

Note There were important Barker families in Baslow, Bakewell Edensor and Rowsley. In this series there are family Trees for Baslow Bakewell and Edensor with additional notes on Baslow and Edensor.

I have written a longer article on the Baslow and the Lead Industry which appears elsewhere on the website

There were five Barker families in Baslow – the Barkers at Bridge End, the Bubnell Barkers (Weavers), the Curates, George the lead smelter and John of Bubnell House.

The Bridge End Barkers

There were a family of Barkers in the village from the late 1600s possibly earlier. In the late 1700s they lived at Bridge End but little more is known about them. The family appears to have died out in the village in the early 1800s

The Bubnell Barkers (Weavers)

Frances Barker came to the village in the early 1700s. His grandson also Francis lived in Bubnell and had four sons, all of whom were weavers. The tradition was carried into the next generation. The name was common in the village in the early 1800s, but had disappeared by 1891.

The Clerical Barkers

John Barker (b1761) was appointed curate (variously described as parson and perpetual curate) in 1794. He was well educated with a university degree. He contributed £50 to the rebuilding of his parsonage in 1797. On his death in 1824 his was succeeded by his first son, Auriol and then briefly in 1853 by his second son Frederick. The later stayed only a few months before being appointed Bishop of Sydney in Australia.

They have the largest tomb in the churchyard, immediately north of the chancel.

George Barker from Edensor

Joseph White was a prominent and well to do Baslow resident, who probably lived in a homestead (later demolished in 1827) close to the old bridge. In his will his assets were valued at £298 including land at Totley. His sister Maria married William Barker of Edensor. He died in 1728 leaving his assets to his daughter Deborah.

William Barker of Edensor was steward to the Duke of Devonshire and was heavily involved in the lead industry, latterly in association with Thomas Barker of Bakewell. He had several sons all of whom took part in the lead business. The eldest Alexander succeeded him as steward to the Duke.

George 1722-1752, a younger son of William, was active in the business especially in the smelters. He married his cousin Deborah White in 1743 and lived in Baslow until his death at the young age of 30. According to a memorial in Edensor churchyard, he had only one surviving son Alexander, who with his grandson Caleb continued in the trade. Alexander lived in Totley. Perhaps it is no coincidence that the Barkers had more than one smelter in the Totley and that Deborah Barker White had inherited land there.

See my article on The Barkers of Baslow and Edensor

John Barker of Bubnell

According to Ancestry (the Watt family) he was born in Darley Dale in 1743, son of a Robert Barker. In the mid 1780s, he came to Bubnell House (next door to today's farm). He had married Hannah Barker and his first child John was born in Bubnell in 1787. Most of the information comes from the large tombstone in Baslow churchyard situated just outside the north aisle. John was "destined for the church" but instead enlisted under Wellington and was killed at the siege of Badajos in Spain in 1812.

His youngest daughter Elizabeth lived in Bubnell until she died in the 1850s. The 1841 census lists 5 servants in the house – more than anyone else in Baslow and Bubnell. It must have been a wealthy family

Please refer to the Barker family tree files Baslow, Edensor and Bakewell.

The main source is the parish registers of Births (Baptisms) Marriages and Death. Other sources include memorial Inscriptions, Hearth Tax, Tithe Awards and occasionally word from the families themselves, and more.

There appears to be continuity of tenure over the years. A family in the 1500s could well have occupied that same dwelling as his descendant in the 1848 Tithe Award.

Baslow includes Bubnell. Records from Curbar Calver and Froggatt appear in the Parish records, but are not included here. The family trees are some times bases on incomplete evidence and accuracy is not guaranteed.