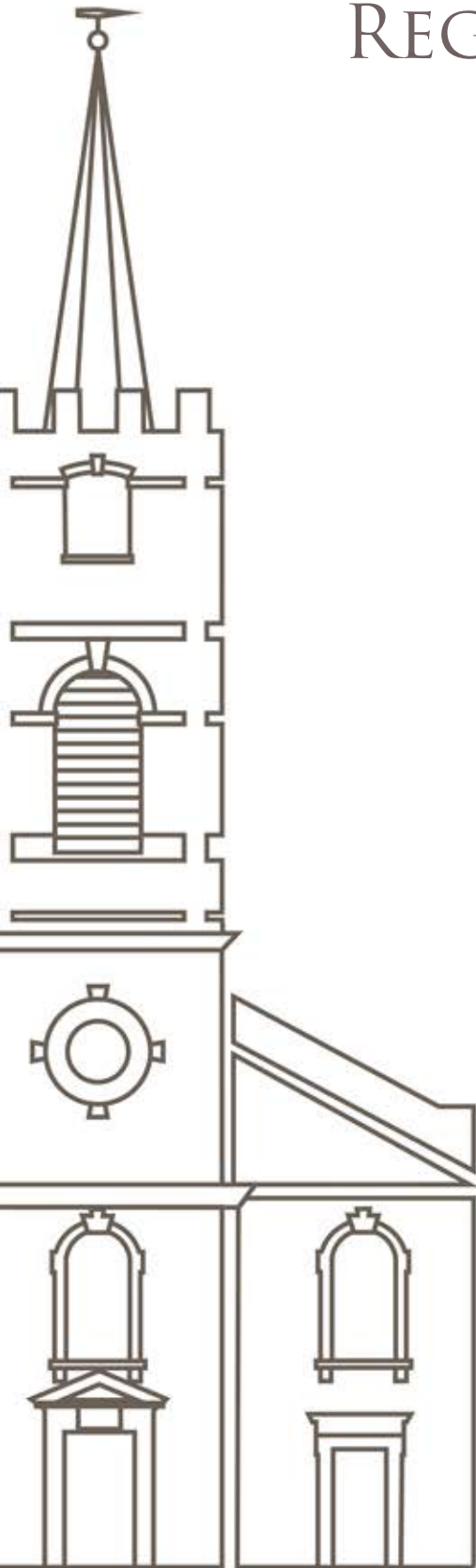


# THE PARISH CHURCH OF ST JOHN-AT-HAMPSTEAD

## REGISTERS AND RECORDS



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The Registers of Baptisms, Marriages and Burials are from 1560 to 1842. Civil Registration began in England in 1837. The Trustees Minute Books are from 1744 to 1934.

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Resolved

That the action taken in the matter by the Vestry and Mr Churchwarden Milton be and it was thereby confirmed.

Read a Letter from Messrs Parker Wadley and Clarke dated the 30<sup>th</sup> January 1877 in which they stated that a Client of theirs was anxious to purchase the Strip of Land in Dennis Court belonging to the Trustees and asking that their Client might have the first offer.

Resolved

That the Clerk do and he was thereby directed to write to Messrs Parker Wadley and Clarke that when the matter came before them in a definite form with the name of the Client and the object to which it was proposed to devote the land they would be happy to consider it but that meanwhile they would not accept another offer of one should be made.

Read the following letter from Mr G. F. Geausseut the Organist.

Tranquil Cottage Hampstead  
27<sup>th</sup> Febry 1877

Gentlemen,

The Revd The Vicar having requested me to attend the Congregational Rehearsals at the Schoolroom every Saturday I feel that I cannot comply with his request unless some remuneration is offered for the additional time thus required - I beg to enclose you a copy of our arrangements which

Organist,  
Application for  
extra remuneration

as will be seen refer to Sunday and Friday only - Any remuneration that you may be pleased to offer would of course cease in the event of these rehearsals being discontinued.

I remain, Gentlemen  
Your obed<sup>t</sup> Serv<sup>t</sup>  
(signed) Geo. F. Geausseut

Copy of Circular

The Trustees of Hampstead Parish Church are about to appoint an Organist to enter upon his duties at Whitsummer - He will be required to attend at the Services on Sunday, Christmas Day, Ash Wednesday, Good Friday, Ascension Day, the day of Confirmation and Friday evening on which evening he will also conduct the Choir practice for the following Sunday - Salary £70 per annum - The Organ is by Willis and has two manuals with a probability of being enlarged - Apply with Testimonials by May 10 to the Revd G Lane, The Rectory, Hampstead N.W.

Hampstead April 22<sup>nd</sup>

After some conversation as to the great inconvenience of the present arrangement  
It was proposed by Mr Leach  
Seconded by Mr Hopkins and  
Resolved

That the Clerk do and he was thereby directed to write Mr Geausseut giving him Notice that his present engagement with the Trustees would terminate on the 24<sup>th</sup> June next as they wished

to enter into a fresh arrangement, that they would be glad to know if he would wish to occupy the position of Organist upon new conditions

The question of increasing the present number of the Sub Committee for the Restoration of the Church was then discussed and

It was proposed by Mr Manley Hepkins

seconded by Mr Leach and

Resolved

That John Samuel Fletcher Esquire Esquire Hill Esquire D. Cooper-Rose and Mr Henry Cornick be and they were thereby appointed Members of the Sub Committee.

The Clerk reported that the Balance in the hands of the Bankers was £1168. 14. 8.-

Resolved

Exchequer Bills

That the Clerk do and he was thereby directed to invest £1000 of such Balance in Exchequer Bills.

Resolved B. Bennett

Sub Committee  
a proposal of addition  
Members

At a Meeting of the Trustees for carrying into execution the Act for providing the Substantials of the Parish of Saint John Hamptonsted with increased accommodation for attending Divine Service 30<sup>th</sup> March 1877 convened by direction of the Minister and held at the Tearage High Street Hamptonsted on Monday the thirtieth day of March 1877 at eight o'clock in the evening precisely.

Present

The Rev<sup>d</sup> Howard Beaumont Barnaby

The Vicar of the parish in the Chair

Mr Henry Milton Churchwarden

Manley Hepkins Esq<sup>r</sup>

Richard Howell Leach Esq<sup>r</sup>

Robert Ludley Baxter Esq<sup>r</sup>

Fredrick Hill Esq<sup>r</sup>

John Samuel Fletcher Esq<sup>r</sup>

D<sup>r</sup> Henry Cooper-Rose

Mr Charles Walker

James Ashenden

Parce.

The Minutes of the last Meeting were read and signed by the Chairman.

Recd a letter from Mr John Marshall to the Clerk dated the 3<sup>rd</sup> March in which he asked as Treasurer of the Hamptonsted British Workmans Club and Institute, whether the Trustees would allow a few Shrubs to be planted in the strip of garden ground in front of Messrs Court.

Messrs Court  
Trustees property

After a little discussion -  
 It was proposed by Mr. Milton  
 Seconded by S<sup>r</sup>. Lee and  
 Resolved

That the Clerk do and he was thereby directed  
 to write to Mr. Marshall in answer to the letter  
 and inform him that the Trustees did not  
 object to the Hampstead Workmans Club and  
 include putting a few Shrubs at their own -  
 expense in the Strip of land in Parnis Court  
 but they must understand that such Shrubs  
 when planted become at once the property of  
 the Trustees.

The Clerk reminded the Trustees that the  
 frequent Fairs held at the West of the Church-  
 yard had by the advice of Mr. Lowe been temporarily  
 shored up as he considered that nothing of a  
 structural nature should be undertaken during  
 the winter months, but that the question what  
 course should be pursued with reference to the  
 Hall was still undecided.

After some discussion it was arranged to go  
 into the matter at the next Meeting and meanwhile  
 the Clerk was requested to search for a letter  
 referred to in the Minutes of the 14<sup>th</sup> October -  
 1856.

The Chairman then proceeded to read the  
 Report of the Sub Committee for the restoration  
 of the Church which was as follows:-

Wall on west  
 side of Churchyard

Sub-Committee  
 Report of

To the Trustees of the Parish Church  
 of St. John Hampstead.

The Sub Committee appointed by the Trustees  
 and consisting of the following Members namely

The Vicar

Alfred Bell Esq<sup>r</sup> } Churchwardens  
 Mr. Henry Milton }

Richard Howell Leach Esq<sup>r</sup>

Manley Hopkins Esq<sup>r</sup>

Edward Gatto Esq<sup>r</sup>

Robert Dudley Baxter Esq<sup>r</sup>

Frederick Hill Esq<sup>r</sup>

John Samuel Fletcher Esq<sup>r</sup>

S<sup>r</sup>. Henry Cooper Rose

Mr. Simon Stone

Henry Cornuck

beg to Report that in accordance with Resolution  
 passed at a Meeting of the Trustees held on the  
 15<sup>th</sup> of April 1872 they have examined and  
 considered the plans and schemes of the  
 three Architects namely Mr. Cockerell Mr.  
 Gilbert Scott Junior and Mr. Hebbeth, but  
 as they find that all three of them deviate  
 more or less from the Instructions sent to them  
 in pursuance of the Resolution passed by you  
 at a Meeting held on the 5<sup>th</sup> June 1871, they  
 are not able to recommend any one of the  
 plans for adoption. - After due consideration  
 however of all the plans they beg to recommend  
 that Mr. Cockerell be employed as the  
 Architect for the Restoration of the Church  
 and that the premiums of £52.10 be paid

to Mr. Gilbert Scott Jun<sup>r</sup> and Mr. Fesketh respectively in accordance with a Resolution passed by you at a Meeting held on the 10<sup>th</sup> April 1872.

It was proposed by Mr. Leach  
Seconded by Mr. Pearce and  
Resolved

That the Report be received.

It was then proposed by Mr. Leach  
Seconded by D. Cooper, Rose and  
Resolved

That Mr. Cockerell be employed at a remuneration to be agreed upon to act as Architect to the Trustees in the Restoration of the Church or to carry out whatever plans may be finally decided upon.

It was proposed by Mr. Hopkins  
Seconded by Mr. Walker and  
Resolved

That Cheques of £52.10 be drawn for Mr. Scott and Mr. Fesketh respectively in accordance with the Resolution passed at a Meeting held on the 10<sup>th</sup> April 1872.

It was moved by Mr. Pearce  
Seconded by Mr. Walker and  
Resolved

That the same Committee be invited to continue their duties with reference to such works as may be decided on with regard to the parish church with power to add to their number.

It was proposed by Mr. Leach  
Seconded by Mr. Hopkins and  
Resolved

That the Committee be requested to confer with Mr. Cockerell immediately and particularly to consult him on the subject of the comparative expense of restoring or rebuilding.

After some conversation on the subject of the next Resolution,

It was Resolved

That in order to ascertain the views of the parishioners a circular be issued inviting them to state their opinion on the question of restoring or rebuilding the Church and what support they would give to either plan.

Thomas B. Burnaby

14<sup>th</sup> April 1874

At a Meeting of the Trustees for carrying into execution the Act for providing the Inhabitants of the Parish of Saint John Hampstead with increased accommodation for attending Divine Service convened by direction of the Minister and held at the Vicarage High Street Hampstead on Tuesday the fourteenth day of April 1874 at eight o'clock in the evening precisely

Present  
The Rev. Henry Beaumont Barnaby the Vicar of the parish in the Chair.  
Richard Howell Leach Esq.  
Frederick Hill Esq.  
Mr. Charles Walker  
    . Isaacson Fox  
    . James Ashenden

The Minutes of the last Meeting were read and signed.

The Finance Committee reported that there were £2800 Exchequer Bills in the hands of the Bankers on account of the Trust. That the balance in the hands of the Bankers was £143.19.11 and that the Salaries now due for the quarter ending the 25<sup>th</sup> March 1874 amounted to £40.6.- and the Cheques directed at the Meeting of the Trustees held on the 30<sup>th</sup> March 1874 to be drawn in favour of J. Gilbert Esq. and R. Keshell Esq. amounting to £105 making together £153.6.- and that to allow cheques being drawn for this amount the Clerk had by their instructions

Finance Committee Report of

directed the Collector of the poor Rents to pay at once a sum of £200 to the Account of the Trustees at their Bankers.

Resolved

That the Report of the Finance Committee be received and that Cheques be drawn to the amount of £153.6.-

The question of the determination of the Engagement of the Organist J. F. Goussout was then brought forward for consideration when after it had been conclusively shown that from several causes he was not fitted for his present office

It was <sup>now</sup> resolved by Mr. Leach

Seconded by Mr. Hill and Resolved

That the Clerk do and he was thereby directed to write to Mr. Goussout and inform him that on further consideration the Trustees consider it inadvisable that his engagement as Organist of the parish Church should cease and at the same time to send him notice that his engagement would terminate on the 17<sup>th</sup> July next.

After some conversation as to the best mode of proceeding to obtain a new Organist, it was

Resolved

That it be left to the Vicar to take such steps towards obtaining a new Organist in the place of Mr. Goussout as he should deem advisable.

Read a letter from Mr. Gilbert Clerk to the Vestry dated 10<sup>th</sup> April in which he stated that at a Meeting

Organist dismissed of Mr. Goussout

Trustees action of

of the Vestry held on the 7<sup>th</sup> inst. Messrs Samuel Alfred Lane and Ernest Lake had been duly appointed Trustees in the place of the Vicos Charlton Lane and Mr Thomas Husband.

The Clerk <sup>then</sup> stated that in accordance with the direction of the Trustees given him at the last Meeting he had searched for any further letters or documents bearing on the question of the Ownership of the Wall at the West of the Churchyard and that he had found several letters in the year 1845 which had passed between Mr Curwen Smith (Mr Tallbot Avey's predecessor), Mr Deagley (Mr Curwen Smith's Surveyor) and Mr Toller then Clerk to the Trustees in which Mr Curwen Smith and Mr Deagley admitted again and again that this wall belonged to and formed part of Mr Curwen Smith's Estate. The Clerk selected and read some of the most important letters which formed part of this correspondence. The Trustees then expressed themselves as perfectly satisfied that the evidence adduced was conclusive that the wall at the West of the Churchyard formed part of Mr Tallbot Avey's Estate.

It was then

Resolved

Before communicating with Mr Avey to obtain from Mr Lowe a Report as to what would be required to be done to insure the safety of the wall and an Estimate of the cost of the work.

Mr Stone kindly volunteered to see Mr Lowe and give him the instructions of the Trustees.

West boundary wall

Wall Committee

The Clerk was directed to write to Mr Langmead (the Sexton) to take every care that no earth was in future deposited near or against the wall at the West of the Churchyard - After which it was

Resolved

That the following Gentlemen namely, The Vicar Messrs Lorch Hill Stone Walker and Reardon should form a Committee <sup>with power to add to their number</sup> for the purpose of receiving and acting upon Mr Lowe's Report as they should think proper and making such communications to Mr Tallbot Avey as they should deem expedient.

Edward B. Burnaby

16<sup>th</sup> May 1874.

At a Meeting of the Trustees for carrying into execution the Act for providing the Inhabitants of the Parish of Saint John Hampstead with increased accommodation for attending Divine Service convened by direction of the Minister and holden at the Vicarage High Street Hampstead on Saturday the sixteenth day of May 1874 at eight o'clock in the evening precisely.

Present

The Rev<sup>d</sup> Sherard Beaumont Barnaby  
The Vicar of the Parish in the Chair.  
Mr Henry Metton - Churchwarden  
Manley Hopkins Esq<sup>r</sup>  
Thomas Toller Esq<sup>r</sup>  
Samuel Alfred Lane Esq<sup>r</sup>  
Mr James Ashenden  
" Lincoln Stone

The Minutes of the last Meeting were read and signed by the Chairman.

The following Report of the Committee on the Fragment Wall & Wall was then read by the Chairman.

To the Trustees of the Parish Church of Saint John Hampstead.

The Committee appointed by the Trustees and consisting of the following members viz:-

The Vicar, Richard Howell Leach Esq<sup>r</sup>, Frederick Hill Esq<sup>r</sup>, Mr Lincoln Stone, Mr Charles Walker Mr James Ashenden, beg to Report that in accordance with a Resolution passed at a Meeting of the Trustees held on the 14<sup>th</sup> April 1874 they received the following Report from Mr Lowe -  
10 West End, Hampstead  
16<sup>th</sup> April 1874.

To the Church Trustees

Gentlemen,

Pursuant to instructions I have again inspected the wall adjoining the Parish Church Yard and consider that to insure its safety it will be necessary to construct four Buttresses in such positions as shall be indicated.

The cost of this work and the repair and pointing up of the wall I estimate at about £23.

I am, Gentlemen

Your obed<sup>t</sup> Servant

Chas<sup>r</sup> H Lowe - Surveyor

That after having considered Mr Lowe's Report they instructed the Clerk to write a letter to Mr Albert Dacey of which the following is a copy:-

13 Aynhurs Road  
Hampstead N.W.

18<sup>th</sup> April 1874.

Dear Sir,

I am directed by the Trustees of the Hampstead Parish Church to inform you that after having carefully considered the papers and correspondence relating to the wall situate on the West side of the Church Yard, which are



in their possession they have come to the conclusion that the Wall I have just named most unquestionably belongs to you and forms a portion of your property. I am further directed to give you extracts from some of the letters which passed in the year 1845 between the late Mr. Dawson Smith his Surveyor Mr. Beaseley & the Trustees of the Hampstead Parish Church and which show the Ownership of the Wall.

In a letter dated 9<sup>th</sup> June 1845 from the late Mr. Dawson Smith to Mr. Talbot the then Clerk to the Trustees Mr. C. Smith speaks of this Wall as "the Boundary Wall belonging to the Estate" having previously spoken of the Estate as belonging to himself.

Again Mr. Beaseley Mr. C. Smith's own Surveyor in his Report to Mr. C. Smith in May 1845 writes of the Wall as "your wall".

Mr. Beaseley in a letter to Mr. Smith dated the 6<sup>th</sup> December 1845 writes of it again as "your wall". And Mr. C. Smith himself in a letter of the 22<sup>nd</sup> Decr. 1845 to Mr. Talbot writes of the wall as "my wall".

You have already been supplied with a copy of Mr. C. Smith's admission of the Ownership of the Wall and if it were advantageous such extracts as I have already given you might be multiplied.

While the Trustees desire you distinctly to understand that they consider the question of the Ownership of this wall absolutely settled they wish to act in the matter in the most

friendly manner towards yourself and in as liberal a spirit as is consistent with their duty to their Trust. The Trustees surveyor Reports that the safety of the wall can be insured for about £24. If the Wall is made secure by them in the manner suggested by their Surveyor who would do the work under their directions the Trustees would not be altogether unwilling to pay the whole of the £24 for this purpose but on the other hand they would put it to you whether you do not think looking at the matter generally you should bear a portion of the expense and perhaps more especially as it is the opinion of those who are competent to judge that your Trees and their roots have weakened the Structure of the Wall.

I also have to inform you that if any earth has been placed against your wall in the past the Trustees have issued strict orders that none shall be placed against it in the future.

Yours truly  
Frederic J. Moore.

Clerk to the Hampstead Church Trustees.  
St. Mary's.  
Frogual Hall, Hampstead

That the following was a copy of Mr. Talbot Avey's reply to the Clerk.

Frogual Hall, Hampstead  
20<sup>th</sup> April 1874.

Dear Sir,

I beg to acknowledge with many thanks yours of the 18<sup>th</sup> inst. which I received

on Saturday night and for which I am -  
much obliged.

As Trustee for my Family I am afraid  
I must say that I cannot admit the extracts  
and statements which you are so good as to  
transcribe for me to be conclusive proofs as  
to the proprietorship of the Wall. - But I  
own that I am much too old a Lawyer  
not to hate the very word Law and I have  
no doubt that I need not tell you, what  
the Law is, nor where it is to be found.

Let the Wall however belong to whom  
it may - I cannot help thinking that the  
Trustees of the Church are bound to repair  
it - for if it belongs to them they ought to  
keep it up, and if it is mine they should  
not knock it down. - I must say also  
that I think you are extremely ungrateful  
in maligning my Trees for instead of doing  
any injury they form a perfect living buttress  
to the Wall. - If their roots had not been kept  
down by the weight of the Wall it would have  
been upheaved of which there is no sign -  
whatever, while from the quantity of earth alternately  
soaking with water and hardened by frost,  
piled up against it - the consequent bulging out  
is self evident and this is precisely where there  
are no trees to support it. - I can only add that  
I shall be happy to contribute as a parishioner  
£5 towards the proposed repairs. - I must  
beg however that care may be taken to do as  
little damage as possible to my trees and shrubs  
which really are - jolting apart - quite as

useful to you as to me. - I should like too the  
works to be prosecuted at once - or delayed till  
the Autumn - as it is a little awkward to me  
to have all the dirt and dust and mess now  
when we are more in our garden & have more  
people coming to our house. -

I am, Yours truly  
J. Talbot Airey  
To F. S. Moore Esq<sup>r</sup>

That on receipt of this letter directions were  
given to Mr. Lowe to make the Frogual Wall  
secure in accordance with his Report and  
to give Mr. Talbot Airey two or three days notice  
before actually commencing the work and the  
following letter was written by the Clerk in reply  
to Mr. Talbot Airey's letter of the 20<sup>th</sup> inst. to him.

13 Dipthhurst Road, Hampstead 1874  
24<sup>th</sup> April 1874.

Dear Sir,

Since the receipt of your letter of  
the 20<sup>th</sup> inst. directions have been given to make  
secure the Wall at the West of the Church Yard  
in accordance with the Report made to the Trustees  
of the Hampstead Church Trust. - You will  
have two or three days notice before the work is  
begun.

Yours truly  
Frederic S. Moore - Clerk

J. D. Airey Esq<sup>r</sup>.

That Mr. Lowe arranged an interview with  
Mr. Talbot Airey at which he explained the

mode in which he intended to make the Trognal Hall Wall secure, when Mr Talbot directly objected to the plan proposed by Mr. Stone and subsequently wrote him a letter of which the following is a copy:

Trognal Hall, Hampstead  
28<sup>th</sup> April 1874.

Dear Sir,

You must excuse my not writing you yesterday as I said I should for I was so much occupied that I had not time to do so.

I must now repeat what I stated in mine to you of the 24<sup>th</sup> inst. - These buttresses would be serious encroachments on my land and probably lead to further complications hereafter. I could not therefore as Trustee for my children consent at any rate to the buttresses being erected without the payment to me by the Church Trustees of some small amount annually as an acknowledgment of my rights and also the reservation to me of the power of having these buttresses removed by the Trustees at any time upon my request.

I could not allow these works to be done now. It is too late in the Spring as the foundations could not be dug without causing the roots of my trees to bleed so much that they would probably die. Consequently the erecting of these buttresses - if erected at all - must now be deferred till the Autumn of the year. I am extremely sorry to occur so

disobliging and to have to act as a "House Dog" and I should most gladly waive all difficulties if I were not in duty bound to protect the interests of those who will come after me.

May I request you to be so good as to communicate this to Mr. Moore the Clerk to the Church Trustees and so to save me the trouble of writing also to him?

I am, Yours faithfully  
W. Talbot Airey  
C. & S. Lowe Esqrs.

That as before any further step can be taken it appears to your Committee absolutely necessary to settle permanently the question of the ownership of the land called the Trognal Hall Wall they would strongly submit to you the expediency of having that point settled through the medium of arbitration.

Dated this 16<sup>th</sup> day of May 1874.

The Report was then received and discussed but it being the opinion of the Trustees that no further concession should be made to Mr. Airey

It was moved by Mr. Hopkins  
Seconded by Mr. Folter and  
Resolved

That the Report of the Committee be not adopted

It was also  
Resolved

That the Clerk do and he was thereby directed to write to Mr. Airey simply stating that his letter

of the 28<sup>th</sup> ult. to Mr Lowe had been forwarded to him and read at the Meeting of the Trustees held on that day.

It was moved by Mr Toller  
Seconded by Mr Hopkins and  
Resolved

That the thanks of the Trustees to the Committee for the trouble they had taken be entered on the Minutes.

It was then moved by Mr Hopkins  
Seconded by Mr Stone and  
Resolved

That Samuel Alfred Lane Esq. be appointed a Member of the Committee for the Rectification of the Church.

Mr Milton gave notice that he should move at the next Meeting that in order the better to carry out the provisions of the Act of 2<sup>d</sup> and 3<sup>d</sup> George IV cap. 11 the Clerk be directed at the first general Meeting of the Trustees in every year to bring in a Report of the number of tithes each Trustee (except the patron of the Advowson, the Incumbent the Curate and the Churchwardens for the time being) has attended the Meetings held during the previous year.

J. M. Barnaby  
July 14<sup>th</sup> 1874

At a Meeting of the Trustees for carrying into execution the Act for providing the Inhabitants of the Parish of Saint John Hampstead with increased accommodation for attending Divine Service convened by direction of the Minister and held at the "Wearage" High Street Hampstead on Tuesday the fourteenth day of July 1874 at eight o'clock in the evening precisely.

Present

The Reverend Thomas Beaumont Barnaby  
The Vicar of the parish in the Chair.  
Mr Henry Milton Churchwarden.  
Richard Howell Leach Esquire  
Manley Hopkins Esquire  
Ernest Lake Esquire  
Mr Simon Stone  
James Ashenden.

The Minutes of the last Meeting were read and signed by the Chairman.

Mr Milton proposed, and  
Mr Stone seconded

The Motion of which Mr Milton had given notice at the last Meeting and which was as follows:-

That in order the better to carry out the provisions of the Act of the VII and VIII George IV cap. 11 the Clerk be directed at the first general Meeting of the Trustees in every year to bring in a Report of the number of tithes each Trustee (except the Patron of the Advowson the Incumbent, the Curate

Attendance of  
Trustees Registered

and the Churchwardens for the time being, has attended the Meetings held during the previous year. —

The Motion was then put and carried unanimously. —

Some conversation then ensued on the disorderly and unsatisfactory state of the Churchyard. —

The Finance Committee reported that the balance in the hands of the Bankers was £228. 6. 11 and that the Surplus for the Quarter and Div's for the half year ended 27<sup>th</sup> June last now due amounted together to £240. 0. 5 and that they recommended that Cheques be drawn to the amount of £240. 0. 5. —

Resolved

That the Report of the Finance Committee be adopted. —

M B Burnaby

Finance Committee  
Meeting

At a Meeting of the Trustees for carrying into execution the Act for providing the Inhabitants of the Parish of Saint John Hampstead with increased accommodation for attending Divine Service convened by direction of the Minister and held at the Vicarage High Street Hampstead on Wednesday the Twenty ninth day of July 1874 at half past Five o'clock in the afternoon precisely. —

Present

The Rev<sup>d</sup> Sheppard Beaumont Burnaby,

The Vicar of the Parish in the Chair. —

Mr. Henry Melton Churchwarden  
Richard Howell Leach Esq<sup>r</sup>.

D. Evans. —

Mr. Charles Walker. —

Simon Tom. —

29<sup>th</sup> July 1874

The Minutes of the last Meeting were read and signed by the Chairman. —

Church  
Declaration  
Memorial by  
parishioners

The Chairman read the following letter from Mr. Basil Champneys the Hon. Sec: pro tem of a Committee formed for the Preservation of the Tower of the Parish Church. —

Harrow Cottage, Hampstead  
July 1874. —

Gentlemen,

On behalf of the Committee for the preservation of the Tower of the Parish Church of Hampstead I have the honour of forwarding

to you the accompanying Memorial. - This has been extensively signed by persons - resident in the Parish who appeared to the Committee either on account of their authority in matters of fact or from a special connection with the locality to be entitled to express an opinion upon such a question. - The entire list of signatures already received amount to between three and four hundred and further signatures of weight are still being sent to us. - The Committee have however thought well in the first instance to submit to you the Memorial with the more important signatures so far received, the vouchers for which are in our hands. - The Committee wish to state that they reserve to themselves the full right of giving publication to the accompanying Memorial as well as to any answer with which you may be disposed to favor them.

I have the honour Gentlemen to be  
Your faithful servant  
(signed) Basil Champneys -  
Sec: pro tem.

To the Trustees of the  
Parish Church of St. John, Hampstead.

The Memorial which accompanied Mr. Champneys letter was also read and was as follows:-

Proposed Removal of  
the Tower of  
Hampstead Parish Church

To the Trustees of the Parish Church of St. John, Hampstead.

We the undersigned resident in or acquainted with the Suburb of Hampstead have learnt with regret that it is proposed to destroy the Tower and the East-End of the Parish Church.

The Church in question is the only Public Building of any antiquity which Hampstead possesses and we should seriously deplore the removal of so well known a Monument of the past.

Apart from the question of the intrinsic merits of rival styles of Architecture this Building derives a special value from its intimate association with the peculiar charm of the locality and from its position as the central feature of a Street of old Buildings of great and characteristic interest.

Such a group of English Architecture of the period is almost unique in or about London and the proposal to destroy or to transform its principal ornament will be condemned by every man of taste.

Whatever may be the practical conditions which have suggested this Scheme there are obviously many plans by which the requirements of the Parish may be met which do not involve an outrage upon the familiar sentiment and aspect of a well known locality.

(Here follow the signatures.)

After it had been noticed that copies only of the signatures to the Memorial had been furnished and that Mr. Champneys had omitted to mention the names of the Committee on whose behalf he had forwarded the Memorial it was

Resolved

That the Clerk do and he was thereby directed to write to Mr. Champneys and acknowledge on behalf of the Trustees the receipt of his letter and the Memorial and request him to have the goodness to forward them the names of the Committee on whose behalf he had sent the Memorial and the original signatures to the Memorial complete.

27<sup>th</sup> July 1874

At a Meeting of the Trustees for carrying into execution the Act for providing the Inhabitants of the Parish of Saint John Hampstead with increased accommodation for attending Divine Service convened by direction of the Minister and held at the vicarage High Street Hampstead on Wednesday the Twentieth day of July 1874 At half past Five in the afternoon.

Present

The Revd. Richard Beaumont Barnaby  
The Vicar of the Parish in the Chair.  
Richard Howell Larch Esq.  
Walter Hopkins Esq.  
Samuel Alfred Lane Esq.  
Thomas Solier Esq.  
Herbert Norman Jones Esq.  
Mr. Charles Walker  
Simon Stone.

The Chairman read the following letter from William Langmead to the Trustees:-

3 Church Row, Hampstead  
July 1874.

Gentlemen,

In reply to a letter received from Mr. Moore respecting my appointment as an Independent of the Hampstead Additional Burial Ground allow me to offer a few remarks relative to the circumstances under which I first took that appointment.

When the late Sexton unexpectedly threw

Sexton  
(letter from)

up his situation I agreed to meet the difficulties of the case to the best of my ability until some definite arrangement could be made. It was subsequently decided by the Vestry & the Trustees that I should continue the duties of Sexton if willing to do so. I concluded thinking that the amount allowed for keeping the ground in order together with the money paid by some private persons for keeping up their family graves might compensate me somewhat for the additional responsibility. During the whole time that I have held the appointment I have found it necessary to keep a gravedigger (one was thoroughly understood the ground) in my constant employ. To him I pay 25¢ weekly and although latterly I have been a great loser in consequence of the small number of Burials I have not felt that I could discharge the man knowing the great uncertainty of meeting with him when wanted. It can easily be understood that one man whose time is frequently employed in grave-digging can scarcely keep the Church yard in good order without occasional help especially during the Summer months but the money allowed by the Trustees was not sufficient to enable me to have the requisite assistance. I feel that if the Trustees contemplate making a more liberal allowance in order that the work may be more thoroughly done it would only be kind to give me the opportunity of benefiting

by the alteration especially after having worked the ground for so long a time often at pecuniary loss to myself. If however the proposed change be made viz. that the sum hitherto allowed me for the Additional Burial Ground be withdrawn after the 25<sup>th</sup> of January next it would not be convenient for me to pay a Grave-digger constant wages for work which would only be reasonably required from him and at the same time after having discharged the man I could not hold myself responsible to find him again at a moments notice whenever a grave might be required.

I am gentlemen, yours obediently

W. Longmead

Church Clerk

A very lengthy and detailed discussion arose as to the Office of Sexton and Gardener and as to whether these offices should be held together or by distinct persons and in order the better to come to a conclusion on the whole question it was

Resolved

That the Clerk do and he was thereby directed to write to William Longmead and request him to furnish a detailed and complete Return to the Trustees of all the fees emoluments and perquisites which had been received by him as Sexton from the 1<sup>st</sup> of January 1872 to the 31<sup>st</sup> of December 1873 both inclusive.

M. B. Burnaby

Oct 20. 1874



At a Meeting of the Trustees for carrying into execution the Act for providing the Inhabitants of the Parish of Saint John Hampstead with increased accommodation for attending Divine Service convened by direction of the Minister and held at the Vicarage High Street Hampstead on Tuesday the Twentieth day of October 1874 at eight o'clock in the evening.

## Present

The Rev. Howard Beaumont Burnaby  
The Vicar of the Parish in the Chair  
Alfred Bull Esq.<sup>r</sup> Churchwarden  
Herbert Norman Evans Esq.<sup>r</sup>  
John Samuel Fletcher Esq.<sup>r</sup>  
Ernest Lake Esq.<sup>r</sup>  
Samuel Alfred Lane Esq.<sup>r</sup>  
W. J. G. Pearce  
D. Gray Cooper-Rose  
W. Moore Lane  
Charles Walker.

The Minutes of the last Meeting were read and signed by the Chairman.

The Finance Committee reported that the balance in the hands of the Bankers was £87.2.3 and that the Salaries for the quarter ending the 29<sup>th</sup> September 1874 now amounted to £47.16.- and that they recommended that a cheque be drawn to the amount of £47.16.-

(Finance Committee Report of)

## Resolved

That the Report of the Finance Committee be adopted.

Two Openers  
Hanson to

The Chairman brought to the notice of the Meeting the fact that the Two Openers Mr. M. Mullington and Mr. W. Wellbourn on account of their age and consequent want of activity were unable to perform their duty themselves.

It was considered that the method of thus performing duties by proxy was unsatisfactory and after some conversation

It was proposed by D. Cooper-Rose

seconded by W. Pearce and

## Resolved

That Mr. Mullington and Mr. Wellbourn do both cease to hold the office of Pew Opener on the 25<sup>th</sup> December next, but that in consideration of the length of their service a pension of £6 per annum be granted both to Mr. Mullington and Mr. Wellbourn for their respective lives and the Clerk was directed to acquaint them with the Resolution.

## Lecton

The Chairman mentioned that he had received from William Langmead a Return of the fees, emoluments and perquisites which had been received by him as Lecton from the 1<sup>st</sup> January 1872 to the 31<sup>st</sup> December 1873.

After some discussion it was arranged that a Meeting of the Church Trustees and of the Trustees of the New Burial Ground should be called at the same time to consider William Langmead's letter and what action should be taken in this matter.

Read a Letter from Mr. & Treasurer Ruestel which was as follows:-

56 St. Russell St. Bloomsbury etc  
28<sup>th</sup> August 1874-

To the Trustees of the Parish Church of Hampstead  
Dear Sir,

A Clerk of mine having seen the correspondence concerning the Parish Church of Hampstead and being interested in the preservation of the Tower, wishes us to ascertain whether the purchase of the Church under the conditions of procuring the Tower & Vest and would be undertaken by the Trustees as in that case this proposal and offer might be made. - Please to put this communication before the Trustees.

An early answer will oblige

Your faithful servant  
E. Treasurer Ruestel Esq.

The Rev. W. B. Burnaby  
Rector of Hampstead

Resolved

It was at once

That the Clerk do and he was thereby requested to write to Mr. Ruestel that the Trustees could not entertain the application contained in his letter.

The Chairman reported that in accordance with the Resolution passed at the Meeting held on the 14<sup>th</sup> of April last he had with Mr. J. Burnaby's assistance selected an Organist for the Church and that the person appointed subject to the

Organist appointment

approval of the Trustees was Mr. James Shaw who had been highly recommended.

It was

Resolved

That the Appointment of Mr. James Shaw be confirmed.

Read a letter from Mr. Talbot Airey as follows:-  
Troynall Hall

20<sup>th</sup> August 1874-

Dear Sir,

The Repairs of the Church Yard wall may now be proceeded with whenever the Trustees choose -

I am perfectly willing that Buttresses should be put up if they will agree to pay me one farthing a year Rent as an acknowledgment that the ground is mine and also that they will remove the buttresses whenever they are required to do so by me or my heirs and assigns & at their expense.

I also trust that as little damage as possible may be done to my trees and Shrubs

I take this opportunity of adding that though I do object to removal of the Church Tower I am very unwilling to oppose Mr. Burnaby and the Trustees in anything that they may deem requisite, and as to my contribution, if I can give more than I have promised when the time comes I shall be most happy to do so - But for many reasons I cannot say more now.

I am yrs truly - J. Talbot Airey  
J. J. Moore Esq.

Wall on west boundary

Resolved  
It was

That the Clerk do and he was thereby directed to write Mr. Vasey that his letter of the 20<sup>th</sup> August 1874 had been laid before the Trustees but they begged to refer him to the correspondence which had already passed and particularly to the letter written him on the 10<sup>th</sup> April 1874 and that they consider they have made every advance conceivable with their trust and must decline to be responsible for the support of his walls.

Sub Committee  
Report of

The Report of the Committee for the Restoration of the Church was then read and was as follows:-

The Committee appointed by the Trustees of the Parish Church of Saint. John Lampstead and consisting of the following Members namely

The Vicar

Alfred Bell Esq<sup>r</sup>

Mr. Vasey, M.A. } Churchwardens

R. D. Whiston Esq<sup>r</sup>

Mr. Henry Cornick

A. P. Fieldler Esq<sup>r</sup>

Edward Gatto Esq<sup>r</sup>

F. Hill Esq<sup>r</sup>

Monley Stephens Esq<sup>r</sup>

J. W. Lane Esq<sup>r</sup>

R. C. Leach Esq<sup>r</sup>

D. Cooper Esq<sup>r</sup>

Mr. Lincom Stone

beg to report that in accordance with Resolutions

passed at a Meeting of the Trustees held on the 30<sup>th</sup> March 1874 they have issued a Circular letter to the Parishioners with a view of ascertaining their opinion on the question of rebuilding or restoring the Church and what support they would give to either plan. - The answers received in response have been of a very conflicting character, some of the writers strongly advocating the one plan, and others as strenuously advocating the other. - That Mr. Crokerell had been consulted with regard to these two plans and was of opinion that such a Restoration of the Church as he would recommend, which would include a new Tower in place of the present one, would cost nearly £10,000, and the cost of a new Church on a new site, which should be worthy of the title of the Parish Church of Lampstead, might be estimated from £17,000 to £20,000.

That taking into consideration the strong opposition which has been raised to the plan proposed for the Restoration of the Church which involved the removal of the Tower and giving weight to the opinions of many inhabitants of the parish, your Committee, though by no means unmindful of the difficulties of the course they suggest, can recommend that the Trustees endeavour to obtain the necessary funds for building a new Church on a new site.

The following reasons have also influenced your Committee in coming to this conclusion -  
1<sup>st</sup> The proximity of the vaults on the present

Site is deemed very undesirable, and by no means unlikely to be injurious. They consider that it would be very preferable to have the Church wholly disconnected from interments.

2<sup>nd</sup> Houses of a superior character are immediately to be built on the fields known as the Windmill Fields, and there will consequently be a large increase to the population in that quarter, of an influential character. The site of the present Church is too far removed from that quarter to admit of the expectation that its future inhabitants would be able to worship in a Church on the present site.

3<sup>d</sup> The now-existing Church would remain as a Chapel of ease to the New Parish Church. The present Congregation would not need to be scattered (which would probably be the result of the Restoration of the present Church) inasmuch as divine service would continue, as heretofore, while the New Church was being built.

Resolved

It was  
That the Report of the Committee be received and that the thanks of the Trustees to the Committee for the trouble they had taken be inserted in the Minutes.

Resolved

It was also  
That the same Committee with power to add

to their number be invited to resume their labours and that they be authorized to take such measures as they may deem necessary for obtaining more subscriptions and raising a fund to defray the cost of either building a New Church on a new Site or of restoring the present Church.

S<sup>r</sup> Cooper - Rose gave notice that at the next Meeting he should make the following motion -  
"That in the opinion of the Trustees it is desirable to restore the present Church and to obtain from the Architect already retained such plans and lithographed Drawings as may be necessary."

The Clerk was directed to insert the proposed Motion in the Notice of the next Meeting.

After some conversation with respect to the Memorial which had been received from the Committee for the preservation of the Tower of the parish Church it was

Memorial  
by parishioners  
Resolved

That the Committee <sup>for the restoration of the Church</sup> be requested to adopt such a course and to take such steps as they may think proper in view of the Memorial received by the Trustees from the Committee for the preservation of the Tower of the parish Church.

J. M. Barnard

At a Meeting of the Trustees for carrying into execution the Act for providing the Inhabitants of the Parish of Saint John Hampstead with increased accommodation for attending Divine Service convened by direction of the Minutes and held at the Vicarage High Street Hampstead on Friday the Fifteenth day of January 1875 at eight o'clock in the evening.

## Present

The Rev. the Rev. Canon Beaman Esq. in the Chair  
The Vicar of the Parish in the Chair  
Alfred Bell Esquire - Churchwarden  
James Ashenden Esq.  
The Rev. B. Bailey  
Herbert Norman Evans Esq.  
Manley Hopkins Esquire  
Ernest Lake Esquire  
Mr. G. Pearce  
Dr. Henry Cooper - Poet  
Mr. Charles Walker.

The Minutes of the last Meeting were read and signed by the Chairman.

The Finance Committee reported that the Balance in the hands of the Bankers was £215.10.3 and that the Salaries for the quarter and Bills for the half year ended 25<sup>th</sup> December 1874 now due - amounted together to £173.0.5 and that they recommended that Cheques be drawn to that amount.

15<sup>th</sup> Jan 1875.

## Resolved

That the Report of the Finance Committee be adopted.

Pew Opener  
appointment of

The Chairman reported that he and the Churchwardens had selected a Mr. Horn as a suitable person to fill one of the vacancies caused by the retirement at the request of the Trustees of two of the Pew Openers - Mr. Mellington and Mr. Doolimore, but that they had not yet been able to select a suitable person to fill the remaining vacancy.

It was

## Resolved

That Mr. Horn's appointment as Pew Opener be confirmed.

Attendance  
of Trustees

In pursuance of the Resolution passed at a Meeting of the Trustees held on the 14<sup>th</sup> July 1874 the Chairman read a Statement prepared by the Clerk setting out the number of times each Trustee had attended the Meetings held during the previous year.

Hall in west  
concourse

The Clerk reported that in answer to the letter he had been directed to write Mr. J. S. Avery at the last Meeting he had received the following letters from him:-

Troquel Hall, Hampstead  
24<sup>th</sup> Oct. 1874

Dear Sir,

I have to acknowledge yours of the 22<sup>nd</sup> inst. - I own it astonishes me. - I naturally thought after yours of the 18<sup>th</sup> + 24<sup>th</sup>

of April, of the 18<sup>th</sup> May, and of the 24<sup>th</sup> of August and 10<sup>th</sup> Novers of the 23<sup>rd</sup> and the 25<sup>th</sup> of April that the question of any rate as to repairing the damage to the wall admitted done by the works in the Church Yard, was set at rest.

The alteration in the intentions and views of the Trustees, which seems almost inexplicable and which you now announce to me, after such a lapse of time is also unfortunate as coming so late in the year. I cannot decide at this moment what step I must now take, but while I shall try to do my duty to all I shall also endeavour to act in the most amicable manner I can.

Yours truly - J. Albert Vining.

Frederic J. Moore Esq<sup>r</sup>.

Frogual Hall, Hampstead  
30<sup>th</sup> Oct<sup>r</sup> 1874.

Dear Sir,

As my previous letters show, I have always maintained that the question as to the ownership of the Wall between my premises here and the Church Yard was really of remarkably little importance as to the repairing of it, for those who knock it down, are in duty bound whatsoever wall it is, to put it up again. Nevertheless I write now to state for the information of the Church Trustees that I have ascertained that their assumption as to the wall being mine is entirely negatived by my Title Deeds. No number moreover of mere claims on the part of my predecessors could make the wall theirs. In this Country at any rate

such claims must be substantiated by positive evidence of the fact. Mere assertions are not sufficient to vest property in England - though acquiescence in such claims may estop one hereafter from disputing them. Still less can the admission obtained from Mr. Smith strengthen your case, or prejudice me. It rather on the contrary disproves what it was intended to support. If it was so clear that the wall belonged to the Owner of this place, why did the Trustees ask for or get this admission from her? Why too did they pay her half the cost of repairing the wall? - But besides this at the time when she was induced to make this admission she was a widow, the mere occupier of these premises, the title to which was then vested in Trustees, and so no admission by her could bind me a bit more than that of any perfect stranger would. In addition to these facts all the presumptions I maintain are against this wall being my property. The Church Yard must by Law be enclosed. The Owners of abutting premises cannot be compelled to maintain the enclosure unless they can be proved to have done so from time immemorial. The Trustees need a wall much more than I do, they require it not only to protect the graves as they are bound to do and to uphold their own Land, but to prevent as is their duty its falling upon and incumbering mine. It would seem too utterly preposterous and contrary to all justice law and common sense, that they should