

# Introduction

The church of All Saints, Satterthwaite, was originally a chapel within the large parish of Hawkshead. Like certain neighbouring chapelries, it was eventually separated to form an independent parish. A detailed history of the whole area was provided by H. Swainson Cowper in his book *Hawkshead - its history, archaeology, etc.*, (London 1899). More historical details can be found in *The Victoria County History of Lancashire*, Vol. VII (reissued in 1966).

The area around Satterthwaite is very rural, hilly, and sparsely populated. The hamlets of Grizedale and Graythwaite represent the other main settlements within the parish. A large proportion of the ground is covered by woodland, which is now tended by the Forestry Commission. At Grizedale, in recent times, a Forestry Visitor Centre has been created, and nearby is the well-known 'Theatre-in-the-Forest'.

The *Victoria County History* mentions references to the chapelry of Satterthwaite as early as 1577. It also gives the names of some early ministers. However, in 1733 the churchwardens reported that Satterthwaite chapel still remained unconsecrated. There was also at one time a small chapel at Graythwaite. But Bishop Gastrell's *Notitia Cestriensis* (published by Chetham Society, first series Vol. XXII) refers to this being disused well before 1722. The building at Satterthwaite was reconstructed and enlarged in 1835. In 1868, the incumbent first began to use the style of Vicar when signing the register. From 1881, the area was formally designated as a district chapelry. The church is currently held in plurality with Colton and Rusland, whose registers were recently published by the L.P.R.S. in Volume 133.

Satterthwaite entries were originally made in the Hawkshead registers, which have been independently published for the whole period between 1568 and 1837. The first separate register of baptisms for Satterthwaite commences in 1766, continuing to 1812. It is a thick volume, bound in white vellum. Its approximate dimensions are 8.5 by 13.25 inches, and it contains over 200 pages, of which only 58 have been used. The price '3 6' is shown on the flyleaf. At some point, it has received a few crude repairs with gummed paper and adhesive tape. Between 1783 and 1812, the register is notable for showing extensive additional details concerning each child's parents and grandparents. This is characteristic of the improvements that had recently been advocated by Archbishop Markham of York. All these extra details have been reproduced in the present publication, although the format has been altered for easier comprehension. Three early curates (John Jackson, Edward Ellerton, and J. Clarke) have signed the back cover of the early register.

The subsequent baptism register covers 1813-1893. It is in the standard George Rose pattern, approximately 10 by 15.5 inches, and containing 100 pages. Like its predecessor, it is now deposited in the Cumbria Record Office at Barrow-in-Furness.

Satterthwaite Church was not licensed for marriages until 1866. The burial ground, which is some distance from the church, was consecrated only in 1867. As with the original register, separate Bishop's Transcripts commence in 1766. Thereafter, they were maintained until the end of 1914 - an unusually late date. Differences between them and the original register are

shown in square brackets. All the deposited records are in reasonably good condition.

The present publication is based on two sources. A copy of a separate and unsigned transcript of the 1766-1812 register was deposited at Barrow in the early 1980's; this has been extended to 1840 and completely revised. All days of the week have herein been excluded, although they are shown against some of the dates in the original register.

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