

Mary Smith (Dwelling #693)

Mary Pears Smith was born on July 26, 1795 in York, Yorkshire, England. Her parents were John and Margaret Burton Pears.

Mary married William Smith on December 9, 1822 in Bradford, Yorkshire, England. William was the son of Richard and Mary Alice Hawkins Smith. He was born on September 9, 1799 in Stafford, Staffordshire, England. To this union were born five sons: Thomas Pears Smith, Richard Pears Smith, Charles Pears Smith, William Pears Smith, and John Pears Smith. They had one daughter who died at birth.

The 1841 England Census listed William Smith born about 1801, age 40, who lived in Leeds Town, Leeds Borough, Yorkshire, England. Also listed were Mary, age 40; Thomas, age 15; Richard, age 11; Charles, age 8; William, age 6; and John, age 4.

William Smith was baptized into The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints in England in about 1848. William and Mary, with their children, decided to join with the Saints in America. At that time, they were living in Bradford, Yorkshire, England. They sailed from Liverpool, England on September 5, 1849 on the ship "The City of Berlin."

William became very ill with cholera, which spread very rapidly among the passengers on ship. When only sailing for twelve days, William became very ill and passed away on September 17, 1849. Large pieces of coal were tied to his feet, and he was put onto a board and slid into the ocean for burial. Of the 253 Saints traveling on the ship, 56 died.

The 1850 U. S. Census, placed Mary, a widow, and her children in Big Pigeon. The family was enumerated as Mary Smith, age 55; Richard, age 20; Charles, age 16; John, age 13; and William, age 11.