

NOTES on The BASLOW METHODIST CHAPEL

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From Notes lent to me by John Foote of Baslow , much of which is from "Miss Morten's Notes"

The Methodist Chapel, at Over End Baslow

In 1795, Rev J Buckley passed through Baslow. There was a storm and he sheltered at Penistone Cottage. Mrs Penistone was interested in Methodism. He son Ralph became a keen convert.

Ralph then bought (or he may have owned already) a plot of land at Over End (between the present School Land and Daisy Bank. The Methodist Chapel was erected there and opened in 1796.

In 1797 Trustees (including Ralph Penistone) bought the land from Ralph Penistone for £200

The following is from a Copy of the original Conveyance, dated 1795

between Ralph Penistone Yeoman and the Trustees, who were

Anthony Thompson of Whitely Wood Merchant
Abraham Hill of Whitely Wood Sawmaker
John Heald of Offerton Yeoman
Samuel Ibbottson of Hurst
William Ibbottson of Hathersage Yeoman

Abraham Cooper of Eyam Yeoman
Peter Merrill of Eyam Flaxdresser
Matthew Andrew of Eyam Miner
Ralph Penistone of Baslow Yeoman

The Trustees bough the property for £200

The property is described as a

Building or Tenement, in possession of Paul Sidebottom
Another building formerly shop, now a cowhouse in possession of Valentine Ashton
Garden on south side of dwelling house

All of which Ralph Penistone had purchased from Humphrey and Robert Rowland

Note. The building bought by Ralph Penistone had been used to make felt hats, for sale in Hyde!

The document continues with rules for the Chapel

Baslow Wesleyan Sunday School.

It was erected in 1822 on land belonging to John Lees of Beeley Hill Top, on the present School Lane, opposite and below the present school. The building was paid for by voluntary donations and the subscription of well disposed persons

The following is from a copy of a copy of a Bargain of Sale, enrolled at the High Court of Chancery dated 1 July 1837, Between

John Lees of Beeley Hilltop and the Trustees, who were

Thomas Burgoyne of Edensor,
Joseph Andrew of Grindleford Bridge
John Vickers the Elder Calton Lees,
John Vickers the Younger
Thomas Gardom Farmer
William Shillito
Joseph Riley Yeoman
George Sheldon Mason

Charles Morten
Thomas Hallatt fo Heath Lee
Luke Bridge fo Pilsley Yeoman
John McDonald of Beeley Mason
James Froggatt Curbar Yeoman
Rev Joseph Griffithes of Methodist Minister at
Bakewell

The Trustees bough the land on which the Schoolroom had been built for £7 10s. The area is described as 14 yards 10 inches by 10 yards 12 inches

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The traditional main road up the village (now School Lane) passed up Daisy Bank where the original causes or paving is still in place. When it was built the main door of the chapel opened onto this road. In 1812 (according to a note on a map) they re-routed that road to its present position. This involved a deep cutting and the partial destruction of the village pound (all that remains is the triangular area of grass near the front of the Village Shop). The chapel was subsequently modified so the main door moved to the opposite, south, side of the building. Later The Alma was built partly over the old road creating the narrow footpath in use today.

In 1976 the Chapel was sold to become a private dwelling, and its function taken over by the older Methodist Schoolroom. The Methodists made use of St Anne's Church until the renovated schoolroom was opened at Easter in 1981

The old schoolroom was used as a church.

Services stopped in 2021

David Dalrymple-Smith
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