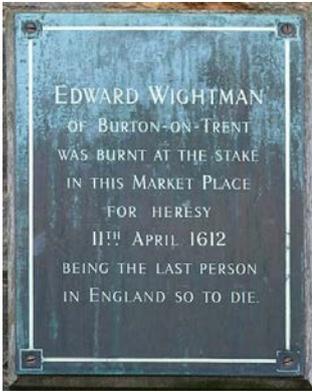
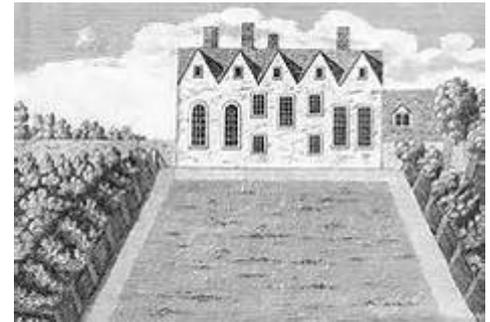


WYKIN *Wich or Wicken means a dairy settlement. This elongated village is situated on a ridge approximately 100 metres above sea level. The elevation gives good visibility to the south in particular where the Roman road, the Watling Street, crosses the horizon. In far earlier times this was the glacial lake known as Lake Harrison, which stretched to the Cotswolds, making Wykin a seaside village!*



The village is dominated by Wykin Hall, a working farm but 17th century in origin. It previously had moat and pond features and was the home of the Wightman family. One of the family members, Edward Wightman, later of Burton on Trent, was a notorious religious heretic, proclaiming himself the Holy Ghost and therefore questioning the divinity of Christ. He was burnt at the stake in Litchfield market place in 1612 . He was given the

chance to recant, thought about it, but decided against! The current occupants, the Sheppard family, came from Nottingham.



Wykin Fields Farm was the hub of an agricultural seed merchant business when occupied by the Palmer family.

Archaeologically speaking, work by the Hinckley Field Walking Group in the period 2005-2008 revealed evidence in the fields on either side of Wykin ridge of artifacts dating from the Palaeolithic (500,000BC) all the way through the Iron and Bronze ages to Roman and Saxon evidence. The axe heads from the ancient era confirm the anecdotal story that an earlier researcher, the late Ron Waite, noticed such an item in a front garden rockery, in the village!

Close to the village is Spring Hill Farm the scene of a Wellington bomber crash during the Second World War. There was a nearby airfield, RAF Nuneaton, sited just off the A5 Watling Street, close to the village. In a roadside spinney close to the crash site, a lady eccentric lived in an old railway carriage. She was the sister of an Archbishop of Canterbury!

Mention should be made of the late Arthur Tomlin, whose farming family were from the village. Arthur was a gifted artist and ironwork craftsman. His work can be seen in many places in the area. His passion for local history led him to be one of the founding directors of Hinckley and District Museum and his articles in the local press, attracted admiration from many readers. The road off the ridge down towards Higham on the Hill in the village is known as "Tomlin's Hill".

