

PART II NONCONFORMIST RECORDS

How to use this handlist

This handlist has been devised to provide quick reference information on the availability in the Gloucestershire Record Office of original registers of birth/baptism, marriage and burial, transcripts and indexes of these, and Church Rolls that include lists of members' names, sometimes with dates of admission to and departure from the congregation. Records are listed under denomination, then alphabetically by place of church or chapel. Covering dates only are given; full details are available in the Search Room catalogues.

Registers held by the Public Record Office which are available on microfilm here are indicated by an MF reference. An index to these is being compiled by Kenneth Kelsey and those registers included in this are marked by an asterisk.

MF	denotes microfilm copy (from PRO)
*	denotes Kelsey index
D	deposited records
ROL	Record Office Library
Bi	births
C	christenings
M	marriages
B	burials

Background reading

A good brief introduction is: P Palgrave Moore, *Understanding the History and Records of Nonconformity*, 2nd edition 1988 (Elvery Dowers publications).

Further information on both Protestant and Roman Catholic nonconformist records can be found in the *National Index of Parish Registers* by D J Steel, Vols. II and III (London 1973-4) respectively. The records for Gloucestershire are listed in Vol. V of the same series (1966); although this is now out of date as regards place of deposit and detail of copies, etc., it can be useful to identify churches and chapels and to indicate sources available elsewhere. These volumes are to be found in the Record Office Searchroom (ROL H1) and also in the Gloucestershire Reference Library, Brunswick Road, Gloucester.

Marriages

It should be remembered when using these records that, Jews and Quakers excepted, between 1754 and 1837 all marriages had to be performed in the Church of England. Before 1754 both nonconformists and members of the Church of England could contract a marriage without a church ceremony and these are usually unrecorded.

Civil registration of births, marriages and deaths commenced in 1837; these records can be useful in tracing nonconformist marriages, especially where no chapel marriage book was kept or if no "authorised person" was in attendance. Civil registration records are available at St. Catherine's House, London.

Notes on the nonconformist denominations

BAPTIST

The Baptists did not practise infant baptism, so baptismal registers will consist of adult entries. However, for some chapels, birth registers only are held here.

CHURCH OF CHRIST

A denomination believing in adult baptism, which developed after 1842.

CONGREGATIONAL

Early Congregational churches were termed 'Independent', some of them dating back to 1662 or earlier. The term Congregational church came into general usage in the nineteenth century.

In October 1972 many Congregational churches combined with the Presbyterians to create the United Reformed Church. A number of Congregational churches remained outside the Union, some forming a new alliance known as the Congregational Federation.

COUNTESS OF HUNTINGDON'S CONNEXION

The Countess of Huntingdon, although an Anglican, possessed a strong evangelical feeling which brought her into conflict with the Church of England. Leaving the Established Church she founded a number of chapels around the country, which became known as her 'Connexion'. In some cases these churches later became Congregational, although they retained an association with the Connexion.

JEWISH

For historical information on the Jews, see the article by Edgar R Samuel in *Sources for Roman Catholic and Jewish Genealogy and Family History* by D J Steel (1974).

METHODIST

The Methodist church sprang out of the teaching of John Wesley in the 1730s that Christ was man's only salvation. Child baptism was practised.

With the splitting of the church into different denominations, the original body became known as the Wesleyan Methodists.

The Methodist New Connexion was founded in 1797. Church government was shared between ministers and the laity. One register was usually used for the entire circuit.

The Primitive Methodists came into being in 1807. This denomination was especially powerful in industrial areas. One register was usually used for the entire circuit.

The Independent Methodists were founded in 1805. In 1833 they became the United Churches of Christ, and in 1841 the United Free Gospel Churches. They changed their name back to Independent Methodists in 1898.

The Bible Christians (or O'Bryanites) were founded in 1815, and recognised the Bible as the only valid authority for doctrine.

The Protestant Methodists were created in 1827, but amalgamated with the Wesleyan Methodist Association in 1837.

The Wesleyan Methodist Association was formed in 1836, and wanted more rights for local churches as opposed to the power of the Annual Methodist Conference.

The Wesleyan Methodist Reformers were founded in 1849, again requesting more rights for individual members. In 1857 the majority of members united with the Wesleyan Methodist Free Churches. Those members who objected to this amalgamation formed the Wesleyan Reform Union, which remains independent.

Twentieth Century Unions

In 1907 the Methodist New Connexion, the Bible Christians, and the United Methodist Free Churches united to become the United Methodist Church.

In 1932 the Wesleyan Methodists and the Primitive Methodists joined the United Methodist Church to form The Methodist Church.

Thus all British Methodists are now united except for the Calvinistic Methodists (The Presbyterian Church of Wales), the Countess of Huntingdon's Connexion, a few surviving Independent Methodist circuits, and the Wesleyan Reform Union.

Organisation

The centre of the Methodist church organisation is the Annual Methodist Conference. Individual churches are grouped into circuits, and ministers are appointed by the Conference to the circuits, and not to individual churches. The circuits hold Quarterly Meetings and are grouped into districts, which hold twice-yearly synods.

Circuit boundaries change, so a church may appear in different circuits at different times. Also, circuits can either amalgamate or be created anew from those already existing. Notes of which churches formed the circuits at various times are to be found in the Appendix.

Registers

Most Methodist registers are of baptisms only. Hardwicke's Marriage Act 1753 forbade marriage ceremonies in Methodist churches and only after the Marriage Act 1898 were Methodist ministers allowed to conduct and register marriages. Marriage registers for the years since 1898 generally remain with the minister, being still in use.

MORAVIAN

The Moravian Brethren had a Presbyterian type of government. Only four churches ever existed in Gloucestershire, in Bristol City, Kingswood (nr. Bristol), Hewelsfield (Brockweir) and Apperley, a church later purchased by the Methodists. Infant and adult baptism is practised.

PRESBYTERIAN

The Presbyterian movement developed out of a challenge to the episcopacy in the 16th century. Infant baptism was practised. In 1972 the entire Presbyterian Church in England combined with some Congregational churches to found the United Reformed Church.

ROMAN CATHOLIC

For historical information on the Roman Catholic faith see *Sources for Roman Catholic and Jewish Genealogy and Family History* by D J Steel (Chichester, 1974).

SOCIETY OF FRIENDS (QUAKERS)

The Society of Friends was founded by George Fox c.1647, and possessed an organised structure by 1666. The Gloucestershire and Wiltshire monthly meeting had a number of centres, and an account of the changes in administration is included in the introductory pages of the Search Room catalogue for these records (D1340).

UNITARIAN

Unitarian congregations developed in the eighteenth century from either Presbyterian, Congregational or Baptist origins. A separate Unitarian denomination came into being after 1813. The Unitarians believed in child baptism.

UNDENOMINATIONAL

A number of churches lacked allegiance to any denomination and styled themselves 'Undenominational'. Many practised adult baptism. Confusingly, the term 'Free Church' can sometimes refer specifically to these chapels, while elsewhere it can be used as a blanket term for all nonconformist denominations.

EXAMPLE PAGE

CONGREGATIONAL (Cont'd)						
		Register	Register Transcript	Register Index	Church Roll	Monumental Inscriptions
CAM			C 1702-1739, 1776-1836 NC11	C 1702-1739, 1776-1836 NC11		
CHEDWORTH		*Bi/C 1799-1836 *B 1800-1837 MF1258 C 1799-1901 D7751/3/2/1 C 1902-1973 M 1903-1971 B 1902-1976 D6026/3/1			1903-1974 D6026/3/1	
CHELTENHAM, Chapel (see also PRESBYTERIAN section)		*Bi/C 1810-1837 *B 1810-1837 MF1266 C 1810-1853 B 1815-1889 D7755/1/1 Book of burials 1858-1899 (D7755/1/2)				1809-1900 GE166/99
FAIRFORD: Croft Chapel		Bi/C 1787-1837 B 1787-1835 MF1267 Bi/C 1883-1914 M 1873-1908 B 1884-1908 D4278/3/1	C 1881-1908 ROL		(1870)-1914 D4278/3/1	

christenings
marriages
burials

births/christenings

Gloucestershire Record Office reference

BAPTIST

	Register	Register Transcript	Register Index	Church Roll	Monumental Inscriptions
AWRE: Blakeney	*B 1834-1837 MF1267 M 1879-1917 B 1877-1950 D2758/1			1884-1950 D2758/1	
CINDERFORD			B 1881-1975 PA85/3		GE166/151
DYMOCK: Four Oaks					GE166/212a
LYDBROOK		M 1912-1948 PA208/3			
NEWLAND: Coleford	Bi 1786-1837 B 1850-[1872] D2722/13, 14		Bi 1786-1837 D2722/13		
WEST DEAN: Parkend				1892-1925 D2867/1/1	
YORKLEY				[1860]-1921 D4714/1/1	

CONGREGATIONAL

	Register	Register Transcript	Register Index	Church Roll	Monumental Inscriptions
AWRE: Blakeney (Newnham and Blakeney Tabernacle)	*Bi/C 1823-1837 MF1244 C 1849-1985 M 1851-1985 B 1849-1987 D5690/1			1928-1956 D5690/1	
LITTLEDEAN	*C 1803-1837 *B 1821-1837 MF1246				
MITCHELDEAN	*Bi/C 1759-1837 *B 1759-1837 MF1246 C 1837-1973 M 1904-1912, 1931-1939 B 1837-1889, 1908-1912, 1921-1950 D6026/8/1-3			1800-1948 D6026/8/4	
NEWENT: United Reformed Church					1860-1960 PA225/16
NEWLAND: Coleford	C (1842)-1877 M 1858-1877 B 1858-1877 D5533/1/1 M 1901-1983 D5533/7/1-7			1886-1977 D5533/2/1-3	
RUARDEAN	Bi/C 1795-1837 B 1802-1837 MF1255 M 1926-1935 D8115/1/1				

CONGREGATIONAL (cont'd)

	Register	Register Transcript	Register Index	Church Roll	Monumental Inscriptions
ST BRIAVELS					1861-1930 GE166/438
WESTBURY-ON-SEVERN: Adsett (formerly Ebenezer Independent Chapel)	C 1838-1963 M 1881-1944 B 1882-1966 D7739/1/1			1838-1935 D7739/1/1	

COUNTESS OF HUNTINGDON'S CONNEXION

	Registers	Church roll	Registers	Church Roll	Monumental Inscriptions
NEWLAND: Coleford	Bi/C 1788-1818 D1050			1790-1799 D1050	

METHODISTS

	Registers	Church roll	Registers	Church Roll	Monumental Inscriptions
ABENHALL: Bilson	Bi/C 1880-1940 D2598/2/12, 13 Bi/C 1934-1958 D2598/1/30	1948-1956 D2598/1/15, 21			
CHURCHAM: Birdwood	C 1839-1892 D2689/1/1/1	(1791-1828) D3187/1/3/6			
CINDERFORD: Church Road	Bi/C 1912-1938 D2598/4/3 Bi/C 1938-1958 D2598/1/30, 31	1878-1927 D2598/4/18 1948-1956 D2598/1/15, 21			
CINDERFORD: Heath	Bi/C 1880-1940 D2598/2/12, 13 Bi/C 1934-1958 D2598/1/30 C 1880-1906 ts, ROL	1948-1956 D2598/1/15, 21			
CINDERFORD: Wesley	Bi/C 1880-1940 D2598/2/12, 13 Bi/C 1934-1958 D2598/1/30	1948-1956 D2598/1/15, 21	Bi/C 1958-1966 D2598/7/10		
CINDERFORD: Bridge	C 1869-1989 D2598/27/2 ts, ROL				
EAST DEAN: Bailey	C 1837-1934 Bi 1911-1934 D2598/5/3-7 Bi/C 1934-1958 D2598/1/30 C 1895-1904 ts, ROL	1948-1956 D2598/1/15, 21			

METHODIST (cont'd)

CIRCUIT RECORDS

CHAPEL RECORDS

	Registers	Church roll	Registers	Church Roll	Monumental Inscriptions
EAST DEAN: Blakeney Hill	Bi/C 1912-1938 D2598/4/3 Bi/C 1938-1958 D2598/1/30	1878-1927 D2598/4/18 1948-1956 D2598/1/15, 21			
EAST DEAN: Drybrook	C 1837-1934 Bi 1911-1934 D2598/5/3-7 Bi/C 1934-1958 D2598/1/30, 31 C 1895-1904 ts, ROL	1948-1956 D2598/1/15, 21			
EAST DEAN: Edgehills	C 1837-1934 Bi 1911-1934 D2598/5/3-7 Bi/C 1934-1958 D2598/1/30 C 1895-1904 ts, ROL	1948-1956 D2598/1/15, 21			
EAST DEAN: Ruspidge	C 1837-1934 Bi 1911-1934 D2598/5/3-7 Bi/C 1934-1958 D2598/1/30, 31 M 1977-1991 D6529/5/1 C 1895-1904 ts, ROL	1948-1956 D2598/1/15, 21	C 1953-1973 D2598/15/3		

METHODIST (cont'd)

CIRCUIT RECORDS

CHAPEL RECORDS

	Registers	Church roll	Registers	Church Roll	Monumental Inscriptions
EAST DEAN: Soudley	C 1837-1934 Bi 1911-1934 D2598/5/3-7 Bi/C 1934-1958 D2598/1/30 C 1895-1904 ts, ROL	1948-1956 D2598/1/15, 21			
EAST DEAN: Yorkley Slade	C 1837-1934 Bi 1911-1934 D2598/5/3-7 Bi/C 1934-1958 D2598/1/30 C 1895-1904 ts, ROL	1948-1956 D2598/1/15, 21	Bi/C (1930-1978) D2598/28/43	1929-1959 D2598/28/43	
LONGHOPE: May Hill	Bi/C 1880-1940 D2598/2/12, 13 Bi/C 1934-1958 D2598/1/30	1948-1956 D2598/1/15, 21			
LYDBROOK: Primitive Methodist	Bi/C 1858-1934 D2598/3/3-5 Bi/C 1934-1958 D2598/1/30	1948-1956 D2598/1/15, 21			
LYDBROOK: Wesleyan	Bi/C 1880-1940 D2598/2/12, 13 Bi/C 1934-1958 D2598/1/30	1948-1956 D2598/1/15, 21	Bi/C 1868-1934 D2598/9/2 ts, ROL		

METHODIST (cont'd)

CIRCUIT RECORDS

CHAPEL RECORDS

	Registers	Church roll	Registers	Church Roll	Monumental Inscriptions
LYDNEY: Hill Street (formerly Wesleyan)	Bi/C 1880-1940 D2598/2/12, 13 Bi/C 1934-1958 D2598/1/30 D2598/4/3	1948-1956 D2598/1/15, 21	C 1871-1955 D2598/19/5 ts, ROL		
LYDNEY: Primitive Methodist	Bi/C 1879-1938 D2598/4/2, 3 Bi/C 1934-1958 D2598/1/30	1878-1927 D2598/4/18 1948-1956 D2598/1/15, 21			
LYDNEY: The Reddings	Bi/C 1858-1934 D2598/3/3, 4 Bi/C 1934-1958 D2598/1/30	1948-1956 D2598/1/15, 21			
MANGOTSFIELD: Downend			*Bi/C 1824-1837 MF1243		
MINSTERWORTH	C 1839-1892 D2689/1/1/1 ts, ROL	(1791-1828) D3187/1/3/6	C 1933-1963 D2689/2/18/1		
MITCHELDEAN: Wesleyan	Bi/C 1880-1940 D2598/2/12, 13 Bi/C 1934-1958 D2598/1/30	1948-1956 D2598/1/15, 21			
MITCHELDEAN: Bible Christian	C 1837-1934 Bi 1911-1934 D2598/5/3-7 C 1895-1904 ts, ROL Bi/C 1934-1958 D2598/1/30	1948-1956 D2598/1/15, 21			

METHODIST (cont'd)

CIRCUIT RECORDS

CHAPEL RECORDS

	Registers	Church roll	Registers	Church Roll	Monumental Inscriptions
NEWENT	C 1839-1892 D2689/1/1/1 ts, ROL	(1791-1828) D3187/1/3/6	Bi/C 1818-1837 MF1243 C 1938-1970 D2689/2/17/1 (2/17/3) M 1965-1969 D3569/6/1	1934-1968 D2689/2/17/2	
NEWENT: Wesleyan	Bi/C 1880-1940 D2598/2/12, 13 Bi/C 1934-1958 D2598/1/30	1948-1956 D2598/1/15, 21			
NEWLAND: Bream	C 1837-1934 Bi 1911-1934 D2598/5/3-7 C 1895-1904 ts, ROL Bi/C 1934-1958 D2598/4/3 D2598/1/30	1948-1956 D2598/1/15, 21			
NEWLAND: Breams Eaves	Bi/C 1879-1938 D2598/4/2 Bi/C 1934-1958 D2598/1/30	1878-1927 D2598/4/18 1948-1956 D2598/1/15, 21			
NEWLAND: Clearwell	Bi/C 1879-1938 D2598/4/2 Bi/C 1934-1958 D2598/4/3 D2598/1/30	1878-1927 D2598/4/18 1948-1956 D2598/1/15, 21	C 1949-1976 D2598/16/1		

METHODIST (cont'd)

CIRCUIT RECORDS

CHAPEL RECORDS

	Registers	Church roll	Registers	Church Roll	Monumental Inscriptions
NEWLAND: Coleford (Wesleyan)	Bi/C 1880-1940 D2598/2/12, 13 Bi/C 1903 ts, ROL <i>Oxon Methodists</i> Bi/C 1934-1958 D2598/1/30	1948-1956 D2598/1/15, 21	*1838-1854 MF1247 Bi/C 1865-1944 D2598/8/4		
NEWNHAM	Bi/C 1880-1940 D2598/2/12, 13 Bi/C 1934-1958 D2598/1/30	1948-1956 D2598/1/15, 21			
RUARDEAN	C 1837-1934 Bi 1911-1934 D2598/5/3-7 Bi/C 1934-1958 D2598/1/30 C 1895-1904 ts, ROL				
RUARDEAN: Ruardean Hill	Bi/C 1880-1940 D2598/2/12, 13 Bi/C 1934-1958 D2598/1/30	1948-1956 D2598/1/15, 21			
RUARDEAN: Crooked End	C 1954-1977 D2598/26/2				
STAUNTON	Bi/C 1880-1940 D2598/2/12, 13 Bi/C 1934-1958 D2598/1/30	1948-1956 D2598/1/15, 21			

METHODIST (cont'd)

CIRCUIT RECORDS

CHAPEL RECORDS

	Registers	Church roll	Registers	Church Roll	Monumental Inscriptions
TIBBERTON	C 1839-1892 D2689/1/1/1 ts, ROL	(1791-1828) D3187/1/3/6			
WESTBURY-UPON-SEVERN: Rodley	C 1837-1892 D2689/1/1/1 ts, ROL	(1791-1828) D3187/1/3/6	C 1878-1946 D2689/2/13/1		
WESTBURY-UPON-SEVERN: Walmore Hill	C 1837-1892 D2689/1/1/1 ts, ROL				
WEST DEAN: Berry Hill	Bi/C 1858-1886 D2598/3/3 Bi/C 1887-1934 D2598/3/5 Bi/C 1934-1958 D2598/1/30	1948-1956 D2598/1/15, 21			
WEST DEAN: Clements End Green	C 1837-1934 Bi 1911-1934 D2598/5/3-7 Bi/C 1934-1958 D2598/1/30 C 1895-1904 ts, ROL	1948-1956 D2598/1/15, 21			
WEST DEAN: Coalway Lane End	Bi/C 1858-1886 D2598/3/3 Bi/C 1887-1934 D2598/3/5 Bi/C 1934-1958 D2598/1/30	1948-1956 D2598/1/15, 21			

METHODIST (cont'd)

CIRCUIT RECORDS

CHAPEL RECORDS

	Registers	Church roll	Registers	Church Roll	Monumental Inscriptions
WEST DEAN: Edge End	Bi/C 1858-1886 D2598/3/3 Bi/C 1887-1934 D2598/3/5 Bi/C 1934-1958 D2598/1/30	1948-1956 D2598/1/15, 21			
WEST DEAN: Ellwood	Bi/C 1879-1938 D2598/4/2 Bi/C 1938-1958 D2598/1/30	1878-1927 D2598/4/18 1958-1956 D2598/1/15, 21			
WEST DEAN: Mile End	Bi/C 1858-1886 D2598/3/3 Bi/C 1887-1934 D2598/3/5 Bi/C 1934-1958 D2598/1/30	1948-1956 D2598/1/15, 21	Bi/C 1937-1943 D2598/10/2 M 1931-1954 D3569/9/1		
WEST DEAN: Moseley Green	Bi/C 1912-1938 D2598/4/3 Bi/C 1938-1958 D2598/1/30	1878-1927 D2598/4/18 1948-1956 D2598/1/15, 21			
WEST DEAN: Oldcroft	Bi/C 1912-1938 D2598/4/3 Bi/C 1938-1958 D2598/1/30	1878-1927 D2598/4/18 1948-1956 D2598/1/15, 21			
WEST DEAN: Pillowell	Bi/C 1912-1938 D2598/4/3 Bi/C 1938-1958 D2598/1/30	1878-1927 D2598/4/18 1948-1956 D2598/1/15, 21	C 1946-1956 D2598/13/1		

METHODIST (cont'd)

CIRCUIT RECORDS

CHAPEL RECORDS

	Registers	Church roll	Registers	Church Roll	Monumental Inscriptions
WEST DEAN: Viney Hill	Bi/C 1912-1938 D2598/4/3 Bi/c 1938-1958 D2598/1/30	1878-1927 D2598/4/18 1948-1956 D2598/1/15, 21	C 1955-1969 D2598/22/3		
WOOLASTON	Bi/C 1879-1938 D2598/4/2, 3 Bi/C 1938-1958 D2598/1/30	1948-1956 D2598/1/15, 21			
WOOLASTON: Bible Christian	C 1837-1934 Bi 1911-1934 D2598/5/3-7 Bi/C 1934-1958 D2598/4/3 D2598/1/30 C 1895-1904 ts, ROL	1948-1956 D2598/1/15, 21			
WOOLASTON: Woolaston Common	C 1837-1934 Bi 1911-1934 D2598/5/3-7 Bi/C 1934-1958 D2598/4/3 D2598/1/30 C 1895-1904 ts, ROL	1948-1956 D2598/1/15, 21			

PRESBYTERIAN

	Register	Register Transcript	Register Index	Church Roll	Monumental Inscriptions
CINDERFORD, Ark Mission Chapel				1901-1942 D2908	

ROMAN CATHOLIC

	Register	Register Transcript	Register Index	Confirmations	Monumental Inscriptions
BLAISDON, St Michael	M 1972-1994 D7317/PP1/1-5				

UNDENOMINATIONAL

	Register	Register Transcript	Register Index	Church Roll	Monumental Inscriptions
NEWLAND, Coleford, Salem Free Church, Berry Hill	M 1942-1982 D5601/1				

METHODISTS

THE FOREST OF DEAN

In 1824 the Oakengates Primitive Methodist circuit of Shropshire sent J. Roles as minister to the Forest of Dean miners. Based at Pillowell in the parish of West Dean, the popularity of the mission quickly resulted in the organisation of a circuit of cottages, which became independent of the Oakengates mission. The first Pillowell circuit chapel was built at Lydbrook in 1828.

By 1862 the Pillowell circuit included the following chapels in Gloucestershire:

CINDERFORD - Cinderford

DEAN, EAST - Blakeney Hill; Coppice Wood

DEAN, WEST - Berry Hill; Ellwood; Lane End; Moseley Green; Pillowell; Viney Hill

LYDBROOK- Lydbrook

LYDNEY - Lydney; The Reddings

MANGOTSFIELD - Downend

NEWLAND - Bream Eaves; Clearwell

NEWNHAM - Broad Oak

RUARDEAN - Ruardean Hill

WOOLASTON - Woolaston

METHODISTS

THE FOREST OF DEAN (cont'd)

Further expansion of the Pillowell circuit resulted in its splitting into three in c.1869, as follows:

LYDBROOK CIRCUIT - DEAN, WEST - Berry Hill; Coalway Lane End; Edge End; Mile End

LYDBROOK - Lydbrook

LYDNEY - The Reddings

LYDNEY CIRCUIT - DEAN, WEST - Ellwood

LYDNEY - Lydney

NEWLAND - Bream Eaves; Clearwell

WOOLASTON - Woolaston

PILLOWELL CIRCUIT - CINDERFORD - Cinderford (Church Road)

DEAN, EAST - Blakeney Hill

DEAN, WEST - Moseley Green; Oldcroft; Pillowell; Viney Hill

METHODISTS

THE FOREST OF DEAN (cont'd)

A Wesleyan Ledbury and Forest of Dean circuit also existed by 1850, when it contained the following chapels in Gloucestershire:

ABENHALL - Bilson

BROMSBERROW - Bromsberrow Heath

CINDERFORD - Cinderford; Cinderford Heath

LONGHOPE - May Hill

LYDBROOK - Lydbrook

MITCHELDEAN - Mitcheldean

NEWENT - Newent

NEWLAND - Coleford

NEWNHAM - Newnham

PAUNTLEY - Pool Hill

REDMARLEY - Redmarley

RUARDEAN - Ruardeans Hill

STAUNTON - Staunton

This was called the Ross and Coleford circuit by 1861, and became the Cinderford Wesleyan circuit in c.1878.

METHODISTS

THE FOREST OF DEAN (cont'd)

A fifth circuit existed by 1837, when it was known as the Forest of Dean Mission. By 1858 it had changed its title to the Forest of Dean Bible Christian circuit, and in 1907 it became the United Methodist circuit. The circuit's membership in 1858 was as follows:

DEAN, EAST - Bailey; Drybrook; Edgehills; Ruspidge, Soudley; Yorkley slade

DEAN, WEST - Clements End Green

MITCHELDEAN - Mitcheldean

NEWLAND- Bream

WOOLASTON - Woolaston; Woolaston Common

In 1934 these five circuits were reduced to two - the Forest of Dean Mission and the Lydney and Pillowell circuit. The member chapels of the Lydney and Pillowell circuit in 1934 were as follows:

CINDERFORD - Cinderford

DEAN, EAST - Blakeney Hill

DEAN, WEST - Ellwood; Moseley Green; Oldcroft, Pillowell; Viney Hill

LYDNEY - Lydney

NEWLAND - Bream; Clearwell

WOOLASTON - Woolaston

In 1938 the Lydney and Pillowell circuit was absorbed into the Forest of Dean Mission, which became the Forest of Dean circuit in 1947. In 1958 it came under the Bristol district

Gloucestershire Archives

All the above information is taken from the Genealogical handlist for Website, produced by Gloucestershire Archives

The full publication is available as a download from

Gloucestershire Archives

<http://www.gloucestershire.gov.uk/index.cfm?articleid=1348>

Forest of Dean Family History

<http://www.forest-of-dean.net/>