

## The Kay Family

Other early spellings of Kay include Hay and Key

William Kay 1757-1836 lived at Clod Hall, for certain between 1788 and 1836, as his children were born there

Clod Hall is in an isolated position on Eastmoor, on the upper reaches of the Blackleach Brook, close to the large bog area known as Leach Fen. In pre turnpike days it was at a crossroads with marked by the nearby mediaeval Wibbersley Cross. There were roads to Chatsworth, Baslow, Tideswell, Dronfield and Chesterfield. Nearby there were early lead smelting sites or boles and some early ore hearths. Blackleach Brook was earlier called Smelting Mill Brook. The date of the first building there is not known.

William Kay 1757 – 1836 is the first known occupant. The first record of Kay family and of Clod Hall is an entry in the Parish Register of the baptism of his daughter Sarah there in 1788.

Baslow Enclosure Award was in 1824. This enabled the Duke of Rutland, the Lord of the Manor, to gain total control of all Baslow Common Land. The moors rapidly became Grouse Moors. Clod Hall became a Gamekeepers Lodge, and William Kay and his family was rehoused on one of two cottages just to the east of Robin Hood Inn. It is now one of the two buildings in Robin Hood called Robin Hood Farm.

This was the family home for the next 100 years. The Kays were small farmers with a few fields around the house, stone masons, road labours and toll collectors.

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