

John Wesley and the beginnings of Methodism

In 1755-6 the first Wesleyan 'Preaching House' in Suffolk, now disappeared, was built by JOHN EVANS at his own expense in Anchor Lane just behind the present-day opticians. Older people might recall that this was behind the butchers' shop of Peter Vine. By this time non-conformism was strong in Suffolk.



Old Wesleyan Chapel

Having been asked to come and preach in the village by ANDREW ROLPH, John Wesley, co-founder of Methodism, made the first of several visits.

When the new Methodist Church was built the old chapel, which was in the back yard of GEORGE and ESTHER GATHERCOLE'S house provided accommodation for ZEPHANIAH (ZEPH). GATHERCOLE and his wife VERDUN.

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