

A Brief History of the Baptist Church in Barnoldswick

extracted from the 'Local Churches' project by **Christine Haworth**

1694 Six Baptist Families = Mitchells, Higgins, Edmondsons, Hargreaves, Barretts and Greenwoods met first in a barn and then in a cottage

1696 Chapel built - thought to have been in Walmsgate

1772 Old Baptist Chapel Burial Ground consecrated

1791 New chapel built

1797 Larger Chapel built (?)

1851 Religious Census = Chapel built about 1791 .. "There was a chapel before the one we now occupy of which the earliest account is 1696"

1852 New Bethesda Chapel opened (4th Chapel ?)

1868 Closed due to financial troubles .. Split in congregation and some continued in the old chapel and other moved to a barn in Rainhill Road (BWK.Bap.02)

1888 Chapel reopened as an Independent Baptist

1891 First Wedding - see Nelson Leader Newspaper Index

1971 Reunited with breakaway group

1975 Bethesda demolished - congregation moved to Baptist Church Centre

~ see 'Three hundred years of Baptist history in Barnoldswick, 1661-1961, souvenir booklet' by Alan Kippax

~ see 'The history of the Baptist Church of Barnoldswick, 1500-1916, in the light of passing events of that period' by E Winnard

~ also 'History of Bethesda Baptist Church, Barnoldswick, Yorks' by Evan R Lewis (1893)

~ and 'Old Barlick' by W P Atkinson