

GB 0154 WMC

## Northamptonshire Record Office

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H. M. C.

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NATIONAL REGISTER  
OF  
ARCHIVESWELLINGBOROUGH  
METHODIST CIRCUIT

## INTRODUCTION

From the official records in this circuit, Wesleyan Methodism was present in 1838, but evidence from an autobiography suggests the presence of Methodism before this date - WMC 78

The Wellingborough Wesleyan circuit, in 1838, consisted of Mears Ashby, Earls Barton, Bozeat, Burton, Finedon, Grendon, Hannington, Harrowden, Irchester, Isham, Orlingbury, Wellingborough, Wilby and Wollaston. In 1843, Lavendon appeared on the circuit plan and was later joined by Doddington in 1846 and Yardley Hastings in 1849. Orlingbury left the circuit in 1848 and, by 1870, Burton and Isham had left the circuit. Easton Maudit joined in 1866, but was no longer on the plan in 1886.

In 1907, the Wellingborough Primitive Methodist circuit comprised the chapels at Doddington, Irchester, Raunds, Rushden and Wellingborough West Street. In 1915, Doddington left the circuit, which then remained the same until the amalgamation of circuits, due to the Methodist Union, 1932.

After the Methodist Union, the Wellingborough Methodist circuit consisted of Mears Ashby, Earls Barton, Bozeat, Finedon, Harrowden, Irchester, Wellingborough Park Road and West Street, Wilby and Wollaston. In 1933, the ex-Primitive Methodist chapel at Raunds joined the Raunds Methodist circuit and the ex-Primitive Methodist chapel at Rushden joined the Higham Ferrers Methodist circuit.

The circuit remained the same until Mears Ashby closed in 1958 and, in 1959, Kingsway joined the circuit. At present, the 1977 circuit consists of Earls Barton, Bozeat, Finedon, Harrowden, Irchester, Wellingborough Kingsway, Park Road and West Street and Wollaston. Services at Wilby have been discontinued and services are held at H.M. Borstal, Wellingborough.

NORTHAMPTONSHIRE RECORD OFFICE

WELLINGBOROUGH  
METHODIST CIRCUIT

(Accession 1977/361)

WESLEYAN CIRCUIT

1	Register of baptisms Including entries for: Mears Ashby, Bozeat, Burton, Doddington, Earls Barton, Finedon, Grendon, Harrowden, Irchester, Isham, Lavendon, Orlingbury, Oundle, Wellingborough, Wilby, Wollaston, Yardley Hastings.	1846-1865
2	Circuit schedule book	1838-1847
3	Circuit schedule book	1848-1859
4	Circuit schedule book	1860-1882
5	Circuit schedule book	1883-1906
6	Circuit schedule book	1906-1921
7	Circuit schedule book	1922-1933
8/1-30	Circuit plans 1877-1878, 1879-1880, 1880, 1880- 1881, 1881, 1881-1882, 1882, 1882-1883, 1883, 1883- 1884, 1884-1885, 1885, 1885-1886, 1886, 1923	1877-1923
9	Trust schedule book	1855-1879
10	Trust schedule book	1880-1899
11	Trust schedule book	1900-1918
12	Circuit Education schedule book	1869-1873
13	Local preachers minute book	1889-1905
14	Bundle containing: correspondence about connexional local preachers examinations	1904-1906
15	Quarterly meetings minute book	1866-1886
16	Quarterly meetings minute book	1887-1918
17	Circuit Sunday School Council minute book 1912-1943 At back: Circuit Youth Committee minutes 1944-1953	1912-1953

NORTHAMPTONSHIRE RECORD OFFICE

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WESLEYAN CIRCUIT (cont.)

18	Circuit stewards account book	1853-1888
19	Circuit stewards account book	1888-1910
20	Circuit manses account book	1900-1954

PRIMITIVE METHODIST CIRCUIT

21	Bundle containing: schedule of property; connexional collections; schedule of Sunday schools; schedule about preachers and ministers; schedule of Christian Endeavour and other young peoples devotional societies	1932
22	Quarterly meetings minute book	1907-1933
23	Station account book	1913-1933
24	Foreign and home missions account book	1921-1933
25	Roll book	1933

ANALGAMATED CIRCUIT

26	Circuit schedule book (no entries 1937-1941, 1951-1958)	1933-1959
27	Circuit plan	1977
28	Quarterly meetings minute book	1935-1960
29	Quarterly meetings minute book	1960-1973
30	Finance and Invitation Committee minute book	1955-1969
31	Young Methodism minutes 1936-1938 Methodist Guild minutes 1938-1944	1936-1944
32	Eisteddfod minute book	1956-1957

CHAPELS

Mears Ashby (Wesleyan)

33	Society stewards account book	1943-1950
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NORTHAMPTONSHIRE RECORD OFFICE

WELLINGBOROUGH  
METHODIST CIRCUIT

CHAPELS (cont.)

Mears Ashby (cont.)

34	Society stewards account book	1950-1957
35	Collection journal	1916-1928
36	Collection journal	1928-1937
37	Collection journal	1937-1946
38	Collection journal	1956-1958

Earls Barton (Wesleyan)

39(a)	Trustees minute book At back: renovation fund minutes 1892-1894	1893-1927
39(b)	Bundle containing: Trustees minutes 1924; conference minutes 1926; souvenir programme for 150th. anniversary of Methodism in Earls Barton 1807-1957	1924-1957
40	Trustees minute book	1927-1938
41	Trustees minute book	1938-1946
42	Trustees minute book	1947-1957
43	Trustees minute book	1957-1965
44	Address book	n.d.
45	Charity Commission document appointing trustees	1894

Finedon

46	Trustees minute book	1943-1961
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Little Harrowden (Wesleyan)

47	Trustees account book	1882-1922
48	Chapel stewards account book	1900-1939

NORTHAMPTONSHIRE RECORD OFFICE

WELLINGBOROUGH  
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CHAPELS (cont.)

Little Harrowden (cont.)

49	Collection journal	1911-1923
50	Collection journal	1923-1936
51	Collection journal	1936-1960

Irchester

52	Trustees minute book	1951-1976
53	Trustees minute book	1976

Wellingborough, Park Street (Wesleyan)

54	Trustees minute book	1869-1913
55	Trustees minute book	1913-1956
56	Leaders minute book	1924-1934
57	Leaders minute book	1934-1948
58	Sunday School Committee and Teachers minute book	1881-1910
59(a)	Sunday School Committee and Teachers minute book	1910-1930
59(b)	Bundle containing: annual report of Sunday School Council 1929-1935; the Sheffield Methodist 1932	1929-1935
60	Manse trustees minute book	1897-1958
61	"Womens Own" minute book	1929-1937
62	"Womens Own" minute book	1943-1954
63	Sewing Meeting minute book	1920-1932
64	Sewing Meeting minute book	1933-1953
65	Tennis Club minute book	1939-1946
66	Young Peoples Pleasant Evening Committee minute book	1919-1947

NORTHAMPTONSHIRE RECORD OFFICE

WELLINGBOROUGH  
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CHAPELS (cont.)

Wellingborough, Park Street (cont.)

67	Society stewards account book	1935-1943
68	Sunday School treasurers account book	1856-1936
69	"Womens Own" account book 1941-1957 Includes: notices of meetings 1966-1968	1941-1968
70	Tennis Club account book 1945-1946 Includes: balance sheets 1940, 1943	1940-1946
71	Collection journal	1913-1923
72	Collection journal	1923-1927
73	Collection journal	1932-1941
74	Pulpit notice book	1969-1973
75	League of abstainers roll book	1911-1917

✓ Wilby (Wesleyan)

76	Treasurers account book At back: trustees minutes 1898	1865-1934
77	Seat rent book In middle: collections 1894-1897 At back: accounts 1894-1897	1894-1918

MISCELLANEOUS

78	Manuscript autobiography and diary of Martha Tompkins 1743-c.1820 (member of Wellingborough Methodist church c.1790-1800) Includes: letter about ownership of diary n.d., early 20th. Century)	c.1820
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NORTHAMPTONSHIRE RECORD OFFICE

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WELLINGBOROUGH METHODIST CIRCUIT

(additional)

(Accession 1981/104)

WESLEYAN/COMBINED CIRCUIT

81 (a)	Circuit plan	1814-1815
81 (b)/1-5	Circuit plans	1870-1872
82/1-60	Circuit plans	1889-1904
83/1-61	Circuit plans	1904-1920
84/1-62	Circuit plans	1931-1950
85/1-52	Circuit plans	1951-1963
86/1-35	Circuit plans	1963-1972
87	Trust schedule book	1919-1941
88	Trust schedule book	1942-1960
89	Circuit stewards account book	1911-1931
(ML 2734)		
90	Wesleyan Methodist Church Record, and wellingborough Circuit Methodist Church Record	1895-1896
(ML 2735)		

PRIMITIVE METHODIST/WEST ST. CIRCUIT

91/1-4	Quarterly guides	1932-1933
92	Quarterly meetings and Circuit Committee minute book At back: Circuit Committee minutes 1877-8 (including rental of Kettering Mission Hall 1877)	1866-1884

Note: following disputes with the Raunds Chapel, the Raunds, Denford, Brigstock and Chelveston Societies were formed into a separate Branch supporting their own preacher in 1878



NORTHAMPTONSHIRE RECORD OFFICE

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WELLINGBOROUGH METHODIST CIRCUIT

(additional)

PRIMITIVE METHODIST/WEST ST. CIRCUIT (cont.)

- |    |   |           |
|----|---|-----------|
| 93 | Quarterly meetings and Circuit<br>Committee minute book; Wellingborough<br>Circuit 1884-7 (Circuit reunited 1882) | 1879-1887 |
| 94 | Quarterly meetings and Circuit<br>Committee minute book   | 1891-1907 |

CHAPELS

Finedon (Wesleyan)

- |                  |  |           |
|------------------|--|-----------|
| 95               | Register of marriages (not signed<br>by parties) | 1875-1884 |
| 96               | Trustees minute book                             | 1921-1943 |
| 97               | Members meetings minute book                     | 1934-1940 |
| 98               | Leaders and Society meetings minute<br>book      | 1961-1966 |
| 99               | Trustees treasurers account book                 | 1903-1928 |
| 100              | Society account book                             | 1954-1971 |
| 101              | Society account book                             | 1971-1974 |
| 102              | Collection journal                               | 1903-1913 |
| 103              | Collection journal                               | 1913-1923 |
| 104              | Collection journal                               | 1923-1934 |
| 105              | Collection journal                               | 1934-1945 |
| 106              | Collection journal                               | 1946-1957 |
| 107<br>(ML 2736) | Pulpit notice book                               | 1950-1954 |
| 108<br>(ML 2737) | Pulpit notice book                               | 1954-1958 |
| 109<br>(ML 2738) | Pulpit notice book                               | 1958-1962 |
| 110<br>(ML 2739) | Pulpit notice book                               | 1962-1966 |
| 111<br>(ML 2740) | Pulpit notice book                               | 1966-1970 |

NORTHAMPTONSHIRE RECORD OFFICE

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WELLINGBOROUGH METHODIST CIRCUIT

(additional)

CHAPELS

Finedon (cont.)

112	Papers about building new church hall, including plans	1955-1968
113	Wesley Guild account book	1926-1959
114	Young People's Class register 1929-31, with notes of totals 1935-8	1929-1938
115	Men's Fireside minute book	1945-1956
116	Bazaar Committee minute book	1934-1935
117	Bazaar account book	1958-1965
118	Golden Jubilee souvenir booklet, with detailed history of church and early Methodists	1954
119	Souvenir handbook	1964
120/1-4	4 boxes of numbered glass plates of church members, records, etc.	c.1903-1914
	1: Mr. E. Shelton's house	
	2: Meeting house licence for house of John Tompkins of Finedon cordwainer 1816	
	3: Patty Tompkins' table	
	4: Model of Patty's bonnet	
	5: Memorial tablet to John and Patty Tompkins	
	6: William Tompkins	
	7: Patty's grandson	
	8: Susannah Craddock	
	9: Daughter of Mrs. Craddock	
	10: Granddaughter	
	11: Dr. Craddock	
	12: Mrs. Childs	
	13: Rev. John Brown	
	14: Samuel Brown	
	15: John David Brown	
	16: Samuel Brown	
	17: John Parker	
	18: Samuel Wright	
	19: Table of membership 1848-1914	

NORTHAMPTONSHIRE RECORD OFFICE

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WELLINGBOROUGH METHODIST CIRCUIT

(additional)

CHAPELS

Finedon (cont.)

120/1-4	(cont.)	c.1903-1914
	21: Page of class book 1848	
	21A: Circuit plan 1828	
	22: Old chapel	
	23: Interior of old chapel	
	24: Guild parlour	
	25: Luncheon	
	26-7: Stonelaying 1903	
	29: Wesleyan church (built 1903-4)	
	exterior	
	30: Entrance vestibule	
	31-3: Interior	
	36: Bible class	
	1: 1-8; 2: 9-16; 3: 17-24; 4: 25-36	
121/1-6	Printers blocks: church front; church interior; church hall; manse; 2 men, one a minister	early 20th cent.
122/1-5	Photographs of church interior and church hall	mid 20th cent.
123	Finedon Inter-Church Aid Committee minute book	1963-1972
	<u>Grendon</u> (Wesleyan)	
164	Trustees account book (conversion of cottage to chapel) At back: Sunday School accounts 1837-9	1830-1837
165/1-6	Subscriptions, estimates and accounts for building of chapel 165/2 is a subscription list, and also a seat and cottage rental 1837-41	1830-1841
166	Declaration of consent to sale of two cottages connected with chapel	1851
167	Receipted bill for repairing windows 1835-53	1855
168	Chapel account	1855-1856

## NORTHAMPTONSHIRE RECORD OFFICE

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WELLINGBOROUGH METHODIST CIRCUIT

(additional)

## CHAPELS

Grendon (cont.)

169/1-10	Account and bills	1856-1857
170/1-7	Account and bills	1857-1858
171/1-8	Account and bills	1858-1859
172/1-5	Account and bills	1859-1860
173/1-10	Account and bills	1860-1861
174/1-8	Account and bills	1861-1862
175/1-2	Account and bills	1862-1863
176/1-4	Account and bills	1863-1864
177	Letter from Mr. Hensman about cottage and pew rents	1864
178	Letter from Charles Hensman to Rev. William Piggott resigning position of class leader and Society Steward for Wellingborough and Grendon	1864
179	Receipt for poor rate	1865
180	Legal bill for appointment of new trustees	1871

Little Harrowden (Wesleyan)

124	Trustees minute book	1940-1977
125	Leaders meetings minute book	1960-1967
126	Account book	1826-1832
127	Trustees account book	1940-1963
128	Trustees treasurers account book	1961-1974
129	Society account book	1964-1978
130	Collection journal	1960-1977
131	Will of Thomas Smith of Little Harrowden bequeathing message to wife with reversion to son 1798. copied 1825	(1798)

## NORTHAMPTONSHIRE RECORD OFFICE

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WELLINGBOROUGH METHODIST CIRCUIT

(additional)

## CHAPELS

Little Harrowden (cont.)

132	Application to Extension Fund Committee for aid in building chapel	1882
133	Certificate of registration for religious worship	1883
134	Memorandum of choice and appointment of new trustees	1910
135	Land values duties valuation on chapel	1915
136	Memorandum of choice and appointment of new trustees	1934
137	Declaration adopting new model deed	1944
138	Certificate of registration for marriages	1949
139	Memorandum of choice and appointment of new trustees	1960

Irchester (Primitive Methodist)

140	Trustees minute book	1876-1909
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Mears Ashby (Wesleyan)

141	Trustees minute book	1927-1961
142	Trustees account book	1865-1961
143	Collection journal	1946-1956
144	Certificate of registration for religious worship	1861
145	Resolution appointing new trustees	1910
146	Correspondence and papers about sale of chapel	1958-1961
147	Phillips' Charity account book	1942-1958

Wellingborough, Church Street (Wesleyan: predecessor of Park Street)

148	Certificate of registration for marriages	1859
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NORTHAMPTONSHIRE RECORD OFFICE

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WELLINGBOROUGH METHODIST CIRCUIT

(additional)

CHAPELS

Wellingborough, Park Street (Wesleyan)

- |     |   |           |
|-----|---|-----------|
| 149 | Society steward's reports   | 1947-1974 |
| 150 | Poor stewards account book  | 1910-1974 |
| 151 | Souvenir brochure of 90th anniversary of stonelaying and history of church's activities | 1962      |

Wellingborough, West Street (Primitive Methodist)

- |     |   |           |
|-----|---|-----------|
| 152 | Chapel Subcommittee minute book   | 1872-1887 |
| 153 | Account book for alterations to chapel  | 1876-1877 |
| 154 | Christian Endeavour minute book   | 1915-1943 |
| 155 | 'Then and Now': brief history of United Congregational Church at Wellingborough by Ethel M. Drew (with references to West Street) | 1925      |

Wilby (Wesleyan)

- |     |  |           |
|-----|--|-----------|
| 156 | Trustees minute book   | 1950-1977 |
| 157 | Account book   | 1966-1976 |
| 158 | Certificate of registration for religious worship  | 1861      |
| 159 | Memorandum of choice and appointment of new trustees   | 1891      |
| 160 | Memorandum of agreement with Mrs. Lewis for use of light and air from windows on east and west side of chapel overlooking her land | 1896      |
| 161 | Appointment of new trustees  | 1898      |
| 162 | Land values duties provisional valuation of chapel   | 1915      |
| 163 | Memorandum of choice and appointment of new trustees   | 1921      |

For 164 - 180 see between 123 and 124

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WELLINGBOROUGH  
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(additional)

Wesleyan Circuit

189	Circuit register of baptisms, 11 Feb. 1838 - 5 Apr. 1846 (stored as ML 4295)	1838 to 1846
190	Circuit register of baptisms, 13 Aug. 1865 - 29 Jan. 1885 (stored as ML 4296)	1865 to 1885
191	Circuit register of baptisms, 15 Sep. 1895 - 21 Jul. 1912 (stored as ML 4297)	1895 to 1912
192	Circuit account book of receipts and expenditure (stored as ML 4298)	1816 to 1832
193	Circuit quarterly meeting account book of receipts and payments with minutes of quarterly meetings 1838-1840 (at the end of the book) (stored as ML 4299)	1832 to 1853
194/1	'Treasurer's Acct. Book. Wellingboro's Circuit' accounts of receipts, disbursements and sinking fund, with a section for Ashby Chapel legacy, 1843 (stored as ML 4300) originally bundled with 194/2-7	1837 to 1857
194/2-7	Uniform account books of receipts and expenditure for particular chapels as follows	1837 to 1857
194/2	Bozeat	1837 to 1855

Please add to ML 14097 Northants Methodist series

NORTHAMPTONSHIRE RECORD OFFICE

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METHODIST CIRCUIT  
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194/2-7 cont.

194/3	Finedon	1839 to 1855
194/4	Grendon	1837 to 1853
194/5	Harrowden	1837 to 1855
194/6	Irchester	1837 to 1855
194/7	Wollaston	1837 to 1854
195	General circuit account book of receipts and expenditure	1851 to 1855
196	Wesleyan Methodist Foreign Missionary accounts of receipts and expenditure, with a section for the 'Juvenile Association', 1894-1896 (stored as ML 4301)	1887 to 1902
197	Wesleyan Methodist Mission Society: Circuit Officers' Book (stored as ML 4302)	1914 to 1925
198	Wesleyan Methodist Mission Society: 'Circuit Officer's Account Book' (stored as ML 4303)	1926 to 1932



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199/1	Primitive Methodist Circuit account book for Raunds Station 1866-1875 and Wellingborough Station 1875-1889, with note on list of trustees of the chapel (n.d.) (stored as ML 4304)	1866 to 1889
199/2	Found loose in the above: advertisement for lecture at The Tabernacle Schoolroom, Wellingborough	1918 Dec. 3
200	Overseas Mission accounts of income (stored as ML 4305)	1932 to 1936
	<u>Amalgamated Circuit</u>	
201	Overseas Missionary accounts of receipts and expenses (stored as ML 4306)	1937
202	Overseas Mission accounts of income (stored as ML 4307)	1938 to 1944
203/1	Overseas Mission accounts of income (stored as ML 4308)	1945 to 1953
203/2	Loose items found in the above comprise Circuit Mission's reports (bundle)	1939 to 1951
204	Minute book of the Home Mission's committee meetings (stored as ML 4309)	1959 to 1973
205	Minute book of the J.M.A. Secretaries meetings	1965 to 1967

NORTHAMPTONSHIRE RECORD OFFICE

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Wellingborough Methodist Council

206	Minute book of meetings in preparation for union of the Methodist churches	1930 to 1932
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Bozeat

207	Minute book of the Trustees' meetings	1888 to 1914
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208/1	As above (stored as ML 4310)	1915 to 1941
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208/2	Found loose in the above: 2 photographs of the interior of the church, one showing the organ n.d. (c.1900) (stored as P 8484-8485)	n.d.
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Finedon

209	Minute book of the trustees meetings of the Wesleyan Methodist church, Regent Street, 1902-1904, Wellingborough Road 1904-1921	1902 to 1921
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Harrowden Wesleyan Church

210	Account book of receipts and expenditure	1826 to 1880
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Harrowden

211	Minute book of the trustees' meetings	1882 to 1934
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NORTHAMPTONSHIRE RECORD OFFICE

W.B.M.C./

WELLINGBOROUGH  
METHODIST CIRCUIT  
(additional)

Irchester

212	Account book of receipts and expenditure of the Primitive Methodist Church with list of trustees 1877 and 1896	1918 to 1935
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Mears Ashby

213/1	William Phillips bequest (£30 left for Wesleyan preachers) history and accounts of receipts and payments with a copy resolution concerning the Mears Ashby Trust, 1888, and a transcript of Joseph Phillips, 1828, and (pasted in) receipts, 1853-1887 with a letter of Murphy and Sharman at Wellingborough to W. Brown at Finedon concerning the bequest and executorships (stored as ML 4311)	1853 to 1936
213/2	Loose items found in the above: Charity Commission and financial papers	1928 to 1936

Wellingborough Church Street Wesleyan Church

214	Wellingborough Society account book of receipts and expenditure (stored as ML 4312)	1828 to 1856
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Wellingborough Park Street

215	Minute book of the leaders meetings of the Wesleyan Methodist Church	1907 to 1924
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Wellingborough Great Park Street

216	Minute book of the Leaders' meetings and Society meetings (stored as ML 4313)	1948 to 1965
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Wellingborough Park Street

217	Minute book of the finance committee of the Methodist Church	.1952 to 1971
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218	Society stewards' account book of receipts and expenditure (stored as ML 4314)	1956 to 1974
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Wellingborough West Street

219	Minute book of the 'Womens Own' meetings (stored as ML 4315)	1926 to 1941
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Wilby Wesleyan Church

220	Minute book of the Trustees' meetings	1921 to 1950
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Wollaston

221	Minute book of the Wesleyan Chapel Trustees' meetings	1887 to 1927
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April 1984