

A History of the Rise of
The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day
Saints
in
Alabama

Sources

Biography of Samuel Turnbow

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Anyone with historical information about the rise of the Church is invited to share that information by sending it to this website and it will be added. Thanks.

Samuel Turnbow became an important convert to the Church in Alabama when he was baptized during March 1840 at Canahauba River, Perry County, Alabama. He was visited and taught the gospel by **Benjamin Clapp**. He immediately helped build a Branch of the Church in the area with 56 members.

During 1844 he served a mission to Mississippi. There he had an experience of blessing a daughter of **John Utley** who then rose to good health after having been believed to be dead.

During February 1846 he moved by steamboat to Nauvoo after encouragement from Elder **William Steward** who came to the area to encourage members to move. He remained faithful through much hardship in Winter Quarters as he helped widows and children of the men who had joined the Mormon Battalion.

During the 1890s **John and James (Jim) Edgar** and their families became Latter Day Saint members while living in Andalusia, Alabama, and since there was no branch of the Church near their home, the missionaries advised them to move to Arizona where many of the Saints had gathered. This they did, but trouble plagued them from the beginning. They passed through Texas on their way back to Alabama, and decided to settle near Kelsey, in Upshur County in 1898.