

Map Reference 7 Mount Hermon Wesleyan Reform Union Church



Mount Hermon Wesleyan Reform Union Church was built at the junction of Main Street and Bolton Road in 1861 and is now a Grade II listed building.

The Wesleyan Reform Movement split from the Wesleyan Methodists in 1849.

This happened when three people were expelled from the church because they wanted it to be more democratic, so that church members could have more involvement in the running of the church. The Reformers hired a room at the Oddfellows Lodge and worshipped there before this church was built.

For the Millennium a stained glass window in the rear wall of the building was commissioned. It depicts the Good Shepherd and local beauty spots.



Until the early 20th century every Good Friday a walk was held with singers accompanied by a portable harmonium. Mount Hermon choir had a reputation for fine singing and was once invited to sing at the Crystal Palace in London. Indeed most chapels and churches had choirs and there could be rivalry between them.

DIRECTIONS - Cross Main Street and opposite The Crown you will see Lodge Hill. Walk to the top.

Map Reference 8 Oddfellows Lodge

Built in 1834, the Oddfellows Lodge stood on the right at the top of the hill. Wesleyan Reformers met here until they built Mount Hermon in 1861. The Lodge was demolished in 1972.

The Primitive Methodists built a chapel next to the Lodge in 1839 (now the yard of No 3) and continued to worship here until 1913 when the Chapel and Sunday School (now the Memorial Hall) was built in Main Street.

DIRECTIONS - Return to Main Street, turn right and continue down to the Memorial Hall.

Map Reference 9 Memorial Hall



The Memorial Hall was built as a Primitive Methodist Chapel and opened in 1913. The Primitive Methodist Society was formed in the 1820s and their less formal form of worship appealed to working people who were known as 'rangers'. Meetings were held at mills and in the open air. Early meetings were held behind the Crown Hotel and by the 1830s regular services were also held at Low Mill.

This new chapel on Main Street remained a place of worship until around 1955. The then vacant building was purchased, as a result of local fundraising, for a Memorial Hall. It commemorates those who gave their lives in World War 2.

The building is much altered with only the large windows and blocked doorway at the front as evidence that it was built as a chapel.

DIRECTIONS - Look across Main Street to High House opposite the War Memorial.

Map Reference 10 Quaker Meeting House



After the Quakers ceased meeting at Farfield Meeting House around 1820 they met in a building close to High House until they joined the Ilkley Meeting.

DIRECTIONS - Continue down the road to the fork, then down Church Street to emerge in North Street. Cross North Street and following the footpath sign, go ahead across the narrow bridge.

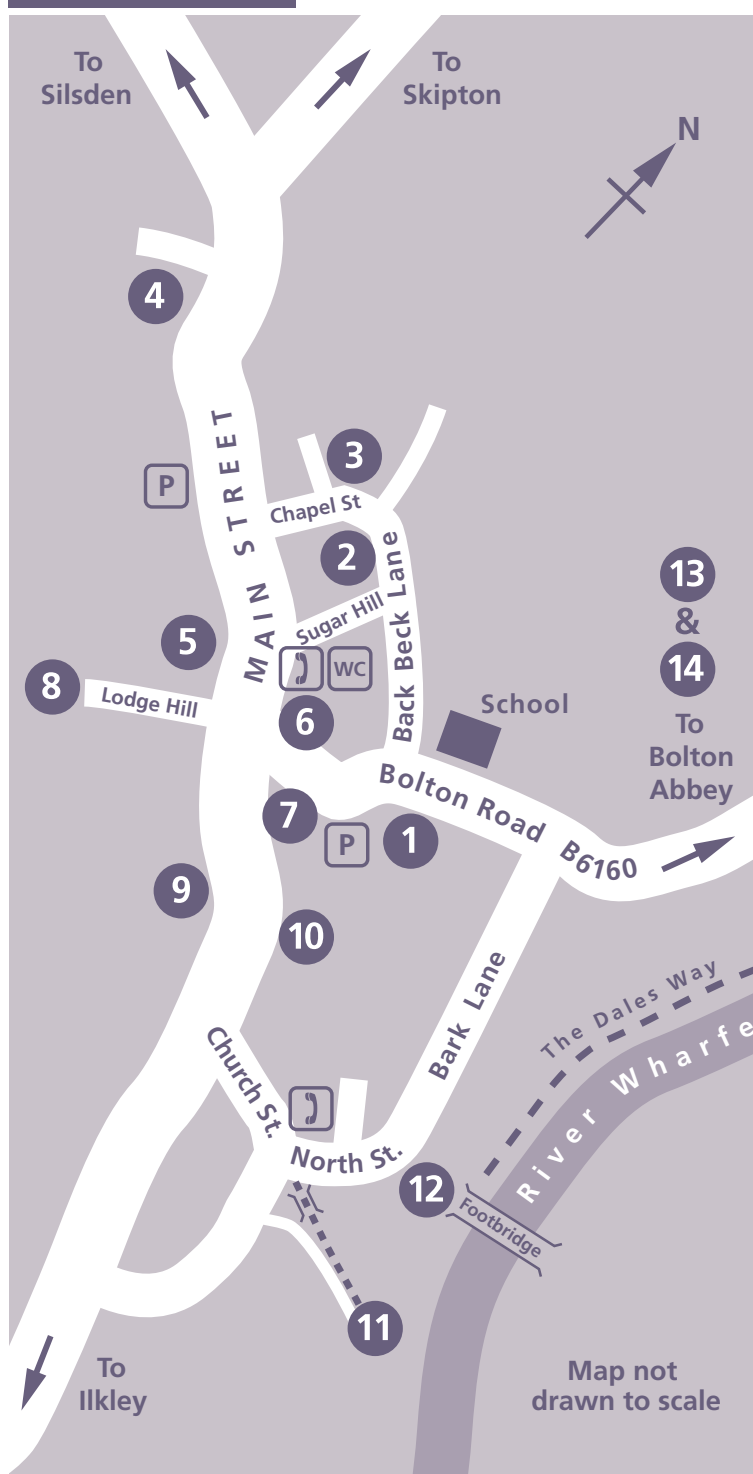
Map Reference 11 St Peter's Church



You are now in the Church grounds. This whole area is a Scheduled Ancient Monument.

The parish church of St Peter's sits on a raised bank with a steep drop behind it to the River Wharfe. The church is built inside what is possibly an Iron Age ditch.

Addingham Village



Christian worship began in Addingham before the year 867, when it is recorded that Archbishop Wulfhere fled to 'reside at Addingham' to escape Danish raids on York in that year. Around 80 unmarked graves excavated close to the present church hall have been carbon dated to the 8th to 10th century and a stone shaft dated 9th to 10th century has been found on the site.

The earliest building is likely to have been timber. The Parish was founded in the 1150s when the first stone church was built. Much of the interior survives from the 16th century, including the roof beams.



In 2007 dendrodating of the beams has confirmed that the north aisle was built in the 1520s or 30s. The coat of arms of the lords of the manor, the Vavasours, and Prior Moone of Bolton Priory are found on beam-ends close to the roof.



The church was extensively repaired again in 1750s and most of the exterior is from this date. Rebuilding the south wall and adding a bell tower cost £160 - considerably less than the £248 spent on the new bells, which were cast in London at the Whitechapel Bell Foundry.

The churchwarden's accounts have a number of interesting entries including the purchase of ale for bell ringers and ale for 'pouder plot' in 1752. Money was paid for 'destroying the picktours in the church' in 1650 at the time when King Charles I had been executed and Oliver Cromwell held power.

DIRECTIONS - From the Church grounds retrace your steps to North Street. Turn right along North Street to Ferryman's Cottage.

Map Reference 12 Footbridge



Here a ferry, and before that a ford, enabled Beamsley people to attend church, and the children to attend school.

There is now a footbridge.

DIRECTIONS - If you are not going on to Farfield Meeting House the trail ends here. To return to the start of the trail, walk ahead along Bark Lane and turn left at the junction into Bolton Road.

If you wish to walk to Farfield Meeting House take the Dales Way footpath alongside the river (stout footwear is needed). Do not cross the footbridge. Where the Dales Way emerges onto the B6160 at a house, cross the road to the rear of the Meeting House.

Farfield Meeting House can also be reached by car. There are two parking spaces for visitors. It is on the left of the B6160 towards Bolton Abbey, about 1.5 miles from Addingham.

Map Reference 13 Farfield Meeting House



The Friends Meeting House at Farfield is one of the earliest in existence. The Quaker movement began in 1652 and in the early days meetings would have been held in barns or farms such as at Upper Gatecroft on Addingham Moorside.

In 1666 Anthony Myers provided land nearby for a Quaker burial ground. When the Act of Toleration of 1689 enabled Nonconformists to build places of worship, he gave an adjoining plot of land for the Meeting House. He conveyed both the building and the land to a group of trustees for use by 'the people of God called Quakers... in consideration of the sum of five shillings of good and lawful money of England'.



The Meeting House is a one room building with stone walls and mullioned windows. There are two original loose benches made from large planks of wood against the walls. The simple style reflects Quaker thinking. In the burial ground are six chest tombs of the Myers family. These are unusual because individual display of this kind is not in keeping with Quaker principles.

In the early days Quakers could be fined or imprisoned for not paying tithes, not attending the Parish Church or refusing to swear on oath. The Myers family were among those who had property seized for not paying tithes and, in 1663, six men were apprehended when meeting to worship in Addingham. They were committed to York Castle prison for three weeks for refusing to swear on oath.

By 1820 worship was no longer held here.

The Meeting House is now in the care of the Historic Chapels Trust and is cared for locally by a voluntary group of 'Friends of Farfield'.

DIRECTIONS - To visit Bolton Priory continue along the Dales Way in a northerly direction alongside the B6160 with the River Wharfe on your right. At Bolton Bridge the footpath diverges away from the road and continues northwards to the Priory.

Map Reference 14 Bolton Priory



Bolton Priory was originally sited in Embsay, near Skipton. It moved in c1155 to land by the River Wharfe, given by Lady Alice de Romille of Skipton Castle. The boundaries between The Manor of Bolton and the west of Addingham were described in a Latin document. It is thought that the first stone Parish Church in Addingham was built at this time.

In 1539 at the time of the Dissolution of the Monasteries the building was sacked by King Henry VIII's men. Legend has it that Prior Moone cleverly had a wall built behind the High Altar and convinced the King's men that this was the parish church of the village. It has remained the parish church ever since. The monks dispersed and some were hidden by local catholic families. Prior Moone received a pension from the king.

The nursery rhyme 'Hey Diddle Diddle the Cat and the Fiddle' is said to have been about a dispute between a farmer's wife and Prior Moone about money owed to the priory. The farmer's wife (the cow) jumped over the moon(e), indicating that she won the argument.

The burial ground has some interesting graves including that of cricketer Freddie Trueman.



Beamsley Beacon

The present Catholic Church in Bolton Road was built in 1927 and was the first purpose-built Catholic Church in the village for over 400 years. The Church was named 'Our Lady and English Martyrs' to commemorate the two executed priests. The foundation stone is in Latin and there is a bell tower to the rear of the building but no bell. The architecture was very modern for the time, simple in style but with four striking triangular windows set in the roof on either side.

Lords of the Manor for Addingham, the Vavasours, held firmly to the Catholic faith. Travelling priests conducted mass in secret and were hidden by such families. Two priests from Addingham, Richard Holmes and Richard Kirkman were seized and executed at York in the 16th century.

Until Henry VIII founded the Church of England after his quarrel with the Pope in Rome all England was Catholic. Almost overnight Catholic Mass was outlawed and the monasteries such as Bolton Priory were closed. Catholics were persecuted for their faith from around 1530 for over 150 years.



Map Reference 1 Roman Catholic Church

The walking trail starts at the public car park in Bolton Road behind Mount Hermon Chapel (see Map Reference 7 on the map inside). Turn right out of the car park and walk towards the Catholic Church. A footbridge takes you along the streamside path. On your right is Map Reference 1.



The name Addingham comes from the Anglo-Saxon meaning 'the farmstead of the followers of Adda'. There may have been an even earlier settlement as a Roman road runs to the south of the village. Addingham is mentioned in the Domesday Book, compiled in 1086.

Addingham's History



This building was opened in 1874 as a purpose-built day school. Pupils paid 3d per week to attend full time. By 1890 there were 240 pupils in the two classrooms so it was extended. The school remained open until the 1970s when a new school was built. The building was then converted for worship.



Map Reference 3 Old Methodist School Building

DIRECTIONS - Continue along Chapel Street to the old Methodist school building.

In the mid 1970s the building was sold and converted to flats and worship was moved to the former Methodist School a little further along Chapel Street.

In 1825 the land around the chapel was given by George Oates Greenwood of Netherwood as a burial ground and his imposing family mausoleum is near the gate. This is a Grade II listed building.

As congregations grew, the chapel was enlarged in 1808, 1834 and 1880. By then Addingham had become the centre of a large circuit. Preachers would visit the outlying villages, walking up to 20 miles a day and conducting up to three services.



Map Reference 2 Wesleyan Methodist Chapel

DIRECTIONS - Cross the road from the church and take the footbridge across the stream. Turn right towards the school. At the end of the path turn left up the lane, initially keeping the stream on your left, to the first building on the left.

Turn now to the other side of this leaflet to continue the trail.

DIRECTIONS - Cross the road to Mount Hermon Chapel, Map Reference 7.

In 1828 a Wesleyan breakaway group, the Primitive Methodist Society, was formed in Addingham. Their earliest meetings were held in a room in an outbuilding, now demolished, behind The Crown before moving to Lodge Hill in 1839.

Map Reference 6 Primitive Methodist Meeting House

DIRECTIONS - Walk to the library. Here you will see a pictorial story board. The library was built in 1669 and has had several uses including as a school, a jail and to house paupers. Walk to the Crown Hotel.

Note the iron railings and gate next to the wall by the stream. This leads to what is now a private house but was for many years a venue for celebrating Catholic Mass.

Map Reference 5 Catholic Meeting House

DIRECTIONS - Turn back down Main Street. As you walk, notice the different carved dates on the stream with only a few farmhouses, barns and individual cottages along its length. Stop outside The Swan and look across the road.

Between about 1840 and 1849 a group of Independent Methodists (Congregationalists) began to worship in an upper room in this row of cottages, at what is now 15 Main Street.

Map Reference 4 15 Main Street

DIRECTIONS - Continue along Chapel Street and turn right up Main Street. Look for 15 Main Street at the end of a row of cottages.

Discovering Addingham's Churches



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Some of the information in this guide is taken from a history of Addingham by Kate Mason entitled 'From Brigantes to Bypass' which is available from local shops, libraries and the Civic Society - ISBN 0955523605

Websites for further information:
www.hot.org.uk/chapel2farfield.html
www.addinghamrectory.fsnet.co.uk

Supported by
 'Creating a Christian Timeline for Addingham'
 Revealing the hidden heritage of St Peter's and its environs



Introduction



This village trail aims to provide you with an insight into the way the people of Addingham have been influenced by

its religious heritage through the centuries. The trail has been made possible by the co-operation of all the churches in the parish.

The route links all known past and present places of worship and identifies a number of other historical features.

We hope you will take time to enjoy the village walk, which takes a leisurely two hours and is suitable for buggies. Some of the buildings will be open, so do explore inside.

The walk can be extended via the Dales Way to Farfield Meeting House (about 1.5 miles) and to Bolton Priory (a further 2 miles). This adds about 7 miles if you wish to return to the Main Street.

To start the trail please turn to page 2.

USEFUL INFORMATION

WCs are available at Sugar Hill on the Main Street.

There are several places in the village where refreshments can be purchased.

There are public phones at Church Street and Main Street at the Public Library (see map).

