

Hallow Non-Conformist Chapel, Moseley Road SO 8249 5898

The chapel, a place of worship for almost 150 years, was erected in 1831, owned by Thomas Bright and leased to the Baptist Society. In 1854 the premises was acquired by Thomas Rowley Hill, Liberal politician and mayor of Worcester and later MP for Worcestershire. The following year it was refurbished and registered for marriages. The chapel is of red brick with large plain glass windows typical of non-conformist chapels of the early 19th century.

From 1862 to 1873 George Edwards was appointed as 'Evangelist' for Hallow and nearby villages. In the latter years of the 19th century congregations of 50 attended Sunday evening and week night services and around 70 children attended Sunday School.

By 1949 only 4 members and 12 Sunday school children were recorded. In 1965 the chapel became a self-governing Congregational Church, no longer tied to Angel St. Church in Worcester. Following the union of the Presbyterian and Congregational Church in England and Wales in 1972, the chapel became 'Hallow United Reformed Church.' The chapel finally closed its doors as a place of worship on Sunday April 30th 1978 following the retirement of its caretaker.

The congregation of up to 50 transferred to Albany Terrace United Reformed Church.

The chapel was sold at auction later that year for £16,100 (including 60 chairs). Significant alterations were made to the property, to adapt it to a private residence whilst preserving its external appearance. A puzzling detail is a Jewish Mezuzah prayer discovered fastened to the doorpost by the present owners.



Sources: Hallow History Group Research 2013, WCC Archives