

Clothing

The industrial revolution developed very rapidly in the latter half of the 18th. century and the beginning of the 19th. century. Though quality linens, bright calicos and durable wool were available many women still produced their own. It was also common to barter their handiwork.

The Tannery

Mr. Phineas Reed operated a large tannery for many years around the turn of the century. His sons, Daniel and Charles eventually took over the business. Charles manufactured heavy shoes in great quantity. His services were in great demand.

The folks who chose this line of work probably were not popular with their neighbors. The process of creating the leather is said to send off very offensive odors.

Potash

A potash manufactory was in existence as early as 1793. Owned and operated by Jonas Warren, it would have been in great demand.

Potash has many uses today. Then it would have been used mainly as a fertilizer. Most people being farmers, an endless supply of this product would have been needed.

The Blacksmith Trade

Two families ran successful businesses in this area, the Davis family and the Bowker brothers, Bartlett and John. The brothers were in the trade in 1780 and for years afterward. These families served this town as well as others.

The blacksmith industry played an important role in the days when towns were developing and growing. Items on the blacksmith's list included horseshoes, carriage parts, log sleds, wagon tires (a wheel is wood, a tire is iron) and farm implement parts. His forge was hot, his tools ready. These dedicated workers produced useful and lasting pieces for our early residents to use.