

"The ancient church or chapel of Oldham having probably become dilapidated, the rector of Prestwich, who was also the third warden of the collegiate church of Manchester, determined upon rebuilding the same; and by an indenture of the date of the 4th November, 1476, he entered into contracts with the masons to build a new church at Oldham, of simple construction, paying them for the same the sum of £28. 6s. 8d. the materials to be supplied by the rector."

MLFHS : Oldham & District Branch

† “ This endenture made the iiij^{te} day of Nouem̄br the yere of oure Lord A mⁱ cccc lxxvj betwene Rauff Longley pson of Prestwich opon that one ptie and William Hamond Rauff Hamond e Miles Alenson masons opon that oy^r ptie the pties aforsaid ben aggred in mañ e fo^rme that folowes, that is to say the said William Rauff e Miles masons haue taken opon yam to make at Oldom a body of a churche in mañ e fo^rme that folowes, that is to say yai shall bynde e make sufficiantly iiij arches opon either side the Kirke w^t hewen stone of mason werke eñy arche of xij fete betwene the pillers and of heght vndre the arche xvij fote and of widdēnesse betwene the pillers oñthwarte xx fete and at aither end a crosswch oñthwerte that one according to the pillers that oyⁱ according for a Stepull w^t ij boterassez at the west end. Also on aitherside one yling of x fote wyde from the pillers and the wall of xij fote heght. In the yling on the southside v Wyndowes that is to say opon aither end one and opon the side iij and iij boterassez opon aither cornell one and one betwene the wyndowes w^t a dure e a porche yⁱto and in the yling opon the northside iiij wyndowes in aither end one and ij on the south w^t iiij botterassez at aither cornell one e betwene the wyndowes ij and a dure yⁱto and as for the wyndowes iiij of yaim eñy wyndow of iij lightes and the residew of ij lightes sufficiant e according to the werke all durres wyndowes boterassez pillers e gabull tables grounde tables and the arche in the porche of hewen stone. And to make all the residew sufficiantly w^t wallyng and aſt the grounde werke baret the said masons to laye the stone and to take the grounde werke. And if it happen that yⁱ fall any traves or disagreement betwene the said pties so that the werke be not sufficiantly made, then the said pties to be redressed by oyⁱ masons according to faithe e conscience. For the which werke in this fo^rme to be made the said Rauff pson g^runted to pay or make to be paied to the saides William Rauff e Miles m. or to yair assignes xxvii li. vj s. viij d. of leall money in mañ e fo^rme that folowes that is to say at the Fest of Saynt Nicholas next suyng the date of this endenture a Cs. and at the Natiuitie of Saynt John the Baptist then next suyng Cs. and so at the Fest of Saynt Nicholas yen next suyng Cs. and the remanent of xxvii li. vj s. viij d. to be paied when yai haue fynnyshed yaire werke. And this werke be fynnyshed e endet by Estur day that shall be in the yere of o^r lord A mⁱ cccc lxxix. Also the said Rauff pson shall fynde to the saidez William Rauff e Miles masons aforsaid stone lyme sonde water suyntrees scaffoldes and heaue and bringe yaim to the ground opon his coste and all oyⁱ stuffe longyng to the masons and to yaire crafte the said masons to fynde opon yaire awne coste. And to all thes coueñts well e truly to be pfo^rmed opon aither ptie the pties aforsaid byndes yaim by thes endentures. In wnesse of the which thing to aither ptie of thes endentures the pties aforsaid enchaungeably haue sette yaire Sealles. Yeven the day e the yere aforsaid.”

[The seals have perished.]