Dec. 1911.

<sup>548</sup> H. Pidgeon, *Memorials of Shrewsbury* (1837).

<sup>549</sup> *Kelly's Post Office Directory, 1885*.

<sup>550</sup> *Kelly's Directory, 1895*

<sup>551</sup> T. J. Howell, *The Stranger in Shrewsbury* (1816), p. 71.

<sup>552</sup> SC, 13 Mar. 1885, 9

<sup>553</sup> Stell, *Inventory*, p. 201. SC, 13 Mar. 1885. For an elevation SA, 4335/1/78.

<sup>554</sup> Bagshaw, *Gazetteer*.

<sup>555</sup> H. Pidgeon, *An Historical and Illustrated Handbook for the Town of Shrewsbury* (1860).

<sup>556</sup> SC, 13 Mar. 1885, 9.

<sup>557</sup> *Kelly's Directory 1895*.

<sup>558</sup> *Kelly's Directory 1905*.

<sup>559</sup> ‘High Street Unitarian Church, Shrewsbury’, *Shropshire Magazine* (Feb. 1953).

## Denomination

- 1691 Presbyterians.  
1766- Non-denominational/Unitarians.  
1977 St Luke's Spiritualist church shared with Unitarians.<sup>561</sup>

## Number of members

- 1741 103 Presbyterians.  
1741 150 Presbyterian 'hearers' from King's Head Shut and 23 Independents joined this congregation.  
1851 'Average congregation from 70 to 80'.<sup>562</sup>

## Language

English.

## Events

- 1662 Unitarian church founded.<sup>563</sup>  
1691 Building of first chapel following the Toleration Act of 1689.<sup>564</sup>  
1715 July, an anti-Presbyterian mob pulled the chapel down.<sup>565</sup>  
1741 Job Orton chosen minister.<sup>566</sup>  
1741 23 Independents joined the 103 Presbyterians at the High Street chapel.<sup>567</sup>  
1766 High Street congregation diminished, as a large proportion of Independents left to form a new Independent church on Swan Hill.<sup>568</sup>  
1810 Charles Darwin came to services here with his mother.<sup>569</sup>  
1839 Commissioners under the Street Act wanted part of the site. Chapel not usable for a year; worship started again in 1840.<sup>570</sup>  
1840 The Sunday School restarted with about 50 pupils; in addition writing and arithmetic taught on Wednesday evenings.<sup>571</sup>  
1840 Started a Provident Society and a Sunday School library. There was already a library of 600 volumes.<sup>572</sup>  
1857 Description of how the writer, named Hazlitt, in Jan 1798, walked from Wem to hear a sermon given by Samuel Taylor Coleridge at Shrewsbury Unitarian church.<sup>573</sup>  
1910 120th Sunday School anniversary.<sup>574</sup>  
1910 Rev Charles Harvey-Cook (of Warrington) preached at the Harvest Festival.<sup>575</sup>  
1910 Unitarian Church Memorial Service for King Edward VII, preaching that they were patriots and neither conformists nor non-conformists.<sup>576</sup>  
1911 Joint celebration of harvest and 220th anniversary of chapel. Special preacher Rev Dr Ewart of Stourbridge.<sup>577</sup>  
1911 Literary Society Lecture on Japan by Rev H. W. Hawkes of Liverpool.<sup>578</sup>

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<sup>560</sup> Unless otherwise noted, congregational denomination and numbership are taken from Broadbent, *Unitarianism in Shrewsbury*.

<sup>561</sup> *SS*, 24 Nov. 1977.

<sup>562</sup> Field, *Church and Chapel*, p. 79 (no. 352).

<sup>563</sup> Astley, 'Presbyterian Meeting House, Shrewsbury', pp. 249-60.

<sup>564</sup> Cox, "'Simplicity without meanness'", p. 59.

<sup>565</sup> Astley, 'Presbyterian Meeting House, Shrewsbury', p. 259.

<sup>566</sup> *Ibid.*, pp. 323-4.

<sup>567</sup> *Ibid.*, pp. 323-4.

<sup>568</sup> *Ibid.*, p. 326.

<sup>569</sup> *SC*, 15 Jul. 1910.

<sup>570</sup> [Astley], 'Presbyterian Meeting House, Shrewsbury', p. 332.

<sup>571</sup> *Ibid.*, p. 332.

<sup>572</sup> *Ibid.*, p. 332.

<sup>573</sup> *SC*, 30 Oct. 1857.

<sup>574</sup> *SC*, 24 Jun. 1910.

<sup>575</sup> *SC*, 21 Oct. 1910.

<sup>576</sup> *SC*, 27 May 1910.

<sup>577</sup> *SC*, 20 Oct. 1911.



- 1925 Interchange of Pulpits by Free Church Pastors on Sunday 11 Jan. Also United Communion service at Claremont Baptist Church.<sup>579</sup>

## Mission work

No information.

## Ministers

- 1741-56 Job Orton.<sup>580</sup>  
1798-1831 Rev. C. Case<sup>581</sup>  
1851 Richard Astley.<sup>582</sup>  
1856 Rev James McKee.<sup>583</sup>  
1863 Rev James McKee.<sup>584</sup>  
1870 Rev James McKee.<sup>585</sup>  
1879 Rev Edward Myers.<sup>586</sup>  
1885 Rev Edward Myers.<sup>587</sup>  
1895 Rev Edward Myers.<sup>588</sup>  
1905 Rev James Christopher Street.<sup>589</sup>  
1909 Rev. William Stephens.<sup>590</sup>  
1913 Rev W Stephens.<sup>591</sup>  
1919 Rev A E O'Connor.<sup>592</sup>  
1922 Rev Arthur Ellis O'Connor.<sup>593</sup>

## History since closure as chapel (if applicable)

- 2019 Still in use as a chapel.<sup>594</sup>

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<sup>578</sup> SC, 3 Nov. 1911.

<sup>579</sup> SC, 16 Jan. 1925.

<sup>580</sup> Astley, 'Presbyterian Meeting House, Shrewsbury', pp. 323, 326.

<sup>581</sup> *Ibid.*, p. 331.

<sup>582</sup> Field (ed.), *Church and Chapel*, p. 79 (no. 352).

<sup>583</sup> *Post Office Directory of Shropshire, 1856.*

<sup>584</sup> *Post Office Directory of Shropshire, 1863.*

<sup>585</sup> *Post Office Directory of Shropshire, 1870.*

<sup>586</sup> *Kelly's Post Office Directory, 1879.*

<sup>587</sup> *Kelly's Post Office Directory, 1885.*

<sup>588</sup> *Kelly's Directory 1895.*

<sup>589</sup> *Kelly's Directory 1905.*

<sup>590</sup> SC, 7 May 1909.

<sup>591</sup> *Kelly's Directory 1913.*

<sup>592</sup> Unitarian Rules, SA, D898.8 v.f. 16878/1.

<sup>593</sup> *Kelly's Directory 1922.*

<sup>594</sup> Local information.

## A20 Hill's Lane, Cole Hall Chapel, Sandemanian Baptist Chapel<sup>595</sup>

Grid reference: SJ 4899 1257 Shropshire HER: 01512 (for Cole Hall not chapel) 1851  
Census: no longer used as a chapel by this date.



© Shropshire Archives PH/S/13/H/5/27, April 1932. Photographer Mallinson, commissioned by the Borough Surveyor.

See also SA, PH/S/13/H/5/28.

### **Construction**<sup>596</sup>

#### **Date**

Adapted from an old building on the site of Cole Hall.  
1800 13 Jan. Chapel licensed.

#### **Cost/Funding**

No information.

#### **Architect**

Adapted rather than designed.

#### **Builder**

No new building involved.

#### **Additions/alterations**

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<sup>595</sup> Collis, *Baptist Churches*, p. 98.

<sup>596</sup> *Salopian Magazine* 1815, pp. 459-62, 503-09.

No information.

## Description

### Size

No information.

### Exterior

Small stone building with three steps leading to arched doorway.<sup>597</sup> On the site of a C13 or C14 stone mansion (Cole Hall) demolished in the C17. Some foundations and a building with an arched opening remained in 1932. The location of the various windows suggests the building had been altered a number of times to cater for diverse uses.<sup>598</sup> In 1840 it was reported that ‘At the present day and for several years passed the upper part of this building has been appropriated to sectarian meetings and the lower portion of it used as a warehouse’.<sup>599</sup>

### Interior

Described as ‘small and inconvenient’.<sup>600</sup>

### Additional Buildings/Facilities

No information.

## Congregations meeting in this chapel

### Denominations

1800-11 Sandemanians.<sup>601</sup>

By 1808-15 at the latest, Moravians.<sup>602</sup>

1815-37 Sandemanians.<sup>603</sup>

1832-3 Methodist New Connexion.<sup>604</sup>

1842-6 Churches of Christ (Campbellites).<sup>605</sup>

### Number of members

1808 Sandemanian congregation described as flourishing and the chapel became too small.<sup>606</sup>

### Language

English.

### Events

1811 Sandemanians moved to a new chapel they had built in Castle Court (A10).<sup>607</sup>

1815 Section of congregation moved back to Cole Hall after a dispute with the minister.<sup>608</sup>

1832 Methodist New Connexion congregation moved here temporarily, from Union Wharfe on St Mary’s Water Lane, while their new chapel was being built. Moved to new chapel (Ebenezer) (A45) in June 1834.<sup>609</sup>

1846 Churches of Christ held two services each Sunday.<sup>610</sup>

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<sup>597</sup> Illustrated, Cox, “‘Simplicity without meanness’”, p. 72.

<sup>598</sup> SA, PH/S/13/H/5/27 (photograph, Cole Hall Chapel, 1932).

<sup>599</sup> Bodleian Library, Top Salop. C.2, f.21.

<sup>600</sup> Reference needed

<sup>601</sup> SA, 3365/2433 (QS Order Book, 1790-1801), session 13 Jan 1800.

<sup>602</sup> H. Owen, *Some Account of the Ancient and Present State of Shrewsbury* (1808); *Salopian Magazine* 1815, 459-62, 503-09.

<sup>603</sup> *Salopian Magazine* 1815, 459-62, 503-09.

<sup>604</sup> *Morris, History of Methodism*, p. 00.

<sup>605</sup> Churches of Christ Historical Society Archives, Letter from William Butler to John Davies, May 1842.

<sup>606</sup> Cox, “‘Simplicity without meanness’”, p. 71.

<sup>607</sup> SA, 3365/2434 (QS Order Book, 1810-11), session Easter 1811.

<sup>608</sup> *Salopian Magazine* 1815, 459-62, 503-09.

<sup>609</sup> Cox, “‘Simplicity without meanness’”, p. 76.

<sup>610</sup> *Christian Messenger and Family Magazine* bookplate, 1845.

## **Mission work**

No information.

## **Ministers**

1800 Edward Pike.<sup>611</sup>  
1803 John Edgerley.<sup>612</sup>

## **History since closure as chapel (if applicable)**

1840 The lower part of the building was in use as a warehouse.<sup>613</sup>  
1920 Evidence of the religious use of the building still remained.<sup>614</sup>  
1930 Some foundations and a building with an arched opening remained in c. 1930.<sup>615</sup>  
1934 Whole area cleared.<sup>616</sup>

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<sup>611</sup> SA, 3365/2433 (QS Order Book, 1790-1801), session 13 Jan. 1800.

<sup>612</sup> SA, 3365/2434 (QS Order Book, 1802-26), session July 1803.

<sup>613</sup> Bodleian Library, Top. Salop. C.2, f.21.

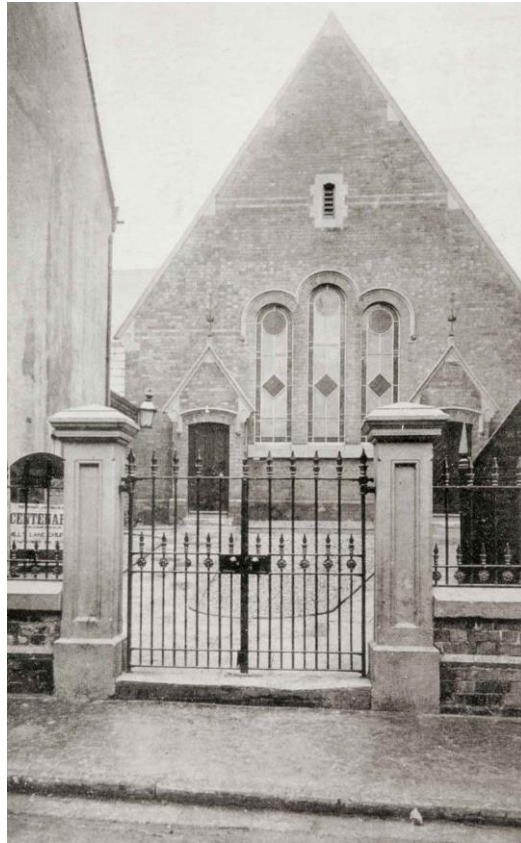
<sup>614</sup> H. E. Forrest, *The Old Houses of Shrewsbury* (third edn, 1920).

<sup>615</sup> N. Baker, 'An Archaeological Desk-based Assessment of Land at Barker Street' (SCCAS Report, 2007).

<sup>616</sup> Ibid.

## A21 Hill's Lane, Wesleyan Methodist Chapel (later Welsh Calvinistic Methodists)<sup>617</sup>

Grid reference: SJ 48982 12584 Shropshire HER 30938 1851 Census no: 354 A



© Shropshire Archives PH/S/13/H/5/77 pre-1932

See also SA, PH/S/13/H/5/74, Welsh Calvinistic Chapel during demolition, 1932.

### First Chapel

#### Construction<sup>618</sup>

##### Date

1781 Mar. Chapel and Sunday School completed and opened by John Wesley.

##### Cost/Funding

1781 John Appleton, currier, paid for the building.

##### Architect

No information.

##### Builder

No information.

##### Additions/Alterations

No information.

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<sup>617</sup> Cox, ““Simplicity without meanness””, pp. 68-9.

<sup>618</sup> Morris, *History of Methodism*, p. 10.

## Description

### Size

1805 Described as ‘large and inconvenient’, when Welsh Calvinists took over.<sup>619</sup>

### Exterior

The front was on Hills Lane (south side) and the back on Cole Hall.<sup>620</sup> It was only accessible through a passageway between the houses fronting the street.<sup>621</sup>

### Interior

No information.

### Additional Buildings / Facilities

No information.

## Second Chapel

## Construction

### Date<sup>622</sup>

1824-5 Rebuilt on site of the former Wesleyan Methodist Chapel, bought in 1821 (which was described as ‘ruinous and inadequate’ in 1826).<sup>623</sup>

1826 24 Dec. Opening services.

### Cost/Funding

Funded by the congregation; the sum of £52 was collected at the opening service to help to defray expense of rebuilding.<sup>624</sup>

### Architect

Mr Hughes of Liverpool.<sup>625</sup>

### Builder

No information.

### Additions/Alterations

1870 Substantial rebuilding at a cost of £882. Chapel re-opened for worship on 17 July.<sup>626</sup>

1892 5 Jan. Planning application for vestibule and WC to the school rooms.<sup>627</sup>

## Description

### Size

30ft x 36ft.<sup>628</sup>

1826 seated 250-300.<sup>629</sup>

1851 Sittings 100 + 200.<sup>630</sup>

### Exterior

It was brick-built with a steeply-pitched roof. There were two doors at the front, separated by a triple window with a rounded head. It was lit by four round-headed windows in each long side.<sup>631</sup> There were trees and open space in front and a wall with railings and a double gate.<sup>632</sup>

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<sup>619</sup> Lloyd Jones, *St David's Presbyterian Church Belmont Shrewsbury*, pp. 00. [not in Lloyd Jones]

<sup>620</sup> OS 1:500 survey (1882).

<sup>621</sup> Cox, “‘Simplicity without meanness’”, p. 68.

<sup>622</sup> SC, 29 Dec. 1826.

<sup>623</sup> Cox, “‘Simplicity without meanness’”, p. 69.

<sup>624</sup> SC, 29 Dec. 1826.

<sup>625</sup> Cox, “‘Simplicity without meanness’”, p. 69.

<sup>626</sup> SC 22 July 1870; Cox, “‘Simplicity without meanness’”, p. 69.

<sup>627</sup> SA, DA5/710/16/2 (planning application for vestibule and WC to the school rooms, 1892).

<sup>628</sup> Cox, “‘Simplicity without meanness’”, p. 69.

<sup>629</sup> Bagshaw, *Gazetteer*.

<sup>630</sup> Field (ed.), *Church and Chapel*, p. 80 (no. 354A).

<sup>631</sup> Cox, “‘Simplicity without meanness’”, p. 69; SC, 29 Dec. 1826.

<sup>632</sup> OS 1:500 Survey (1882).

## Interior

The chapel was said to be ‘very neatly fitted up’ in 1826; ‘a very neat and complete chapel’ in 1837.<sup>633</sup>

## Additional Buildings / Facilities

There was a schoolroom attached.<sup>634</sup>

## Congregations meeting in this chapel

### Denomination

1781-1805 Wesleyan Methodist.<sup>635</sup>

1805-1931 Welsh Calvinist Methodists (or Presbyterian Church of Wales).<sup>636</sup>

### Number of members

Wesleyan Methodists. Circuit membership grew rapidly between 1781 and 1804.

1793 395 members, 1802 850 members and 1807 1400 members.<sup>637</sup>

1851 140 at morning service and 200 in the evening.<sup>638</sup>

Welsh Calvinists

1805 15 members.<sup>639</sup>

1821 35 members.<sup>640</sup>

1842 74 members.<sup>641</sup>

1851 200 at the morning service and 190 in the evening.<sup>642</sup>

### Language

1781-1805 English.

1805-1931 Welsh.

## Events

- 1781 Wesleyan Methodists moved here to their new chapel from Shearmen’s Hall: the chapel opened by John Wesley on 27 Mar.<sup>643</sup>
- 1805 Welsh Calvinistic Methodists, previously meeting at several locations, joined together to form a Welsh-speaking congregation of 15 in this chapel.<sup>644</sup>
- 1805-21 Wesleyans rented the chapel to the Welsh Calvinists for 10 guineas a year.<sup>645</sup>
- 1811 The first ordination of ministers took place.<sup>646</sup>
- c.1821 Wesleyans sold the chapel to Welsh Calvinists.<sup>647</sup>
- 1824-5 The old chapel, described as ruinous and inadequate, was demolished and a new chapel erected.
- 1826 Opening services held on 24 Dec. On Christmas Day, Manoah Kent (Baptist minister) and Thomas Weaver (Independent minister) preached there in English.
- 1858 Wife of minister, Rev Ebenezer Williams, took English-speaking girls to her house in St Alkmunds Square for a Sunday School. On her husband's death, she moved English language bible classes to a house on Claremont Hill. She rented an upper room.<sup>648</sup>

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<sup>633</sup> Cox, “‘Simplicity without meanness’”, p. 69.

<sup>634</sup> SA, 6001/3055, H. Pidgeon, ‘Salopian Annals’, I, pp. 76-7; SC, 2 Jun. 1911, 7.

<sup>635</sup> NLW, Calvinistic Methodist Archives, 16 510A (brief account of the chapel in Welsh).

<sup>636</sup> Ibid.

<sup>637</sup> Morris, *History of Methodism*, p. 14.

<sup>638</sup> Field, *Church and Chapel*, p. 80 (354A).

<sup>639</sup> NLW, Calvinistic Methodist Archives, 16 510A.

<sup>640</sup> A. M. Davies, *Life and Letters of Henry Rees* (1904), p. 94.

<sup>641</sup> NLW, Calvinistic Methodist Archives, 16 510A.

<sup>642</sup> Field, *Church and Chapel*, p. 80 (no. 354B).

<sup>643</sup> Morris, *History of Methodism*, pp. 10, 12-13

<sup>644</sup> NLW, Calvinistic Methodist Archives, 16 510A.

<sup>645</sup> NLW, Calvinistic Methodist Archives, 16 510A).

<sup>646</sup> Lloyd Jones, *St David’s Presbyterian Church Belmont Shrewsbury*, p. 1.

<sup>647</sup> Cox, “‘Simplicity without meanness’”, p. 69.

<sup>648</sup> Lloyd Jones, *St David’s Presbyterian Church Belmont Shrewsbury*, pp. 1-2.

- 1862 26 Mar. The chapel was certified as a place of religious worship, and was duly registered for the Solemnization of Marriages.<sup>649</sup>
- 1872 A joint service was held at the Tabernacle Chapel with the Welsh Congregationalists, Dogpole.<sup>650</sup>
- 1911 Anniversary service, Rev J. D. Evans of Liverpool preached. Tea served in the schoolroom.<sup>651</sup>
- 1931 Congregation voted unanimously to transfer their membership to St David's Presbyterian Church of Wales, Belmont. This brought services in Welsh to an end.<sup>652</sup>

### **Mission work**

No information.

### **Ministers**<sup>653</sup>

Wesleyan Methodists

1780s-90s Rev Alexander Mather, Rev Miles Martindale, Rev William Sanderson.<sup>654</sup>

Welsh Calvinistic Methodists

- 1811 The first ordination of ministers took place  
Early ministers: Rev Harry Rees, Rev Hugh Roberts, Rev William Hughes.
- 1851 Religious Census was signed by Hugh Griffiths, Deacon for the Wesleyan Methodists and Thomas Boyce, Registrar, for the Welsh Calvinists.<sup>655</sup>
- 1858 Rev Ebenezer Williams.
- 1885 Rev Robert Davies.<sup>656</sup>
- 1895 Rev Robert Morris.<sup>657</sup>
- 1903 Rev G. O. Evans.
- 1903 Rev Harry Rees.
- 1926-31 Under the pastoral care of Rev David Williams of St David's Presbyterian Church of Wales.

### **History since closure as chapel (if applicable)**

- 1931 Sold to Shrewsbury Corporation for £4000 and demolished as part of the Barker St clearance.<sup>658</sup>

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<sup>649</sup> SC, 6 May 1864.

<sup>650</sup> SC, 1 Mar. 1872.

<sup>651</sup> SC, 2 Jun. 1911, 7.

<sup>652</sup> Lloyd Jones, *St David's Presbyterian Church Belmont Shrewsbury*, p. 7.

<sup>653</sup> Unless otherwise indicated, names of ministers taken from Lloyd Jones, *St David's Presbyterian Church Belmont Shrewsbury*, *passim*.

<sup>654</sup> Morris, *History of Methodism*, p. 14.

<sup>655</sup> Field (ed.), *Church and Chapel*, p. 80 (nos. 354A and 354B).

<sup>656</sup> *Kelly's Post Office Directory, 1885*.

<sup>657</sup> *Kelly's Directory 1895*.

<sup>658</sup> Cox, "Simplicity without meanness", p. 69.



## A22 Horsefair, Seventh Day Adventist Church

Grid reference: SJ 49879 12554      Shropshire HER:      1851 Census no: post-1851

Website (2018):      <http://shrewsbury.adventistchurch.org.uk/>



Photograph 2019

### **Construction**<sup>659</sup>

#### **Date**

1964.

#### **Cost/Funding**

No information.

#### **Architect**

David Morris.

#### **Builder**

Price and Jacks.

#### **Additions/alterations**

No information.

### **Description**

#### **Size**

No information.

#### **Exterior**<sup>660</sup>

Fitted in a corner location, with no exterior space. Brick with large windows on the sides. Sloping roofline. Simple cross on windowless brick area above the double door entrance.

#### **Interior**

No information.

#### **Additional Buildings / Facilities**

No information.

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<sup>659</sup> Facebook 'Memories of Shropshire', Facebook <https://www.facebook.com/groups/490094911119875/>.

[Better references needed. This is a closed group]

<sup>660</sup> Local Information/Personal observation (2018-19).

## **Congregations meeting in this chapel**

### **Denomination**

1964- Seventh Day Adventists.<sup>661</sup>

### **Number of members**

No information.

### **Language**

English.

### **Events**

1964 Moved here from Greyfriars Bridge.<sup>662</sup>

### **Mission work**

No information.

### **Ministers**

1965 Pastor L. Shaw.<sup>663</sup>

1965 Pastor H. Logan.<sup>664</sup>

2019 Pastor Jeremy Johnson.<sup>665</sup>

### **History since closure as chapel (if applicable)**

Still in use as a chapel.

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<sup>661</sup> Local Information/Personal observation (2018-19).

<sup>662</sup> Facebook 'Memories of Shropshire', Facebook <https://www.facebook.com/groups/490094911119875/>.

<sup>663</sup> Ibid.

<sup>664</sup> Ibid.

<sup>665</sup> <http://shrewsbury.adventistchurch.org.uk/>, viewed 2019.

## A23 Hotspur Street, Wesleyan Methodist Chapel (Greenfields United Methodist Church)<sup>666</sup>

Grid reference: SJ 49350 13784 Shropshire HER: 318871851 Census no: post-1851

Website (2018): <http://greenfields.shropshireandmarches.org.uk/about-us/>



The 'Tin Tabernacle' erected in 1891  
(taken from the Facebook page  
'Love of Shrewsbury').



Photograph 1908 chapel (2018)

### First chapel

#### Construction

##### Date

1890 The decision taken at the June quarterly meeting to introduce Methodism into the Greenfields area of Shrewsbury.<sup>667</sup>

1890 Site bought for £89.

1890 Tent bought for £21 with a contribution from Mr G. H. Eldred.

1891 An iron Building (the Tin Tabernacle) erected to replace the tent.

##### Cost/Funding

Building £180, Foundations £26, Harmonium £8, Sundry costs £23 – Total £326.

##### Architect

<sup>666</sup> For accounts see Morris, *Methodism in Shropshire*, pp. 36-7; *Greenfields Methodist Church, Shrewsbury: Jubilee Anniversary 1908-1958* (1958) and *Greenfields Church History, 1908-2008* (2008).

<sup>667</sup> Morris, *Methodism in Shropshire*, p. 15.

No information.

**Builder**

No information.

**Additions / Alterations**

No information.

**Description**

**Size**

No information.

**Exterior**

No information.

**Interior**

No information.

**Additional Buildings / Facilities**

No information.

**Second chapel**

**Construction**

**Date**

1908 New Chapel built on the same site.<sup>668</sup> Iron Building sold to Thomas Pace and re-erected on Coton Crescent.<sup>669</sup>

**Cost/Funding**

1908 £2,200.<sup>670</sup>

**Architect**

Frederick Davies & Sons of Castle Street.<sup>671</sup>

**Builder**

Mr Thomas Pace.<sup>672</sup>

**Additions/Alterations**

1907 13 July. Planning application approved to add a school building, with three extra class rooms, to the side of the chapel; also a washroom and toilets for men and women were added in the basement.<sup>673</sup>

1914 £320 raised for a pipe organ which was dedicated in 1914.<sup>674</sup>

1934 Electricity was installed for lighting and the organ, donated by Miss Powell.<sup>675</sup>

1955 Repairs and alterations were carried out to roof, vestries and heating; organ was cleaned.<sup>676</sup>

**Description**

**Size**

1940 225 seats.<sup>677</sup>

**Exterior**

1908 Brick with stone facings. Gothic style, with short tower and spire.<sup>678</sup>

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<sup>668</sup> *Jubilee Anniversary*.

<sup>669</sup> SA, DA5/710/32/20 (planning application to erect an iron building, 1908).

<sup>670</sup> *Jubilee Anniversary*.

<sup>671</sup> *Jubilee Anniversary*; SA, DA5/710/31/18 (planning application, 1907).

<sup>672</sup> *Jubilee Anniversary*.

<sup>673</sup> SA, DA5/710/31/18 (planning application, 1907).

<sup>674</sup> *Jubilee Anniversary*; Morris, *History of Methodism*, p. 37.

<sup>675</sup> SC, 19 Jan. 1934, 7; *Jubilee Anniversary*.

<sup>676</sup> *Jubilee Anniversary*.

<sup>677</sup> *Methodist Church Buildings: statistical returns 1940* (1947).

<sup>678</sup> *Jubilee Anniversary*.

## **Interior:**

No information.

## **Additional Buildings / Facilities**

1931 Bought 16 Hotspur Street for caretaker.<sup>679</sup>

1955 The minister appears to be living in Coton Manse, Berwick Road.<sup>680</sup>

## **Congregations meeting in this chapel**

### **Denominations**

1890-2018 Wesleyan Methodist.

Up to 1935 In Wesleyan Methodist Circuit with St John's Hill, New Park Rd and New St Bethesda.<sup>681</sup>

1935-2005 Methodist, following national amalgamation with Primitive Methodists into New Methodist Circuit.<sup>682</sup>

1973 Greenfields United Church formed by the amalgamation with the Anglican St. Julian's Mission Room nearby.<sup>683</sup>

### **Number of members**

1989 There were 53 Methodist members.<sup>684</sup>

### **Language**

English.

### **Events<sup>685</sup>**

1890 The new chapel (Tin Tabernacle) was opened by Rev R. Luke Wiseman of Birmingham.

1900 The church, which had only one room, was too small. The congregation began to raise money for a new church on the same site: sewing meetings, teas, sales of work, concerts, garden parties and three-day bazaar in Music Hall in 1906.

1908 Opening ceremony by Rev R. L. Wiseman again.

1914 Pipe organ installed after great fund-raising effort.

1925 Interchange of pulpits by Free Church Pastors on Sunday 11 Jan. Also United Communion service at Claremont Baptist Church.<sup>686</sup>

1925 Annual Choir service.<sup>687</sup>

1929 21st birthday party and musical service.

1931 The chapel changed its name from Wesleyan to Methodist (national movement).<sup>688</sup>

1931 Bought 16 Hotspur St for caretaker.<sup>689</sup>

1933 Represented at Union of Sunday Schools meeting at Abbey Foregate Congregational. Mayor and Mayoress present. Address by Sir James Startin.<sup>690</sup>

1934 Anniversary Preacher was Rev T. F. Merrit from Dudley.<sup>691</sup>

1935 Special services in connection with Home Mission Week. The Rev B. Horner Mudd preached.<sup>692</sup>

1935 Coffee supper in aid of church funds.<sup>693</sup>

1935 Mention of Girl Guides and Boys' Brigade.<sup>694</sup>

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<sup>679</sup> *Jubilee Anniversary*.

<sup>680</sup> *Jubilee Anniversary*.

<sup>681</sup> Morris, *History of Methodism*, p. 26.

<sup>682</sup> V. J. Howell, 'The Wesleyan Methodist Chapel in St John's Hill Shrewsbury' (ts, 1997).

<sup>683</sup> *Greenfields Church History, 1908-2008* (2008).

<sup>684</sup> *Ibid*.

<sup>685</sup> Unless otherwise indicated, taken from *Jubilee Anniversary*.

<sup>686</sup> *SC*, 16 Jan. 1925.

<sup>687</sup> *SC*, 23 Jan. 1925.

<sup>688</sup> *Greenfields Church History, 1908-2008* [unpaginated]

<sup>689</sup> *Jubilee Anniversary*.

<sup>690</sup> *SC*, 2 Jan. 1933.

<sup>691</sup> *Jubilee Anniversary*.

<sup>692</sup> *SC*, 8 Feb. 1935.

<sup>693</sup> *SC*, 22 Feb. 1935.

- 1935 April Eastertide Fair.<sup>695</sup>  
1955 Girl Guides, Brownies and Youth Clubs.<sup>696</sup>  
1958 Throughout the year, notices of Sunday School parties and anniversaries and special services.<sup>697</sup>  
1958 Golden Jubilee events over three Sundays: harvest festival, religious play, birthday tea, religious film, tea for local circuit preachers. Speakers: Mr Kenneth Matthews, author, poet and foreign correspondent for BBC; Mr J. T. Wells of Penarth.<sup>698</sup>  
1958 Annual Toy Service when children brought toys, games and books as gifts for children in the East London Mission.<sup>699</sup>  
1973 The congregation joined that of the Anglican St. Julian's Mission Room nearby, to form the Greenfields United Church. Worship was thereafter in the Methodist building, and the mission room was kept for other purposes.<sup>700</sup>  
2019 Community activities include pre-school, boxing, circuit training, Brownies and Guides.<sup>701</sup>

## Mission work

No information

## Ministers<sup>702</sup>

- 1895 Rev Thomas Hosking and Rev William O. Robinson, shared with Wesleyan Churches at St John's Hill and New Park Rd.<sup>703</sup>  
1905 Rev George J. Brett (Supt) and Rev Walter Fytche, shared with Wesleyan Churches at St John's Hill and New Park Rd.<sup>704</sup>  
1904-07 Rev Walter Fytche was important in raising money for building work.<sup>705</sup>  
1907-10 Rev P. C. Pegler.  
1910-13 Rev A. J. Matthews.  
1913 Rev Ernest Alfred Prince (Supt), Rev F. Paul Bacon and Rev J. Wright, shared with Wesleyan Churches at St John's Hill and New Park Road.<sup>706</sup>  
1918-21 Rev H. G. Morley.  
1921-4 Rev Arnold Penman.<sup>707</sup>  
1922 Rev John Hillary (Supt), Rev Arnold Penman, Rev J. Baker Norton, shared with Wesleyan churches at St John's Hill and New Park Rd.<sup>708</sup>  
1924-27 Rev A. J. Rosser.<sup>709</sup>  
1925 Rev T. Frederick Lewis, Superintendent Minister.<sup>710</sup>  
1927-1 Rev F. Guy Morris.  
1931-5 Rev H. W. Stephenson.  
1935-9 Rev Robert Flenly.  
1935-40 Rev F. Morton, joined HM forces before completing his three years.  
1941-6 Rev David N. Heap.

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<sup>694</sup> SC, 12 Apr. 1935.

<sup>695</sup> SC, 12 Apr. 1935.

<sup>696</sup> *Jubilee Anniversary*.

<sup>697</sup> SC, 3 Jan. 1958, 6.

<sup>698</sup> *Jubilee Anniversary*.

<sup>699</sup> SC, 19 Dec. 1958, 9.

<sup>700</sup> *Greenfields Church History, 1908-2008*.

<sup>701</sup> <http://greenfields.shropshireandmarches.org.uk/about-us/>, viewed 2019

<sup>702</sup> Unless otherwise indicated, names of ministers taken from *Greenfields Church History*.

<sup>703</sup> *Kelly's Directory 1895*.

<sup>704</sup> *Kelly's Directory 1905*.

<sup>705</sup> *Jubilee Anniversary* (1958).

<sup>706</sup> *Kelly's Directory 1913*.

<sup>707</sup> *Jubilee Anniversary* (1958).

<sup>708</sup> *Kelly's Directory 1922*.

<sup>709</sup> *Jubilee Anniversary* (1958).

<sup>710</sup> SC, 6 Oct. 1925.

1946-50	Rev W. E. Thorpe.
1950-4	Rev Albert Cowell.
1954-9	Rev H. G. James.
1959-66	Rev Victor Martin.
1967-70	Rev Frederick Barker.
1971-5	Rev Philip Barnett.
1974-85	Rev Paul Jones -Anglican.
1976-80	Rev Gilbert Hall.
1981-5	Rev John Hanson.
1985-6	Rev Maurice Vann.
1986-91	Rev Bernard Maddox – Anglican.
1987-93	Rev Keith Tewksbury.
1992-7	Rev Dr Anthony Marks.
1994-5	Rev Donald Burgess.
1995-2001	Rev Donald Longley.
1998-2000	Rev David Mawson – Anglican.
2000-08	Rev Peter Barnes – Anglican.
2002-05	Rev David Freeland.
2003-07	Rev Paulette Gower - Anglican curate.
2005-07	Rev Caroline Homer.
2007	Rev Derrick Lander.
2019	Rev James Eaton-Challinor. <sup>711</sup>

### **History since closure as chapel (if applicable)**

Still in use as a chapel.

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<sup>711</sup> <http://greenfields.shropshireandmarches.org.uk/about-us/>, viewed 2019

## A24 Lancaster Road, Elim Pentecostal Church (Riversway)

Grid reference: SJ 50472 15630      Shropshire HER:      1851 Census no: post-1851  
Website (2018): <http://riverswayelim.org/wordpress/>



Photograph 2018

### Construction

#### Date

1992      Building erected, but not as church.<sup>712</sup>

1994      Converted into a church centre.<sup>713</sup>

#### Cost/Funding

No information.

#### Architect

No information.

#### Builder

No information.

#### Additions/alterations

2008      July. Change of use from offices to community church use granted.<sup>714</sup>

### Description

#### Size

No information.

#### Exterior

1992      Brick, not purposely built as chapel.<sup>715</sup> Two floors, tile roof, square windows, two porches.<sup>716</sup>

#### Interior

No information.

#### Additional Buildings / Facilities

---

<sup>712</sup> *Shrewsbury* (pamphlet, SA, C 2/2, 1994).

<sup>713</sup> *SC*, 20 Oct. 1994.

<sup>714</sup> *SCPR*, SA/08/0822/F (planning application, change of use of first floor from offices to community church, 2008).

<sup>715</sup> *SC*, 20 Oct. 1994.

<sup>716</sup> Local Information/Personal observation (2018-19).



No information.

## **Congregations meeting in this chapel**

### **Denomination**

1994- Elim Pentecostals.<sup>717</sup>

### **Number of members**

No information.

### **Language**

English.

### **Events**

1994 Congregation moved here from a nearby building where they had been worshipping since 1994.<sup>718</sup>

2018 The Church Centre runs or hires space to community ventures, such as play group, money advice.<sup>719</sup>

### **Mission work**

No information.

### **Ministers**

No information.

### **History since closure as chapel (if applicable)**

Still in use as a chapel.

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<sup>717</sup> *Shrewsbury* (pamphlet, SA, C 2/2, 1994).

<sup>718</sup> *Shrewsbury* (pamphlet, SA, C 2/2, 1994).

<sup>719</sup> Local Information/Personal observation (2018-19).

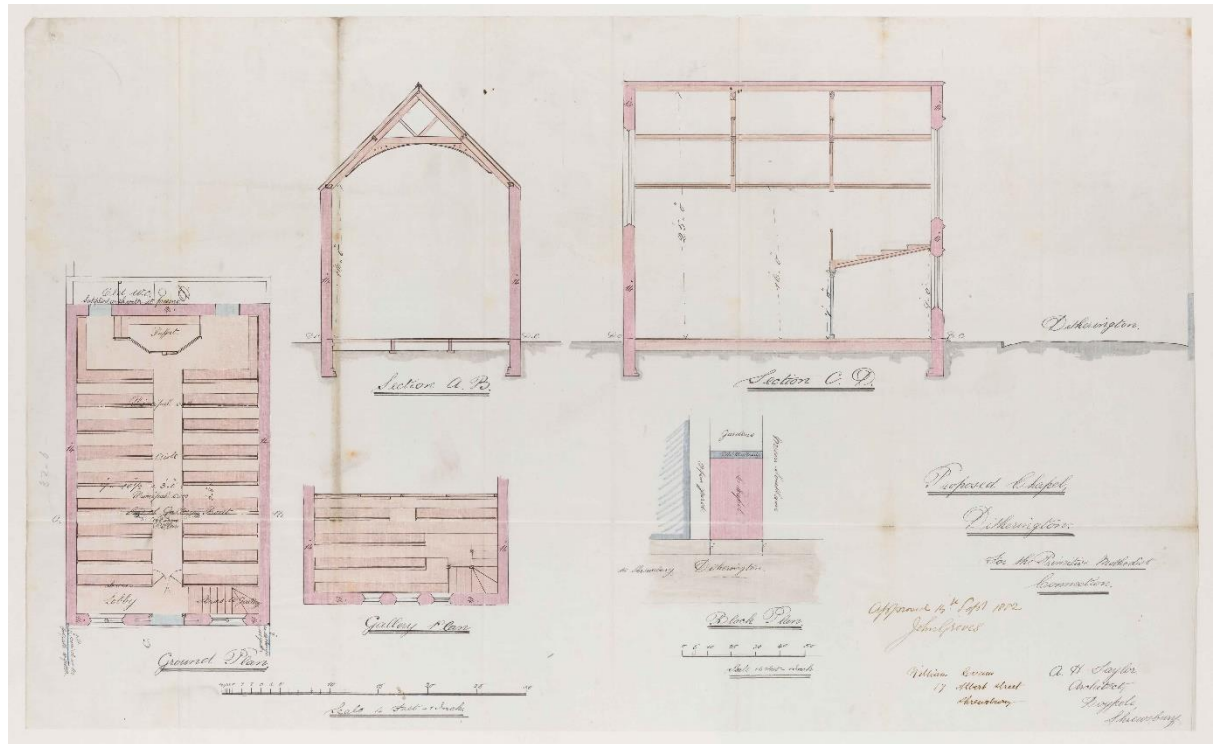
# A25 Long Row, formerly Dog Kennel Lane, Old Heath, Ditherington Primitive Methodist Chapel

Grid reference: SJ 502143

Shropshire HER:

1851 Census no: 332

Registers: C 1943-1995; M 1962-1993



© Shropshire Archives DA5/710/6/96 1882 extract from Planning Application 106 (407)

## First Chapel<sup>720</sup>

### Construction

#### Date

1844.<sup>721</sup>

#### Cost/Funding

£93 0s. 4d.

#### Architect

No information.

#### Builder

No information.

#### Additions/Alterations

No information.

## Description

### Size

Said to be large enough to hold 100 people standing.<sup>722</sup>

<sup>720</sup> Trumper, 'Primitive Methodism', p. 75.

<sup>721</sup> Field (ed.), *Church and Chapel*, p. 75 (no. 332).

<sup>722</sup> Trumper, 'Primitive Methodism', p. 75.

1851 seated 100.<sup>723</sup>

**Exterior**

No information.

**Interior**

No information.

**Additional Buildings / Facilities**

No information.

**Second Chapel**

**Construction**<sup>724</sup>

**Date**

1882.

**Cost/Funding**

£60 raised at the laying of the foundation stone on 13 Nov. 1882.

**Architect**

A. H. Taylor

**Builder**

Oliver Jones

**Additions/Alterations**

No information.

**Description**

**Size**

1882 Seated 130.<sup>725</sup>

**Exterior**<sup>726</sup>

Plan shows open yard to left, Messrs Southam to right, gardens behind. Building application: brick, fir timber, slated roof and slate in cement damp course.

**Interior**

No information.

**Additional Buildings / Facilities**

No information.

**Congregations meeting in this chapel**

**Denomination**

1844-1958 Primitive Methodists.<sup>727</sup>

Up to 1907 Part of Shrewsbury Methodist New Connexion Circuit.<sup>728</sup>

1907-32 Included in Shrewsbury United Methodist Circuit.<sup>729</sup>

**Number of members**

1851 average attendance was 20.<sup>730</sup>

1853 25 people on Sundays and 20 people during the week.<sup>731</sup>

1958 57 members when it closed.<sup>732</sup>

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<sup>723</sup> Field (ed.), *Church and Chapel*, p. 75 (no. 332).

<sup>724</sup> SA, DA5/710/6/96 (planning application to erect a Chapel, 1882); *EJ*, 15 Nov. 1882; *SC*, 17 Nov. 1882. The intention to build a new chapel is noted the previous year: *SC*, 25 Mar. 1881.

<sup>725</sup> *Kelly's Directory*, 1900.

<sup>726</sup> SA, DA5/710/6/96 (planning application to erect a Chapel, 1882).

<sup>727</sup> *WJ*, 6 Dec. 1958.

<sup>728</sup> *SC*, 2 Aug. 1935.

<sup>729</sup> *SC*, 2 Aug. 1935.

<sup>730</sup> Field (ed.), *Church and Chapel*, p. 75 (no. 332).

<sup>731</sup> Trumper, 'Primitive Methodism', p. 75.

## Language

English.

## Events

- 1882 Building application, submitted by Rev W. Evans.<sup>733</sup>  
1925 Mr Jas Betts was the special preacher at the re-opening services at the church which had been cleaned and re-decorated.<sup>734</sup>  
1933 Represented at Union of Sunday Schools meeting at Abbey Foregate Congregational. Mayor and Mayoress present. Address by Sir James Startin.<sup>735</sup>  
1958 14 Jul, last Sunday School anniversary held here; in future it was to be celebrated at the new Methodist Hall, presently being built in Field Crescent Mostyn Road.<sup>736</sup>  
1958 Throughout the year, notices of Sunday School parties and anniversaries and special services.<sup>737</sup>  
1958 5 Dec. Final service at old chapel. The minister, Rev E. Lloyd preached.<sup>738</sup>

## Mission work

No information.

## Ministers

- 1851 Philip Pugh, (signed the Census Form).<sup>739</sup>  
1882 Rev W. Evans of 17 Albert St, Castlefields.<sup>740</sup>  
1905 Rev Albert A. Birchenough (Superintendent) and Rev F. Morgan Ridge, shared with Castle Court and Belle Vue.<sup>741</sup>  
1911 Rev J. W. Jenkinson.<sup>742</sup>  
1913 Vacant, still shared with Castle Court and Belle Vue.<sup>743</sup>  
1922 Rev William Chapman, shared with Castle Court and Belle Vue.<sup>744</sup>  
1958 Rev E. Lloyd.<sup>745</sup>

## History since closure as chapel (if applicable)<sup>746</sup>

- 1958 Closed. Subsequently demolished and the site redeveloped for housing.

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<sup>732</sup> *WJ*, 6 Dec. 1958, 18.

<sup>733</sup> SA, DA5/710/6/96 (planning application, 1882).

<sup>734</sup> *SC*, 10 Jul. 1925.

<sup>735</sup> *SC*, 2 Jan. 1933.

<sup>736</sup> *SC*, 14 Jul. 1958.

<sup>737</sup> *SC*, 3 Jan. 1958.

<sup>738</sup> *SC*, 5 Dec. 1958.

<sup>739</sup> Field (ed.), *Church and Chapel*, p. 75 (no. 332).

<sup>740</sup> SA, DA5/710/6/96 (planning application 1882).

<sup>741</sup> *Kelly's Directory 1905*.

<sup>742</sup> *SC*, 10 Feb. 1911.

<sup>743</sup> *Kelly's Directory 1913*.

<sup>744</sup> *Kelly's Directory 1922*.

<sup>745</sup> *SC*, 5 Dec. 1958, 10.

<sup>746</sup> *WJ*, 6 Dec. 1958.

## A26 Longden Coleham, Barnabas Church<sup>747</sup>

Grid reference: SJ 49652 12172      Shropshire HER:      1851 Census no: post-1851  
Website (2018): <http://www.barnabascommunitychurch.com/about.html>



Photograph 2019

### Construction

#### Date

1881      Originally a Territorial Army Drill Hall.  
1996      Adapted as a church.

#### Cost/Funding

1996      Over £½ million raised to buy and refurbish the hall.

#### Architect

Drill Hall      A. H. Taylor of Dogpole.

#### Builder

Drill Hall      Messrs Darlington & Son.

#### Additions/alterations

2004      An ambitious development project was partly complete. This would eventually provide a new 100-seat hall on the front of the building.

### Description

#### Size

Drill Hall      116ft x 57ft 6in.

#### Exterior

Brick built, single storey with slate roof.

#### Interior

There are two halls: the larger one based on the old Drill Hall (seats 550) and the second seats 100.

#### Additional Buildings / Facilities

Car parking on site.<sup>748</sup>

2019      Additional buildings provide facilities for offices and Shrewsbury Food Bank.<sup>749</sup>

<sup>747</sup> Unless otherwise specified, account taken from Pattison, *On Severn Shore*, pp. 67-8 and Collis, *Baptist Churches*, p. 100.

<sup>748</sup> Local Information/Personal observation (2018-19).

<sup>749</sup> Local Information/Personal observation (2018-19).

Congregations meeting in this chapel

### **Denomination**

1996 Barnabas Christian Fellowship (no particular denomination).  
2004 Renamed Barnabas Community Church on its 21st Anniversary.<sup>750</sup>

### **Number of members**

2019 300.<sup>751</sup>

### **Language**

English.

### **Events**

1983 About half the congregation of Crowmoor Baptist church (A15) left to form the Barnabas Christian Fellowship.<sup>752</sup>

1996 They bought the Drill Hall for use as the Barnabas Centre and moved here from premises rented above the Queen Victoria public house on Hills Lane.

1996 22 Dec. The first meeting held in this church, a carol service.

1996-2004 Gift days held to improve the Centre's facilities. £291,000 raised. Basic Bank formed to help those in debt at home. Regular Alpha courses are held. 'Outlook' senior citizens' work started. Youth work developed. Children's groups and clubs started. Barney tots is a parents' and toddlers' group with regular 50 small children. Weekly support group for those recovering from addiction to drugs and alcohol. 'Cell Groups' developed, small groups for people to find friendship and learn more.

### **Mission work**

1996-2004 A member of Newfrontiers, a network of churches worldwide with a vision to restore the church on New Testament lines. A charity called Bread was developed to help the poor in Ukraine, working with partner churches there. Over £200,000 raised. Links were forged with Romania, Sierra Leone, Australia and New Zealand.

### **Ministers**

2019 Terry Hotchkiss.<sup>753</sup>

### **History since closure as chapel (if applicable)**

Still in use as a place of worship.

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<sup>750</sup> SC, 5 Feb. 2004.

<sup>751</sup> <http://www.barnabascommunitychurch.com/about.html>, viewed 2019.

<sup>752</sup> SC, 4 Oct. 1985; SC, 11 Sep. 1987.

<sup>753</sup> <https://www.shrewsburychurches.org.uk/churches/barnabas/>, viewed 2019.

## A27 Longden Coleham, Greyfriars Bridge, Greyfriars Hall, Exclusive Brethren (Christian Scientists)<sup>754</sup>

Grid reference: SJ 495121 Shropshire HER: 1851 Census no: post-1851

Website (2018): <https://directory.christianscience.com/list/>



Photograph 2019

### **Construction**

#### **Date**

1960.

#### **Cost/Funding**

No information.

#### **Architect**

No information.

#### **Builder**

No information.

#### **Additions/alterations**

No information.

### **Description**

#### **Size**

No information.

#### **Exterior**

Rectangular of one storey. Brick with tile roof. Two sections with square windows on either side of front door. Larger windows in the rear section. Metal railings.<sup>755</sup>

#### **Interior**

No information.

#### **Additional Buildings / Facilities**

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<sup>754</sup> Unless otherwise specified, account taken from Foxall, *Gazetteer*.

<sup>755</sup> Local Information/Personal observation (2018-19).

No information.

## **Congregations meeting in this chapel**

### **Denomination**

1960-1980/82 Exclusive Brethren.

?1964-1976 Elim Pentecostals (but they might have met on opposite side of road).

1992- present Christian Scientists.<sup>756</sup>

### **Number of members**

No information.

### **Language**

No information.

### **Events**

1960 Exclusive Brethren moved here from St Alkmund's Place, into a newly-built hall.

1965 Some Exclusive Brethren members left for a new meeting room in Cadogan Gardens.<sup>757</sup>

1980-82 Remaining Exclusive Brethren members moved to a new meeting room in Betton Street.<sup>758</sup>

### **Mission work**

No information.

### **Ministers**

No information.

### **History since closure as chapel (if applicable)**

2018 Still in use as a meeting room.

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<sup>756</sup> Local Information/Personal observation (2018-19); SC, 24 Jan. 1992.

<sup>757</sup> TNA, RG 70 no. 71471.

<sup>758</sup> SC, 25 Sep. 1981, 5; TNA, RG 70 no. 63670.



## A28 Meadow Farm Drive, Church of the Holy Spirit

Grid reference: SJ 51343 15090      Shropshire HER:      1851 Census no: post-1851  
Website (2018): [www.achurchnearyou.com/holyspirit-harlescott/](http://www.achurchnearyou.com/holyspirit-harlescott/);  
<http://www.harlescottparish.org.uk/>



Photograph 2018

### Construction

#### Date

1960 27 April Foundation stone laid by W. A. Robotham.<sup>759</sup>

1962 Church opened (as an Anglican foundation).<sup>760</sup>

#### Cost/Funding

No information.

#### Architect

No information.

#### Builder

No information.

#### Additions / Alterations

No information.

### Description

#### Size

No information.

#### Exterior

Brick with clock tower. Frontage with hexagonal windows.<sup>761</sup>

#### Interior

The church building is spacious and adaptable and hosts both services and community activities.<sup>762</sup>

#### Additional Buildings / Facilities

Car parking on site.<sup>763</sup>

<sup>759</sup> Local Information/Personal observation (2018-19).

<sup>760</sup> [www.achurchnearyou.com/holyspirit-harlescott/](http://www.achurchnearyou.com/holyspirit-harlescott/), viewed 2019.

<sup>761</sup> Local Information/Personal observation (2018-19).

<sup>762</sup> [www.achurchnearyou.com/holyspirit-harlescott/](http://www.achurchnearyou.com/holyspirit-harlescott/), viewed 2019.

## **Congregations meeting in this chapel**

### **Denomination**

1962-95 Anglican.

1995-2019 Local Ecumenical Partnership between the Methodist & Anglican churches.<sup>764</sup>

2019 Hope Church (Fellowship of Independent Evangelical Churches) was holding Sunday services here.<sup>765</sup>

### **Number of members**

No information.

### **Language**

English.

### **Events**

1995 Methodists from Field Crescent formed this partnership with the Anglicans.<sup>766</sup>

2018 Men's Breakfast Club, second Saturday of the month at Red Lion, Battlefield.<sup>767</sup>

### **Mission work**

No Information.

### **Ministers**

2018 Rev Mark Salmon.<sup>768</sup>

### **History since closure as chapel (if applicable)**

2019 Still in use.

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<sup>763</sup> Local Information/Personal observation (2018-19).

<sup>764</sup> [www.achurchnearyou.com/holyspirit-harlescott/](http://www.achurchnearyou.com/holyspirit-harlescott/), viewed 2019.

<sup>765</sup> [hopechurchshrewsbury.org.uk](http://hopechurchshrewsbury.org.uk), viewed 2019.

<sup>766</sup> [www.achurchnearyou.com/holyspirit-harlescott/](http://www.achurchnearyou.com/holyspirit-harlescott/), viewed 2019.

<sup>767</sup> Local Information/Personal observation (2018-19).

<sup>768</sup> Local Information/Personal observation (2018-19).

## A29 Milk Street, Shearman's Hall, Wesleyan Methodist Chapel<sup>769</sup>

Grid reference: 493124

Shropshire HER

1851 Census: not used as a chapel after

1851.



© Shropshire Archives PH/S/13/M/12/1, copy of 18<sup>th</sup> century painting, Shearman's Hall on the left

### Construction

#### Date:

1762 Converted from a hall belonging to the Guild of Shearman, parts of which dated back to the 14<sup>th</sup> century.<sup>770</sup>

#### Cost/Funding:

1762 Building leased and fitted out by John Appleton, carrier, at his own expense.

#### Architect:

No information.

#### Builder:

No information.

#### Additions/alterations

No information.

### Description

<sup>769</sup> Unless otherwise specified, this account is taken from Morris, *History of Methodism*, pp. 12-13.

<sup>770</sup> Morris, *History of Methodism*, pp. 12-13; H. E. Forrest, *The old houses of Shrewsbury* (third edn, 1920).

**Size**

No information.

**Exterior**

Red stone. Dual steps to main door, with arched windows on either side.<sup>771</sup>

**Interior**

No information.

**Additional Buildings / Facilities**

No information.

**Congregations meeting in this chapel****Denomination**

Wesleyan Methodist.

**Number of members**

No information.

**Language**

English.

**Events**

- 1761 Congregation moved here from John Appleton's house in Rousehill, where a room had been fitted out 'for preaching'.
- 1762 This new 'preaching house' was converted from a theatre, which had been held on a long lease from the Guild of Shearmen.<sup>772</sup>
- 1762 15 Jan., licensed.<sup>773</sup> John Wesley came for the opening services (his second visit to Shrewsbury) and preached here, also Rev John Fletcher, Vicar of Madeley.
- 1765 This chapel appears for the first time in the minutes of the Methodist County Circuit.
- 1781 Congregation moved to their new chapel on Hills Lane.

**Mission work**

No information.

**Ministers**

- 1762 Rev Alexander Mather, Rev William Minethorpe.

**History since closure as chapel (if applicable)**

- 1781 Chapel closed when congregation moved to their new chapel.
- 1785 The building became a temporary court house during the re-building of the Shirehall in this year and then a tea warehouse.<sup>774</sup>
- 1892 Building demolished and replaced c.1900 with a new building on the same site.<sup>775</sup>

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<sup>771</sup> Owen, *Some Account ... of Shrewsbury*.

<sup>772</sup> Morris, *History of Methodism*, p. 12-13; D. Trumper, *Images of Shrewsbury from the collections of Shrewsbury Museum Service* (2006).

<sup>773</sup> SA, 3365/2446 (Shrewsbury QS Order Book), 15 Jan. 1762 session.

<sup>774</sup> Owen, *Some Account ... of Shrewsbury*.

<sup>775</sup> Trumper, *Images of Shrewsbury*.

## A30 Monkmoor Rd, Christadelphian Chapel (former Holy Cross Parish Room)<sup>776</sup>

Grid reference: SJ 50284 12732      Shropshire HER: 31885      1851 Census no: post-1851  
Website (2019): [www.bibletruthshrewsbury.org](http://www.bibletruthshrewsbury.org)



Photographs 2018

### Construction

#### Date

- 1884      21 Feb. The building was opened as the Holy Cross Parish Room by the assistant Bishop of Lichfield.
- 1994      It was altered to form a chapel and was registered as a place of worship for the Christadelphians.<sup>777</sup>

#### Cost/Funding

- 1884      £600 including the internal fittings for the original parish room.<sup>778</sup>

#### Architect

- 1884      A. Lloyd Oswell, the Diocesan architect.<sup>779</sup>

#### Builder

Mr Oliver Jones. The windows were by Mr Done of Wyle Cop.

#### Additions/Alterations

- 1941      A lingerie company called Silhouette moved in due to bombing in London; they remained in place until 1956, but no major alterations were made.<sup>780</sup>
- 1994      No major structural changes were undertaken when the Christadelphians took over, but a kitchen and improved toilets were added. Later a suspended ceiling was installed in the main hall.<sup>781</sup>

### Description

#### Size

- 1884      Originally seated 190.

<sup>776</sup> For the building of the parish room, Joyce Lee, 'Cherry Orchard: the growth of a Victorian suburb', in B. Trinder (ed.), *Victorian Shrewsbury* (1984), p. 119 and *EJ*, 28. Feb. 1884.

<sup>777</sup> <http://www.users.waitrose.com/~coxfamily/shrewchr.htm>, viewed 2019.

<sup>778</sup> See the accounts for the building of the hall in SA, P250/J.

<sup>779</sup> Trinder, *Beyond the Bridges*, p. 62.

<sup>780</sup> [www.bibletruthshrewsbury.org](http://www.bibletruthshrewsbury.org), viewed 2019.

<sup>781</sup> [www.bibletruthshrewsbury.org](http://www.bibletruthshrewsbury.org), viewed 2019.

## **Exterior**

1884 'Red brick was used to create a variety of decorative effects, ranging from a simple cross over the entrance to an arched window infilled with a basketwork pattern of bricks and encircled crosses at each end of the roof, one of them on top of a lead belfry'.<sup>782</sup> The belfry tower is unique. The Monkmoor elevation has original leaded glass in timber frames.<sup>783</sup>

## **Interior**

1884 Original hall was designed to be suitable for services, meetings and a school.<sup>784</sup>

## **Additional Buildings/Facilities**

No information.

## **Congregations meeting in this chapel**

### **Denomination**

1994 Christadelphians, Brothers and Sisters of Christ.<sup>785</sup>

### **Number of members**

No information.

### **Language**

English.

## **Events**

1993 The hall purchased from the Diocese of Lichfield.<sup>786</sup>

1994 The congregation moved here from the Morris Hall, Bellstone. Until this date they had no premises of their own.<sup>787</sup>

2019 To celebrate their 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary in this building, the congregation held a Bible Week in August with events in the town and talks in the Lion Hotel.<sup>788</sup>

## **Mission work**

No information.

## **Ministers**

No information.

## **History since closure as chapel (if applicable)**

Still in use as a chapel.

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<sup>782</sup> Lee, 'Cherry Orchard', p. 119.

<sup>783</sup> Reference needed

<sup>784</sup> B. Trinder (ed.). *Victorian Shrewsbury*.

<sup>785</sup> <http://www.users.waitrose.com/~coxfamily/shrewchr.htm>, viewed 2019.

<sup>786</sup> [www.bibletruthshrewsbury.org](http://www.bibletruthshrewsbury.org), viewed 2019.

<sup>787</sup> <http://www.users.waitrose.com/~coxfamily/shrewchr.htm>, viewed 2019.

<sup>788</sup> [www.bibletruthshrewsbury.org](http://www.bibletruthshrewsbury.org), viewed 2019.

## A31 Mount Pleasant Road, Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints<sup>789</sup>

Grid reference: SJ 49749 15722      Shropshire HER:      1851 Census no: post-1851  
Website: <https://www.mormon.org/meetinghouse?address=52.6865251%2C-2.7716350999999997> no



Photograph 2018

### **Construction**

#### **Date**

1981.

#### **Cost/Funding**

No information.

#### **Architect**

No information.

#### **Builder**

No information.

#### **Additions/Alterations**

The 1981 building was intended to be the first phase of a church, but there is no further information.

### **Description**

#### **Size**

1981 Seated 150.

#### **Exterior**

1981 Brick with some minor decorative brickwork, steep tile roof and slender white spire.<sup>790</sup>

#### **Interior**

No information.

#### **Additional Buildings/facilities<sup>791</sup>**

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<sup>789</sup> For the refoundation of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints in Shrewsbury, Gordon W. Beharrell, *From Shrewsbury to Salt Lake City: a Mormon sesquicentennial celebration, 1847-1997* (n.d.), pp. 52-8. See also *SC*, 25 Sep. 1981.

<sup>790</sup> Local Information/Personal observation (2018-19).

There appears to be some residential accommodation on the site. Car parking.

## **Congregations**

### **Denomination**

1981 Mormons (or Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints).

### **Number of members**

1981 The county had c. 140 Mormons.

### **Language**

English.

## **Events**

1981 The congregation moved to this new chapel from the Heath Farm Community Centre, Harlescott.<sup>792</sup>

## **Mission work**

No information.

## **Ministers**

No information.

## **History since closure as chapel (if applicable)**

Still in use as a church.

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<sup>791</sup> Local Information/Personal observation (2018-19).

<sup>792</sup> SC, 10 Jan. 1975.



## A32 Mount Pleasant Road, Emmanuel Church

Grid reference: SJ 49994 15611      Shropshire HER:      1851 Census no: post-1851  
Websites (2018): <https://www.shropshireandmarches.org.uk/find-a-chapel/central-area/>:  
<http://www.harlescottparish.org.uk/>: [www.achurchnearyou.com/holyspirit-harlescott/](http://www.achurchnearyou.com/holyspirit-harlescott/)



Photograph 2019

### Construction

#### Date

2001.<sup>793</sup>

#### Cost/Funding

No information.

#### Architect

Robert Netherwood.<sup>794</sup>

#### Builder

No information.

#### Additions/Alterations

2016      Planning application for the erection of a single-story extension and amended vehicular access.<sup>795</sup>

2018      Work completed.<sup>796</sup>

### Description

#### Size

Seats 80-100 people comfortably.<sup>797</sup>

#### Exterior

No information.

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<sup>793</sup> [www.achurchnearyou.com/holyspirit-harlescott/](http://www.achurchnearyou.com/holyspirit-harlescott/), viewed 2019.

<sup>794</sup> <http://www.users.waitrose.com/~coxfamily/shrewchr.htm>, viewed 2019.

<sup>795</sup> SCPR, 16/04257/FUL (planning application, erection of a single-story extension and amended vehicular access. 2016).

<sup>796</sup> <http://www.harlescottparish.org.uk/>, viewed 2019.

<sup>797</sup> <http://www.harlescottparish.org.uk/>, viewed 2019.

### **Interior**

No information.

### **Additional Buildings / Facilities**

Car park.<sup>798</sup>

## **Congregations meeting in this chapel**

### **Denomination**

2001 Local Ecumenical Partnership between the Methodist and Anglican churches.<sup>799</sup>

2001 Sister church of Church of the Holy Spirit.<sup>800</sup>

### **Number of members**

No information.

### **Language**

No information.

### **Events**

No information.

### **Mission work**

No information.

### **Ministers**

2019 Martin Heath.<sup>801</sup>

## **History since closure as chapel (if applicable)**

Still in use as a church.

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<sup>798</sup> Local Information/Personal observation (2018-19); SCPR, 16/04257/FUL.

<sup>799</sup> [www.achurchnearyou.com/holyspirit-harlescott/](http://www.achurchnearyou.com/holyspirit-harlescott/), viewed 2019;  
<https://www.shropshireandmarches.org.uk/find-a-chapel/central-area/>, viewed 2019.

<sup>800</sup> [www.achurchnearyou.com/holyspirit-harlescott/](http://www.achurchnearyou.com/holyspirit-harlescott/), viewed 2019.

<sup>801</sup> <http://www.harlescottparish.org.uk/>, viewed 2019.

# A33 Mytton Oak Road, Copthorne House, Methodist New Connexion Chapel<sup>802</sup>

Grid reference: SJ 462123

Shropshire HER:

1851 Census no: 347

No photo.

## Construction

### Date

1833.

### Cost/Funding

Thomas Brocas paid.

### Architect

No information.

### Builder

No information.

### Additions/Alterations

No information.

## Description

### Size

1851 Seated 120.<sup>803</sup>

### Exterior

Separate building attached to west side of Brocas' house (Copthorne House).

### Interior

No information.

### Additional Buildings/Facilities

No information.

## Congregations meeting in this chapel

### Denomination

1833-69 Methodist New Connexion.

### Number of members

1851 50 attended on Census Sunday, including 10 children.<sup>804</sup>

### Language

English.

## Events

No information.

## Mission work

No information.

## Ministers

1851 Census form signed by John Hilton, superintendent minister.<sup>805</sup>

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<sup>802</sup> Unless otherwise specified, this account is taken from Trinder, *Beyond the Bridges*, p. 132.

<sup>803</sup> Field (ed.), *Church and Chapel*, p. 78 (no. 347).

<sup>804</sup> Ibid.

<sup>805</sup> Ibid.

**History since closure as chapel (if applicable)**

1869 Closed and demolished, after the death of Brocas' widow and the sale of the estate. Copthorne House remains, now called Mytton Villa.<sup>806</sup>

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<sup>806</sup> Trinder, *Beyond the Bridges*, p. 132.

## A34 Mytton Oak Road, Plymouth Brethren Christian Church

Grid reference: SJ457121 Shropshire HER: 1851 Census no: post-1851  
Website (2018): <http://theplymouthbrethren.org.uk/?s=Shrewsbury>



Photograph 2019

### Construction

#### Date

2015 27 Oct. Planning permission granted.<sup>807</sup>

#### Cost/Funding

No Information.

#### Architect

No Information.

#### Builder

No Information.

#### Major Additions/Alterations

No Information.

### Description

#### Size

No information.

#### Exterior

Single storey brick building with part timber cladding and porch, slate roof and no visible windows.<sup>808</sup>

#### Interior

No Information.

#### Additional Buildings/Facilities

Large car park.<sup>809</sup>

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<sup>807</sup> SCP, 15/01611/FUL (planning application for erection of new Gospel Meeting Hall to include change of use of land, 2015).

<sup>808</sup> Local Information/Personal observation (2018-19); SCP, 15/01611/FUL.

<sup>809</sup> Local Information/Personal observation (2018-19).

## **Congregations meeting in this chapel**

### **Denominations**

Exclusive Brethren.<sup>810</sup>

### **Number of members**

No Information.

### **Language**

English.

### **Events**

None

### **Mission work**

No Information.

### **Ministers**

No Information.

### **History since closure as chapel (if applicable)**

Still in use.

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<sup>810</sup> Local Information/Personal observation (2018-19); SCPR, 15/01611/FUL.

## A35 New Park Road, Non-Denominational Mission Room (now John Street Church)<sup>811</sup>

Grid reference: SJ 49925 13359 Shropshire HER: 29022 1851 Census no: post-1851  
Website (2018): <https://www.johnstreetchurchshrewsbury.co.uk/>



Photographs 2018

### Construction

#### Date

Opened 1 January 1881 as New Park Road Mission Room. Built by C. E. Nightingale to assist in 'raising the social, moral and spiritual welfare of the poorer classes of its residents'. Enlarged in 1881 and reopened on 4 January 1882. In January 1882 it was reported that the Sunday school had about 200 scholars and the 'Band of Hope' about 500 children. There was a strong commitment to temperance.<sup>812</sup>

#### Cost/Funding

Founded by C. E. Nightingale, a wealthy dentist.<sup>813</sup>

#### Architect

No information.

#### Builder

No information.

#### Additions / Alterations

No information.

### Description

#### Size

No information.

#### Exterior

Brick with decorative brick string course and half-timbered gables, with a tile roof. The current building appears to consist of four separate structures.<sup>814</sup>

#### Interior

No information.

#### Additional Buildings / Facilities

<sup>811</sup> Cox, "Simplicity without meanness", p. 91.

<sup>812</sup> *EJ* 11 Jan. 1882.

<sup>813</sup> *SC*, 1 May 1942.

<sup>814</sup> Local Information/Personal observation (2018-19).

1882/83 Castle Fields Missionary Infant School identified on this site.<sup>815</sup>

## **Congregations meeting in this chapel**

### **Denominations**

1880-90 Non-denominational.<sup>816</sup>

1890 - Following the death of Nightingale in 1889 it became an Assembly of Open Brethren (the Plymouth Brethren having split into Open and Exclusive Brethren).<sup>817</sup>

### **Number of members**

1993 Approximately 50 members.<sup>818</sup>

### **Language**

English.

### **Events**

1880 Mr Nightingale, chairman of a Household Mission, founded this undenominational mission hall ‘to spread the Gospel to the poor’.<sup>819</sup>

1882-3 An infants’ school was founded.<sup>820</sup>

By 1890, Under the influence of Nightingale’s two sons, the congregation developed into an Assembly of Open Brethren.<sup>821</sup>

1890 Some of the former Fire Office Passage Plymouth Brethren Assembly joined this congregation.<sup>822</sup>

1900 The building was renamed The Gospel Hall.<sup>823</sup>

c. 1997 The Assembly of Open Brethren was still meeting in the hall.<sup>824</sup>

2018 The hall is currently used for several community activities.<sup>825</sup>

### **Mission work**

No information.

### **Ministers**

No information.

### **History since closure as chapel (if applicable)**

Still in use as a church.

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<sup>815</sup> Crocker, *The Post Office Shrewsbury Directory, 1882-3*.

<sup>816</sup> SC, 1 May 1942.

<sup>817</sup> SA, Will 1889/156, C. E. Nightingale.

<sup>818</sup> Cox, “Simplicity without meanness”, p. 91.

<sup>819</sup> SC, 1 May 1942.

<sup>820</sup> Crocker, *The Post Office Shrewsbury Directory, 1882-3*.

<sup>821</sup> SC, 1 May 1942.

<sup>822</sup> Cox, “Simplicity without meanness”, p. 91.

<sup>823</sup> *Kelly’s Directory, 1900*.

<sup>824</sup> Cox, “Simplicity without meanness”, p. 91.

<sup>825</sup> Local Information/Personal observation (2018-19).



## A36 New Park Road, Castle Fields Wesleyan Methodist Chapel<sup>826</sup>

Grid reference: SJ 49739 13182      Shropshire HER: 32078      1851 Census no: 330  
Registers: C 1908-1969 (1431-1436); M 1899-1961 (1113-1125)



© Shropshire Archives, PH/S/13/C/2/2 (H. Griffiths). Side view of chapel taken in Feb. 1972 before demolition

Also see SA PH/S/13/C/2/1, c. 1900, Front façade of chapel

### **Construction**

#### **Date**

1837.<sup>827</sup>

#### **Cost/Funding**

1837      Site of 200 sq yards cost £50. Conveyed from Mr S. Smith, timber merchant to William Johnson and nine others on behalf of the Wesleyan Methodist Society.<sup>828</sup>

#### **Architect**

No information.

#### **Builder**

No information.

#### **Additions/Alterations**

<sup>826</sup> See the accounts in Morris, *History of Methodism*, pp. 34-5 and Cox, “Simplicity without meanness”, p. 77.

<sup>827</sup> Cox, “Simplicity without meanness”, p. 77; Trinder, *Beyond the Bridges*, pp. 159-60.

<sup>828</sup> Morris, *History of Methodism*, p. 34.

- 1881 February planning application for a narrow extension around the two sides and one back wall, purpose not stated.<sup>829</sup>
- 1889 Purchased 3 houses at back of chapel on York Place. Proposed classroom. Plan shows cottage to right of chapel and WCs in yard behind.<sup>830</sup>
- 1893 New front added. New heating chamber built below and to rear of chapel, brick, stone and timber covered with slates. Application made on behalf of the trustees by Frederick Davies of 67 Oak Street, Belle Vue.<sup>831</sup>
- 1908 Installed a pipe organ, acquired from Castle Gates Congregational Church when it closed.<sup>832</sup>
- 1926 Planning application for new vestry and WC to be built in yard between chapel and cottages behind. 'Existing shed to be moved'. 2 storeys, storage below, vestry above. Brick and slate roof. Application includes new WC, coal house and new sink in caretaker's cottage.<sup>833</sup>
- 1927 Schoolroom and vestry completed.<sup>834</sup>
- 1928 New room at back of chapel alongside row of cottages. Application says 'Pull down existing rooms in 3-floored building and erect a ground floor room'. Plan shows 3 windows onto gardens, single storey, brick, slate roof, pine wood block floor.<sup>835</sup>
- 1947 Electric lighting installed: Steel supports put across roof due to the danger of its slipping.<sup>836</sup>

## Description

### Size

- 1851 200 seats. (170 + 48)<sup>837</sup>
- 1880 120 seats.<sup>838</sup>
- 1940 200 seats.<sup>839</sup>

### Exterior

- 1837 Small chapel of brick, originally with projecting porch.<sup>840</sup>
- 1893 Frontage rebuilt in brick with stone dressings around the windows and decorations above the door and in the gables. Engraved stone band above the door gave the dates 1837 and 1893. The site was narrow and closed in. The side walls were plain with high windows.<sup>841</sup>

### Interior

Single storey with clerestory windows. Schoolroom at the back and an attached two storey extension at the side with storage below and vestry above.<sup>842</sup>

### Additional Buildings/Facilities

- 1928 Caretaker's cottage to the right of chapel on New Park Rd is named on this plan. Probably in use since at least 1889.<sup>843</sup>

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<sup>829</sup> SA, DA5/710/7/22 (planning Application, 1891).

<sup>830</sup> SA, DA5/710/13/62 (planning application to erect two W.C.s and convert dwelling house into classrooms, 1889).

<sup>831</sup> Trinder, *Beyond the bridges*, p. 160. SA, DA5/710/17/26 (planning application for heating chamber and several small alterations, 1893).

<sup>832</sup> Morris, *History of Methodism*, p. 34.

<sup>833</sup> SA, DA5/710/50/39 (planning application to erect a new vestry, 1926).

<sup>834</sup> Morris, *History of Methodism*, p. 34.

<sup>835</sup> SA, DA5/710/51/58 (planning application to erect new room at rear, 1928).

<sup>836</sup> Morris, *History of Methodism*, p. 34.

<sup>837</sup> Field, *Church and Chapel*, p. 74 (no. 330).

<sup>838</sup> OS 1:500 survey (1882).

<sup>839</sup> *Methodist Church Buildings: statistical returns 1940* (1947).

<sup>840</sup> OS 1:500 survey (1882).

<sup>841</sup> Cox, "Simplicity without meanness", p. 77; SA, DA5/710/7/22 (planning Application, 1891).

<sup>842</sup> SA, DA5/710/50/39 (planning application to erect a new vestry, 1926).

<sup>843</sup> SA, DA5/710/13/62; DA5/710/51/58.

## Congregations meeting in this chapel

### Denominations

1837-1972 Wesleyan Methodists.

Up to 1935 In Wesleyan Methodist Circuit with Hotspur St Greenfields, St John's Hill and New St Bethesda.<sup>844</sup>

1935-72 Methodist, following national amalgamation with Primitive Methodists into New Methodist Circuit.<sup>845</sup>

### Number of members

1851 25 adults attended in the morning and 46 in the evening.<sup>846</sup>

1972 7 or 8 remaining members who worshipped in the adjoining schoolroom.<sup>847</sup>

### Language

English.

### Events

1881-93 Numerous planning applications to enlarge and improve the chapel.<sup>848</sup>

1926-8 Planning applications submitted to make space for larger school room and vestry.<sup>849</sup>

1933 Represented at Union of Sunday Schools meeting at Abbey Foregate Congregational Chapel. Mayor and Mayoress present. Address by Sir James Startin.<sup>850</sup>

1935 Concert given here by Frankwell Methodist choir.<sup>851</sup>

1935 April, Sunday School Anniversary; Rev Mudd was present.<sup>852</sup>

### Mission work

No information.

### Ministers

1851 Census form signed by Samuel Roberts, Steward.<sup>853</sup>

1856-70 Various.<sup>854</sup>

1895 Rev Thomas Hosking and Rev William O. Robinson, shared with Wesleyan Churches at St John's Hill and Hotspur St, Greenfields.<sup>855</sup>

1905 Rev George J Brett (Supt) and Rev Walter Fytche, shared with Wesleyan Churches at St John's Hill and Hotspur St, Greenfields.<sup>856</sup>

1913 Rev Ernest Alfred Prince (Supt), Rev F. Paul Bacon and Rev J Wright, shared with Wesleyan Churches at St John's Hill and Hotspur St, Greenfields.<sup>857</sup>

1922 Rev John Hillary (Supt), Rev Arnold Penman, Rev J. Baker Norton, shared with Wesleyan churches at St John's Hill and Hotspur St, Greenfields.<sup>858</sup>

1935 Rev H. W. Stephenson.<sup>859</sup>

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<sup>844</sup> Morris, *History of Methodism*, p. 26.

<sup>845</sup> V. J. Howell, 'The Wesleyan Methodist Chapel in St John's Hill Shrewsbury (ts, 1997).

<sup>846</sup> Field, *Church and Chapel*, p. 74 (no. 330).

<sup>847</sup> SA, 3838/4/1 (File of correspondence on the closure and sale of Castlefields Chapel, 1967-73).

<sup>848</sup> SA, DA5/710/7/22; DA5/710/17/26.

<sup>849</sup> SA, DA5/710/51/58; SA, DA5/710/50/39.

<sup>850</sup> SC, 2 Jan. 1933.

<sup>851</sup> SC, 22 Mar. 1935.

<sup>852</sup> SC, 22 Mar. 1935.

<sup>853</sup> Field, *Church and Chapel*, p. 74 (no. 330).

<sup>854</sup> *Post Office Directory of Shropshire, 1856; Post Office Directory of Shropshire, 1863; Post Office Directory of Shropshire, 1870* do not give the names of the clergy but just say 'various'.

<sup>855</sup> *Greenfields Church History, 1908-2008 Kelly's Directory 1895*.

<sup>856</sup> *Kelly's Directory 1905*.

<sup>857</sup> *Kelly's Directory 1913*.

<sup>858</sup> *Kelly's Directory 1922*.

<sup>859</sup> SC, 19 Apr 1935.

### **History since closure as chapel (if applicable)**

- 1972 The buildings were in such disrepair that the seven or eight remaining (elderly) members worshipped in the adjoining schoolroom.<sup>860</sup>
- 1973 The buildings were sold to Shrewsbury Borough Council for £1500. They were demolished soon after and the site redeveloped for housing.<sup>861</sup>

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<sup>860</sup> Cox, ““Simplicity without meanness””, p. 77.

<sup>861</sup> SA, 3838/4/1: Cox, ““Simplicity without meanness””, p. 77.

## A37 New Street, Frankwell: Bethesda Chapel, Wesleyan Methodist<sup>862</sup>

Grid reference: SJ 486128 Shropshire HER: 29021 1851 Census no: 344 (but not this building). Registers: C 1926-1996; M 1924-1985



Photographs 2018

### First Chapel (Bethesda)

#### Construction

##### Date

The 1851 religious census returns says that the chapel was ‘appropriated’ in 1846.<sup>863</sup> In 1870 the chapel was described as a rented ‘room in New St where from 150 to 200 scholars were taught on Sundays’. The rent had been paid by Mr Thomas Brocas and after his death by his widow until her decease in 1869. After her death the decision was taken to build at chapel.<sup>864</sup>

##### Cost/Funding

##### Architect

No information.

##### Builder

No information.

##### Additions/alterations

No information.

#### Description

<sup>862</sup> Cox, “Simplicity without meanness”, p. 82.

<sup>863</sup> Field (ed.), *Church and Chapel*, pp. 77-8 (344).

<sup>864</sup> SC, 10 June 1870.

**Size**

1851 about 140 seats.<sup>865</sup>

**Exterior**

No information.

**Interior**

No information.

**Additional Buildings / Facilities**

No information.

**Second Chapel (again Bethesda)****Construction****Date**

1870 7 June (date of laying of foundation stone); 23 Oct. 1870 (opening).<sup>866</sup>

**Cost/Funding**

There were several generous benefactors; remaining money was raised by local endeavour.<sup>867</sup>

**Architect**

1922 alterations by L. J. Greaves.<sup>868</sup>

**Builder**

No information.

**Additional Buildings / Facilities**

Unknown date: Schoolroom built on at the back.<sup>869</sup>

**Description****Size**

1882 120 seats.

**Exterior**

Plain brick chapel, now rendered. Small entrance porch. Three Gothic windows on each side.<sup>870</sup>

**Interior**

No information.

**Additional Buildings / Facilities**

1922 Lobby, WC and lavatory and coal store added plus several other alterations to the chapel front porch, the chapel and the school room.<sup>871</sup>

**Congregations meeting in these chapels****Denomination**

1851-1999 Wesleyan Methodists.

Up to 1935 In Wesleyan Methodist Circuit with Hotspur St Greenfields, New Park Rd and St John's Hill.<sup>872</sup>

1935-99 Methodist, following national amalgamation with Primitive Methodists into New Methodist Circuit.<sup>873</sup>

**Number of members**

1851 Average adult attendance was 45 in the morning and 20 in the evening.<sup>874</sup>

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<sup>865</sup> Field (ed.), *Church and Chapel*, pp. 77-8 (no. 344).

<sup>866</sup> SC, 10 Jun., 21 Oct. 1870.

<sup>867</sup> SC, 10 Jun. 1870.

<sup>868</sup> SA, DA5/710/46/57 (planning application for WC and other additions. 1922).

<sup>869</sup> Shown on the OS map revised in 1902 but not on its predecessor revised in 1882.

<sup>870</sup> Cox, "Simplicity without meanness", p. 82.

<sup>871</sup> SA, DA5/710/46/57.

<sup>872</sup> Morris, *History of Methodism*, p. 26.

<sup>873</sup> V. J. Howell, 'The Wesleyan Methodist Chapel in St John's Hill Shrewsbury' (ts, 1997).

1989 21 members.<sup>875</sup>

## Language

English

## Events

- 1846 Thomas Brocas, for the Wesleyan Methodists, rented a room here.<sup>876</sup>
- 1851 The room became the Bethesda chapel.<sup>877</sup>
- 1862 Thomas Brocas died; he had been paying the rent of £12 per year for first chapel, described as ‘room’, but accommodating 140 people.<sup>878</sup>
- 1870 The congregation moved to their second chapel from former Bethesda chapel on New Street.<sup>879</sup>
- 1911 Joint Wesleyan Sunday School anniversaries. Sermon, children’s address, special music. Reports from Sunday School superintendents. Long-service certificates presented to teachers.<sup>880</sup>
- 1933 Represented at Union of Sunday Schools meeting at Abbey Foregate Congregational Chapel. Mayor and Mayoress present. Address by Sir James Startin.<sup>881</sup>
- 1935 March, children’s event for Sunday School funds.<sup>882</sup>
- 1950s Women’s Bright Hour, catering for women of all denominations.<sup>883</sup>

## Mission work

No information.

## Ministers

- 1851 Census form signed by John Tindall, Superintendent.<sup>884</sup>
- 1885 Rev Alfred Barber and Rev Sidney Mees, shared with New Park Road and St John’s Hill.<sup>885</sup>

## History since closure as chapel (if applicable)

- 1999 Closed as unsafe.<sup>886</sup>
- 2019 Part of building used as nursery/playgroup.<sup>887</sup>

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<sup>874</sup> Field (ed.), *Church and Chapel*, pp. 77-8 (no. 344).

<sup>875</sup> SC, 21 Jan. 1999. {Incompatible dates}

<sup>876</sup> H. Pidgeon, *An Historical and Illustrated Handbook for the Town of Shrewsbury* (1860).

<sup>877</sup> Ibid..

<sup>878</sup> Cox, ““Simplicity without meanness””, p. 82.

<sup>879</sup> SC, 10 Jun. 1870.

<sup>880</sup> SC, 5 May 1911.

<sup>881</sup> SC, 2 Jan. 1933.

<sup>882</sup> SC, 15 Mar. 1935.

<sup>883</sup> Morris, *History of Methodism*, p. 35.

<sup>884</sup> Field (ed.), *Church and Chapel*, pp. 77-8 (no. 344).

<sup>885</sup> *Kelly’s Post Office Directory, 1885*.

<sup>886</sup> SC, 21 Jan. 1999.

<sup>887</sup> Local Information/Personal observation (2018-19).

# A38 Pride Hill, Seventy Steps (formerly Waggon and Horses Passage), Jerusalem Welsh Independents Chapel<sup>888</sup>

Grid reference: SJ 49216 12641      Shropshire HER:      1851 Census no: 334

No photograph

## Construction

### Date

1845      The chapel's opening services were on Christmas Day.<sup>889</sup>

### Cost/Funding

£800.<sup>890</sup>

### Architect

No information.

### Builder

No information.

### Additions/alterations

No information.

## Description

### Size

1851      Sittings 45 + 110.<sup>891</sup>

### Exterior

1845      Plain brick.<sup>892</sup> The site was very restricted on a narrow passage, with buildings on either side, as seen on an early photograph.<sup>893</sup>

### Interior

No information.

### Additional Buildings / Facilities

No information.

## Congregations meeting in this chapel

### Denomination

1845-62      Welsh Independents.

### Number of members

1851      An average of 120 adults attended.<sup>894</sup>

### Language

Welsh.

## Events

1845      The congregation moved to this newly-built chapel from Howard Street where they had begun to meet in 1842. The opening services were held on Christmas Day.<sup>895</sup>

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<sup>888</sup> Also known as Pride Hill Chapel. Cox, "Simplicity without meanness", p. 79.

<sup>889</sup> Elliot, *Congregationalism*, p. 259; Bagshaw, *Gazetteer*.

<sup>890</sup> Bagshaw, *Gazetteer*.

<sup>891</sup> Field (ed.), *Church and Chapel*.

<sup>892</sup> Bagshaw, *Gazetteer*.

<sup>893</sup> Cox, "Simplicity without meanness", p. 79.

<sup>894</sup> Field (ed.), *Church and chapel*, p. 75 (no. 334).

<sup>895</sup> Elliot, *Congregationalism*, p. 259; Bagshaw, *Gazetteer*.



- 1860 Reported that as the Welsh Independents found their chapel to be too small, they had purchased a site for a new chapel in Dogpole.<sup>896</sup>
- 1862 The congregation moved to the new Tabernacle Chapel in Dogpole (A16).<sup>897</sup>

### **Mission work**

No information.

### **Ministers**

- 1844-56 Rev. John Thomas. As minister [of] Pride Hill Chapel (an alternative name for Jerusalem Chapel). he signed the census record in 1851.<sup>898</sup>
- 1856 Presentation to Rev. J. D. Thomas on leaving the chapel.<sup>899</sup>
- 1860 Rev. John Davies. He moved to Ruthin in 1864.<sup>900</sup>

### **History since closure as chapel (if applicable)**

- 1862 Closed when the congregation moved to the new Tabernacle Chapel in Dogpole (A16). It was subsequently used as a warehouse.<sup>901</sup>
- 1980s The Seventy Steps (formerly Waggon and Horses Passage) was cleared to construct a shopping centre.<sup>902</sup>

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<sup>896</sup> SC, 11 Feb. 1860.

<sup>897</sup> Elliot, *Congregationalism*. [date not in Elliot]

<sup>898</sup> Field (ed.), *Church and chapel*, p. 75 (no. 334).

<sup>899</sup> SC, 21 Nov. 1856.

<sup>900</sup> SC, 11 Feb. 1860; Elliot, *Congregationalism*, p. 260.

<sup>901</sup> Elliot, *Congregationalism*. [not Elliot]

<sup>902</sup> D. Trumper, *A Glimpse of Old Shrewsbury* (2003); N. Baker, *Shrewsbury: Archaeological Discoveries from a Medieval Town* (2003).

## A39 Salter's Lane Non-Denominational Mission (Coleham Mission Room, Salvation Army Hall)<sup>903</sup>

Grid reference: SJ 49656 12038 Shropshire HER: 31886 1851 Census no: post-1851  
Website 2018 <https://www.salvationarmy.org.uk/shrewsbury>



Photograph 2019

### Construction

#### Date

1873/75 Datestone on the building which coincides with the establishment by Miss Mary Hannah Hilditch of a congregation here.<sup>904</sup>

#### Cost/Funding

The Mission Room and cottage in Pound Close, Coleham was given to the Abbey Foregate Congregational Church, to be used for religious purposes, by J. Evans of Bebbington in Cheshire.<sup>905</sup>

#### Architect

No information.

#### Builder

No information.

#### Additions/Alterations

1994 Erection of single storey extension to provide toilets.<sup>906</sup>

### Description

#### Size

1882 200 seats.<sup>907</sup>

#### Exterior

Brick with tiled roof and large rectangular windows.<sup>908</sup>

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<sup>903</sup> H. B. Eldred, *Abbey Foregate Congregational Chapel, Centenary Souvenir Booklet* (1962), *passim*. See too the records in the archives of Abbey Foregate congregational church, SA, 4212/4/2/1-38, which includes trustees' minutes.

<sup>904</sup> Local Information/Personal observation (2018-19); SA, Will 1884/447, Miss Mary Hannah Hilditch. She was of 15 Belmont and d. 7 June 1884 aged 82. *EJ* 11 June 1884.

<sup>905</sup> Eldred, *Centenary Souvenir Booklet*, p. 26.

<sup>906</sup> SCPR, SA/94/0109 (planning application, erection of single storey extension to provide toilets, 1994).

<sup>907</sup> OS 1:500 survey (1882).

<sup>908</sup> Local Information/Personal observation (2018-19).

## Interior

No information.

## Additional Buildings/Facilities

No information.

## Congregations meeting in this chapel

### Denominations

- 1875 Described as a 'unsectarian mission'.<sup>909</sup>  
1899 Congregational; Abbey Foregate Church took over its care.<sup>910</sup>  
1920- Salvation Army.<sup>911</sup>

### Number of members

No information.

### Language

English.

## Events<sup>912</sup>

- 1873 Congregation founded by Miss Mary Hannah Hilditch formerly of Claremont Baptist Chapel.<sup>913</sup>
- 1870s Reports of the chapel being used for temperance meetings (1874), for a lecture on the massacre of Christians in Bulgaria by Mr Wooders (1876) and for the distribution of free breakfasts in the winter of 1879.<sup>914</sup>
- 1876 23 Oct. Annual tea meeting: the resignation of Mr Wooders considered.<sup>915</sup>
- 1881 Report of the eighth anniversary meeting of the room.<sup>916</sup>
- 1884 21 Oct. Anniversary tea. Report that Miss Hilditch (who had recently died) had left the premises to Miss E. Bickerton.<sup>917</sup>
- 1888 12 July. Annual excursion of Coleham Mission Sabbath School to the Wrekin.<sup>918</sup>
- 1889 Report of annual Sunday school excursion to Llandundo with the Sunday school from Swan Hill.<sup>919</sup>
- 1897 The Mission Room and cottage in Pound Close, Coleham was given to the Abbey Foregate Congregational Church, to be used for religious purposes, by J. Evans of Bebbington in Cheshire.<sup>920</sup>
- 1898 22 May. J. W. Woodall conducted a meeting in memory of W. G. Gladstone.<sup>921</sup>
- 1906 16 Sept. Jubilee celebration of J. W. Woodall's work including his 32 years of ministry in Coleham mission.<sup>922</sup>
- 1911 Resignation of J. W. Woodall due to illness. A stained-glass window in his memory was erected in Abbey Foregate church in 1922.<sup>923</sup>
- 1915 A portion of the land at the Coleham Mission was sold to Shrewsbury Corporation to increase the size of the playground at their school.

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<sup>909</sup> *ESJ*, 15 Dec. 1875.

<sup>910</sup> Eldred, *Centenary Souvenir Booklet*, p. 26.

<sup>911</sup> Local Information/Personal observation (2018-19); Eldred, *Centenary Souvenir Booklet*, p. 32.

<sup>912</sup> Taken from Eldred, *Centenary Souvenir Booklet*.

<sup>913</sup> SA, Will 1884/447, Miss Mary Hannah Hilditch.

<sup>914</sup> *EJ* 15 July 1874, *WJ*, 23 Sept 1876, *EJ*, 1 Jan. 1879, 12 Feb. 1879.

<sup>915</sup> *WJ*, 28 Oct. 1876.

<sup>916</sup> *WJ*, 22 Oct. 1881

<sup>917</sup> *WJ* 1 Nov. 1884.

<sup>918</sup> *EJ*, 18 July 1888.

<sup>919</sup> *WJ*, 27 July 1889.

<sup>920</sup> Eldred, *Centenary Souvenir Booklet*, p. 26.

<sup>921</sup> *WJ*, 28 May 1898.

<sup>922</sup> *SC*, 21 Sept. 1906; Eldred, *Abbey Foregate Congregational Chapel*, p. 27.

<sup>923</sup> Eldred, *Centenary Souvenir Booklet*, pp. 30, 33.

- 1920 Coleham Mission Room and cottage were leased by the Salvation Army from Abbey Foregate Congregational Church for seven years (address was then School Close, Pounds Lane).<sup>924</sup>
- 1961 Shrewsbury Salvation Army Corps bought the buildings for £2,000.<sup>925</sup>

### **Mission work**

No information.

### **Ministers**

- 1884-1911 Superintendent of the mission, J. W. [John Whitridge] Woodall.<sup>926</sup>

### **History since closure as chapel (if applicable)**

Still in use as a chapel.

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<sup>924</sup> Eldred, *Centenary Souvenir Booklet*, p. 32.

<sup>925</sup> *Ibid.*, p. 45.

<sup>926</sup> *Ibid.*, pp. 27, 30.

# A40 Shepherds Lane, off Holyhead Road Bicton, Plymouth Brethren Christian Church Gospel Hall

Grid reference SJ454142    Shropshire HER:    1851 Census no: post-1851  
Website (2019)    <http://theplymouthbrethren.org.uk/?s=Shrewsbury>



Photograph 2019

## **Construction**

### **Date**

2010.<sup>927</sup>

### **Cost/Funding**

No Information.

### **Architect**

No Information.

### **Builder**

No Information.

### **Major Additions/Alterations**

2019    Planning application for further buildings.<sup>928</sup>

## **Description**

### **Size**

No information.

### **Exterior**

Simple one storey building, built of brick with slate roof.<sup>929</sup>

### **Interior**

No Information.

### **Additional Buildings/Facilities**

Extensive car park and landscaped grounds.<sup>930</sup>

## **Congregations meeting in this chapel**

### **Denominations**

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<sup>927</sup> <http://news.bbc.co.uk/local/shropshire/> 18 Oct. 2010, viewed 2019. [Link does not work]

<sup>928</sup> SCPR, 19/03600/FUL (planning application for a multi-use building to accommodate a conference/meeting room, 2019).

<sup>929</sup> Local Information/Personal observation (2018-19).

<sup>930</sup> Local Information/Personal observation (2018-19).

Exclusive Brethren.<sup>931</sup>

**Number of members**

No Information.

**Language**

English.

**Events**

2015 Third Free lunch and Bible Day.<sup>932</sup>

2019 25 Oct. Planning Application for Erection of multi-use building to accommodate conference/ meeting room, storage, coffee room and community shop.<sup>933</sup>

**Mission work**

No Information.

**Ministers**

No Information.

**History since closure as chapel (if applicable)**

Still in use.

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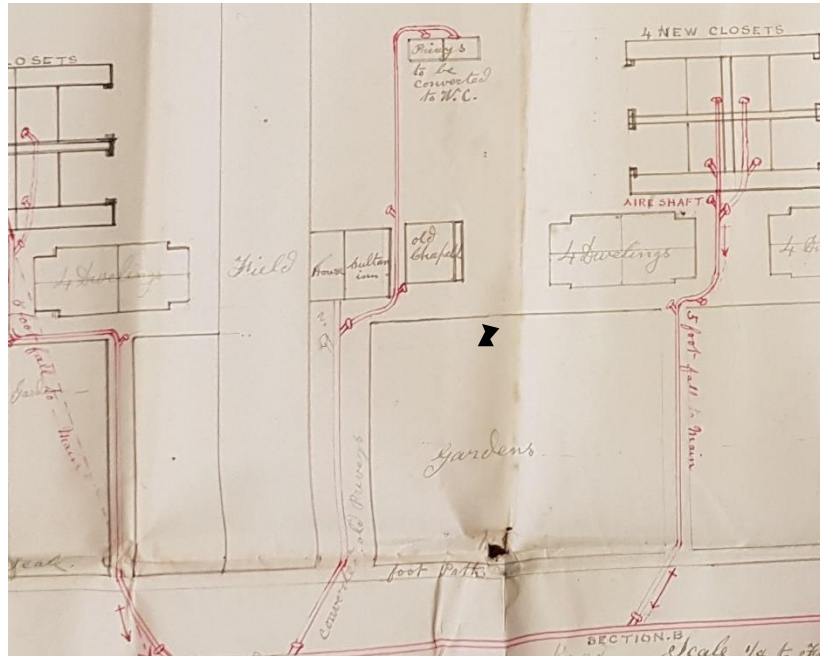
<sup>931</sup> Local Information/Personal observation (2018-19); <http://theplymouthbrethren.org.uk/pbcc-on-holyhead-road-welcomes-the-crowds-to-its-3rd-free-lunch-and-bible-day/>, viewed 2019.

<sup>932</sup> Ibid.

<sup>933</sup> Local Information/Personal observation (2018-19); SCPR, 19/03600/FUL.

# A41 Spring Gardens Wesleyan Methodist Chapel, Ditherington (Independents or Congregationalists)

Grid reference: SJ 349313 Shropshire HER: 1851 Census no: 336



Excerpt from building plan: SA, DA5/710/7/53 (1883)

## Construction

### Date

1826 26 Feb.<sup>934</sup>

### Cost/Funding

Founder Thomas Brocas.<sup>935</sup>

### Architect

No information.

### Builder

No information.

### Additions/Alterations

No information.

## Description

### Size

1851 80 seats.<sup>936</sup>

### Exterior

Plain brick.<sup>937</sup>

### Interior

No information.

### Additional Buildings/Facilities

<sup>934</sup> H. Pidgeon, *Memorials of Shrewsbury* (1837).

<sup>935</sup> Trumper, 'Primitive Methodism'. [Not Trumper]

<sup>936</sup> Field (ed.), *Church and Chapel*, pp. 75-6 (no. 336).

<sup>937</sup> Trumper, 'Primitive Methodism'. [Not Trumper].

Described in 1837 as a small chapel where ‘the service is free and the place is used at certain hours as a school’.<sup>938</sup>

## **Congregations meeting in this chapel**

### **Denominations**

1826-51 Wesleyan Methodists.<sup>939</sup>

1851- ? Independents.<sup>940</sup>

### **Number of members**

Pre-1851 No information.

Independents

1851 On Census Sunday 48 people attended, including children. Small numbers because Independents had only recently taken over the chapel.<sup>941</sup>

### **Language**

English.

### **Events**

1851 The Independents took over the vacated chapel at about the time of the 1851 Religious Census.

### **Mission work**

No information.

### **Ministers**

1851 Edward Hill signed the census forms.<sup>942</sup>

### **History since closure as chapel (if applicable)**

In 1883, the chapel was marked on a building plan as a detached building adjacent to the Sultan Inn.<sup>943</sup> The site became part of the Midland Red Bus Station, now itself demolished.<sup>944</sup> It is not mentioned in the listings of chapels given in the late nineteenth-century directories, for instance Kelly’s Directory for 1891, nor is it noticed on the 1882 OS map. It therefore seems likely that it had ceased to be used as a chapel long before the end of the century.

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<sup>938</sup> H. Pidgeon, *Memorials of Shrewsbury* (1837).

<sup>939</sup> Trumper, ‘Primitive Methodism’. [Not Trumper]

<sup>940</sup> Field (ed.), *Church and Chapel*, pp. 75-6 (no. 336).

<sup>941</sup> Ibid.

<sup>942</sup> Ibid.

<sup>943</sup> SA, DA5/710/7/53 (planning application to erect twelve water closets and to convert two privies into water closets, Spring Gardens, 1883).

<sup>944</sup> Local Information/Personal observation (2018-19).



## A42 St. John's Hill Quaker Meeting House<sup>945</sup>

Grid reference: SJ4887 1240      Shropshire HER: 16743      1851 Census no: 353  
Registers: (for burials at Shrewsbury and Meole Brace see Coalbrookdale). Transcripts C 1656-1811; M 1657-1794; B 1659-1834. Stell, *Inventory*, no. 93.



Photographs 2018

### First Meeting House

#### **Construction**<sup>946</sup>

##### **Date**

1670      The Friends bought two houses on St. John's Hill (later nos. 24 and 25) to use as a Meeting House.

1691      15 Jan Licensed the Meeting House and burial ground.

##### **Cost/Funding**

1670      The Friends bought the site from John Thomas.

##### **Architect**

No information.

##### **Builder**

No information.

##### **Additions/Alterations**

No information.

#### **Description**

##### **Size**

No information.

##### **Exterior**

Adjoining the burial ground.

##### **Interior**

No information.

##### **Additional Buildings / Facilities**

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<sup>945</sup> Cox, "Simplicity without meanness", pp. 65-6. For a full account see 'Friends' Meeting House, Shrewsbury' (Architectural History Practice, 2015).

<sup>946</sup> SA, 3365/2430 (QS Order Book, 1680-1740), session 15 Jan. 1691.

The first burial took place in 1659 ‘in the ground of John Millington’. In 1666 there is a reference to ‘our burying ground’ and the ‘Friends’ burying ground in Shrewsbury’.<sup>947</sup>  
2015 It is not known if any burials remain and the site is now covered with a tarmac car park.<sup>948</sup>

## **Second Meeting House**

### **Construction**

#### **Date**

1742 Jan, Meeting House licensed.<sup>949</sup>

#### **Cost/Funding**

No information.

#### **Architect**

No information.

#### **Builder**

No information.

#### **Additional Buildings / Facilities**

No information.

### **Description**

#### **Size**

No information.

#### **Exterior**

New building on the same site, completed by 1746.<sup>950</sup>

1793 It was said ‘the Quakers Meeting House is a true resemblance of the neatness of those who frequent it’.<sup>951</sup>

#### **Interior**

No information.

#### **Additional Buildings / Facilities**

No information.

## **Third Meeting House**

### **Construction**<sup>952</sup>

1807 Mar Draft agreement between John Philips and William Smith, and Robert Enoch for building of Quaker Meeting House on St John’s Hill, Shrewsbury.<sup>953</sup> Date plaque on previous frontage (now at the back).<sup>954</sup>

#### **Cost/Funding**

£1900.

#### **Architect**

John Carline (local architect and mason).

#### **Builder**

John Carline.

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<sup>947</sup> ‘Register of Society of Friends, Shrewsbury, 1657-1834’, *Shropshire Parish Register Society, Nonconformist Registers* (1903), pp. 18-19.

<sup>948</sup> ‘Friends’ Meeting House, Shrewsbury’.

<sup>949</sup> SA, 3365/2431 (QS Order Book, 1741-57), session Jan. 1742.

<sup>950</sup> SA, 3365/2431 (QS Order Book, 1741-57), session Jan. 1742.

<sup>951</sup> T. Minshall, *Salopian Guide and Directory* (1793), p. 43.

<sup>952</sup> For the following see SA, 4430/MH/5-10 (Religious Society of Friends, Rebuilding of Meeting House).

<sup>953</sup> SA, D3651/D/5/489 (draft agreement between John Philips and William Smith to Robert Enoch for building of Quaker Meeting House on St John's Hill, Shrewsbury, 1807).

<sup>954</sup> Local Information/Personal observation (2018-19).

Additional Buildings / Facilities  
No information.

## Description

### Size

1809 Seated 125.<sup>955</sup>

### Exterior

Plain brick building with pedimented end gables. The entrance from St John's Hill is through a semi-circular archway with triple keystone and imposts and double doors. The roof is slate-covered. In the north and south walls are three flat-arched windows with hung sashes; traces of a former porch remain on the south side.<sup>956</sup> In 1851 it was described as 'A plain brick structure fitted up with much simplicity and neatness'.<sup>957</sup>

### Interior

The interior was originally divided into two rooms. It has an original moulded plaster ceiling cornice.<sup>958</sup>

### Additional Buildings / Facilities

A burial ground was adjacent to the Meeting House. The Quakers had owned it since 1666; it was probably given to them by John Millington who owned the house.<sup>959</sup>

## Congregations meeting in this chapel

### Denomination

1670-1858 Quakers or Religious Society of Friends.<sup>960</sup>

1858- Baptists (seceders from Clarendon).<sup>961</sup>

1968-85 Jehovah's Witnesses.<sup>962</sup>

### Number of members

1670s Membership seems to have peaked at c. 35 in the 1670s.<sup>963</sup>

1690s There were few weddings of Shrewsbury couples after 1690 which may imply an ageing and declining membership in the 18th century.<sup>964</sup>

1799 The Archdeacon of Salop estimated the congregation to be 18 with 'numerous frequenting from a distance'.<sup>965</sup>

1815 30.<sup>966</sup>

1851 2.<sup>967</sup>

### Language

English.

## Events

1670 Friends bought two houses on St. John's Hill (later nos. 24-5) in 1670 and built a meeting house and burial ground behind them, which was licensed in 1692.<sup>968</sup>

1742 Jan, Second Meeting House was licensed.<sup>969</sup>

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<sup>955</sup> SA, 4430/MH/5-10 (Religious Society of Friends, Rebuilding of Meeting House).

<sup>956</sup> Stell, *Inventory*, p. 202.

<sup>957</sup> Bagshaw, *Gazetteer*.

<sup>958</sup> Stell, *Inventory*, p. 202.

<sup>959</sup> SA, 3365/2430 (QS Order Book, 1680-1740), session 15 Jan. 1691.

<sup>960</sup> Field (ed.), *Church and Chapel*, p. 79 (no. 353).

<sup>961</sup> SA, 5187/MH/117/1-7 (leases, 1858 and 1874).

<sup>962</sup> TNA, RG 70 no. 71471.

<sup>963</sup> The assessment of Mrs Cox in her draft text for vol VI part two of VCH Shropshire, 'Shrewsbury'.

<sup>964</sup> *Ibid.*

<sup>965</sup> Cox, "'Simplicity without meanness'", pp. 65-6.

<sup>966</sup> *Salopian Magazine* 1815, pp. 459-62, 503-09.

<sup>967</sup> Field (ed.), *Church and Chapel*, p. 79 (no. 353).

<sup>968</sup> SA, 3365/2430 (QS Order Book, 1680-1740), session 15 Jan. 1691.

- 1718-48 The Meeting House was too small for national meetings so the Market Hall was used.<sup>970</sup>
- 1836 Sept. Talk on abstinence by Messrs Louder and Mogg, agents of teetotal societies. More than 50 signed the Pledge.<sup>971</sup>
- 1814 12 July. The third Meeting House was licensed.<sup>972</sup>
- 1851 The Religious Census was signed by William Griffin as separate and exclusive, but there were only two members remaining.<sup>973</sup>
- 1856 The Meeting House was closed for Quaker use when members left the town, died or were too infirm to attend.<sup>974</sup>
- 1858 & 1874 The Baptists took leases on the Friends' Meeting House just for Sundays at £5 for six months as a place of worship and Sunday school. The Quakers reserved the right of weekday use.<sup>975</sup>
- 1863 A legal agreement was signed for Baptist Chapel and Sunday School to rent the Meeting House at a rent of £10 per year, the term being from year to year with six months' notice either side. It was further agreed that, on termination of the lease, the Baptists would remove the Baptistry, fill up the receptacle and restore the boarded floor.<sup>976</sup>

### **Mission work**

No information.

### **Ministers**

No information.

### **History since closure as chapel (if applicable)**

- 1874 Atcham Union guardians and Atcham RDC leased the premises for 14 years at £20 pa.<sup>977</sup>
- 1901 Atcham Union guardians and Atcham RDC leased the Meeting house, graveyard and outbuildings as a boardroom and clerical offices for 10 years at £25 pa.<sup>978</sup>
- c.1903 The building was sold by the Friends.<sup>979</sup>
- 1968-85 Jehovah's Witnesses worshipped in this building.<sup>980</sup>
- 2004 By this year it was being used as the parish hall for St. Chad's church nearby.<sup>981</sup>
- 2019 The building is still in use as St Chad's parish hall.<sup>982</sup>

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<sup>969</sup> SA, 3365/2431 (QS Order Book, 1741-57), session Jan. 1742.

<sup>970</sup> T. Phillips, *The History and Antiquities of Shrewsbury* (1779), p. 212.

<sup>971</sup> SC, 9 Sept. 1836.

<sup>972</sup> SA, QS File, 12/177 (petition for a Meeting House License, June 1814).

<sup>973</sup> Field (ed.), *Church and Chapel*, p. 79 (no. 353).

<sup>974</sup> SC, 2 Nov. 1900.

<sup>975</sup> SA, 5187/MH/117/1-7.

<sup>976</sup> SA, 5187/MH/117/1-7.

<sup>977</sup> SA, 5187/MH/117/1-7.

<sup>978</sup> SA, 5187/MH/117/1-7.

<sup>979</sup> Cox, "Simplicity without meanness", p. 66.

<sup>980</sup> TNA, RG 70/71471.

<sup>981</sup> Local Information/Personal observation (2018-19).

<sup>982</sup> Local Information/Personal observation (2018-19).

## A43 St. John's Hill Wesleyan Methodist Chapel (St John's Hill Methodist Church)<sup>983</sup>

Grid reference: SJ 492124    Shropshire HER: 16744    1851 Census no: 343  
Registers: C 1812-1837; M 1899-2005



© Shropshire Archives, PH/S/13/S/8/92 (1999)



<sup>983</sup> Cox, “Simplicity without meanness”, p. 68. For a fuller account, Morris, *History of Methodism*, pp. 29-33 and see also, Barker, *Shrewsbury Free Churches*, pp. 63-4.

Photograph 2019

## First Chapel

### Construction

1805 18 Aug. Opening ceremony.<sup>984</sup>

### Cost/Funding

1803 The land, with the houses on it, was conveyed from John Hiram Haycock to the trustees (Thomas and Robert Tilley, Iron founders; John Harris farmer of Moreton Corbett; John T. I. Jackson shopkeeper; Philip Jones; John Tomkies) for £396. Total Cost £2000.<sup>985</sup>

### Architect

No information.

### Builder

Philip Jones of Shrewsbury, a regular attender at the church and also a trustee.<sup>986</sup>

### Additions/Alterations

1824-25 Enlarged by taking down the old vestry at the back, extending the chapel several feet backwards and building the new vestry at the front.<sup>987</sup>

## Description

### Size

1824 held 700-900.<sup>988</sup>

1851 Sittings 330 + 578.<sup>989</sup>

### Exterior

1804 Brick, plain, square building with a slate roof.<sup>990</sup>

1816 'Previous to the erection of a house in front in part of it, [the chapel] was a great ornament to the street. It is a neat and extensive brick building of an oblong form, and is calculated to accommodate a large congregation. Behind the chapel is a vestry in which are placed the stairs leading to the pulpit, which in consequence has rather a novel appearance to a stranger, no steps being visible in the chapel'.<sup>991</sup>

### Interior

1837 Rev Charles Hulbert said [The Wesleyan Chapel] 'is a handsome and spacious building; the windows elegantly decorated with stained glass, display the Royal Arms, the Four Evangelists and the Saviour bearing his Cross executed by Mr Dodd of Shrewsbury. An organ assists the laudatory worship of the congregation, which is numerous and respectable'.<sup>992</sup>

### Additional Buildings / Facilities

1812 insured for £500, adjoining dwelling house insured for £200.<sup>993</sup>

## Second Chapel

### Construction<sup>994</sup>

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<sup>984</sup> Morris, *History of Methodism*, p. 29; SC, 23 Aug. 1905.

<sup>985</sup> Morris, *History of Methodism*, p. 29.

<sup>986</sup> SA, 5492/2 (Thomas Brocas, Journal, Jan. 1804-Jun. 1815), pp. 313-14.

<sup>987</sup> SA, 6001/3055, H. Pidgeon, 'Salopian Annals', I, 4 Oct. 1824.

<sup>988</sup> SA, 6001/3055, H. Pidgeon, 'Salopian Annals', I, 4 Oct. 1824.

<sup>989</sup> Field (ed.), *Church and Chapel*, p. 77 (no. 343).

<sup>990</sup> SA, 4791/1/9 (Salop Fire Office), p. 117.

<sup>991</sup> T. J. Howell, *The Stranger in Shrewsbury* (1816), p. 72, cited Cox, "Simplicity without meanness", p. 68.

<sup>992</sup> C. Hulbert, *History and Antiquities of Shrewsbury* (1837), II, pp. 297-8, cited Cox, "Simplicity without meanness", p. 68.

<sup>993</sup> SA, 4791/1/9 (Salop Fire Office), p. 117.

### **Date**

1879 Sept. Chapel with integral Sunday School opened.

### **Cost/Funding**

£4000.

### **Architect**

G. B. Ford of Burslem.

### **Builder**

Messrs W. and J. Gethin, New St Frankwell. Wood/stone carving by Mr Landucci of Shrewsbury. Masonry by Messrs Marshall Bros, Smithfield Road, Shrewsbury.

### **Additions/Alterations**

1911 Re-opening service after moving of organ from gallery to floor of church; also front seats were re-arranged for choir.<sup>995</sup>

### **Description**<sup>996</sup>

#### **Size**

1882 600 seats.<sup>997</sup>

1895 700 seats.<sup>998</sup>

1940 570 seats.<sup>999</sup>

#### **Exterior**

Italianate style, and built of plain and moulded bricks. Two floors with windows on both levels and line of terracotta ornament between the floors. Upper windows illuminate a gallery. Facade of Ruabon-type brick (only at front). Windows arched with metal frames. Double door leads to vestibule. Great contrast with St Nicholas and Abbey Foregate that were built at about same time in Gothic style; no stained glass.

#### **Interior**

48 ft x 43 ft, plus deep circle-ended gallery on three sides supported by seven cast iron pillars. The galleried interior was notable for its carved woodwork by G. L. Landucci. Gallery and rostrum were of pitch pine and richly decorated. Heated by underfloor pipes – ‘very comfortable’. Original gas lighting. At the rear were rooms serving as vestries and out-offices.

A planning application of 1878 showed 3 classrooms, together measuring 45' x 24'.<sup>1000</sup> With these rooms, the church aimed to serve all the needs of the congregation with Sunday services and places of recreation (keeping them off the streets and out of public houses).

#### **Additional Buildings / Facilities**

1913 Demolished adjoining cottage. Ground unused. 1936 converted into a car park for attendees.<sup>1001</sup>

Congregations meeting in this chapel

#### **Denomination**

1776-1935 Wesleyan Methodist. Chapel was in the Wesleyan Methodist Circuit with Hotspur St Greenfields, New Park Road and New St Bethesda.<sup>1002</sup>

1935-2005 Methodist, following national amalgamation with Primitive Methodists into New Methodist Circuit.<sup>1003</sup>

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<sup>994</sup> Unless otherwise specified, construction details taken from V. J. Howell, ‘The Wesleyan Methodist Chapel in St John’s Hill Shrewsbury’ (ts, 1997).

<sup>995</sup> *SC*, 30 Jun. 1911, 7.

<sup>996</sup> For an account of the building, *EJ* 3 Sept. 1879, with additional details taken from Howell, ‘The Wesleyan Methodist Chapel’.

<sup>997</sup> OS 1:500 survey (1882).

<sup>998</sup> *Kelly’s Directory 1895*.

<sup>999</sup> *Methodist Church Buildings: statistical returns 1940* (1947).

<sup>1000</sup> SA, DA5/710/2/51 (planning application to build a Wesleyan Chapel and school at St John’s Hill, Plan 70, 1878).

<sup>1001</sup> Morris, *History of Methodism*, p. 31.

<sup>1002</sup> Morris, *History of Methodism*, p. 26.

### Number of members

- 1815 The Sunday evening congregation reached 700, 250 of whom were members.<sup>1004</sup>  
1851 Census Sunday 170 adults attended in the morning and 210 in the evening.<sup>1005</sup>

### Language

English.

### Events

- 1812 John Tomkies of Abbey Foregate (skinner) and Robert Tilley of Gullet Shut (iron founder) were the trustees who organised insurance.<sup>1006</sup>  
1831 Sermon by Rev. John Webb from London, Secretary of, and in aid of, The British and Foreign Seaman and Soldier's Friend Society.<sup>1007</sup>  
1834 Annual Wesleyan Methodist Meeting held here – overflowing congregation, collection of over £36 being nearly £10 more than the previous year.<sup>1008</sup>  
1836 Aug. Impressive sermons here and at Primitive Methodist Chapel Castle Court by 16-year old Master Thomas Watson, travelling preacher for Primitive Methodists.<sup>1009</sup>  
1862 7 Apr. Registered for the Solemnization of Marriages.  
1878 8 July. Foundation Ceremony; seven memorial stones laid and £810 collected.<sup>1010</sup>  
1879 Aug./Sept., Opening Ceremony. Conducted by Rev R. P. Downes, formerly of Shrewsbury, now of London. Second service by Rev C. Garrett of Liverpool.<sup>1011</sup>  
1879 No organ yet - just a harmonium until more funds available; will be placed over the vestibule.<sup>1012</sup>  
1911 Joint Wesleyan Sunday School anniversaries. Sermon, children's address, special music. Reports from Sunday School superintendents. Long service certificates presented to teachers.<sup>1013</sup>  
1911 Re-opening service after moving of organ from gallery to floor of church; also front seats rearranged for choir.<sup>1014</sup>  
1925 Sunday School Anniversary preacher Rev F. H. Benson of Liverpool.<sup>1015</sup>  
1925 Sun 11 Jan. Interchange of Pulpits by Free Church Pastors. Also United Communion service at Claremont Baptist Church.<sup>1016</sup>  
1933 Represented at Union of Sunday Schools meeting at Abbey Foregate Congregational Chapel. Mayor and Mayoress present. Address by Sir James Startin.<sup>1017</sup>  
1935 Feb. Two-day spring fair held in Bellstone Hall.<sup>1018</sup>  
1935 Mar. Sunday School Teachers Conference, for all Methodist circuit.<sup>1019</sup>  
1935 Mar. Anniversary. Speaker Rev W. J. Ward (Chairman of the District).<sup>1020</sup>  
1954 Congregation from Castle Court Chapel joined this congregation.<sup>1021</sup>

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<sup>1003</sup> Howell, 'The Wesleyan Methodist Chapel'

<sup>1004</sup> Morris, *History of Methodism*, p. 29.

<sup>1005</sup> Field (ed.), *Church and Chapel*, p. 77 (no. 343).

<sup>1006</sup> SA, 4791/1/9, p. 117.

<sup>1007</sup> SC, 11 Mar. 1831.

<sup>1008</sup> SC, 25 Apr. 1834.

<sup>1009</sup> SC, 26 Aug. 1836.

<sup>1010</sup> SC, 8 Jul. 1878.

<sup>1011</sup> SC, 29 Aug., 5 Sep. 1879.

<sup>1012</sup> Ibid.

<sup>1013</sup> SC, 5 May 1911.

<sup>1014</sup> SC, 30 Jun. 1911, 7.

<sup>1015</sup> SC, 26 Jun. 1925, 6.

<sup>1016</sup> SC, 16 Jan. 1925.

<sup>1017</sup> SC, 2 Jan. 1933.

<sup>1018</sup> SC, 15 Feb. 1935.

<sup>1019</sup> SC, 22 Mar. 1935.

<sup>1020</sup> SC, 29 Mar. 1935.

<sup>1021</sup> SA, NM2045/VI/1.



- 1958 Throughout the year, notices of Sunday School parties and anniversaries and special services.<sup>1022</sup>
- 2003 Congregation raised £9000 for charity in last financial year.<sup>1023</sup>
- 2003 300th anniversary of Wesley's birth in 1703. He visited Shrewsbury 17 times. A walk around Wesleyan sites took place: Shearman's Hall, Fish Street, Hill's Lane. Evening preacher was John Lenton, member of World Methodist Historical Society Committee.<sup>1024</sup>

## Mission work

- 1935 Sermons in aid of Methodist Missions (Annual meeting), Mr W. Dawson, Barnbow, Leeds, Yorkshire.<sup>1025</sup>
- 1935 Rev H Tyler Lane from Harrogate preached here and also visited Ebenezer and Belle Vue.<sup>1026</sup>
- 1935 March Missionary services; Visitor Dr Alfred W. Hooker of London, well-known medical missionary (South China).<sup>1027</sup>
- 1958 Pageant to commemorate centenary of the Missionary Society, collection in aid of foreign missions.<sup>1028</sup>

## Ministers

- 1828-32 Rev Walter Freeman.
- 1851 John Tindall, Superintendent Minister signed the census form.<sup>1029</sup>
- 1856-70 Various.<sup>1030</sup>
- 1879 Rev E. Bramford.<sup>1031</sup>
- 1885 Rev Alfred Barber and Rev Sidney Mees, shared with New Park Road and Frankwell.<sup>1032</sup>
- 1895 Rev Thomas Hosking and Rev William O. Robinson, shared with Wesleyan Churches at New Park Rd and Hotspur Street Greenfields.<sup>1033</sup>
- 1905 Rev George J. Brett (Superintendent) and Rev Walter Fytche, shared with Wesleyan Churches at New Park Rd and Hotspur Street Greenfields.<sup>1034</sup>
- 1913 Rev Ernest Alfred Prince (Supt), Rev F. Paul Bacon and Rev J. Wright, shared with Wesleyan Churches at New Park Rd and Hotspur St Greenfields.<sup>1035</sup>
- 1922 Rev John Hillary (Supt), Rev Arnold Penman, Rev J. Baker Norton, shared with Wesleyan churches at New Park Rd and Hotspur St Greenfields.<sup>1036</sup>
- 1934 Rev B. Horner Mudd left at the end of his allotted period, replaced by Rev H. W. Stephenson (from Greenfields).<sup>1037</sup>
- 1935 Feb. Rev Frank Taylor and Rev A. Cole.<sup>1038</sup>
- 1935 Mar. Rev J. E. Dixon.<sup>1039</sup>

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<sup>1022</sup> SC, 3 Jan. 1958, 6.

<sup>1023</sup> SC, 16 Jan. 2003, 11.

<sup>1024</sup> SC, 13 Mar. 2003, 20.

<sup>1025</sup> SJ, 23 Dec. 1935.

<sup>1026</sup> SC, 15 Feb. 1935.

<sup>1027</sup> SC, 8 Mar. 1935.

<sup>1028</sup> SC, 19 Dec. 1958, 9.

<sup>1029</sup> Field (ed.), *Church and Chapel*, p. 77 (no. 343).

<sup>1030</sup> *Post Office Directory of Shropshire, 1856; Post Office Directory of Shropshire, 1863; Post Office Directory of Shropshire, 1870* do not give the names of the clergy but just say 'various'.

<sup>1031</sup> SC, 29 Aug. & 5 Sep. 1879.

<sup>1032</sup> *Kelly's Post Office Directory, 1885*.

<sup>1033</sup> *Kelly's Directory 1895*.

<sup>1034</sup> *Kelly's Directory 1905*.

<sup>1035</sup> *Kelly's Directory 1913*.

<sup>1036</sup> *Kelly's Directory 1922*.

<sup>1037</sup> SC, 12 Oct. 1934.

<sup>1038</sup> SC, 15 Feb. 1935.

<sup>1039</sup> SC, 22 Mar. 1935.

**History since closure as chapel (if applicable)<sup>1040</sup>**

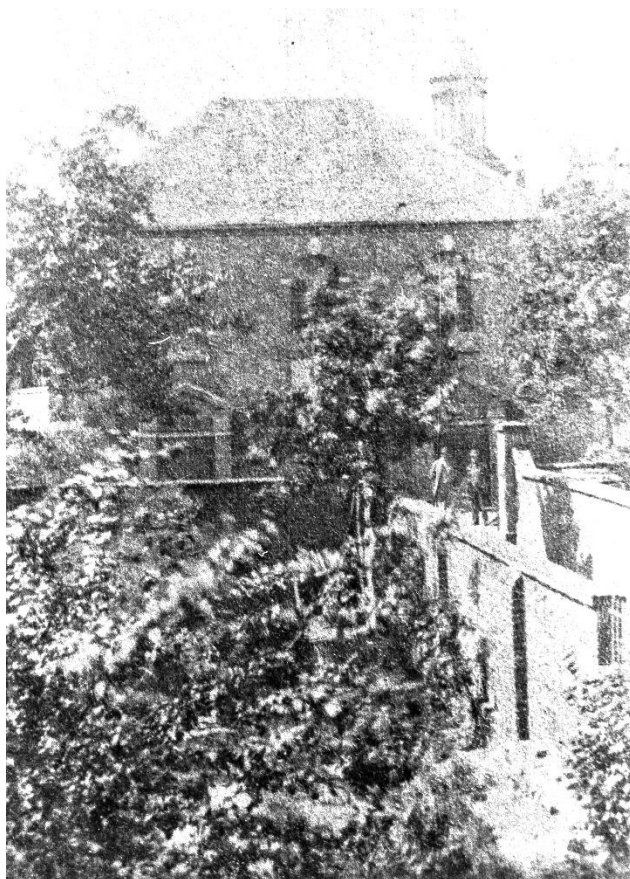
2005 Closed and the woodwork was removed in or before 2008.  
2008 Converted to flats.

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<sup>1040</sup> Local Information/Personal observation (2018-19).

## A44 Swan Hill Independent or Congregationalist Chapel (Welsh Independents)<sup>1041</sup>

Grid reference: SJ4891 1233 Shropshire HER: 16739 1851 Census no: 351  
Registers: transcripts C 1767-1812; C 1813-1837; B 1768-1836. Original M2004-2013;  
(NO9196/1). Stell, *Inventory*, no. 89.



© Shropshire Archives (Cross Survey 1999) PH/S/13/S/39/116. The first chapel before demolition in 1866

### First chapel

#### Construction

##### Date

1767 Opened 10 Sept.<sup>1042</sup>

##### Cost/Funding

No information.

##### Architect

No information.

##### Builder

No information.

##### Additions/Alterations

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<sup>1041</sup> Owen and Blakeway, II, pp. 483-4; Cox, “Simplicity without meanness”, p. 68.

<sup>1042</sup> Owen and Blakeway, II, p. 482.

1838 New organ.<sup>1043</sup>

## Description

### Size

Seated 500.<sup>1044</sup>

### Exterior

Brick, plain, square building.<sup>1045</sup> Described in 1816 as ‘A commodious brick erection .... On the north side is a vestry’<sup>1046</sup> and in 1842 as a ‘Plain dissenting meeting house .... The building is a modern one and was erected about 70 years back’.<sup>1047</sup> The frontage had three bays in two stages with a pedimented doorway in each end bay.<sup>1048</sup> Stone tablet with inscription: ‘This building was erected in the year 1767, for the public worship of God, and in defence of the rights of majorities in Protestant Dissenting to choose their own ministers’.<sup>1049</sup> It had its own burial ground.<sup>1050</sup>

### Interior

1838 Encaustic tiles laid to aisles and porch by Craven, Dunhill and Co. of Jackfield.<sup>1051</sup>

1851 Described as ‘a substantial brick edifice with a neatly furnished interior.’<sup>1052</sup>

1853 A memorial to Rev Thomas Weaver was erected. A white marble tablet set on a black ground surmounted by a funereal urn and drapery.<sup>1053</sup>

1867 Chapel deemed to be unsightly, inconvenient, inadequate and in need of modernisation.<sup>1054</sup>

### Additional Buildings / Facilities

No information.

## Second chapel

## Construction

### Date

1868 Opened 22 Apr.<sup>1055</sup>

### Cost/Funding

£2000.<sup>1056</sup>

### Architect

George Bidlake of Wolverhampton.<sup>1057</sup>

### Builder

Mr William Nevett.<sup>1058</sup>

### Additions/alterations

1880 Meeting room and classroom extension were built on right hand side of the chapel, of brick and roofed with tiles. All the walls were new.<sup>1059</sup>

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<sup>1043</sup> SC, 11 May 1838.

<sup>1044</sup> Bagshaw, *Gazetteer*.

<sup>1045</sup> *ibid*.

<sup>1046</sup> T. J. Howell, *The Stranger in Shrewsbury* (1816).

<sup>1047</sup> SC, 8 Jan. 1842, 1.

<sup>1048</sup> Stell, *Inventory*, p. 201.

<sup>1049</sup> Owen and Blakeway, II, p. 483.

<sup>1050</sup> Cox, “‘Simplicity without meanness’”, p. 68.

<sup>1051</sup> SC, 11 May 1838.

<sup>1052</sup> Bagshaw, *Gazetteer*.

<sup>1053</sup> *ESJ*, 20 Apr. 1853.

<sup>1054</sup> Cox, “‘Simplicity without meanness’”.

<sup>1055</sup> *Congregational Year Book, 1862-1873; ESJ*, 29 Apr. 1868.

<sup>1056</sup> Alan H. Morris, ‘Records Preserved at Swan Hill Congregational Church’, *Congregational History Circle Magazine*, 3 (1979), pp. 12-15.

<sup>1057</sup> Cox, “‘Simplicity without meanness’”, p. 68

<sup>1058</sup> *WJ*, 25 Jan. 1868.

<sup>1059</sup> SA, DA5/710/4/67 (planning application to build a meeting room and classroom, Swan Hill Chapel, plan 69 (1880).



Photograph early 2019

## Description

### Size

Seated 500.<sup>1060</sup>

Measured 51 ft by 38 ft.<sup>1061</sup>

### Exterior

Brick with stone dressings in Geometric Gothic style. The side walls of the original chapel were retained; this meant that the rather square shape of the chapel had to be disguised by forming a nave with aisles.<sup>1062</sup>

### Interior

The nave aisles were supported on cast iron columns with decorated caps and shoulders, and the whole lit by clerestory windows. There were galleries on three sides.<sup>1063</sup> Portraits in oils of Revs Tallents and Bryant were placed in the vestry; also Richard Heath, James Owen, Samuel Lucas and Thomas Weaver.<sup>1064</sup>

### Additional Buildings / Facilities

The Sunday School was originally established across Swan Hill before the purpose-built room was built on the side of the chapel; in a building application of 1887 it is referred to as a former Sunday school.<sup>1065</sup>

In 1882 the chapel possessed own burial grounds at back and front of chapel.<sup>1066</sup> The building at the end of the path to the chapel, on Swan Hill, was described as The Manse to the Congregational Church on a photograph of c. 1910.<sup>1067</sup>

## Congregations meeting in this chapel

### Denominations<sup>1068</sup>

1767 Independents, seceders from High Street.

1972-2016 Shared with Welsh Independents (Presbyterians) after the sale of the Tabernacle, Dogpole.

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<sup>1060</sup> OS 1:500 (survey) 1882.

<sup>1061</sup> Cox, “Simplicity without meanness”, p. 68.

<sup>1062</sup> Ibid.

<sup>1063</sup> Ibid.

<sup>1064</sup> Morris, ‘Records Preserved at Swan Hill Congregational Church’.

<sup>1065</sup> SA, DA5/710/11/3 (plan of WC for a workshop on Swan Hill, formerly a Sunday School, Plan 3, 1887). For recollections of the Sunday school and its location, Franklin, ‘Notes on Abbey Foregate’, pp. 2-3.

<sup>1066</sup> OS 1:500 survey (1882).

<sup>1067</sup> SA, PH/S/13/S/39/62.

<sup>1068</sup> Morris, ‘Records Preserved at Swan Hill Congregational Church’.

### Number of members

- 1831 181 children.<sup>1069</sup>  
1851 Average adult attendance was c. 200.<sup>1070</sup>  
2016 Over the previous 30 years numbers had fallen dramatically.<sup>1071</sup>

### Language

- English.  
Welsh.

### Events

- 1766 The Independent congregation worshipped in a malthouse on Murivance whilst building the first chapel, having split from the Presbyterians in the High Street Chapel.<sup>1072</sup>  
1799 18 Feb. Presbyterian staff members of Swan Hill Church met to consider the propriety of establishing a Sunday School. Resolution agreed unanimously.<sup>1073</sup>  
1831 Coronation Procession with children.<sup>1074</sup>  
1837 Sermon by Rev Thomas Weaver to raise fund for the Lancastrian schools – education for all sects.<sup>1075</sup>  
1838 Recital on the new Organ, sermon by Rev. P. Williams of Clapton, London.<sup>1076</sup>  
1843 56 members resolved to secede and build a chapel ‘as far as possible from Swan Hill’, following a dispute over the appointment of a pastor. Started to raise funds. (This became Castle Gates Chapel, A9).<sup>1077</sup>  
1845 Rev William Thorp, late of Spring College Birmingham, ordained as co-pastor with Ebenezer Chapel. Taking part in ordination were Revs Richard Fletcher of Manchester, John Augell James of Birmingham and T. R. Barker, Classical Tutor of Spring Hill College.<sup>1078</sup>  
1848 Jubilee Services and Tea Meeting to celebrate the jubilee of Rev Thomas Weaver’s pastorate. Tickets of Admission were one shilling.<sup>1079</sup>  
1852 Funeral of Rev Thomas Weaver, pastor of the Independent Chapel Swan Hill for upwards of 53 years. ‘The mournful procession was very large, and, in addition to the members of his congregation, the majority of whom wore scarfs etc., there were a large number of persons belonging to the Established Church and the various Dissenting bodies of the town’.<sup>1080</sup>  
1868 24 workmen were treated by Rev. George Kettle and Mr William Nevett (builder) to Roast Beef and Plum Pudding at The Admiral Benbow Inn in recognition of their sobriety and general good behaviour while roofing the chapel.<sup>1081</sup>  
1868 Celebrations for reopening of chapel, including services, dinner.<sup>1082</sup>  
1872 A united service was held at Swan Hill with the Independent Chapel Castle Gates and the Congregational Church Abbey Foregate.<sup>1083</sup>  
1879 Controversy over the administration of the Allatt’s Charity Trust (Charity School in neighbouring building). The funds were left for ‘godly and religious purposes’ and the

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<sup>1069</sup> *SC*, 18 Sept 1831.

<sup>1070</sup> Field (ed.), *Church and Chapel*, p. 79 (no. 351).

<sup>1071</sup> ex. inf Rev Debbie Martin.

<sup>1072</sup> Owen and Blakeway, II, p. 483.

<sup>1073</sup> *SC*, 19 Jan. 1906.

<sup>1074</sup> *SC*, 18 Sept 1831.

<sup>1075</sup> *SC*, 11 Aug. 1837.

<sup>1076</sup> *SC*, 11 May 1838.

<sup>1077</sup> *Evangelical Magazine*, 419 (1844).

<sup>1078</sup> *ESJ*, 17 Sept. 1845.

<sup>1079</sup> *ESJ*, 30 Aug. 1848.

<sup>1080</sup> Barker, *Shrewsbury Free Churches*, pp. 21-2. This continues to give an account of the early history of the Sunday school and the school based at the chapel.

<sup>1081</sup> *WJ*, 25 Jan. 1868.

<sup>1082</sup> *ESJ*, 29 Apr. 1868.

<sup>1083</sup> *SC*, 1 Mar 1872.

names of church clergymen given as trustees - this in spite of the fact that Mr Allatt had been a nonconformist at Swan Hill Chapel. Rev. Kettle and four other nonconformists were now added to the trustees.<sup>1084</sup>

- 1888 31 Dec. Burial of Rev. G. Kettle at the general cemetery after a memorial service at Swan Hill chapel.<sup>1085</sup>
- 1911 Anniversary Service, sermon by Rev A. Hallack of Worcester.<sup>1086</sup>
- 1911 Literary society.<sup>1087</sup>
- 1925 11 Jan. Interchange of Pulpits by Free Church Pastors. Also United Communion service at Claremont Baptist Church.<sup>1088</sup>
- 1933 Represented at Union of Sunday Schools meeting at Abbey Foregate Congregational. Mayor and Mayoress present. Address by Sir James Startin.<sup>1089</sup>
- 1934 Visiting preacher Rev E. R. Davies of Wrexham.<sup>1090</sup>
- 1958 Joined with Belle Vue Methodists, St Nicholas, St David's and Radbrook Free Church for the Evangelical Alliance Week of Prayer; also exchanged preachers.<sup>1091</sup>

## Mission work

- 1958 Joined with United Reformed Church for a recital and film on Madagascar.<sup>1092</sup>

## Ministers

- 1776-9 Rev Robert Gentleman (who moved to Carmarthen).<sup>1093</sup>
- 1779-97 Rev Samuel Lucas.<sup>1094</sup>
- 1798-52 Rev Thomas Weaver.<sup>1095</sup>
- 1851 Census signed by Thomas Weaver, minister.<sup>1096</sup>
- 1856 Rev William Thorp.<sup>1097</sup>
- 1863 Rev William Thorp.<sup>1098</sup>
- 1870 Rev G. Kettle.<sup>1099</sup>
- 1890 Rev W. Emlyn Jenkins.<sup>1100</sup>
- 1879 Rev G. Kettle.<sup>1101</sup>
- 1885 Rev G. Kettle.<sup>1102</sup>
- 1895 Rev William E. Jenkins.<sup>1103</sup>
- 1905-11 Rev Robert Lister Franks.<sup>1104</sup>
- 1913 Vacant.<sup>1105</sup>
- 1922 Rev John Henry Riddette.<sup>1106</sup>

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<sup>1084</sup> Morris, 'Records Preserved at Swan Hill Congregational Church'.

<sup>1085</sup> *WJ*, 5 Jan. 1889.

<sup>1086</sup> *SC*, 28 Apr. 1911.

<sup>1087</sup> *SC*, 7 Apr. 1911.

<sup>1088</sup> *SC*, 16 Jan. 1925.

<sup>1089</sup> *SC*, 2 Jan. 1933.

<sup>1090</sup> *SC*, 29 Jun. 1934.

<sup>1091</sup> *SC*, 17 Jan. 1958.

<sup>1092</sup> *SC*, 17 Jan. 1958.

<sup>1093</sup> Owen and Blakeway, II, pp. 483-4.

<sup>1094</sup> *Ibid.*

<sup>1095</sup> *Ibid.* He died 13 Feb. 1852. *SC* 20, 27 Feb. 1852.

<sup>1096</sup> Field (ed.), *Church and Chapel*.

<sup>1097</sup> *Post Office Directory of Shropshire, 1856*.

<sup>1098</sup> *Post Office Directory of Shropshire, 1863*.

<sup>1099</sup> *Post Office Directory of Shropshire, 1870*.

<sup>1100</sup> *ESJ*, 12 Mar. 1890.

<sup>1101</sup> *Kelly's Post Office Directory, 1879*.

<sup>1102</sup> *Kelly's Post Office Directory, 1885*.

<sup>1103</sup> *Kelly's Directory, 1895*.

<sup>1104</sup> *Kelly's Directory 1905*; *SC*, 7 Apr. 1911.

<sup>1105</sup> *Kelly's Directory 1913*.

- 1925 Rev R. E. Jenkins.<sup>1107</sup>  
1933 Oct. Rev J M Harris leaves. Vacancy for 18 months.<sup>1108</sup>  
1934 Vacant in November.<sup>1109</sup>  
1935 Rev Lloyd Woodhouse.<sup>1110</sup>  
1972 Rev Alan H Morris (jointly with Tabernacle).  
2016 Rev Debbie Martin.<sup>1111</sup>

**History since closure as chapel (if applicable)**

- 2016 Closed. Last service was on 14 Aug. 2016.<sup>1112</sup>  
2018 March, planning application for 4 dwellings.<sup>1113</sup>  
2019 Conversion to housing by Charters completed.<sup>1114</sup>

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<sup>1106</sup> *Kelly's Directory 1922.*

<sup>1107</sup> *SC*, 12 Jun. 1925, 6.

<sup>1108</sup> *SC*, 29 Mar. 1935.

<sup>1109</sup> *SC*, 30 Nov. 1934.

<sup>1110</sup> *SC*, 29 Mar. 1935.

<sup>1111</sup> *SC*, 28 Jul. 2016.

<sup>1112</sup> *SC*, 28 Jul. 2016.

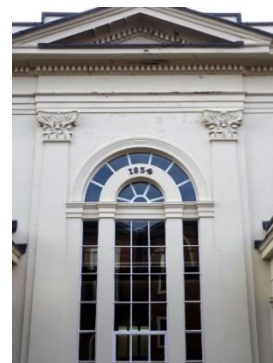
<sup>1113</sup> *SC*, 22 Mar. 2018; SCPR, 18/01053 (planning application, conversion of existing church building to form four residential apartments, 2018).

<sup>1114</sup> Local Information/Personal observation (2018-19).



## A45 Town Walls, Ebenezer Chapel, Methodist New Connexion (Christian Science Society)<sup>1115</sup>

Grid reference: SJ 4898 1224      Shropshire HER: IO620      1851 Census no. 348  
Registers: C 1834-7; M 1911-37. Snell, Inventory, no. 95.



Photographs 2019

### Construction

#### Date

1834      Chapel and Sunday School.<sup>1116</sup>

#### Cost/Funding

Land cost £160.<sup>1117</sup> Building cost £1,700 of which £122 was collected at the opening service.<sup>1118</sup> 1878 remaining debt finally cleared.<sup>1119</sup>

#### Architect

Fallows and Hart of Birmingham.<sup>1120</sup>

#### Builder

No information.

#### Additions /alterations

1838      Organ installed. Made by Mr Greenwood of Leeds. Chapel painted throughout.<sup>1121</sup>

1903      Pipe organ installed.<sup>1122</sup>

1908      Electricity installed.<sup>1123</sup>

### Description<sup>1124</sup>

#### Size

1834      450 seats.<sup>1125</sup>

1851      Sittings 140 + 310.<sup>1126</sup>

<sup>1115</sup> Cox, “Simplicity without meanness”, p. 76; Barker, *Shrewsbury Free Churches*, p. 64.

<sup>1116</sup> SC, 13 Jun. 1834; Morris, *History of Methodism*, p. 23.

<sup>1117</sup> Morris, *History of Methodism*, p. 23.

<sup>1118</sup> SA, 2045/parcel 1/14 (Memorandum of the appointment of new trustees of the United Methodist church and premises at Town Walls and Severnside, Castlefields, 1911).

<sup>1119</sup> *Ibid.*

<sup>1120</sup> *Ibid.*

<sup>1121</sup> SC, 22 Jun. 1838.

<sup>1122</sup> SC, 12 Oct. 1934.

<sup>1123</sup> SC, 12 Oct. 1934.

<sup>1124</sup> Unless otherwise specified, description taken from SA, 2045/parcel 1/14 (Memorandum 1911).

<sup>1125</sup> cited Cox, “Simplicity without meanness”, p. 76.

1882 400 seats.<sup>1127</sup>

### Exterior

Walls are of brick, rendered at the front and sides in stucco. The front is of five low bays separated by Corinthian pilasters carrying an entablature with a pediment over the central bay. In each bay is a round-arched window and the entrances in the penultimate bays have porches with fluted Doric columns.<sup>1128</sup> To east and west the chapel was attached to dwelling houses.

### Interior

There were no galleries. The floor plan was novel: 2 rows of pews in centre, 16 deep. Side pews ascended gradually to height of 3ft so that everyone had a good view of minister. At the western end, pews again rose steadily. The pulpit was affixed to the east wall. Communion table was railed off and there was space for the choir. In the basement were spacious school rooms, vestry and a house for the chapel keeper.

### Additional Buildings / Facilities

A handsome house in Severn Bank, Castlefields, was acquired as a manse in 1911, the whole cost being raised by voluntary subscriptions in one year.

## Congregations meeting in this chapel

### Denomination

1834-1938 Methodist New Connexion.<sup>1129</sup>

1913 joined United Methodist Free Church, Albert St, to form Shrewsbury United Methodist Circuit.<sup>1130</sup>

1935 joined with the Wesleyan Methodists (St John's Hill, Greenfields, Castlefields, Frankwell) and the Primitive Methodists (Castle Court, Belle Vue, Ditherington) to become part of the Shrewsbury United Methodist Circuit.<sup>1131</sup>

1938-83 Shrewsbury Christian Science Society.<sup>1132</sup>

### Number of members

1851 On Census Sunday 144 adults attended in the morning and 212 in the evening.<sup>1133</sup>

1938 26 members.<sup>1134</sup>

### Language

English.

### Events

1834 13 June. Chapel opening service.<sup>1135</sup> 20 June. Opened for Divine Worship with sermon by Rev. J. Bakewell of Liverpool.<sup>1136</sup>

1835 Anniversary Social Tea Party. Tickets 1s. Profit to Sunday School fund.<sup>1137</sup>

1835 Christmas Sermon by Rev T. Allin from Sheffield.<sup>1138</sup>

1835 Apr. Methodist New Connexion anniversary. Sermon by Rev. T. Scattergood of Lane End Staffordshire (50) and Rev J. Hunston, late of Manchester.<sup>1139</sup>

1837 June. Sunday sermon by Rev A. Thompson, late of Norwich, newly appointed Minister.<sup>1140</sup>

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<sup>1126</sup> Field (ed.), *Church and Chapel*, p. 78 (no. 348)

<sup>1127</sup> OS 1:500 survey (1882).

<sup>1128</sup> Stell, *Inventory*, p. 202.

<sup>1129</sup> SC, 13 Jun. 1834; SA, 2045/2/14 (Ebenezer United Methodist Church, Trustees' Minute Book, 1906-38).

<sup>1130</sup> Morris, *History of Methodism*, p. 24.

<sup>1131</sup> SC, 21 May 1935; Morris, *History of Methodism*, p. 26.

<sup>1132</sup> Jones, *History of the Christian Science Society, Shrewsbury*; SA, 2045/2/14.

<sup>1133</sup> Field (ed.), *Church and Chapel*, p. 78 (no. 348).

<sup>1134</sup> SA, NM2123/177 (Shrewsbury Methodist Circuit, Directories of Plans of Services, 1935-1990).

<sup>1135</sup> SC, 13 Jun. 1834.

<sup>1136</sup> SC, 20 Jun. 1834.

<sup>1137</sup> ESJ, 7 Sep. 1835.

<sup>1138</sup> SJ, 23 Dec. 1835.

<sup>1139</sup> SC, 13 Apr. 1832.

- 1838 Sermons by Rev John Bewdley of Liverpool and opening of new organ; collection for expenses of the organ.<sup>1141</sup>
- 1838 Congregation helped with painting the chapel.<sup>1142</sup>
- 1843 Seceders from Swan Hill [Independents] held services here whilst planning their new chapel.<sup>1143</sup>
- 1844 Friends and teachers from the Sunday school held a tea party to raise funds for the school. £5 14s. 6½d. raised.<sup>1144</sup>
- 1845 Rev William Thorp, late of Spring College Birmingham, ordained as co-pastor with Independent Chapel Swan Hill. Taking part in ordination were Revs Richard Fletcher of Manchester, John Augell James of Birmingham and T. R. Barker, Classical Tutor of Spring Hill College.<sup>1145</sup>
- 1878 Debt for building the chapel was finally cleared.<sup>1146</sup>
- 1885 50th Jubilee services.<sup>1147</sup>
- 1893 Farewell service and presentation to Rev H. Hope.<sup>1148</sup>
- 1905 June, Rev A Colbeck, editor of the Connexional Magazine left Shrewsbury after three years' service.<sup>1149</sup>
- 1911 July, Sunday School anniversary with young people's service and special music.<sup>1150</sup>
- 1925 Sunday 11 Jan. Interchange of pulpits by Free Church Pastors. Also United Communion service at Claremont Baptist Church.<sup>1151</sup>
- 1925 25 Sept. Rev Edryd Jones of Wrexham, a preacher of great repute, took the Anniversary service.<sup>1152</sup>
- 1925 Mr A. Sylvester from Crewe preached at the Sunday School Anniversary.<sup>1153</sup>
- 1932 Quarterly meeting of United Methodists.<sup>1154</sup>
- 1935 Final meeting of Town Walls Circuit. The chapel now became part of the United Shrewsbury Circuit.<sup>1155</sup>
- 1938 Shrewsbury Christian Science Society bought the chapel.<sup>1156</sup>
- 1983 Shrewsbury Christian Science Society closed the chapel and sold it to the Girls' Day School Trust.<sup>1157</sup>

## Mission work

- 1866 Sermon by author Rev. W. Cooke of London. Collection for Foreign Missions.<sup>1158</sup>
- 1934 Visiting preacher, Rev F. W. J. Cottrell, from Yunnan, China.<sup>1159</sup>

## Ministers

- 1837 Rev A. Thompson, late of Norwich.<sup>1160</sup>

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<sup>1140</sup> SC, 2 Jun. 1837.

<sup>1141</sup> SC, 22 Jun. 1838.

<sup>1142</sup> SC, 22 Jun. 1838.

<sup>1143</sup> *Evangelical Magazine*, 419 (1844).

<sup>1144</sup> SC, 28 Jun. 1844.

<sup>1145</sup> *ESJ*, 17 Sept. 1845.

<sup>1146</sup> SA, 2045/parcel 1/14 (Memorandum 1911).

<sup>1147</sup> *ESJ*, 23 Sept. 1885.

<sup>1148</sup> *WJ*, 1 Jul. 1893.

<sup>1149</sup> SC, 3 Jun. 1904.

<sup>1150</sup> SC, 14 Jul. 1911.

<sup>1151</sup> SC, 16 Jan. 1925.

<sup>1152</sup> SC, 11 Sep. 1925.

<sup>1153</sup> SC, 11 Sep. 1925.

<sup>1154</sup> *Kelly's Directory 1936*.

<sup>1155</sup> SC, 21 May 1935.

<sup>1156</sup> Jones, *History of the Christian Science Society, Shrewsbury*; SA, 2045/2/14.

<sup>1157</sup> Cox, "Simplicity without meanness", p. 76.

<sup>1158</sup> SC, 26 May 1866.

<sup>1159</sup> SC, 26 Oct 1934.

- 1845 Rev William Thorp (co-pastor with Swan Hill).<sup>1161</sup>  
1851 Census form signed by John Hilton.<sup>1162</sup>  
1855-63 Various.<sup>1163</sup>  
1870 Rev J. Smith.<sup>1164</sup>  
1879 Rev J. Orme.<sup>1165</sup>  
1885 Rev John Graham.<sup>1166</sup>  
1892 Rev Hope.<sup>1167</sup>  
1895 Rev George Coats.<sup>1168</sup>  
1902-5 Rev Alfred Colbeck.<sup>1169</sup>  
1911 Rev Frederick G. Stoppard.<sup>1170</sup>  
1913 Rev William Henry Martin (Supt) and Rev Frederick G. Stoppard, shared with United Methodist, Albert Street.<sup>1171</sup>  
Post-1913 Rev W. Abercrombie who later became President of the United Methodist Conference (five years on this Circuit).<sup>1172</sup>  
1922 Rev William Oats Meir, shared with United Methodist Albert Street.<sup>1173</sup>  
1925 Rev H. E. Young.<sup>1174</sup>  
1931-2 Rev G. Bassett.<sup>1175</sup>  
1932-3 Rev J. Cribben Probationary clergyman, 12 month appointment.<sup>1176</sup>  
1934 Rev William Madgen, mentioned as a former minister, now superintendent of the Sheffield North Methodist Circuit.<sup>1177</sup>  
1935 Rev Frank Taylor, Superintendent, with Albert St (Town Walls Circuit).<sup>1178</sup>

### **History since closure as chapel (if applicable)**

In the early 1980s the chapel was bought by Shrewsbury Girls High School, Girls' Day School Trust.<sup>1179</sup> The interior was gutted but front façade remains, but the stained glass has been removed.<sup>1180</sup> In 2019 it remained an integral part of Shrewsbury Girls' High School which also occupies the houses on either side.<sup>1181</sup>

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<sup>1160</sup> SC, 2 Jun. 1837.

<sup>1161</sup> ESJ, 17 Sept. 1845.

<sup>1162</sup> Field (ed.), *Church and Chapel*, p. 78 (no. 348).

<sup>1163</sup> *Post Office Directory of Shropshire, 1856; Post Office Directory of Shropshire, 1863* do not give the names of the clergy but just say 'various'.

<sup>1164</sup> *Post Office Directory of Shropshire, 1870*.

<sup>1165</sup> *Kelly's Post Office Directory, 1879*.

<sup>1166</sup> *Kelly's Post Office Directory, 1885*.

<sup>1167</sup> WJ, 1 Jul. 1893.

<sup>1168</sup> *Kelly's Directory 1895*.

<sup>1169</sup> *Kelly's Directory 1905; SC*, 3 Jun. 1904.

<sup>1170</sup> SC, 14 Jul. 1911, 7.

<sup>1171</sup> *Kelly's Directory 1913*.

<sup>1172</sup> Morris, *History of Methodism*, p. 23.

<sup>1173</sup> *Kelly's Directory 1922*.

<sup>1174</sup> SC, 11 Sep. 1925.

<sup>1175</sup> SC, 12 Oct. 1934.

<sup>1176</sup> SC, 12 Oct. 1934.

<sup>1177</sup> SC, 12 Oct. 1934.

<sup>1178</sup> SC, 25 Jan. 1935.

<sup>1179</sup> SA, NM2123/177 (Shrewsbury Methodist Circuit, Directories of Plans of Services, 1935-1990).

<sup>1180</sup> Cox, "Simplicity without meanness", p. 76.

<sup>1181</sup> Local Information/Personal observation (2018-19).

# A46 Upton Lane Crowmere, Kingdom Hall of Jehovah's Witnesses

Grid reference: SJ 51217 12983      Shropshire HER:      1851 Census no: post-1851



Photograph 2018

## Construction

### Date

1985.<sup>1182</sup>

### Cost/Funding

No information.

### Architect

No information.

### Builder

No information.

### Additions /alterations

No information.

## Description

### Size

No information.

### Exterior

Brick in spacious grounds.<sup>1183</sup>

### Interior

No information.

### Additional Buildings / Facilities

No information.

## Congregations meeting in this chapel

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<sup>1182</sup> TNA, RG 70 no. 71471.

<sup>1183</sup> Local Information/Personal observation (2018-19).

**Denomination**

1985 to present day Jehovah's Witnesses.<sup>1184</sup>

**Number of members**

No information.

**Language**

English.

**Events**

1985      The congregation moved here from the former Quaker Meeting House on St John's Hill.<sup>1185</sup>

**Mission work**

No information.

**Ministers**

No information.

**History since closure as chapel (if applicable)**

Still in use as a chapel.

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<sup>1184</sup> Local Information/Personal observation (2018-19); TNA, RG 70 no. 71471.

<sup>1185</sup> TNA, RG 70 no. 71471.

# A47 Welshpool Road Bicton Heath, Bethel Chapel (Methodist New Connexion)

Grid reference: SJ 453133 Shropshire HER: 1851 Census no: 346

No photograph

## Construction

### Date

1843 26 Nov. Opened for worship.<sup>1186</sup>

### Cost/Funding

No information.

### Architect

No information.

### Builder

No information.

### Major additions/alterations

No information.

## Description

### Size

1851 Seated 160.<sup>1187</sup>

### Exterior

Plain brick.<sup>1188</sup>

### Interior

No information.

### Additional Buildings / Facilities

No information.

## Congregations meeting in this chapel<sup>1189</sup>

### Denomination

1843-1954 Methodist New Connexion.

1843-1907 Member of Shrewsbury Methodist New Connexion Circuit.

1907-32 Member of Shrewsbury United Methodist Circuit.

1932-5 Member of Shrewsbury Town Walls Methodist Circuit.

1935-54 Member of Shrewsbury United Methodist Circuit.

### Number of members

1851 About 40 people attended each service on Census Sunday.<sup>1190</sup>

1954 On closure, only nine members.<sup>1191</sup>

### Language

English.

## Events

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<sup>1186</sup> SC, 17 Nov. 1843.

<sup>1187</sup> Field (ed.), *Church and Chapel*, p. 78 (no. 346).

<sup>1188</sup> SA, NM2045/3/22, 297 (Shrewsbury Methodist Circuit Quarterly Meetings Minute Book, 1935-59).

<sup>1189</sup> Morris, *History of Methodism*, p. 00.

<sup>1190</sup> Field (ed.), *Church and Chapel*, p. 78 (no. 346).

<sup>1191</sup> SA, NM2045/3/22, 297.

- 1843 Sabbath school opened – ‘children and grown up persons will be taught to read gratuitously’. Preacher Rev. R. Wailer of Burslem.<sup>1192</sup>  
1891 Revival of the Annual tea and meeting. Nearly 100 sat down to tea.<sup>1193</sup>  
1904 Proposal to sell the chapel to a Mr Cooper.<sup>1194</sup>

### **Mission work**

No information.

### **Ministers**

- 1851 Census signed by John Hilton, Superintendent Minister.<sup>1195</sup>

### **History since closure as chapel (if applicable)**

Closed in 1954. The chapel was converted to a house (‘Chapel Croft’).<sup>1196</sup>

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<sup>1192</sup> *SC*, 17 Nov. 1843.

<sup>1193</sup> *WJ*, 17 Oct. 1891.

<sup>1194</sup> *SA*, D361/B/13/2/114 (Letters re plans to buy Chapel at Bicton Heath).

<sup>1195</sup> Field (ed.), *Church and Chapel*, p. 78 (no. 346).

<sup>1196</sup> *SA*, NM2045/3/22, 297 (Shrewsbury Methodist Circuit Quarterly Meetings Minute Book, 1935-59).



## A48 Weeping Cross, Plymouth Brethren Christian Church

Grid reference: SJ13098      Shropshire HER:      1851 Census no: post-1851  
Website (2018): <http://theplymouthbrethren.org.uk/?s=Shrewsbury>



Photograph 2019

### **Construction**

#### **Date**

2010.<sup>1197</sup>

#### **Cost/Funding**

No information.

#### **Architect**

No information.

#### **Builder**

No information.

#### **Major Additions/Alterations**

No information.

### **Description**

#### **Size**

No information.

#### **Exterior**

Single story brick building with no windows.<sup>1198</sup>

#### **Interior**

No Information.

#### **Additional Buildings/Facilities**

Car Park and landscaped grounds.<sup>1199</sup>

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<sup>1197</sup> <http://news.bbc.co.uk/local/shropshire/> 18 Oct 2010, viewed 2019.

<sup>1198</sup> <http://news.bbc.co.uk/local/shropshire/> 18 Oct 2010, viewed 2019.

<sup>1199</sup> Local Information/Personal observation (2018-19).

## **Congregations meeting in this chapel**

### **Denominations**

Exclusive Brethren.<sup>1200</sup>

### **Number of members**

No information.

### **Language**

English.

### **Events**

No information.

### **Mission work**

No information.

### **Ministers**

No information.

### **History since closure as chapel (if applicable)**

Still in use.

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<sup>1200</sup> Local Information/Personal observation (2018-19); <http://news.bbc.co.uk/local/shropshire/> 18 Oct 2010, viewed 2019.

## A49 Wyle Cop, Particular Baptist Chapel (Salvation Army Barracks)<sup>1201</sup>

Grid reference: SJ 4947512294 Shropshire HER: 32080 1851 Census no: post-1851



Photographs 2018



See also: SA PH/S/13/W/8/50, Houses on Wyle Cop belonging to the Particular Baptists in 1863. To the left of the arch is a Salvation Army sign.

### Construction<sup>1202</sup>

#### Date

1863 18 Aug. Foundation stone laid. Chapel and integral Sunday School completed same year.

#### Cost/Funding

1863 Site cost £780.

#### Architect

H. Weatherby.

Builder

No information.

Additions / Alterations

No information.

### Description

#### Size

The building measured 53ft x 45ft.<sup>1203</sup>

Seated 350-400.<sup>1204</sup>

1902 The two halls (now the Salvation Army Barracks) were described as accommodating 520 and 160.<sup>1205</sup>

#### Exterior

<sup>1201</sup> Cox, ““Simplicity without meanness””, pp. 88-9; Collis, *Baptist Churches*, p. 99.

<sup>1202</sup> Construction details taken from *ESJ*, 19 Aug. 1863 and from *SC*, 21 Aug. 1870.

<sup>1203</sup> *ESJ*, 19 Aug. 1863, 5; *SC*, 21 Aug. 1870, 4.

<sup>1204</sup> *ESJ*, 19 Aug. 1863, 5; *SC*, 21 Aug. 1870, 4.

<sup>1205</sup> SA, P256/V/3/1-2 (Letters from Property Dept. of Salvation Army, 1902).

The site was the yard of what had been the Spread Eagles Inn. There was no street frontage, the entrance being through an archway. The façade consisted of a high circular headed doorway with a window on each side.<sup>1206</sup> It was a plain red brick building with yellow brick dressings, which was planned to be temporary until a stone front could be afforded.<sup>1207</sup>

### **Interior**

The Sunday school was built behind, part of the original plan.<sup>1208</sup> Interior galleries were planned, but were not built.<sup>1209</sup>

### **Additional Buildings / Facilities**

In 1863 the old public house, the Spread Eagles, was converted into two dwellings to produce income to cover the cost of the site and building work.<sup>1210</sup>

## **Congregations meeting in this chapel**

### **Denomination**

1863-83 Particular Baptist.<sup>1211</sup>

1883-84 Blue Ribbon Gospel Army.<sup>1212</sup>

1886-1902 Salvation Army.<sup>1213</sup>

### **Number of members**

Particular Baptists

No information

Blue Ribbon Gospel Army

In May 1884, when Captain Ray left Shrewsbury, the mission boasted 200 recruits and had 4,000 pledges taken.<sup>1214</sup>

Salvation Army

1886: 'A small contingent'.<sup>1215</sup>

### **Language**

English.

## **Events**

Particular Baptists

1863 18 Aug. The foundation stone laid by Rev. John Williams of Holyhead.<sup>1216</sup> A sale of useful and ornamental goods was held on this occasion in the house adjoining the site, to defray some of the expenses.<sup>1217</sup>

1863 The congregation moved to this, their newly-built chapel, from temporary accommodation in a factory in Coleham.<sup>1218</sup>

1886 The congregation did not flourish and the chapel was described as vacant.<sup>1219</sup>

1888-90 A proposal to sell the building was opposed by the Deacons of Claremont chapel, but attempts to reopen it proved fruitless.<sup>1220</sup>

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<sup>1206</sup> *ESJ*, 19 Aug. 1863, 5; *SC*, 21 Aug. 1870, 4.

<sup>1207</sup> *Kelly's Post Office Directory*, 1885; *ESJ*, 19 Aug. 1863, 5; *SC*, 21 Aug. 1870, 4.

<sup>1208</sup> OS 1:500 survey (1882); *ESJ*, 19 Aug. 1863, 5; *SC*, 21 Aug. 1870, 4.

<sup>1209</sup> Cox, "Simplicity without meanness", p. 88.

<sup>1210</sup> *Ibid.*

<sup>1211</sup> *ESJ*, 19 Aug. 1863, 5; *SC*, 21 Aug. 1870, 4.

<sup>1212</sup> *ESJ*, 16 May 1884, 6.

<sup>1213</sup> Cox, "Simplicity without meanness". p. 91

<sup>1214</sup> *ESJ*, 16 May 1884, 6.

<sup>1215</sup> Cox, "Simplicity without meanness", p. 57.

<sup>1216</sup> *Ibid.*, p. 88.

<sup>1217</sup> *Wyle Cop Baptist Church* 1863.

<sup>1218</sup> Cox, "Simplicity without meanness", p. 88.

<sup>1219</sup> Wells and Manton, *Directory of Shrewsbury and its Environs, 1886*.

<sup>1220</sup> Collis, *Baptist Churches*, p. 99.

### Blue Ribbon Gospel Army

1883-4 Four officers under ‘Captain’ J. E. Ray began to rent the Wyle Cop Baptist chapel as a ‘fort’ to conduct a temperance campaign that proved provocative. Their parades and open-air meetings attracted noisy crowds and often led to violent disorder.<sup>1221</sup>

### Salvation Army

1886 Arrived in Shrewsbury and took over the chapel, part of a nation-wide recruitment.<sup>1222</sup>

1902-11 Advertised their barracks and two houses in Wyle Cop, freehold properties, for sale with an asking price of £1,150.<sup>1223</sup>

## Mission work

No information.

## Ministers<sup>1224</sup>

1879 Rev John Berry.<sup>1225</sup>

1885 Rev J. Llewellyn.<sup>1226</sup>

## History since closure as chapel (if applicable)

1902 The chapel, including the two houses on Wyle Cop, was put up for sale by the Salvation Army, with an asking price of £1150.<sup>1227</sup>

Later Warehouse or furniture repository for R. Maddox and Co.<sup>1228</sup>

World War II Converted into a mortuary for the US Air Force.<sup>1229</sup>

1965 Converted into a nightclub and bar called The 7 Club.<sup>1230</sup>

1983-97 Gordon Manser’s Antique Centre.<sup>1231</sup>

2019 Cycle shop.<sup>1232</sup>

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<sup>1221</sup> *ESJ*, 16 May 1884, 6.

<sup>1222</sup> Cox, “‘Simplicity without meanness’”. p. 91.

<sup>1223</sup> SA, P256/V/3/1-2 (Letters from Property Dept. of Salvation Army, 1902).

<sup>1224</sup> For a fuller list, Collis, *Baptist Churches*, p. 99.

<sup>1225</sup> *Kelly’s Post Office Directory, 1879*.

<sup>1226</sup> *Kelly’s Post Office Directory, 1885*.

<sup>1227</sup> SA, P256/V/3/1-2 (Letters from Property Dept. of Salvation Army, 1902).

<sup>1228</sup> Local Information/Personal observation (2018-19); Cox, “‘Simplicity without meanness’”.

<sup>1229</sup> D. Trumper, *A glimpse of old Shrewsbury* (2003).

<sup>1230</sup> *ibid.*

<sup>1231</sup> *ibid.*

<sup>1232</sup> Local Information/Personal observation (2018-19).

## A50 York Road, Grafton Mews (Hope Church)<sup>1233</sup>

Grid reference: SJ 5003 1604 Shropshire HER: 1851 Census no: post-1851  
Website 2019: hopechurchshrewsbury.org.uk



Photograph 2018

### **Construction**

#### **Date**

Unclear, but possibly 2011.

#### **Cost/Funding**

No information.

#### **Architect**

No information.

#### **Builder**

No information.

#### **Additions/Alterations**

No information.

### **Description**

#### **Size**

No information.

#### **Exterior**

No information.

#### **Interior**

No information.

#### **Additional Buildings/Facilities**

2019 Parking for the offices at Grafton Mews.<sup>1234</sup>

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<sup>1233</sup> Unless otherwise specified, account taken from hopechurchshrewsbury.org.uk, viewed 2019.

## **Congregations meeting in this chapel**

### **Denomination**

2010 Hope Church was formed from the Grange Free Church and the North Shrewsbury Community church, which was linked to the Fellowship of Independent Evangelical Churches.

### **Number of members**

No information.

### **Language**

English.

### **Events**

- 2003-10 North Shrewsbury Community Church had no premises so worked with the Grange Free Church to develop ways of working together.
- 2011 North Shrewsbury Community Church and the Grange Free Church amalgamated and was launched publicly as Hope Church.
- 2018 The church premises were inadequate, so church meetings were held at Sundorne secondary school. The Grange site was used as offices and the adjacent Church centre used for midweek activities such as Coffee Mornings and Kidz Klub.
- 2019 Sunday meetings are held at the Church of the Holy Spirit on Meadow Farm Drive, Shrewsbury.
- 2019 Current activities include: Family Focus, providing weekly support to families (in partnership with Barnabas Church).

### **Mission work**

Hope Church is in Partnership with a number of ministries and churches around the world. They support church planting and community transformation both directly and through their sister Charity called BREADtrust. In 2019 they were working in Sweden, Ukraine and Zambia.

### **Ministers / Elders**

- 2000 Rev Roy Whittal, whose parents were founder members of the church in the 1950s.
- 2007 Nick Priggis became team Leader when Roy Whittal moved to Sweden.
- 2016 Andy Westwood and Andy Lowe.

### **History since closure as chapel (if applicable)**

- 2018 The Grafton Mews premises is now used as Hope Church offices and for midweek activities such as Coffee Morning and Kidz Klub.

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<sup>1234</sup> Local Information/Personal observation (2018-19).





## Other Places of Non-Conformist Worship

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- B1 Abbey Foregate, Wakeman School (VI Form College)  
1993-6 Barnabas Christian Fellowship.<sup>1235</sup>
- B2 Barker Street, Baptist ‘Chapel’ possibly the house of John Williams, a builder<sup>1236</sup>  
1773 Baptists short-lived congregation.<sup>1237</sup>
- B3 Barker Street, between nos. 11 and 12. Disused malthouse in Court no. 3 (Christian Hall  
Passage) on west side of street  
1822-6 Primitive Methodists.<sup>1238</sup>  
1871-90 (possibly to 1904) Udenominational missions.<sup>1239</sup>
- B4 Bellstone, Morris Hall  
1936-65 Quakers.<sup>1240</sup>  
1966-94 Christadelphians.<sup>1241</sup>  
1971-7 St Luke’s Spiritualist Church.<sup>1242</sup>
- B5 Belmont, no 5  
After 1969 Quakers.<sup>1243</sup>
- B6 Boscobel Drive Harlescott Community Centre  
1965-9 Quakers.<sup>1244</sup>  
1997 Temple of Light, Christian Spiritualist Church.<sup>1245</sup>
- B7 Castle Foregate  
1753 House of William Leak.<sup>1246</sup>
- B8 Castle Gates, yard of the Station Hotel  
1929-31 St. John’s Spiritual Church.<sup>1247</sup>
- B9 Castlefields Community Hall  
1995 Spiritualists.<sup>1248</sup>
- B10 Castlefields, ‘Enon’ Cottage, home of John Palmer  
1803 Baptists (for baptisms).<sup>1249</sup>
- B11 Castlefields, 5 Walkers Buildings, near St. Michael’s church  
1854-61 Mormons (or Latter Day Saints).<sup>1250</sup>

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<sup>1235</sup> Pattison, *On Severn Shore*, p. 66.

<sup>1236</sup> C. Hulbert, *History and Antiquities of Shrewsbury* (1837).

<sup>1237</sup> SA, NO 2706/1 (Claremont St Baptist Church minute book, 1715-1814), pp. 30-1; Collis, *Baptist Church*, p. 97.

<sup>1238</sup> Trumper, ‘Primitive Methodism’.

<sup>1239</sup> Wells and Manton, *Directory of Shrewsbury and its Environs, 1886*; SC, 16 Sep. 1904.

<sup>1240</sup> *Kelly’s Directory 1936*.

<sup>1241</sup> SC, 21 Oct. 1966.

<sup>1242</sup> SS, 24 Nov. 1977.

<sup>1243</sup> Cox and Cox, ‘Protestant Nonconformity’.

<sup>1244</sup> Foxall, *Gazetteer*.

<sup>1245</sup> SC, 1 May 1997.

<sup>1246</sup> SA, 3365/2431, 12 Jan. 1753 (QS Rolls and Papers, 1753-1812), f. 68.

<sup>1247</sup> GRO and successors: *Places of Religious Worship Certifying Act 1852 and Places of Worship*.

<sup>1248</sup> SC, 26 Jun. 1995.

<sup>1249</sup> SA, 6001/3057 (Salopian Annals), fo. 81.

<sup>1250</sup> TNA, RG 70, 52168.

- B12 Chester Street, The Gateway  
1985 Barnabas Christian Fellowship.<sup>1251</sup>
- B13 Claremont Hill, no. 13, home of the [Presbyterian] minister, Francis Tallents  
1691 Presbyterians (later Unitarians) Licensed.<sup>1252</sup>
- B14 Claremont Hill, no. 24, (3a Scott's Mansion).  
1935-54 St. Luke's Spiritualist Church.<sup>1253</sup>
- B15 Claremont Hill, no. 28, second floor  
1929-35 (or 1954) St. Luke's Spiritualist Church.<sup>1254</sup>
- B16 Claremont Hill, an upper room  
1862-64 Welsh Presbyterians (English-speaking) (a group who ceded from Hills Lane Chapel (A21) and who subsequently built a chapel in Frankwell (A18)).
- B17 Clifton Road, converted cart shed.  
1962 Harlescott Grange Independent Evangelical Church (of the Fellowship of Independent Evangelical Churches). Later called the Grange Free Church.<sup>1255</sup>
- B18 Coleham, a room  
1850-mid 1850s Wesleyan Methodists.<sup>1256</sup>
- B19 College Hill, no. 1, a room  
1900-19 Christian Science Society.<sup>1257</sup>
- B20 College Hill, Freemasons' Hall  
1919-38 Christian Science Society (affiliated to the First Church of Christ, Scientist).<sup>1258</sup>
- B21 College Hill, rented premises  
1969-? Quakers.<sup>1259</sup>
- B22 Corndon Crescent, Sundorne Secondary School (Shrewsbury Academy)  
2018 Hope Church (Fellowship of Independent Evangelical Churches).<sup>1260</sup>
- B23 Dogpole, no. 8  
1936-55 Christadelphians.<sup>1261</sup>
- B24 Fish Street, nos. 1 and 1A,  
1761 Wesleyan Methodists.<sup>1262</sup>
- B25 Fish Street, no. 12

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<sup>1251</sup> Pattinson, 'On Severn Shore', p. 65; SC, 4 Oct. 1985.

<sup>1252</sup> R. Lloyd Kenyon (ed.), *Shropshire County Records, Orders of the Quarter Sessions, I, 1638-1708* (n.d.), pp. 130, 134; also SA, 3365/0000 (QS order book 0000-00), fo. 00. (7 Nov. 1691).

<sup>1253</sup> TNA, RG 70, no. 56127.

<sup>1254</sup> TNA, RG 70, nos. 52017 and 54365.

<sup>1255</sup> TNA, RG 70, 67945 and 68766.

<sup>1256</sup> [No reference]

<sup>1257</sup> Jones, *History of the Christian Science Society, Shrewsbury*.

<sup>1258</sup> *Ibid.*

<sup>1259</sup> Cox and Cox, 'Protestant Nonconformity'.

<sup>1260</sup> hopechurchshrewsbury.org.uk, viewed 2019.

<sup>1261</sup> *Kelly's Directory 1936*.

<sup>1262</sup> Cox, "Simplicity without meanness", p. 68.

- 1888 Gospel Room.<sup>1263</sup>
- B26 Frankwell (unknown location)  
1672 Independents (or Congregationalists).<sup>1264</sup>
- B27 Frankwell (unknown location)  
1929 Apostolic Christians.<sup>1265</sup>
- B28 Frankwell, no. 135, Mission Room<sup>1266</sup>  
1883 Undenominational.  
1894-? Salvation Army.  
1955 Room still in use.
- B29 Frankwell, Darwin Community Centre (Fellmongers' Hall)  
1985 Shrewsbury Evangelical Church.<sup>1267</sup>
- B30 Gloucester Road, north side  
Pre-1961-2 Harlescott Grange Independent Evangelical Church (of the Fellowship of Independent Evangelical Churches).<sup>1268</sup>
- B31 Harlescott, parish of St Alkmonds, House of John Bagnall  
1812 licenced 17 July.<sup>1269</sup>
- B32 Harlescott, parish of St Alkmonds, House of Price Williams  
1812 licensed 15 Oct.<sup>1270</sup>
- B33 Heath Lane, Harlescott Community Centre  
1975-81 Mormons.<sup>1271</sup>
- B34 High Street, nos. 37/38, (south side) Dun's Shut, Timothy Seymour's empty warehouse  
1712-20? Baptists.<sup>1272</sup>
- B35 High Street, no. 20? (north side) Fire Office Passage  
1880-90 Brethren.<sup>1273</sup>
- B36 High Street, Mr Morgan's House  
1802-05 Welsh Calvinistic Methodists.<sup>1274</sup>
- B37 High Street, 'Oliver's Chapel'  
1684 Presbyterians (later Unitarians).<sup>1275</sup>

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<sup>1263</sup> Wells and Manton, *Directory of Shrewsbury 1888-89*.

<sup>1264</sup> Cox and Cox, 'Protestant Nonconformity'.

<sup>1265</sup> Wilding, *Directory of Shrewsbury* (1931).

<sup>1266</sup> Cox and Cox, 'Protestant Nonconformity'.

<sup>1267</sup> *Shrewsbury* (pamphlet, SA, C 2/2, 1994).

<sup>1268</sup> TNA, RG 70, 67945 and 68766.

<sup>1269</sup> [Borough QS Order Book].

<sup>1270</sup> [Borough QS Order Book].

<sup>1271</sup> Beharrell, *From Shrewsbury to Salt Lake City*, pp. 52, 54; *SC*, 10 Jan. 1975, 2.

<sup>1272</sup> Owen and Blakeway, *Shrewsbury*, p. 485 (although they thought the report might be spurious)

<sup>1273</sup> *SC*, 19 Sep. 1980, 14.

<sup>1274</sup> D. Pryce, *A History of the Calvinistic Methodist (Presbyterian) Churches in the Montgomery and Salop Borders* (2019)

<sup>1275</sup> G. Lyon Turner, *Original records of early nonconformity under persecution and indulgence* (1911-14), 2, 734-41.

- B38 High Street, Peacock Passage, behind the King's Head Inn  
1672-1741 Independents (or Congregationalists).<sup>1276</sup>
- B39 Hill's Lane, no. 19, above a public house (Queen Victoria)  
1985-96 Barnabas Christian Fellowship.<sup>1277</sup>
- B40 Hill's Lane, Old Mansion Auction Mart  
1888-94 Blue Ribbon Gospel Army.<sup>1278</sup>
- B41 Hill's Lane (Knuckin Street), Samuel Benion's house  
1706 Licenced for Presbyterian worship.<sup>1279</sup>
- B42 Howard Street, a room  
1842-5 Welsh Independents.<sup>1280</sup>
- B43 Howard Street, Butter Market. Partitioned section  
1851 Mormons (or Latter-Day Saints).<sup>1281</sup>
- B44 Kenwood Drive Cophorne (south side)  
1958-76 The Radbrook Free Church.<sup>1282</sup>
- B45 Kynaston Road, Harlescott Centre  
1992-4 Elim Pentecostals.<sup>1283</sup>
- B46 Longden Coleham, Greyfriars' Bridge, west side  
1940-64 Seventh Day Adventists.<sup>1284</sup>  
1964-76 Elim Pentecostals.<sup>1285</sup>
- B47 Longden Coleham, north side, room over brush factory  
1897 Undenominational mission.<sup>1286</sup>
- B48 Longden Coleham, room in Old Factory (Hulbert's Cotton Mill)  
1803-12 Methodist Society.<sup>1287</sup>  
1848-51 Mormons.<sup>1288</sup>  
1862-3 Particular Baptists.<sup>1289</sup>
- B49 Marine Terrace, a room  
1875-94 Particular Baptists/No declared denomination.<sup>1290</sup>

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<sup>1276</sup> Dr. Williams's Library, London, MS. 38.4 (Evans Manuscript), p. 97.

<sup>1277</sup> SC, 4 Oct. 1985, 1; Pattison, *On Severn Shore*, pp. 64-5.

<sup>1278</sup> Wells and Manton, *Directory of Shrewsbury 1888-89*; SC, 13 Apr. 1894, 5; SC, 30 Mar. 1894, 5.  
<sup>1279</sup>

<sup>1280</sup> Elliot, *Congregationalism*, p. 259.

<sup>1281</sup> Field (ed.), *Church and Chapel*, p. 76 (no. 337).

<sup>1282</sup> TNA, RG 70, no. 66930; SC, 2 Jul. 1976, 15.

<sup>1283</sup> SC, 1 Oct. 1992, 5; SC, 20 Oct. 1994, 24; *Shrewsbury* (pamphlet, SA, C 2/2, 1994).

<sup>1284</sup> *Kelly's Directory 1940*.

<sup>1285</sup> Foxall, *Gazetteer*; SC, 24 Sep. 1976.

<sup>1286</sup> Shrewsbury & District Evangelical Free Church Council, *Map of Free Church Parishes* (1897).

<sup>1287</sup> Pattison, *On Severn Shore*, pp. 14-15.

<sup>1288</sup> Beharrell, *From Shrewsbury to Salt Lake City*, pp. 13-14.

<sup>1289</sup> Cox and Cox, 'Protestant Nonconformity'.

<sup>1290</sup> TNA, RG 70, no. 22286.

- B50 Market Street, 17 Talbot Chambers, second floor  
1934 to before 1980 Christian Spiritualist Church.<sup>1291</sup>
- B51 Market Street, 18 Talbot Chambers, second floor  
1972 A Christian Community.
- B52 Mereside, Community Hall  
1990-3 Barnabas Christian Fellowship South East.<sup>1292</sup>  
2019 Shrewsbury Evangelical Church.<sup>1293</sup>
- B53 Murivance, a malthouse near Pig Hall  
1766-7 Used temporarily by the seceding congregation from the High St Chapel before their own chapel in Swan Hill was completed.<sup>1294</sup>
- B54 Murivance, House of James Owen clerk  
1703 **Licensed 16 July.**<sup>1295</sup>
- B55 New Park Road  
1861 Mormons.<sup>1296</sup>
- B56 Pride Hill and Castle Street (High Pavement), a house  
1758 Independents (or Congregationalists).<sup>1297</sup>
- B57 Pride Hill, 9 Pengwerne Chambers  
1934-7 Jehovah's Witnesses.<sup>1298</sup>
- B58 Princess Street, Golden Cross Passage (Steelyard Shut) Baptist 'Chapel'  
1720-80 Baptists.<sup>1299</sup>  
1797-1805 Welsh Calvinistic Methodist (or Presbyterian Church of Wales).<sup>1300</sup>
- B59 Princess Street, Mercers' Hall  
1672 Independents (or Congregationalists).<sup>1301</sup>
- B60 Princess Street, no. 27, first floor  
1931-2 St John's Spiritual Church.<sup>1302</sup>  
1933-? Seventh-Day Adventists.<sup>1303</sup>
- B61 Roushill, John Appleton's house  
1754 Wesleyan Methodists.<sup>1304</sup>
- B62 Roushill Bank, Bank Chambers

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<sup>1291</sup> *Kelly's Directory 1934: Kelly's Directory 1940*. {Evidence for 1981?}

<sup>1292</sup> Pattison, *On Severn Shore*, p. 66.

<sup>1293</sup> <https://www.shrewsburyevangelicalchurch.org/>

<sup>1294</sup> Owen and Blakeway, *Shrewsbury*, II, p. 483.

<sup>1295</sup>

<sup>1296</sup> Cox and Cox, 'Protestant Nonconformity'. {But they have no reference for this}

<sup>1297</sup> SA, 3365/2431 (QS Rolls and Papers, 1758) f. 147.

<sup>1298</sup> *Kelly's Directory 1934; Kelly's Directory 1937*.

<sup>1299</sup> SA, 3365/2312, (QS Rolls and Papers, 1720); Owen and Blakeway, *Shrewsbury*, II, p. 486.

<sup>1300</sup> Cox and Cox, 'Protestant Nonconformity'.

<sup>1301</sup> *Ibid.*

<sup>1302</sup> *Ibid.*

<sup>1303</sup> *Ibid.*

<sup>1304</sup> Morris, *History of Methodism*, p. 12.

- 1936-40 [St John's] Spiritualist church.<sup>1305</sup>
- B63 School Gardens (School Lane)  
1809 Baptists.<sup>1306</sup>
- B64 School Gardens (School Lane) 2 rooms in Old Grammar School House  
1983-92 Christian Science Society.<sup>1307</sup>
- B65 School Lane, Coleham, a cottage  
1897-1914? Udenominational mission.<sup>1308</sup>
- B66 Severn Street, nos. 5-8A - upper room of Benyon Linen Factory  
1850-3 Wesleyan Methodist Reformers.<sup>1309</sup>
- B67 Shelton Road, no. 56, Radbrook  
1974 Udenominational.<sup>1310</sup>
- B68 Shoplatch, Mermaid Inn, large room in yard  
1832 Unknown.<sup>1311</sup>
- B69 The Square, Music Hall  
1865 Presbyterian.<sup>1312</sup>  
1910 - ? Christian Scientists.<sup>1313</sup>  
1983-5 The Barnabas Christian Fellowship.<sup>1314</sup>
- B70 St. Alkmund's Place, no. 2a  
1891-c1960 Brethren.<sup>1315</sup>
- B71 St. Alkmund's Square, home of Rev. Ebenezer Williams  
1860-pre-1864 Welsh Calvinistic Methodists (or Presbyterian Church of Wales).<sup>1316</sup>
- B72 St. Austin's Street, a room  
Late 1840s-58 Particular Baptists.<sup>1317</sup>
- B73 St. Julian's Friars, No. 37, Hall behind Ivy House (Sandford House)  
By 1922-76 Christian Alliance of Women and Girls /Christian Youth Fellowship.<sup>1318</sup>  
1976-90 Elim Christian Fellowship.<sup>1319</sup>
- B74 St. Mary's Street, small room in Jones's Mansion  
1840-80 Brethren.<sup>1320</sup>

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<sup>1305</sup> *Kelly's Directory 1936; Kelly's Directory 1940.*

<sup>1306</sup> SA, QS/6/9, John Palmer to Jos. Loxdale, 3 Mar. 1810.

<sup>1307</sup> SC, 24 Jan. 1992, 5.

<sup>1308</sup> Shrewsbury & District Evangelical Free Church Council, Map of Free Church Parishes (1897).

<sup>1309</sup> Field (ed.), *Church and Chapel*, p. 75 (no. 333).

<sup>1310</sup> SA, 6137/3/103; SA, 6137/1, 19 Mar. 1974; SA, ER 3/3/76-77, Electoral Register for 1976-77.

<sup>1311</sup> W. Robson & Co., *Commercial Directory of London and Western Counties* (1840).

<sup>1312</sup> *Presbyterianism in Shrewsbury and District 1647-1925.*

<sup>1313</sup> SC, 16 Dec. 1910.

<sup>1314</sup> Pattison, *On Severn Shore*, pp. 64-5.

<sup>1315</sup> Foxall, *Gazetteer; Kelly's Directory 1934.*

<sup>1316</sup> Lloyd Jones, *St David's Presbyterian Church Belmont Shrewsbury*, p.1.

<sup>1317</sup> Field (ed.), *Church and Chapel*, p. 79 (no. 349).

<sup>1318</sup> SC, 19 May 1922. {Later reference?}

<sup>1319</sup> Cox and Cox, 'Protestant Nonconformity'.



- B75 St Mary's Water Lane, site of the Dominican Friary  
1822?-6+ Primitive Methodists.<sup>1321</sup>
- B76 St Mary's Water Lane, Union Wharf house  
1833 Methodist New Connexion.<sup>1322</sup>  
1851-4 Mormons.<sup>1323</sup>
- B77 Street and area unknown, Elizabeth Milward's House  
1672 Independents.<sup>1324</sup>
- B78 Street and area unknown, Mrs Elizabeth Hunt's House  
1672 and 1687-1690. Licensed for Presbyterian worship (later Unitarian).<sup>1325</sup>
- B79 Street and area unknown, Thomas Rees's house  
1877 Christadelphians.<sup>1326</sup>
- B80 Street and area unknown, a private house  
1840 New Testament Church (later Churches of Christ).<sup>1327</sup>
- B81 Wenlock Road, Holy Cross School  
1993 Barnabas Christian Fellowship South East.<sup>1328</sup>
- B82 Wyle Cop, a house  
1672 Independents or Congregationalists.<sup>1329</sup>
- B83 Wyle Cop, no. 11, basement  
1950-9 Jehovah's Witnesses.<sup>1330</sup>
- B84 Wyle Cop, John Tompkins' house  
1690-? Independents (or Congregationalists).<sup>1331</sup>
- B85 Wyle Cop, Lion Hotel  
1865-70 Presbyterian.<sup>1332</sup> (381)
- B86 Wyle Cop, Samuel Wayt's house  
1691 Licensed for Presbyterian worship (later Unitarians)<sup>1333</sup>
- B87 Wyle Cop, St Julian's Church  
2008 Shrewsbury Evangelical Church.<sup>1334</sup>

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<sup>1320</sup> Field (ed.), *Church and Chapel*.

<sup>1321</sup> Trumper, 'Primitive Methodism', p. 00.

<sup>1322</sup> Cox and Cox, 'Protestant Nonconformity'.

<sup>1323</sup> TNA, RG 70, 52168; Beharrell, *From Shrewsbury to Salt Lake City*, p. 29.

<sup>1324</sup> Cox and Cox, 'Protestant Nonconformity'.

<sup>1325</sup> Lyon Turner, *Original records*, 2, pp. 734-41.

<sup>1326</sup> *The Christadelphian*, no. 162 (Dec. 1877), p. 575.

<sup>1327</sup> Cox and Cox, 'Protestant Nonconformity'.

<sup>1328</sup> Pattison, *On Severn Shore*, p. 66.

<sup>1329</sup> Cox and Cox, 'Protestant Nonconformity'.

<sup>1330</sup> TNA, RG 70, no. 62548.

<sup>1331</sup> SA, 3365/2430 (QS Order Book, 1680-1740), session 15 Jan. 1691.

<sup>1332</sup> Reavley, *Presbyterianism in Shrewsbury and District*, p. 00.

<sup>1333</sup> Lyon Turner, *Original records*, 2, pp. 734-41.

<sup>1334</sup> <https://www.shrewsburyevangelicalchurch.org/>

- B88 Wyle Cop, St. Julian's Steps, Foresters' Hall  
By 1894 Baptists.<sup>1335</sup>  
1959-1968 Jehovah's Witnesses.<sup>1336</sup>  
1976 Shrewsbury Church of the Assemblies of God.<sup>1337</sup>
- B89 Wyle Cop, William Payne's house  
1657 Quakers.<sup>1338</sup>

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<sup>1335</sup> Cox and Cox, 'Protestant Nonconformity'.

<sup>1336</sup> Foxall, *Gazetteer*.

<sup>1337</sup> *SC*, 17 Sep. 1967, 2.

<sup>1338</sup> *Account of the Convincement, Exercises, Services and Travels of Richard Davies* (6th edn, 1825).

### Outstanding queries: section A

chapel	page	note	
A2	10	73	Albert St methodist. Methodist circuit reorganization, 1913
A3	12	95	date of building of the Plymouth Brethren Meeting House
A5	18	135	newspaper report, 1911
A5	19	149	Pastor, 1932
A10	31	236	Castle St chapel, location of schoolroom
A11	38	304	St Nicholas, Castle St., newspaper report 1911.
A15	50	426	Crowmore Baptist Church, identity of architect
A17	57	488	clergy at Harlescott Methodist church, 1960
A20	67	604	Cole Hill chapel, used by Methodist New Connection, 1832-3.
A21	70	619	Hills Lane chapel, source of description when Welsh Calvinists took over in 1805
A22	73	659	Seventh Day Adventist church. Reference to Facebook unacceptable as a closed group.
A30	94	783	Monkmoor Road, now Christadelphian chapel, building description (? personal inspection)
A37	111	835	New St Chapel, Frankwell. Number of members. Date incorrect?
A38	113	897, 901	Pride Hill chapel. Use after the Independents moved to Dogpole.
A41	119	935, 937	Spring Gardens Wesleyan Methodist Chapel, Ditherington. Evidence that it founded by Thomas Brocas?
	120	939	Denomination
A42	123	966	Quaker Meeting House, Salopian Magazine, 1815
A42	124	980	Use by Jehovah's witnesses
A47	143	1189	Congregations meeting in Bicton Heath Bethel Chapel.