

The Pilgrims' Chapel at Chapel Plaister



On the Bradford to Corsham Road you can find a unique gem of medieval history - The Pilgrims' Chapel at Chapel Plaister is a tiny, but unique part of our national heritage. It dates back to the 13th Century and stands beside what in previous times, was the principal route to the south west and on a main route for pilgrims travelling to Glastonbury to pay homage at the shrine of Joseph of Arimethea. This chapel would have provided a road side haven for the weary pilgrims lending shelter and a place to worship.

After the Reformation the chapel building was used as a store for beer by the public house next door, a highwayman hid from the authorities within its walls, farm animals have been housed here and after a floor had been laid it became the home of several families over the years but it was restored back to a place of worship in 1893, with a more recent and comprehensive restoration, taking place in 1999.

Chapel Plaister stands within the bounds of the former parish of Hazelbury, whose parish church has long since been demolished and encompassed into the parish of Box