

## Cotgrave Brick Makers

For much of the nineteenth century, there was a small brickworks half way up Owthorpe Road, just above The Gripps. This thesis is supported by the existence of 'Brick Makers' as listed in the various Census Returns, as follows:

1841	William Hill (aged 40)	Born in Nottinghamshire, but we know not where!
1851	Samuel Parker (18)	Born in Nottingham
	Matthew Warham (50)	Born in Nottingham
	William Fin (70)	'Farming Brickmaker', Born in Long Eaton
1861	Matthew Warham (60)	Born in Nottingham
1871	Matthew Warham (69)	Born in Nottingham
1881	Walter Benreade (30)	Born in Harby
	Edward Davies (17)	Born in Montgomery, Newtown
	Daniel Cragg (30)	'Brick Yard Labourer', Born in Hawton
1891	Thomas Garratt (47)	Born in Cropwell Bishop
1901	No Brick Makers	
1911	No Brick Makers	

However, we also have information from Trade Directories:

White's Directory 1832 – William Hill, Brickmaker, Cotgrave.

White's Directory 1851 – William Hill, Formerly Brickmaker, Cotgrave

White's Directory 1853 – Mathew Warham, Foreman Brickmaker  
William Parker – Bricklayer and Brickmaker

Kelly's Directory 1904 – Robert Smith Richard, Brickmaker, Cotgrave

From OS Maps we also know that the brickyard was 'Disused' in 1915

It is significant that all these workers came to Cotgrave from elsewhere. In a sense, this was not so much a 'Cotgrave' activity as part of the more general Brick Making which went on in many parts of Nottinghamshire during the nineteenth century. However, it is interesting to speculate just how early this activity began – old houses in Cotgrave (such as Orchard Cottage) were built of brick and it would be nice to think that the bricks came from Cotgrave's own Brick Yard!

2016



OS Map 1883



OS Map 1899



OS Map 1915