

UNIV ONLINE CATALOGUES

UC:E24 The Living of Checkendon, Oxon., 1789-1934

Checkendon is a village in the south of Oxfordshire, not far from Henley. The advowson of Checkendon was bought in 1765 for £2330, out of the fund created in 1714 by John Radcliffe for the purchase of advowsons (see **UC:E17/3/MS2/6**), and the College made its first presentation to the living in 1776. The rectors of Checkendon since then have been as follows:

- 1776 Joseph Wood (matr. Univ. 1730; Fellow 1739–77)
- 1779 John Coulson (matr. New College; Fellow of Univ. 1744–80)
- 1789 William Couture (matr. Univ. 1771; Fellow 1777–90)
- 1820 William Crabtree (matr. Univ 1803; Fellow 1809–21)
- 1865 Charles John Abbey (matr. Lincoln; Fellow of Univ. 1862–6).
- 1908 John Turner Nunn (matr. Univ. 1882)
- 1922 Hugh Richmond Bonsey (matr. Univ. 1906)
- 1927 Reginald Dawson St. George Edwards (matr. Univ. 1892)
- 1945 Percy Cyril Underhill (not a member of University College)
- 1950 Mundeford Allen (matr. Univ. 1919)
- 1964 Norman Williams (not a member of University College)
- 1973 David Salt (not a member of University College)
- 2002 Kevin Davies (matr. Univ. 1980).

Few papers concerning Checkendon are preserved in the College archives: they are mainly to do with issues related to glebe land, and to issues relating to a difficult rector in the 1930s, although there are some other papers elsewhere in the collection. The most significant items are three maps of the parish, drawn between 1789 and 1840. All these items were found in the archives during the stocktaking of 1993.

Catalogued in December 2012.

UC:E24/E1 - SURVEYS AND VALUATIONS

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| UC:E24/E1/1 | Parchment booklet titled "Survey of Parish of Checkendon 1789". The surveyor was James Jennings. This booklet is designed to accompany the map at UC:E24/M1/1 below. | 1789 |
| UC:E24/E1/2 | Bill for University College for commissioning a survey and map of Checkendon. | 1789 |
| UC:E24/E1/3 | Valuation of the tithes and glebe of Checkendon, compiled in 1790 by William Couture. | 1790 |

UC:E24/C1 - CORRESPONDENCE

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|--------------------|--|-------------------|
| UC:E24/C1/1 | Letter from William Couture (address, Checkendon) to the (unnamed) Bursar of University College. Couture has been asked to return a map of | 8 Feb 1817 |
|--------------------|--|-------------------|

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Checkendon to the College, but protests that he sent it back seven years earlier.

- UC:E24/C1/2** **Feb 1819**
 Letter from William Couture (address, Checkendon) to the (unnamed) Bursar of University College. Couture encloses a bill for creating boundary markers on glebe land, and asks the College to pay for this.
- UC:E24/C1/3** **12 & 20 Feb 1869**
 Two letters from Charles Abbey (address, Checkendon) to the Master of University College. The first letter discusses the proposed construction of a cottage and a planned restoration of the church; the second discusses a possible exchange of land.
- UC:E24/C1/4** **25 Mar 1896–5 Oct 1897**
 Correspondence between Charles Abbey and University College about a proposal (eventually accepted) to exchange some glebe land with R. F. Duff, of Checkendon Court, in return for a meadow close to the rectory. Negotiations were difficult. The correspondence includes two plans of the land involved in the proposed exchange [15 items].
- UC:E24/C1/5** **4–5 Jan 1906**
 Two letters from Charles Abbey (address, Checkendon Rectory) to an unnamed addressee (presumably the Bursar), one discussing the possibility of selling some glebe land as a site for a school house, the other discussing Abbey's plans to take his family to the south of France for a holiday.
- UC:E24/C1/6** **4 May 1908**
 Letter about selling glebe land at Checkendon.
- UC:E24/C1/7** **16 Jul–6 Aug 1912**
 Three letters about a lease of glebe land at Checkendon.
- UC:E24/C1/8** **4 Dec 1912–4 Nov 1920**
 Five letters concerning the sale of some portions of glebe land at Checkendon, and also about the leasing of the remaining land there.
- UC:E24/C1/9** **4 Apr 1918–4 Sep 1924**
 Envelope of letters from or about clergymen who were alumni of University College interested in the living of Checkendon, or indeed of any other College living. Clerics writing or being written about comprise Herbert Moore (matr. 1880), Philip Boustead (matr. 1879), and Lumsdon Downes (matr. 1908) [4 items].
- UC:E24/C1/10** **23 Sep 1920–29 Sep 1922**
 Envelope containing three letters concerning Checkendon glebe land, in particular a proposal for the rector to sell Glebe Farm (also known as "Kaffirs") [3 items].

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UC:E24 The Living of Checkendon, Oxon., 1789-1934**UC:E24/C1/11****18 Aug–1 Sep 1921**

Envelope containing letters from applicants writing to the Bursar of University College applying for the living of Checkendon. None of them are from the applicant who was eventually appointed, Hugh Bonsey. Correspondents with University College links include Reginald Edwards (matr. 1892), who was eventually appointed to Checkendon in 1927, and Charles Mills (matr. 1876) [8 items].

UC:E24/C1/12**23 Oct 1927**

Letter from Reginald Edwards (address, Checkendon) concerning a proposed sale of one acre of glebe land.

UC:E24/C1/13**16 Oct 1924–10 Apr 1934**

Bundle of A. B. Poynton's correspondence, as Estates Bursar, on Checkendon matters. Subjects the appointment of a new rector in Checkendon in 1927, including applications for the post (items 15–31 comprises correspondence with various former members of the College offered the job who turned it down, and items 33–47 comprises correspondence from applicants with no connection to the College), and the disastrous breakdown in relations in the 1930s between the parish and the candidate eventually appointed, Reginald Edwards (matr. 1892). There are also extensive notes by Sir Michael Sadler about the parish. Correspondents include Reginald Edwards, Charles Bailey (matr. 1901), Herbert Braithwaite (matr. 1883), Hugh Bonsey (matr. 1906), Edward Dalby (matr. 1908), Richard de la Hey (matr. 1892), Eric Hamilton (matr. 1909), Edgar Harradine (matr. 1893), Sir Alfred Hopkinson (F. 1873–80), Arthur Hopkinson (matr. 1893), B. Evans Jones (matr. 1906), Donald Wilkinson (matr. 1914), the Bishops of Oxford and Salisbury, and several parishioners from Checkendon. [138 items]

UC:E24/M1 - MAPS**UC:E24/M1/1****1789**

Map of the manor of Checkendon

Surveyor: James Jennings

Scale: 1 inch to 12 chains

Size: 520 by 1230 mm.

Inscribed: A / Plan / of the Manor of / Checkendon / in the County of / Oxford / Taken in the year 1789 / by / James Jennings [acreages of fields are given, and some of them are named]

Signed: [see above]

Dated: [see above]

Medium: Pen and ink with buff washes.

Support: Parchment (2 membranes pasted together)

Notes: The survey at **UC:E24/E1/1** is designed to accompany this map.

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UC:E24 The Living of Checkendon, Oxon., 1789-1934**UC:E24/M1/2****1820**

Map of the parish of Checkendon

Surveyor: John Biddle**Scale:** 1 inch to 6 chains**Size:** 2140 by 980 mm.**Inscribed:** Plan / of the Parish of / Checkendon / in the County of / Oxford / 1820 / John Biddle Surveyor Oxford [some houses are named, and the fields are numbered, presumably to accompany a now lost key to the map]**Signed:** [see above]**Dated:** [see above]**Medium:** Pen with washes of many colours.**Support:** Paper backed on linen [4 sheets], with wooden rollers at each end.**Notes:** As with **UC:E24/M1/3** below, because of the unusual size of this map, special arrangements must be made for its inspection.**UC:E24/M1/3****1840**

Map of the parish of Checkendon.

Surveyor: Unknown**Description:** Map of the parish of Checkendon, showing the glebe lands picked out in colour.**Scale:** 1 inch to 2.5 chains.**Size:** 1310 by 3610 mm (it is 3870 mm wide if one included a protective piece of paper at one end).**Inscribed:** Plan / Showing the / Glebe Lands / in the / Parish / of / Checkendon / in the / County / of / Oxford / Surveyed / by / [name left blank] / in the year / 1840 [A key to the map is given, and the owners of various pieces of property are inscribed]**Signed:** [see above]**Dated:** [see above]**Medium:** Pen with buff, green, blue and red washes.**Support:** Paper (5 sheets, pasted together), lined on glazed cotton, with red silk lining on the edges, and a wooden roller on one end.**Comments:** This map was repaired in 2007/8. Note that it is particularly large (12 feet wide), and therefore, as with**UC:E24/M1/2** above, special arrangements must be made for its inspection.