

- Henry Hall 1584, husbandman, in his will leaves '*a stone of dressed hemp*' to Alice his '*maide servante*' [29/1/48].

- The inventory of George Throgmorton, gent, 1635, lists '*twoe wheeles*' in the kitchen [175/1/6].

- Mr Phillip Box lived in College Farm in 1715. His inventory lists three '*spinen wheels*', two '*in the Garret to the street*' and one in the chamber over the kitchen. There was '*about 16 or 17 tod of wool*' in the back garret [116/3/48].

The earliest surviving probate document that relates specifically to the weaving trade is the will of Thomas Orchard, 1571, '*Woollwynder*' [185.110]. Thomas had two sons both called John. At the end of his will he leaves to his eldest son, John, '*a myll to be a standarde unto the howse to the use of the said John*'. No other item in the will relates to his trade. Was this '*myll*' a wool-winding machine? Was he winding hanks of wool/warps for weavers in South Newington and neighbouring villages?

In the seventeenth century, according to the *VCH*, the Kinge family owned the South Newington Mill. It was both a corn mill and a fulling mill. John Kinge was the fuller when he died in 1624. Both his will and inventory survive but, apart from stating that he is a fuller in the preamble, there is no mention of any tools particular to his trade. However, two spinning wheels and some '*yarne of wool & hemp*' valued at ten shillings are included in the inventory [39/2/38].

Two sets of probate documents survive for actual weavers, Richard Buckingham, 1678 [7/1/19], and his son, also Richard Buckingham, 1715 [116/3/43]. Their occupations are stated in their will preambles. The inventory of Richard Buckingham, 1678, lists the tools in the shop. Presumably the shop was where the looms were and where weaving took place. Interestingly one of the appraisers is one John Kinge, fuller – a descendant of the John Kinge who died in 1624. The inventory of Richard Buckingham, 1715, makes no mention of any items connected with his trade. We do not yet know where in the village these weavers worked.

Owners of a house in Moor Lane think that it may have been built by weavers. It is a fine double-fronted eighteenth century Hornton stone house that originally had two tall windows (over the ground and first floor) at the back of the house. Could this have been a Buckingham house?

Other documents that provide evidence of a growing weaving 'industry' in the village in the seventeenth century are deeds.

Old deed documents found in the roof a cottage in Green Lane give more confirmation of the weaving industry in South Newington and the names of more of the weavers. (The numbering of these documents is mine.)