



The William Rowley farm where they entertained  
Wilford Woodruff in the 1840's.

Additions have been made to the original.

How it looks in 2005.

Ken's additions 2008

# Mars Hill

MarsHill  
Update Aug 2007  
Too large to print.  
See MarsHillJpg

- Visited by Bart & Janice Seever Summer 2005



“Mars Hill” is now called “Byeways”.  
Between being “Mars Hill” and “Byeways” it was a village pub.

William Rowley Family Farm

Mars Hill

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# Driveway of Mars Hill - 2005



• Pic #7060390

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Mars Hill

Back view

Rowley Family Farm

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# Mars Hill Back Yard



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Back yard at Mars Hill  
Notice how green and beautiful



Path behind the house  
Leading away from Mars Hill

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# Mars Hill Country Side



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# Mars Hill Country Side



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# Mars Hill Country Side



• Pic #P7060394

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# Countryside looking from Mars Hill



# William & Ann Jewell Rowley were members of the United Brethren

## Wilford Woodruff at Hill Farm

On 4 March 1840, Elder Wilford Woodruff, an Apostle of The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, and William Benbow, a recent convert, visited John and Jane Benbow here at Hill Farm. Sent from America to preach by Church president Joseph Smith, Elder Woodruff had been teaching and baptising in the Staffordshire area when he was prompted by the Lord to journey southward. William brought him here to his brother's home.

John Benbow, yeoman farmer and freeholder of this property, and his wife were affiliated with the United Brethren, a group of dissenters from the Primitive Methodist Church who held meetings here. Elder Woodruff's journal records:

"I told Mr. Benbow I would like to commence my Master's business by preaching the gospel to the people . . . and he sent word through the neighborhood that an American missionary would preach at his house that evening . . . I also preached at

the same place on the following evening, and baptised six persons, including Mr. John Benbow, his wife, and four preachers of the United Brethren. I spent most of the following day in clearing out a pool of water and preparing it for baptising, as I saw that many would receive that ordinance.

"I continued to preach and baptise daily. The first thirty days after my arrival in Herefordshire, I had baptised forty-five preachers and one hundred and sixty members of the United Brethren."

By December 1840, Elder Woodruff had baptised more than 300 persons and, together with other missionaries, converted 1200 others in the Malvern area. The Benbows later assisted in financing the first British publication of the Book of Mormon. Elder Woodruff's great missionary success helped create a strong foundation for the Church in Great Britain. "The people were praying for light and truth," he wrote, "and the Lord sent me to them."

This marker placed in commemoration of the 150th anniversary of The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints in Great Britain, 1987



# John Benbow's Farm

The 600 United Brethren were taught and baptized by Wilford Woodruff at the Benbow farm.

To Benbow Pond.  
Please Shut The Gate



# Pond at Benbow Farm

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Pond at Benbow Farm where early saint were baptized by Wilford Woodruff.

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# Dunns Close

is very near

## Mars Hill

"May 25th. We Spent the day in looking up the aged and infirm and baptized as many of them as would receive our testimony. I baptized 6 and Bro Richards confirmed them. One was 80 years of age. We preached at Dunns Close and spent the night at **William Rowley**. 4 miles

Wilford Woodruff Journal,  
vol 1 p 452

Aug 2007 akrc



# Dunns Close



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# Dunns Close side view

Dunns Close is  
mentioned in  
Wilford Woodruff's  
journal as being  
four miles from  
Mars Hill

A photograph of a living room with exposed dark wood beams. In the foreground, a sofa is covered with a patterned blanket and has a red and white striped hat on it. Behind the sofa is a wooden shelving unit with various items. To the right, there is a wooden cabinet with a clock on the wall above it and a window with blue curtains. The room has a cozy, lived-in feel.

Living room at Dunns Close where  
Wilford Woodruff preached

Shows what the inside of homes look like.  
Notice the style of the wood beams.



Modern day Kitchen at Dunns Close



Modern Bedroom at Dunns Close

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Stairway inside the homes.  
Shows how tight and tidy the homes are.  
Notice the age of the wood.

# Old Church in Suckley



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This roll tells who owns what...

	rd Lewis		Oddnetts Orchard	Arable	2	14	8	8	
	id		The Oddnetts	Arable	3	9	9	9	
	s Dee		Cottage and Garden	-		1	4		
	Phillips		Garden	-			13		
	rd Lewis		Thornhams Orchard	Meadow		3	25	2	5
	id		Orchard by Watkins	Arable	2	3	2	9	10
			Cottage and Garden	-			24		
751	Philpots Thomas	Benjamin Watkins	Cottage and Garden	-			24		
			Meadow by Watkins	Pasture	1	1	3		3
752	Philpots Thomas	In hand	The Ham Meadow	Pasture	4	2	34		9
753	Philpots Thomas	In hand	Mouse hole Meadow	Meadow	1	3	9		4 3
754	Romney William	In hand	Paper Mill Coppice	Wood	20	1	22	1	13 9
755	Philpots Thomas	In hand	The Moores	Arable	5	3	30		16 3
756	Philpots Thomas	In hand	Sheep hill	Pasture	9	2	19		14 1
757	Philpots Thomas	In hand	Penny Acre Hopyard	Arable		3	30		2 9
758	Romney William	In hand	Penny Acre Hopyard	Hops	2	1	6		6 10
759	Romney William	In hand	Penny Acre Hopyard	Arable	2		1		6 3
760	Romney William	In hand	Penny Acre Meadow	Pasture	5	3	17		14
761	Romney William	In hand	Little Marsh Meadow	Meadow	2	1	34		5 3
762	Romney William	In hand	The Middle Marsh	Arable	1	3	6		5 6
763	Romney William	In hand	The Pear Tree Orchard	Arable	4	2	5		15 3
764	Romney William	In hand	The Little Marsh	Arable	2	2	30		7 7
765	Romney William	In hand	Little Sheep Hill	Pasture	5	1	21		8 10
766	Philpots Thomas	In hand	The Ox Leasow	Pasture	11	1	30	1	2 4
767	Philpots Thomas	In hand	Alders Orchards and Dunns Close	Pasture	6	1	36		11 4
768	Philpots Thomas	In hand	Marsh Field	Arable	5	3	29		16 3
769	Romney William	In hand	The Lime Kiln Piece	Arable & Hops	2	1	6		6 10
770	Rowley William	In hand	The Seats	Arable	1	1	37		2 2
771	Romney William	In hand	The Leahs	Arable	3	2	36		9
772	Philpots Thomas	In hand	Cottage and Garden	-			32		
773	Williams Joseph	William Jones	-	-			13		
774	Williams Joseph	William Jones	-	-			36		
775	Williams Joseph	Thomas Winters	Cottage and Garden	-			36		
776	Williams Joseph	In hand	The bush Meadow & Lime works	Pasture	2		20		5 6

# Tithe Roll - Suckley

## Tithe Award - Suckley

Land Owner	Occupier		Use	A.	r.	p.	£	s.
777	Williams Joseph	In hand	The Bush Orchard	Pasture	1	1		3
778	Williams Joseph	James Tippin	Cottage and Garden	-			29	
779	Knill John	In hand	Cottage and Garden	-		2	6	
780	Knill John	In hand	The Seats Coppice	Wood	3	3	1	6
781	Rowley William	In hand	The Little Orchard	Meadow		1	18	
782	Rowley William	In hand	House and Garden	-		1	6	
783	Rowley William	In hand	The Big Meadow	Meadow	1		30	2
784	Romney William	In hand	Nicholls Close	Pasture	2	3	11	5
785	Lewis John	Stephen Furner	2 Cottages and gardens	-		2	3	
786	Lewis John	Stephen Furner	Dunns Close Orchard	Meadow		3	4	2
787	Lewis John	Stephen Furner	Garden	-			17	2
788	Lewis John	Stephen Furner	The Lower Sling	Meadow		3	29	2
789	Lewis John	Stephen Furner	The Little Orchard	Arable		3	25	3
790	Lewis John	Stephen Furner	The Big Orchard	Arable	1		39	5
791	Lewis John	Stephen Furner	Part of Big Orchard	Pasture		2	32	1
792	Lewis John	Stephen Furner	The Upper Sling	Pasture	1	1	25	2
793	Lewis John	Stephen Furner	Piece before the House	Arable	1	1	27	4
794	Lewis John	Stephen Furner	House and garden	-		1	2	
795	James Herbert	In hand	Bells Bank Orchard	Arable		3	17	
796	Philpots Thomas	Samuel Field	Cottage and Garden	-			22	
797	Philpots Thomas	In hand	Fields Orchard	Meadow	2	2	38	
798	James Herbert	In hand	Cottage and Garden	-		2	20	
799	Philpots Thomas	In hand	Cornowles Meadow	Meadow	3	2	32	
800	Philpots Thomas	In hand	Cornowles Meadow					
801	Philpots Thomas	In hand	Upper Cornorolls Coppice	Wood	4	1	15	
802	Garlick Anne	Essex John	The Batch	Orles and Pasture	6	3	17	
802	Philpots Thomas	Joseph Bird	Cottage and Garden	-		1	39	

This is at  
Mars Hill

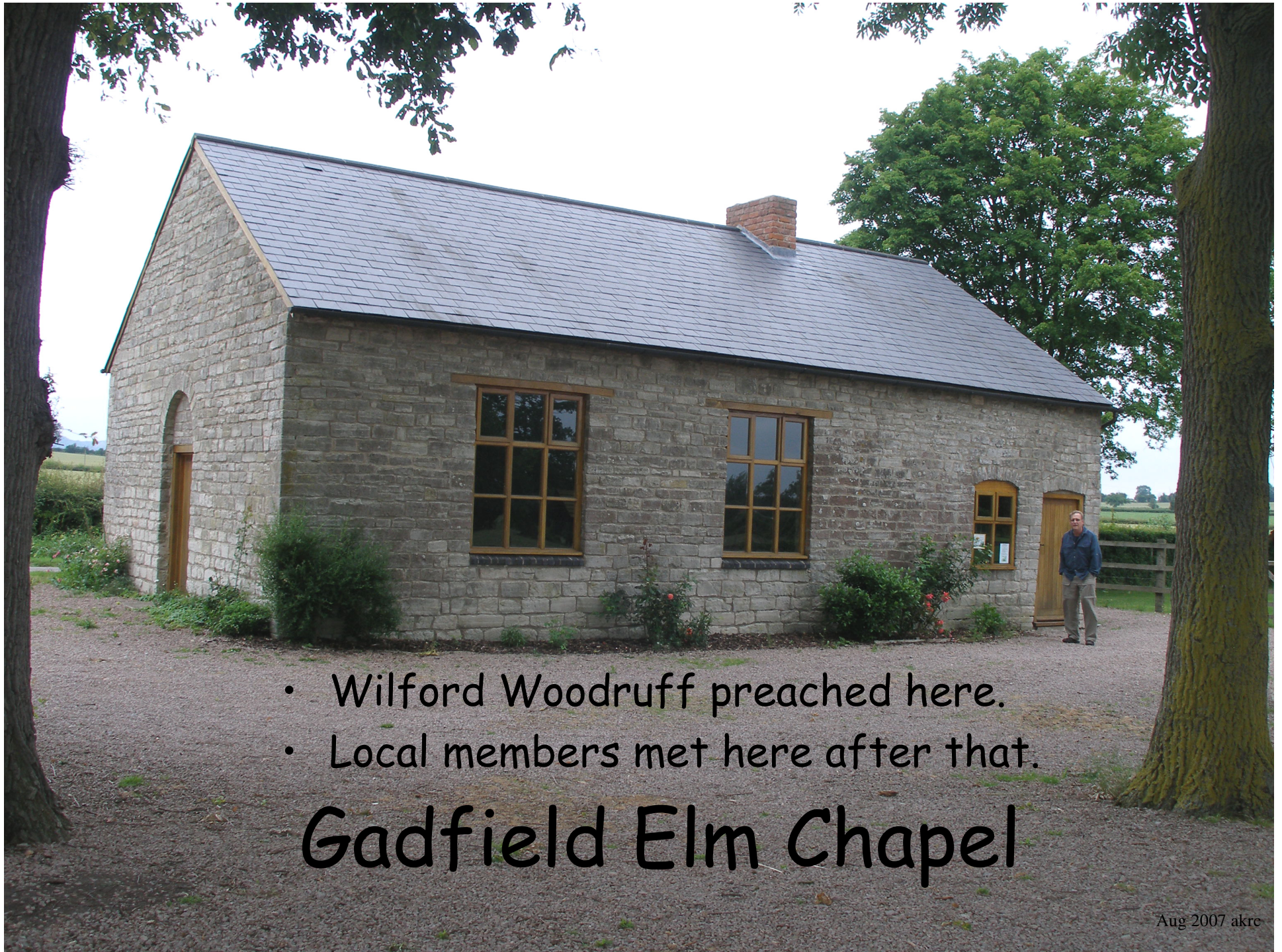


## GADFIELD ELM CHAPEL

Gadfield Elm chapel was of great significance in the early history of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints. In 1836 by the United Brethren, the Gadfield Elm chapel was given to the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints by Benbow and Thomas Kington. The chapel acted as the focal point of Church activity for those who migrated west to fulfil their dream of building a new Zion in the United States of America. Delegations meeting within a radius of 15 miles of the chapel.

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Young and Wilson, 1836, The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, preached at Gadfield Elm



- Wilford Woodruff preached here.
- Local members met here after that.

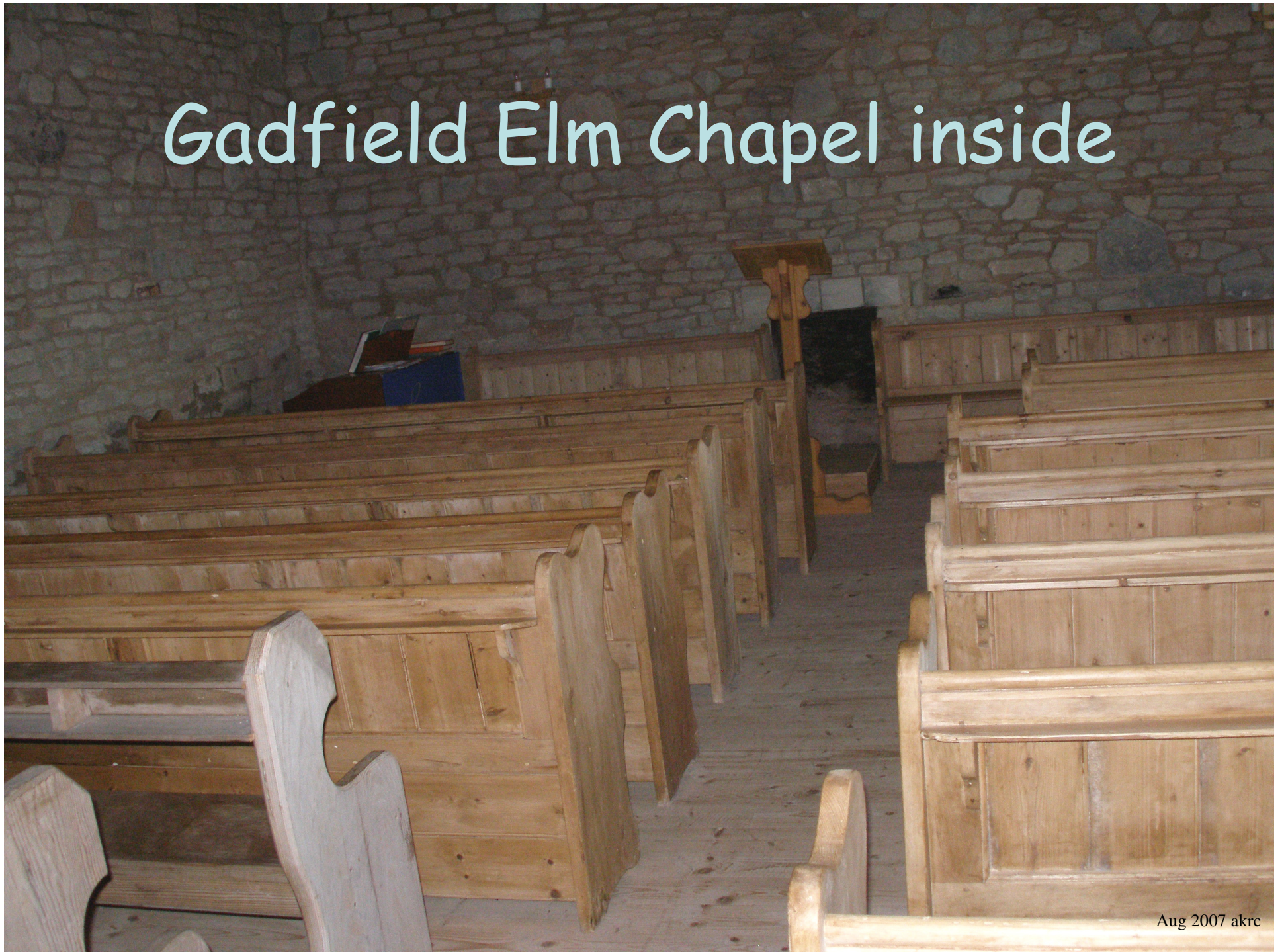
## Gadfield Elm Chapel



# Gadfield Elm Chapel

- today members answer questions to find the combination.

# Gadfield Elm Chapel inside



# Gadfield Elm Chapel

A section inside is set up as a museum



# Wilford Woodruff's baptism record

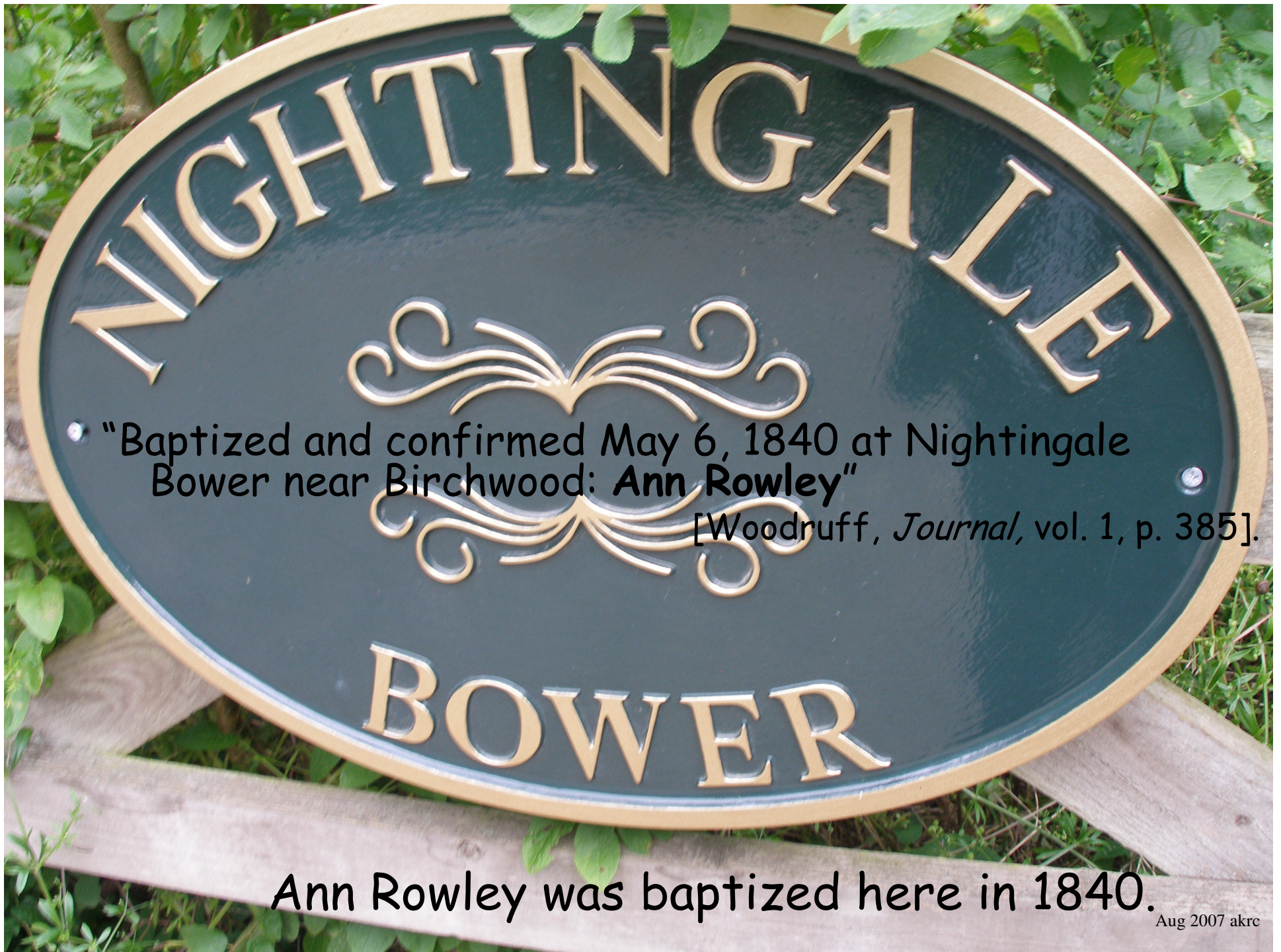
ROBERTS, Nathan	4 Apr 1840	Gatfield Elm
ROBERTS, Mary	9 June 1840	Deerhurst
ROBERTS, Samuel	5 Apr 1840	The Leigh
ROBERTS, Sarah	10 Mar 1840	Hill Farm
ROWBERRY, Ann	18 May 1840	Hope Rough
ROWBERRY, Elizabeth	21 June 1840	Frooms Hill
ROWBERRY, John	18 May 1840	Hope Rough
ROWBERRY, Mary	6 Mar 1840	Hill Farm
ROWBERRY, Mary	27 Apr 1840	Frooms Hill ["ROWBREY"]
ROBINS, Ann	8 Apr 1840	The Leigh
ROBINS, Mary	8 Apr 1840	The Leigh
ROCK, Sarah	29 May 1840	Shucknell Hill
ROCK, Elizabeth	9 Apr 1840	Haw Cross
ROCK, Henry	18 June 1840	Shucknell Hill
ROCK, Robert	9 Apr 1840	Haw Cross
ROWLEY, Ann	6 May 1840	Nightingale Bower near Birchwood
ROWLEY, William	24 May 1840	Tapperdy
SANDERS, Ann	28 May 1840	Cricks Green
SANDERS, Thomas	17 May 1840	Creek Green
SCRIVEN, Abraham	13 June 1840	?
SHEPHERD, John	24 Mar 1840	Hill Farm
SHINN, Charlotte	?16 Apr 1840	?Marden
SHINN, Eliza	19 May 1840	Keysend Street



# Gadfield Elm Chapel



Gadfield Elm Chapel inside



• "Baptized and confirmed May 6, 1840 at Nightingale Bower near Birchwood: **Ann Rowley**"

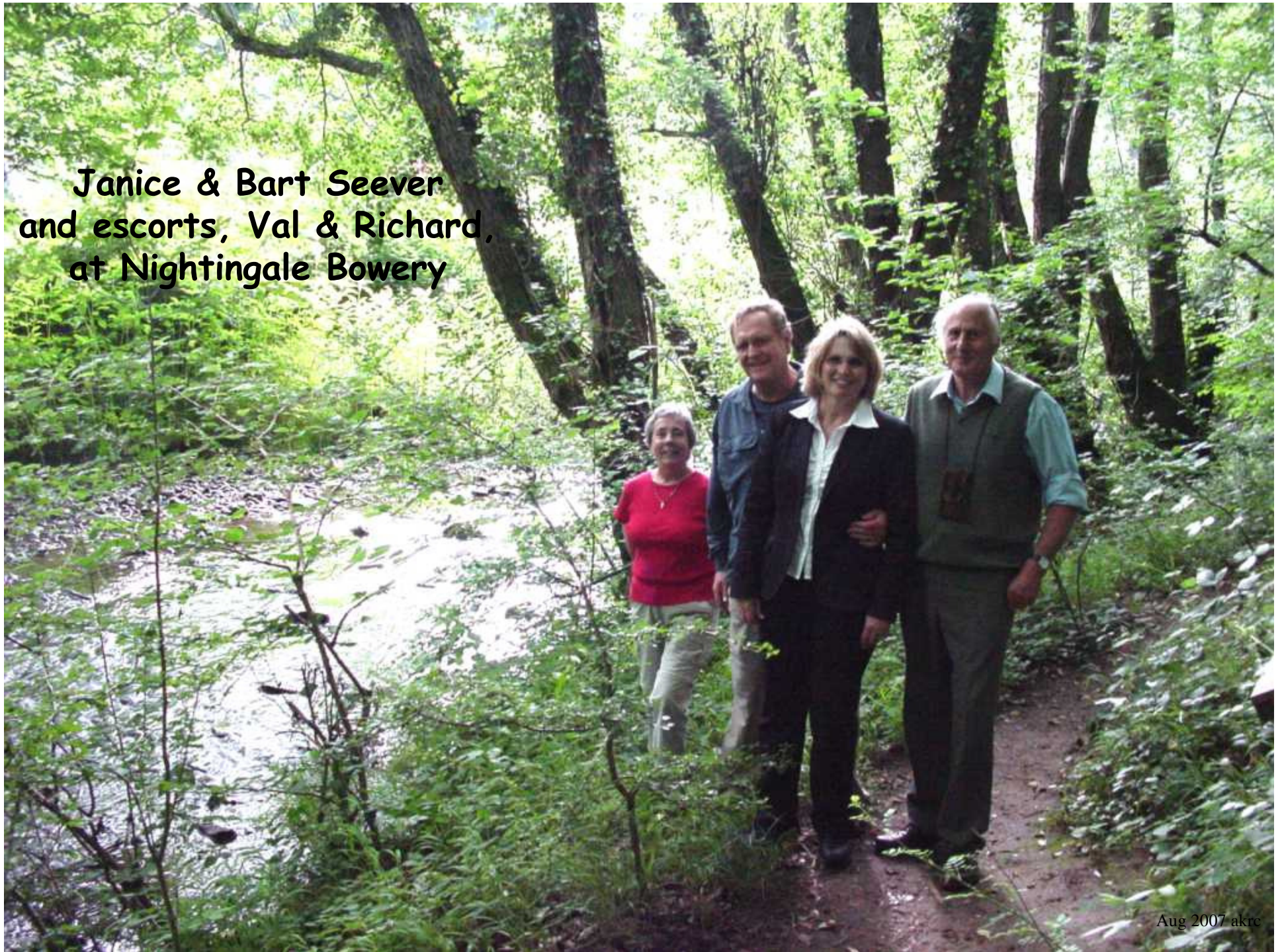
[Woodruff, *Journal*, vol. 1, p. 385].

Ann Rowley was baptized here in 1840.



Nightingale Bowery - This is where  
**Ann Jewell Rowley** was baptized.

**Janice & Bart Seever  
and escorts, Val & Richard,  
at Nightingale Bowery**



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# Nightingale Bowery House

Now home  
of Richard  
Harward



# Nightingale Bowery

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This couple act as a guide to Mormon sites in the area. They are not LDS. The Seevers were shown many interesting LDS sites and were able to go into the buildings in the area.



At Nightingale Bowery



# Mars Hill Images

Pictures by Janice Seever  
Visited Summer 2005

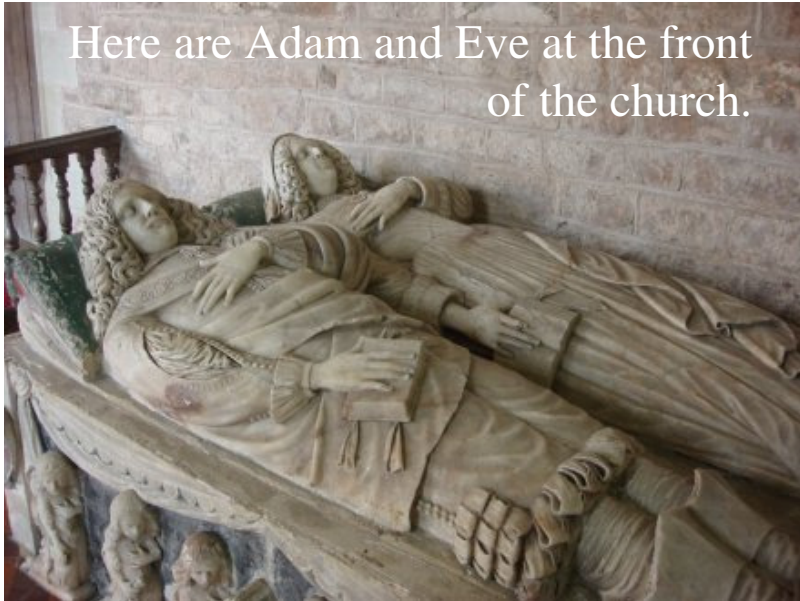


Old Time Gypsy Wagon - in the back yard.

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Here are Adam and Eve at the front  
of the church.

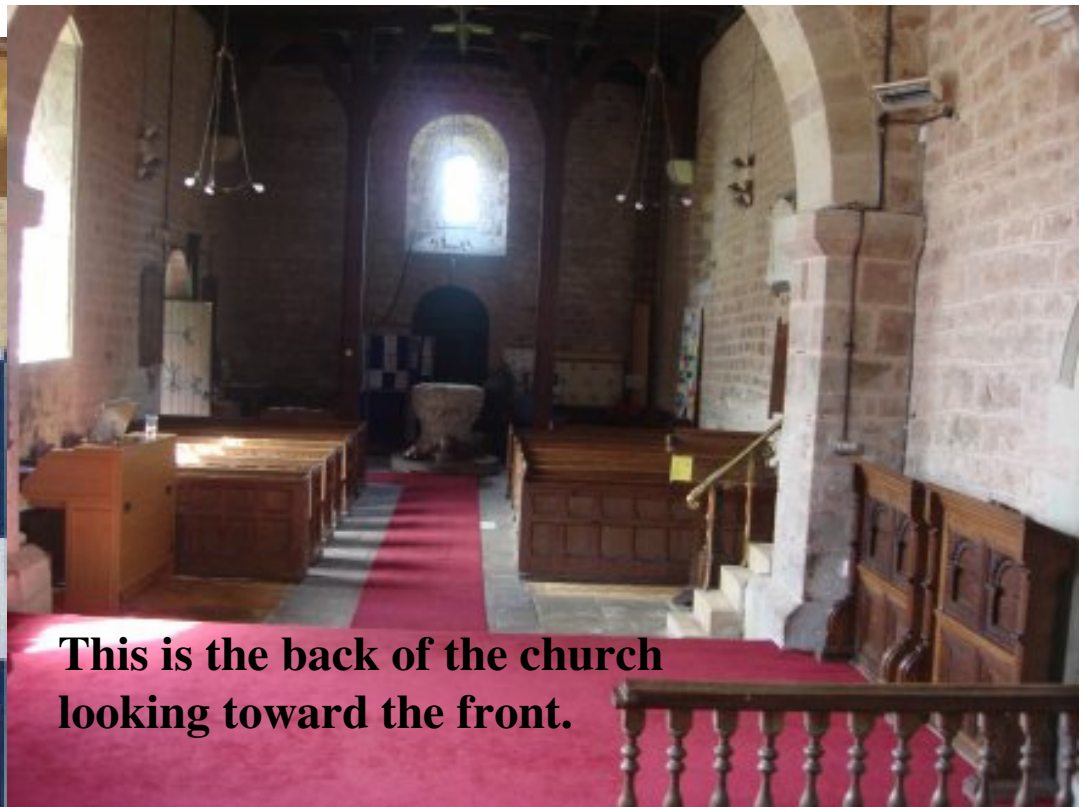
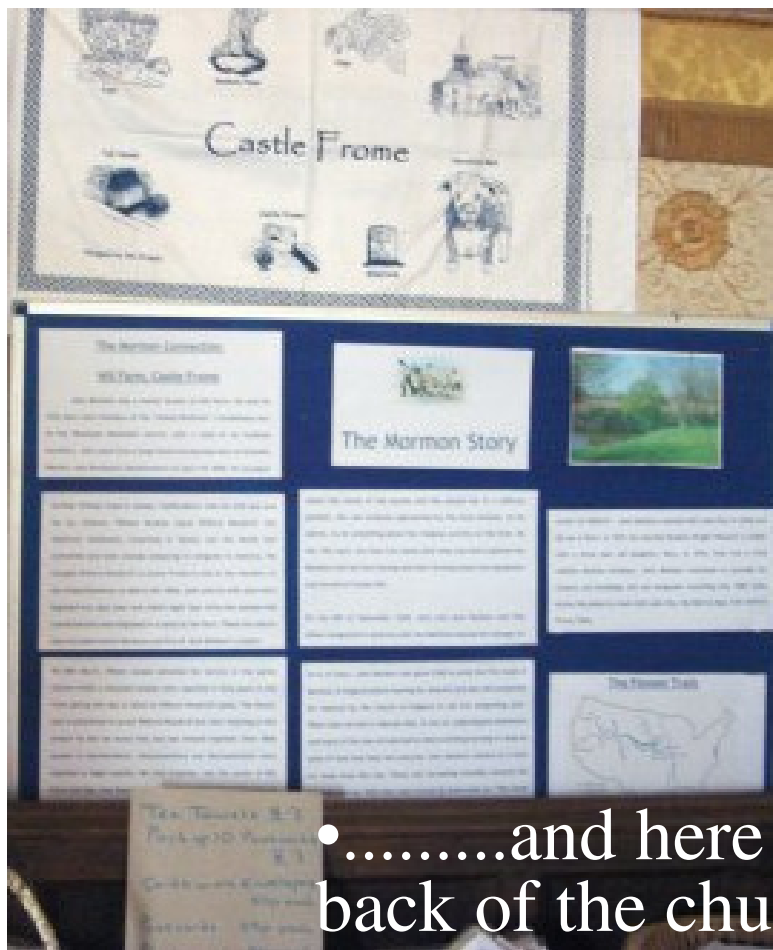


This is a Church of England  
around Suckley, where Ken's  
ancestors are from. It's a cute  
little church that is still in use  
today.



Ken Rowley  
England Pics

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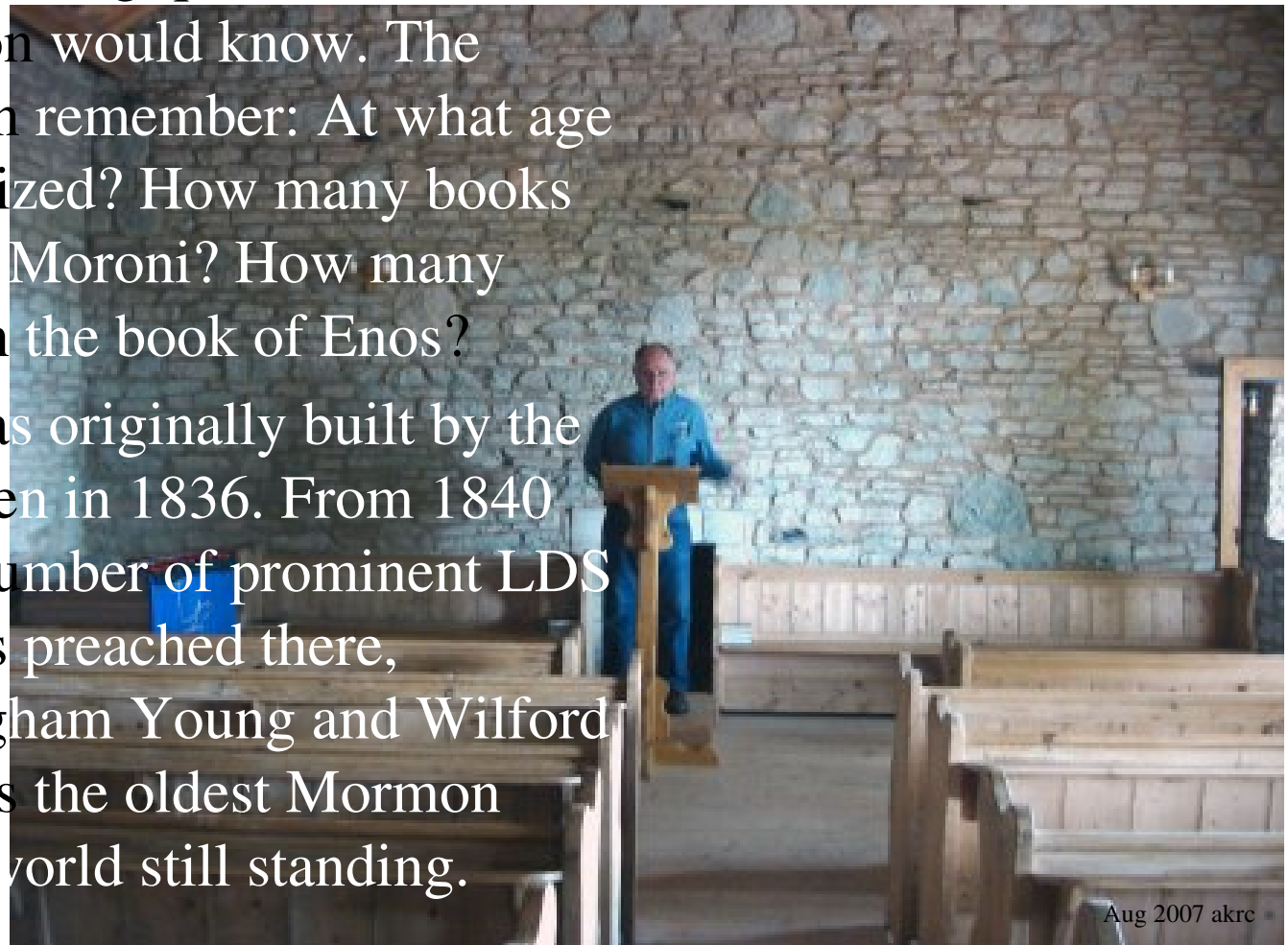
**This is the back of the church looking toward the front.**

•.....and here is the interesting part! At the back of the church there is a table with some Mormon pamphlets on it and a poster board telling about Wilford Woodruff coming and preaching in the area. There didn't seem to be any anti Mormon sentiment there like there is here in the western USA.

- **Ken is giving his sermon inside Gadfield Elm Chapel.**

## Ken Rowley

- You have to use a combination to get inside by answering questions that only a Mormon would know. The questions I can remember: At what age is a child baptized? How many books are there after Moroni? How many chapters are in the book of Enos?
- The chapel was originally built by the United Brethren in 1836. From 1840 until 1842 a number of prominent LDS church leaders preached there, including Brigham Young and Wilford Woodruff. It is the oldest Mormon chapel in the world still standing.



# Wilford Woodruff from Ken

## • **Wilford Woodruff at Hill Farm**

- On 4 March 1840, Elder Wilford Woodruff, an Apostle of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, and William Benbow, a recent convert, visited John and Jane Benbow here at Hill Farm. Sent from America to preach by Church president Joseph Smith, Elder Woodruff had been teaching and baptizing in the Staffordshire area when he was prompted by the Lord to journey southward. William brought him here to his brother's home.
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- By December 1840, Elder woodruff had baptized more than 300 persons and, together with other missionaries, converted 1200 others in the Malvern area. The Benbows later assisted in financing the first British publication of the Book of Mormon. Elder Woodruff's great missionary success helped create a strong foundation for the Church in Great Britain. "The people were praying for light and truth," he wrote, "and the Lord sent me to them."
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