



THE MARSH MOSAICS

CHURCH OF ST. THOMAS BECKET, FAIRFIELD TN29 9RZ



The definitive image of a Marsh church, this church sits alone next to a water-filled dyke and is visible from a great distance across fields and grassland. Until the 1960s it was often cut off by winter flooding, when it could only be reached by boat. Inside, the church presents a perfect 18th century interior with white-painted triple-decker pulpit and box pews, complete with oval text boards.

Geese fly in a v-formation against an **expansive sunrise**.

Local folklore suggests a **candle glow** can sometimes be seen in the church at night.

The **church** stands on the edge of Walland Marsh. The land here would **flood** regularly so a causeway to the church was eventually built. In 1912, the building was in danger of collapse, so it was faithfully reconstructed using the original materials.

A **great white egret** takes flight. These large birds feed in the marshy fields and wetlands.

Cattle graze in the rich pastures near the church.



Romney sheep were bred to survive the harsh conditions on the marsh. They were exported all over the world.

The **great crested grebe** is a striking bird with long head feathers. They glide on the waterways of the marsh.

Before the causeway was built, people would often have to cross by **rowing boat** in winter, or on horseback. The character's **top hat** here represents *Great Expectations*, which was filmed in the church. In the boat is the **large church key**.