

# Report on the former Methodist Chapel at Tolpuddle, Dorset

English Heritage - Tolpuddle Village Website



Description: -

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## Agricultural unionism in the South West

In the north east corner of the churchyard are two Grade II listed monuments, a headstone to the Standfield family dated 1788 and a headstone inscribed to John St Helier dated 1755. The Martyrs' Chapel, built in 1818, still stands but has not been used as a chapel since 1844 when the lease expired. The path climbs gently for 300 yards to meet the partly built by-pass which should bring peace back to Tolpuddle's main street.

## Campaigners fight to save derelict chapel where the Tolpuddle Martyrs met

The pre-Victorian ringing frame of the mid-17th century has survived and the original crown on which the bells hung is exhibited inside the church next to stone fragments of a 15th century stone fireplace that formed part of a chimney piece in the vicarage house. Historic England has worked closely with those involved during the long development of this exciting project, offering expert advice and funding and very much hopes to see it come to a successful close.

## Agricultural unionism in the South West

At least four, possibly five, were Methodists and three were preachers.

## Agricultural unionism in the South West

There is also a modern commemorative sculpture, which was built in 2000.

## Country Standard: Tolpuddle Rally 1952

Brick corner pier with moulded stone cap. The grave of James Hammett, the only Tolpuddle Martyr to return and live in the village, is one the west side of the churchyard near the walk. There is a beautiful original central pointed arched window opening on the rear wall which is blocked with brickwork.



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