



Presbyterian and Congregational Registers

This leaflet lists Presbyterian and Congregational registers or copy registers held by Northumberland Archives and Berwick-upon-Tweed Record Office. Presbyterianism was particularly popular in Northumberland, primarily because of the proximity of the northern part of the county to Scotland. In some areas for example, Berwick-upon-Tweed, Presbyterianism was more strongly adhered to than the Established Church.

The list includes details of all registers held in the county in whatever format (microfilm / original / transcript). Some have been transcribed, and some transcripts are on microfiche. Registers, which are also available at Berwick-upon-Tweed Record Office, are marked with an asterisk. Those registers, which are only available at the Berwick-upon-Tweed Record Office, are detailed at the end of this list.

Presbyterianism had several branches. The Congregationalists (sometimes known as Independents) believed that there should be no state interference in religion. During the eighteenth and nineteenth century many Presbyterians became Unitarians who combined a belief in God with reason and scientific knowledge. In 1831 the Congregationalist Union of England and Wales was established and in 1972 they amalgamated with the Presbyterians to form the United Reformed Church. Presbyterian Churches in Northumberland often include the word Scotch or English in their name, thus indicating their origin. **The Local Historian's Encyclopaedia** by John Richardson briefly describes the different branches of the religion, and **Pilgrims Progress** the guide to an exhibition, which took place in Northumberland Archives, gives a short history of Presbyterianism in the County.

With the exception of Jews and Quakers, it was illegal to marry in a non-conformist church prior to 1837. This has presented family historians with a major problem with regard to Presbyterian ancestry in Northumberland. Many Presbyterians chose not to marry in an Anglican church, but to marry in Scotland in either the Church of Scotland or in a "cross border marriage centre", the most famous of which is Gretna Green. The marriage centres used by people in Northumberland include, Coldstream, Lamberton Toll, Haddington, Paxton and Mordington. There is a small number of records available relating to cross border marriages held by the Berwick-upon-Tweed Record Office and Northumberland Archives.

From 1837 until the passage of the marriage Act of 1898 marriages could take place in a non-conformist church provided a Superintendent Registrar was present. As a result, it is unusual to locate marriage registers from individual churches prior to 1898. This means that researchers seeking details of marriages within the period 1837-98 will almost certainly need to purchase copy marriage certificates from local Registrars.

Chapel	Baptisms	Marriages	Burials
Alnwick, Clayport (P).	x.1785-1954.		
Alnwick, Ebenezer (P).	x.1817-1831.		
Alnwick, Green Batt (P).	x.1785-1954.		
Alnwick, Lisburn Street (P).	x.1878-1881.		
Alnwick, Pottergate (P) *.	x.1760-1836 & 1904-1988.		
Alnwick St. James (P)	x.1904-1988	m. 1955-2015	
Alnwick, Zion Meeting (P).	x.1762-1837.		
Amble (C).	x.1851-1862 & 1895-1902.	m.1851-1857.	
Ancroft (P) Microfilm at Woodhorn. Register at Berwick	x.1845-1960		
Ashington (P).	x.1916-1991.	m.1930-1991.	
Bavington (P) *.	x.1754-1932.	m. 1858-1860; 1928-1930	
Bedlington (P).	x.1845-1980.		
Belford, Erskine Street (P) *.	x.1793-1819.		
Belford, United Secession (P) *.	x.1820-1837, 1841, 1856, 1858.		
Belford, West Street (P) *.	x.1776-1848.		
Bellingham (P) *.	x.1803-1988.		
Berwick, Bankhill (P) *.	x.1835-1838 & 1849-1890.		
Berwick, Chapel Street (P).	x.1785-1923.	m.1785-1791.	
Berwick, High Meeting (P) *.	x.1761-1879.		
Berwick, Low Meeting (P) *.	x.1780-1849; 1864-186	m.1838-1848.	b.1836-1849.
Berwick Shaws Lane	x. 1776-1858	m. 1778-1810	
Berwick, United Secession. (Golden Square) (P) *.	x.1771-1919.	m.1782-1812 & 1838-1920.	
Birdhopecraig (P) *.	x.1728-1926.	m. 1835-1903	
Blyth (P).	x.1786-1902. x. 1891-1916	m. 1894-1916 ; 1928-1989 ; 1993	
Blyth United Reform	x. 1891-1916	m.1989-1993	b. 1956-1969
Branton (P) *.	x.1785-1837 & 1901-1904.	m. 1910-1977	
Crookham (P) *.	x.1732-1833.	m. 1896-1934	
Embleton (P) *.	x.1833-1984.		
Etal (P) *.	x.1769-1950.	m. 1897-1945	
Falstone (P) *.	x.1752-1978.		b.1849-1851
Felton (P)	x. 1819-1912	m. 1963-2014	
Glanton (P) *.	x.1784-1836.	m.1979-1999	
Haltwhistle (P).	x.1752-1874.		
Harbottle (P) *.	x.1736-1979.		
Hartley (P) * Includes Seaton Delaval	x.1789-1836; 1859-1862		
Haydon Bridge (C) * (part).	x.1817-1996.		b.1881-1887.
Longframlington (P) *.	x.1754-1859.	m. 1933-2019	
Lowick, English (P).	x.1848-1935.	m. 1850-1893	
Lowick, Scottish (P) *.	x.1804-1975.		
Morpeth (C) Independent	x. 1829-1837		

Morpeth, Dacre Street (C).	x.1829-1872 & 1915-1976.	m.1915-1972.	b.1915-1928.
Morpeth, St. George (P) *.	x.1747-1848.		
Newbiggin-by-the-Sea, St. Mark's (P).		m.1982-1994.	
Newcastle, Carliol Street (P).	x.1759-1837.		
Newcastle, Castle Garth (P).	x.1708-1836.		
Newcastle, Clavering Place, Blackett Street (P) *.	x.1802-1837.		
Newcastle, The Close (P).	x.1757-1845.		
Newcastle, Erskine (P).	x.1853-1926.		
Newcastle, First United Secession (P).	x.1758-1837.		
Newcastle, Hanover Square (P).	x.1752-1844.		
Newcastle. John Knox (P).	x.1726-1923.		
Newcastle, Park Road (P).	x.1872-1877.		
Newcastle, Postern Chapel (P).	x.1784-1837.		
Newcastle, Sallyport	x. 1759-1823		
Newcastle, St. James (P).	x.1746-1836.		
Newcastle, Tuthill Stairs	x. 1781-1835		
Newcastle, Wall Knoll (P).	x.1781-1844.		
Newcastle, Zion Chapel (P).	x.1821-1828.		
Norham Associate (P) *.	x.1752-1854.	m.1788-1808.	
North Middleton (C)	x. 1882-1991		
North Shields, Secession	x. 1813-1837		
North Shields, Associate (P).	x.1783-1837.		
North Shields, Bankside	x. 1799-1820		
North Shields, Bethel (C).	x.1835-1837.		
North Shields, Howard Street (P).		m.1926-1945.	
North Sunderland (P) (See registers at Berwick).	x.1797-1838 & 1870-1981.	m.1872-1902.	b.1870-1898.
Otterburn (P) * (part only at Berwick).	x.1835-1986.	m.1887-1981.	
Rothbury (C).	x.1840-1856 & 1893-1906.	m.1894-2009..	b.1894-1904.
Rothbury (P).	x.1804-1811.		
Seaton Delaval (P).		m.1849-1924.	
Spittal (P) *.	x.1751-1837.	m.1781-1784 & 1795-1798.	
Stamfordham (P).	x.1754-1896.	m.1967-1999.	
Thorneyford (P).	x.1804-1832.		
Thropton (P).	x.1799-1847 & 1904-2011.	m.1906-2010.	
Tweedmouth (P) *.	x.1910-1971.		
Tynemouth, St. Andrew (P/I).	x.1817-1837.		
Wallsend, United Associate (P).	x.1817-1837.		
Warenford (P)* (part only at Berwick).	x.1747-1971.		
Warkworth (P) *.	x.1815-1987.	m. 1953-2016	
Windmill Hill – (Berwick)	x. 1890-1925		
Wooler, Cheviot Street (P) *.	x.1752-1906.		
Wooler, Tower Hill (P) *.	x.1786-1836.		

Wooler, West (P) *.	x.1749-1857& 1885-1950.	m.1895-1921.	b.1906-1921.
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Registers only available at Berwick -upon-Tweed Record Office

Beaumont (P).	x.1919-1975.
Berwick, Church Street, St Aidan.	x.1953-1976
Berwick, St Andrew (P).	x.1927-1987.
Crookham (See main list above).	x.1853-1981.
North Sunderland (See main list above).	x.1870-1981.

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