

The Cawton Family

The Tannery (The White House)

The Tannery

The White House in Calver Road (at the junction of White Lodge Lane) was originally the village tannery. At the time it was well outside the main village. The tanner lived in the adjoining house. Some of original buildings have now been converted to dwellings, and more built in the grounds. It is not known when the tannery was started: The first mention of the industry is in the 1829 edition of the gazetteer Glover when lists Michael Rowland as listed as tanner. It remained in use until the early 1860s when it was bought by Samuel Hibbert, a local carpenter and builder.

The Tanners – the Rowland Family

The Rowlands were a prominent local family who had lived in Baslow for generations. They owned houses and land in the village, including in the late 1600s, some fields on the east side of Calver Road near White House Lane. In 1665 Robert Rowland, the eldest son of the family married the heiress of Horselegate Hall in the Cordwell Valley and went to live there, leaving the rest of the family in Baslow. The Cordwell family prospered, with business interests in Sheffield. Some became Cutlers. In the late 1700s the Hall was sold: William the eldest son went to Sheffield, Ethelred b1768 married a Joshua Cawton b1767 of Sheffield, Michael b1770 became a tanner and in 1829 was at the Baslow tannery. It is not known how long the family had been in the trade, perhaps for generations.

The Tanners – The Cawton Family

Michael retired in the early 1830s and was succeeded by his nephew Joshua Cawton b1798. The latter died at the early age of 37 and his brother Charles b1805 a bachelor took over until his death in 1863.

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