

Hope in the 1850s

13. Changes in Edale Road



Beyond the Tythe Barn our knowledge of Edale Road in the 1850s becomes rather confused. A photograph taken in about 1900 shows that there used to be a small house in the corner of the Tythe Barn garden, then a gap, which was the entrance to the back of the Durham Ox. Next comes a house the lower part of which is today Watson's Farm shop and then the property which was the

Watson's former shop.

There is a story that the small house was the home in the 1920s of Mrs Bowden's gardner. His wife complained that the habituees of the Durham Ox woke her baby as they left the pub in the evenings. Mrs Bowden re-housed her gardner and had the house demolished.

We can only make a rough guess as to the occupants of that house and its neighbour in the 1850s. Likely contenders are Edwin Hobson and his wife Charity with two small children. He was an agricultural labourer and she was a dressmaker and milliner. In the larger house may have been William Rowland, born in Youlgreave, and his son Jacob, both of whom are described as "tinmen" together with four children aged between fourteen and seven, none of whom seem to have been at school.

Nearby lived Peter Rowland, also a tinman born in Youlgreave. His wife, Mary, was a mangler and they had three small children, two of whom were at school. Tinmen were tinsmiths and would have made pots and pans and other similar items.

We do know something of the next house (Watsons' former Farm Shop) which has what the late Frank Money described as "a cat-slide roof". This is an unusual building, unlike any other in the village and one of considerable antiquity. Some of the interior walls are very thick and the wooden roof trusses may well have had an earlier life elsewhere.

In 1850 it was owned by John Tym but was tenanted by Joseph Dakin and his wife, Hannah. They were described in the census as shopkeepers and Joseph was also a farmer of 12 acres.

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