

Benjamin James

(Researched on 18.3.09 by Van Goulding)

From Linton Records

Benjamin James was born to William and Elizabeth James on 28.5.1787

His parents were married on 26.11.1765. Both were from Linton, Elizabeth's maiden name was Warr. His father died on 14.10.1799 aged 67 (born 1728?). His mother died 26 July 1811 aged 70 (born 1741). She must have been 46 when Ben was born.

His siblings were

John baptised 9.6.1771

Samuel baptised 9.4.1773

James baptised 16.3.1783

David baptised 1778

Benjamin James married Jane Ennes 30.12 1806

Children mentioned in Linton Records –

David bap 6.6.1808 died 3.7.1837 aged 29

Hannah bap 3.2.1810

William bap 1812 died 17 4.1839 aged 27

Elizabeth bap 2.2.1813 died 1842 aged 29

Jane bap 14.4.1816

Anthony bap 30.8.1818

Charles bap 12.7.1821 died 19.2.1827 aged 5

Ann bap 29.1.1824

Ben may have been a worker on building the new road through Gorsley – from Newent to Upton Bishop and Ross-on-Wye, completed by 1810. Some of his land may have been used for the roadway.

Benjamin died 3.10.1861 aged 74

Jane James died 24 .9.1851 aged 68

Anthony James m Mary Ann Gatfield 31.12 1838

Elizabeth bap 27.10.1839

Charles Henry bap 5.9.1841

Maria bap 9.7.1843

William married and had two girls – Mary Ann and Susan (according to Will of BJ)

Jane married George Forty

Ann m Edwin Jones

Mary m John Drew (will of BJ)

CENSUS 1841

Benjamin James – 50 – farmer

Jane – 55

Elizabeth 25

Jane 20

Mary 10

Cottage next door - Anthony James – 20

Mary James – 20

Also William James aged 70 living nearby

John Drew of Kempley Green b 1798 was a farm labourer.

James 22 – sawyer

Eliza 12

Son John Drew born 1825 was married to Mary James

And living in Gorsley. He was a sawyer employing three men. They had two children – Jane and Lydia.

New Inn

Mary 34 b Linton

Jane 12 b Kempley

Lydia 10

Mary 8

Roseanne 6

Benjamin John 4

William 3

Martha Matilda 6 months

Next door - William Duffield and housekeeper

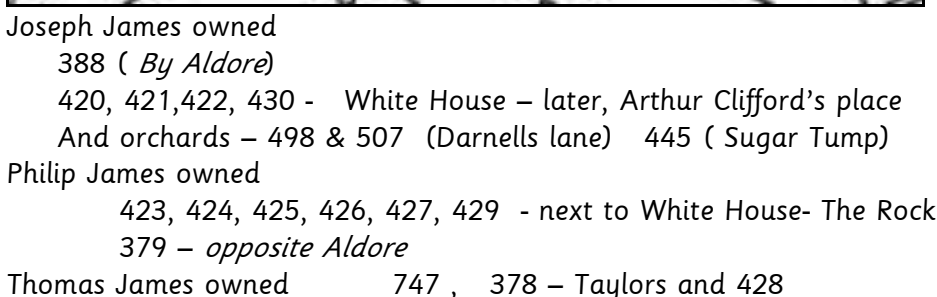
Benjamin James owned:

320, 321, 322, 323, 325 (cottage and land at Forty's pitch)

347 – land to east of Old Quarry piece

449, 453 and 452 (cottage and land – was Wadley home)





Woodend Lane, Greenway bank and Evans Orchard



Hillcrest on Forty's pitch – this was the farmhouse where Benjamin and Jane James lived. He was a farmer and road surveyor. In 1851 when Jane died their daughter came to live here with her husband George Forty and their two daughters born in Abergavenny – Sarah Jane and Rachel. It was possibly here that Edwin and Ann Jones (nee James) farmed until they moved to Longhope in 1870. Edwin was the son of John Jones of Oxenhall and son-in-law of Benjamin James.

This cottage opposite Prospect Row is mentioned in Benjamin James' will. It was bequeathed to his daughter Jane Forty.



Edwin Jones' younger brother John (whose wife was Lydia, daughter of John Hall) also farmed and lived in this area. John may have been at Ivy House (formerly Woodhouse Farm) or on the land opposite – now covered by rough ground where a former house was demolished. It was marked on the tithe map of 1839. In 1850 John Jones taught for a year at Gorsley Goffs. Then he returned to farming.



This is the modernised house called the Rock.

It is next to White House . Philip and Martha James lived here. Philip (1812-1900)
They had at least 7 children – George, Ann, Henry, Eliza, Peter, Ellen and William.

William married Sarah Jane Forty, daughter of George Forty.

They lived at Ford Farm, Kilcot, next to the Bunns (photographer and engineer at the
Gas works, Newent)

1831 Church Register of members

Names of members	How admitted	When admitted	If by letter
1 James Hartley Gorsley	By Baptism	In the reorganised Church Sep 7. 1831	1
2 Mary Hartley Wife to J. Hartley	By Baptism	20	1
3 William Phillips Deacon	By Baptism	20	
4 Jane Phillips Wife to W. Phillips	By Baptism	20	
5 Benjamin James	By Baptism	20	1
6 Jane James Wife to B. James	By Baptism	20	
7 Joseph Herbert	By Baptism	20	
8 William Lewis Gorsley	By Baptism	20	
9 Ann Lewis Wife to W. Lewis	By Baptism	20	
10 Samuel Lewis Linton	By Baptism	20	1
11 John Evans Gorsley	By Baptism	20	1
12 John Evans Gorsley	By Baptism	20	1
13 Hannah Evans Wife to J. Evans	By Baptism	20	1
14 Mary Jones Gorsley	By Baptism	20	1
15 Ann Jones Gorsley	By Baptism	20	
16 Hannah Davies Gorsley	By Baptism	20	1

Benjamin and Jane James were members of Gorsley Baptist in 1831. Their children also joined the church and some were lifelong members. George Forty their son-in-law was a deacon and secretary. He was followed by his nephew, another George Forty who took up similar posts, (leading to some confusion).