

Hope in the 1850s

16. Bolsover and Kenmuir Cottages (40 & 41 on the tythe map of 1847)

These two buildings, beyond the old Butcher's shop, are set sideways to the road and would originally have had a long piece of land or croft beyond them.

Bolsover Cottage was occupied by two families. There are deeds that go back to at least 1785 when Thomas Wilcockson bought it from Francis Ingleton, a spur maker, and Benjamin Longden of Hope Woodlands. By the 1850s Mary Wilcockson, Thomas's granddaughter, was living there. She was aged 73 and described as an Annuitant but at one time she ran a school there, as remembered by John Hadfield, one of her former pupils. His testimony was found amongst the house deeds.

In the other half of the cottage were Mary Wilson and her son Robert. She is described as a farmer of 6 acres and her son as an agricultural labourer. At the time of the census her grandson, Hugh Greaves, aged 5, was living there too.

Kenmuir is probably the same age as Bolsover. It was divided into three houses and was owned by John Robinson who lived there with his wife, Elizabeth, and two sons. All three men were shoe makers. If this sounds familiar it is because I have had trouble with the number of Robinsons who are shoe makers and in my last article attributed them to Chapel Walk. My apologies. There are at least two Robinson families who are shoemakers and it is not clear from the census where they live. I have been able to use the Tythe map information to fix this Robinson family at Kenmuir as John Robinson actually owned the house.



One of the other houses in the row was occupied by Joseph Siddall, a glazier. He is the only glazier mentioned in the census return. We are beginning to build a picture of the different trades and occupations that occur in the village.

Ann Price

Sources: 1847 Tythe and 1851 Census returns. Additional information from the Watson family.