

TIN TABERNACLE TIMELINE

Until the mid 19th century this area of Kilburn was farmland. **1850**

1857 - James Bailey, a local developer, entered into a Building Agreement with the Ecclesiastical Commissioners. This included the development of Cambridge Ave (then called Cambridge Road) forming part of the Kilburn Estate.

1863 - The 'Iron Church' was constructed and was initially called St James Church. The manufacturer of the church is currently unknown. **1860**

1870 - James Bailey surrendered the deed of the Iron Church and the building was vested in the Ecclesiastical Commissioners. **1870**

1872 - The building was known as the St James Free Church of England, a non-conformist denomination. Between 1870 and 1872 the Church was ministered by Rev. A. B. Attenborough.

1877 - The Rev. T. Milner became the minister of the Congregational Church. The Church had a debt of £500. **1880**

1883 - The Church proposed to build a school abutting the Iron Church. This is vehemently objected to by the local community and permission was refused.

1894 - By June of this year the Iron Church had fallen into disuse. The lease remained with Rev. Clews, but the building was taken on by another local Christian group and was now called Cambridge Hall. Services were held on Sundays and Wednesdays and Bible classes held separately for men and women on Sundays. The congregation at this time totalled about 300. **1890**

Early 1900's - Various lectures were held at the Cambridge Hall. **1900**



The Sphere, Saturday 11 August 1928
Image © Mary Evans Picture Library

1928 - Scripture Text Carriers marched from Cambridge Hall to Trafalgar Square. **1910**

1900's-1940's - Over this period there are various references to Cambridge Hall being used by the Plymouth Brethren. **1920**

Event organised by:

Project led by:

Working with:

Project supported by:



by C. & J. Greenwood, extended and comprising the various improvements to 1830 ; engraved by Josiah Neele
Harvard Digital Map Collection, reproduced under the Creative Commons Attribution 4.0 International License
<https://id.lib.harvard.edu/curiosity/scanned-maps/44-990102029440203941>

1862 - James Bailey granted a lease to Rev Woodhouse and the Trustees of Cambridge Road Chapel to build an iron church for Church of England worship at a cost of £1000. The agreement was to build a stone church or a row of 3 terraced houses by Michaelmas 1868. The Church paid a yearly rent of £32.

1864 - A caution was issued to Rev Joseph Irving officiating at a dissenter's church called St James Church, Kilburn

1875 - The local Congregational Church relocated from a Chapel on Percy Road and the building was renamed the Kilburn Congregational Church, ministered by Rev. J. Atkinson.

1879 - The Rev. J. H. Clews became the minister of the Congregational Church. He began to pay rent to the Ecclesiastical Commissioners.

1880's - The Cambridge Road Choral Society met regularly at the Congregational Church. During this period the Church provided popular entertainments of various kinds, particularly concerts and lectures.

1890-1900's - Various special services were held by Josiah Spiers, founder of the Scripture Union. An organisation which focussed on sharing the bible with children and young people and still exists to this day.



OS Map 1894
Reproduced with the permission of the National Library of Scotland
<https://maps.nls.uk/view/101201232>

1915 - Rev. Clews passes away and his executors sold the leasehold to Mr Ernest Bray and Mr Reuben Jackson for continued use as a Religious Hall. **1910**



Goad Insurance Map 1902
Image © British Library
<http://www.bl.uk/onlinegallery/onlineex/firemaps/england/london/atoc/largeimage151780.htm>

TIN TABERNACLE TIMELINE

1939-1943 – Cambridge Hall closed at the outbreak of WWII.

1943 – A new lease was granted to the YMCA for the 'religious, mental or physical training of the youth of both sexes...', though they never used the building.

1948 – The lease for Cambridge Hall was assigned to the Willesden Sea Cadets Corps for use as a 'training quarters and social club'. The site became known as the Lord Lloyd Memorial Hall after Lord Dolobran, a member of the Navy League who had passed away in 1941.

1956 – The HMS Bicester was scrapped at Grays, Essex.

1960 – The Ecclesiastical Commissioners transfer the Deed to Willesden Borough Council, this included a separate and adjoining parcel of land to the rear of the site that had possibly been used as a stables.

1961 – Lease of the site was granted to the Willesden Sea Cadets.

1964 – The film Becket, starring Peter O'Toole and Richard Burton, was released. It was filmed at Shepperton Studios and at an unknown date parts of the set were relocated to create the TS Bicester's Ship's Chapel.

1960-80 – At some point over this period the original spire was lost, either through damage, deterioration or theft. The exact design of the spire is at present unknown.

1998 – The site was sold by Brent Council to the Paddington Churches Housing Association Ltd.

1990's to present – The building is used for a variety of community and other events; cinema, folk club, gallery, event/location space, rehearsal and performance space.

2011 – The Willesden Sea Cadets ceased operating at the Lord Lloyd Memorial Hall.

2019 – The list description was amended to recognise the special historic significance of the naval interior.

1940

1950

1960

1970

1980

1990

2000

2010

2020

1941 – The HMS Bicester, an escort destroyer of the Type II Hunt class, was launched.



The HMS Bicester, image from the collection of the Imperial War Museum <https://www.iwm.org.uk/collections/item/object/205188006>

1950-1960's – The interior of the Lord Lloyd Memorial Hall was fitted out to represent the decommissioned naval ship, the HMS Bicester. The Hall is also known as the TS Bicester (Training Ship).

1960's – The Bofors and Oerlikon guns are installed, possibly as part of the dismantling of the Civil Defense Corps.



The Willesden Sea Cadet unit in 1964, before the installation of the guns

1998 – The building was listed at Grade II. It is listed as Cambridge Hall, Kilburn.

2012 – 'Nowhere Less Now' an installation by Lindsay Seers organised by Artangel

Event organised by:



Project led by:



Working with:



Project supported by:

