

How did Godshill Church come to be built on top of a hill?

There are many versions of the legend, but Abraham Elder's version, first published in Bentley's Miscellany in 1839, is perhaps the only one that takes the form of a tall tale.

This volume includes Elder's original version, along with a recent retelling of it, descriptions of the legend from "Barber's Picturesque Illustrations of the Isle of Wight", published in 1850, and George Clinch's "The Isle of Wight" of 1908, and a poetical version from Percy G. Stone's *Legends and Lays of the Wight*, first published in 1912. A brief background note regarding the possible identity of Abraham Elder is also provided.

To keep up to date with traditional storytelling events and activities on the Isle of Wight, make sure you check the 'Tis Tales website – tistales.org.uk – regularly.



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A Legend of Godshill