**Camp 83** **(& 250) - Eden Camp, (Ryton), Malton, Yorkshire**

Included in the 1945 ICRC Camp List – Labour Camp. 83. Eden Camp, Old Malton, Malton, Yorks.

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| **1947 Camp List** |
| 250(G.W.C.) | Eden Camp, Old Malton, Yorks | N. | Priswar Malton | Malton 182 | Malton | Lt.Col.R.H.O.Hanbury | v/1453/2 |

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| **Prisoner of War Camps (1939 – 1948) - Project report by Roger J.C. Thomas - English Heritage 2003** |
| OS NGR | Sheet | No. | Name & Location | County | Cond’n | Type 1945 | Comments |
| SE 797 735 | 100 | 83 | Eden Camp, Old Malton, Malton | Yorkshire | 1 | GermanWorking Camp | STANDARD type. Military museum.See Camp no.250. |

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| **This site is a museum with a lot of information available. Brief history below.****Location:** About 2 km N of Malton.**Before the camp:** Farmland.**Pow camp:** Numbered 83 and then 250.**1942** – Constructed by British troops and Italian pows,supervised by Walter Birch and Sons, builders from York. While the hutted site was constructed, the pows were accommodated in tents – some helped to build, while others worked on local farms. The camp was built as a ‘standard type;’ with a main pow compound surrounded by barbed wire, and guards’ huts and offices at the front alongside the road.**May and November 1944** - The camp was listed as an Italian Labour Battalion under the Northern Command area, (WO 32/10737). There is a story that a young Italian pow tried to escape a bullying Italian sergeant and was caught entangled in the barbed-wire. Italian POW / Artist G.Parisi was help at this camp (landscape pictures on museum website). Possibly Giuseppe Vittorio Parisi, Italian artist, 1915 - 2009. [Not confirmed].**During 1944** - part of the camp accommodated Polish forces prior to D-day (in a hostel perhaps?). **28 September 1944 onwards** – German pows replaced Italians in the main camp. **7 March 1945** – International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) Camp Report by Mr Bieri. Capacity 650, Strength 630. Abridged translation:Camp Leader; HptFw Herbert Damm. Deputy C/L: HptFw Horst Moeller. |  |
| Ordnance Survey 1958 |

“*The barracks are well set up and are surrounded by pavements and concrete paths. Flower beds were created by one of the pows ​​who, in civilian life, is a teacher at the Berlin Agricultural School. The order of the camp is perfect and everything is very clean. Electric light is installed as well as stoves for heating*. There was a football pitch.

*Bedding – each man has 3 blankets and a sleeping bag.*

*Sanitary facilities – there are enough latrines and the pows ​​have hot and cold showers.* [At most sites hot water was only available on certain days].

*Food – No complaints were made. The kitchens are spacious and clean. The menus served on the day of our visit:*

*Breakfast – oatmeal with cocoa, bread, marmalade, tea.*

*Packed lunch – for members of working parties; Sausage, bread, tea, margarine.*

*Dinner – stew with beef, fish salad, bread, tea.*

*Camp Infirmary – 1 room with 14 beds, 1 isolation room with 2 beds. Eight beds were occupied on the day of our visit. Well installed with electric lighting and central heating. M.O. Oberarzt Ernst Hartmann. Dentist Stabsarzt Benedikt Meister. Sufficient medicines. About 40 pows visit each day. General health was good.*

*Clothing and uniforms – the distribution of underwear, shoes, etc., is complete; about 40% of the troops have uniforms.*

*Work - Almost all pows ​​work in supervised detachments. Ninety men work alone, or in groups of two to four, without supervision. The farmers who employ most of the pows are very satisfied with the German pows. Pows ​​are paid at the rate of 1½d per hour and on average earn 4/6 (4 shillings and 6d) per week.*

*Canteen – spacious, clean and well-maintained. Relief fund – amounts to £161*

*Religious activity – The camp does not have a German padre. RC: an English chaplain celebrates mass every Sunday. Protestants: The M.O. chairs a Bible class once a week.*

*Library – about 70 books.*

*Education – limited due to lack of teachers. There are 2 classes for English with 135 pupils. There was a small orchestra.*

*Mail – this was starting to arrive; 382 letters during January and February, but these were to just 110 men, all others had received no news at all from their families. 43 parcels had also arrived.*

*Requests – The Camp Leader asked for; padres and teachers to be sent, sheet music, paper, pencils etc, books, a new football.*

*The MO asked for cigarettes for the patients in hospital, watches for the MO’s.*

*Conclusion – A very good camp with firm discipline.*

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| Oversight and development of re-education activities and English teaching for German pows was carried out by PID (Political Intelligence Department of the Foreign Office) / COGA (Control Office for Germany and Austria – UK). Visits and reports were made. The standard of the reports varied greatly. The visitors took little interest, if any, in activities other than re-education. They rarely mentioned welfare, sports, games, pastimes, crafts, etc of the pows. |

**7/8 August 1945** - English Inspector’s Report. The visitor was very well received. He met the commandant, interpreter and pow teachers. He advised on books and texts, and gave lectures.

Commandant: Major L E Keiller; he was interested in re-education, but did not believe in fraternisation. He allowed £30 from the Welfare Fund (built up through sales in the canteen) to be used to buy books and teaching texts. He was due to be demobilised in a few months.

Interpreter: S/Sgt Frewin, also showed an interest in re-education.

**15 September 1945** - Hostels listed for pows from this camp (WO 32/10737): Strensall, York / Wydale (Hall), Snainton, Yorkshire.

**5 October 1945** - English Inspector’s Report. 175 pows attending classes with 4 teachers.

Commandant Major Keiller was being replaced by Major Holding. Adjutant: Lt Turner Asst Commandant: Captain Clayton. [Later, Commandant at Elmswell Satellite].

Teaching materials requested.

**22-24 January 1946** - English Inspector’s Report.

The Commandant was co-operative, however he stressed that the purpose of the pow camp was to get the prisoners working, and this took priority over other activities. This was a view held by most Commandants.

**29/30 April 1946** – English Inspector’s Report. Very brief background information – the camp was very well organised; it had its own chapel and an information room which was also used as a library.

Lagerfűhrer (Camp Leader) – Schroeder, aged 46, schoolmaster, also the study leader in the camp. He spoke English and had attended the special training course at Ascot Camp. Well regarded by these and subsequent visitors.

There were sufficient materials and texts for teaching English.

**30 April/3 May 1946** – Report mainly concerned political screening. Strength 1112 at main, + 1 hostel and billets.

Commandant: Major E W Holding Camp leader: Uffz Waldemar Oskar Edwin Schroeder (A+)

Interpreter: Private Collins Deputy C/L: O/Gefr Max Grosse [or Gross]

The Commandant promoted the welfare of the pows and was much respected. This report stated that he also promoted re-education, but does not state how.

The Interpreter was a “*young German jew… who has no experience and is a very poor substitute*” [for S/Sgt Frewin].

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| Main camp political screening: | A+ | A | A- | B+ | B | B- | C | C+ | Not known |
|  | 5 | 172 | 1 | 113 | 352 | 119 | 61 | 7 | - |

Morale was generally good, but news from Germany had a depressing effect. A major complaint, here and elsewhere, was information that Nazis in Germany were being released and employed in responsible positions.

**24/26 June 1946** – Visit to; 1 Review re-education, 2 Interview selected priorities. Strength; 2 officers, 781 Other Ranks + Sherburn hostel omitted (no reason given).

Commandant: Major E W Holding [due to leave] Camp leader: Ob Wchtm Gross (A) [Previously deputy]

Interpreter: None Deputy C/L: Fw Werner (B)

 German M.O.: Stabsarzt Dr Teepel (C). Dentist Stadsarzt Dr Meister (B)

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| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Political screening for main and billets: | A | A- | B+ | B | B- | C | Unscreened |
|  | 179 | 1 | 87 | 288 | 83 | 116 | 29 |

This was a high number of A grade (white) pows in comparison to most camps.

Since 1 May, 11 sick and 4 A grade pows had been repatriated. The A grade pows had all attended the special training course at Ascot.

Morale was ‘*fairly high*.’ The camp was “*well laid out and pleasantly situated.”* The pows had employment and recreational facilities were good.

About 1/3 were ‘youth pows’ = under-25. Most camps ignored them, in this camp there were special education courses available for English, German and political lectures and discussions. There was a youth choir. 2 special huts were used for those under 20.

The standard list of re-education activities was given:

Wochenpost and Ausblick – 200 / 65 copies. More Ausblick requested.

Newspapers – A range of British papers were received, more were requested. 6 to 8 German papers + occasional Swiss papers, were sent by PID.

Library – 1100 books, but many were in bad condition. More requested.

Lectures – regular and popular.

Discussion groups – ended when the previous Camp Leader was repatriated.

Films – Fortnightly with multiple showings. Supplied by YMCA and Gaumont British.

Wireless – a large powerful set linked to 3 loudspeakers. A small set in the barber’s shop. Extension speaker in the youth hut.

Camp magazine – Planned but not produced due to lack of paper and difficulties with duplicating.

Press review – Weekly.

English Instruction – 20 beginners / 20 intermediate / 18 advanced.

Other camp activities –

Religion – Protestant padre, O.Fw Sann (A) held weekly services with 80 – 100 pows, 2 evening services, daily evening prayers and a Bible class.

No RC padre. The RC priest from Malton conducted mass each Sunday for up to 120 pows. There was a weekly Catholic Circle meeting, Thursday services, and monthly services at the church in Malton. A RC padre from Thorpe Hall Camp 250 also visited monthly.

This amount of activity was far greater than most other camps and it was noted that religious interest was very high.

Education – Classes for French, Italian, maths and a Literary Club.

Theatre – 20 members giving performances every 4 to 6 weeks. Shortages of make-up and costumes.

Orchestra – 17 members with 6 violins, viola, double-bass, 2 clarinets, 2 saxophones, 2 trumpets, trombone, accordion, guitar and drums. A range of music played – dance, light, chamber and classical. Many members were professional musicians and the orchestra was regarded as excellent.

Choir – 4 choirs! Camp and Youth choirs gave a range of performances. Catholic and Protestant choirs sang at church services.

‘Selected priorities’ were usually pows selected for repatriation as being required to re-develop Germany, (e.g. miners, administrators) – OR, those being selected due to ill health / compassionate grounds. Other than being stated as a purpose for the visit, no further reference was made to this.

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| **It was stated in this report that the camp was “*to be taken over by camp 250.*” Although it took that number when senior personnel were transferred, the HQ remained at the Eden site. The camp expanded with 2 satellite camps and more hostels. The War Establishment was increased and the Commandant’s rank became Lieutenant Colonel, rather than Major.** |

**20 January 1947** – Now Camp 250. Re-education survey. Strength 4 officers, 1987 OR, at HQ, 13 hostels and billets.

Commandant: Lt Col R H O Hanbury Camp leader: Owm Hans Wagner (A)

Interpreters: Capt A G Bentley & J J Wadey B.Q.M.S. Deputy C/L: Fw Franz Kammann (A)

 German M.O.: Stabsarzt Theo Huetten (C)

Capt Bentley was NOT an interpreter in German. (Interpreters were often Intelligence Officers – this may be the case here?)

Interpreter Wadey had been a pow in Germany (BQMS = Battery Quartermaster Sergeant in the Royal Artillery).

C/L Wagner; “*a very good type,”* but being repatriated.

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| Simplified political screening figures were given: | A+ | A | B+ | B | B- | C | Unscreened |
|  | 51 | 1139 | 65 | 736 |

160 pows were appealing against their screening grades – the better the grade, the sooner repatriated, in theory. 310 pows repatriated to date.

Morale was regarded as ‘*fairly good*.’ The main negative factor was slow repatriations.

25% were youth pows - “*no immediate problem*.” A weekly youth discussion meeting was attended by 20-30 pows.

The standard list of re-education activities was given – similar to the previous list; changes were:

Library - up to 1679 books.

Discussion groups – restarted weekly in main camp with about 30 attending. Also held in some hostels.

Camp magazine – issued, but still a shortage of paper, (as everywhere).

Education – classes for Italian, shorthand, maths and literature.

**24 April 1947** – ICRC Report. Strength 1902 – 5 officers (the M.O.’s); 1897 OR.

Commandant: Lt Col R H O Hanbury Camp leader: Fw Heinrich Doeringshoff

 Deputy C/L: Fw Paul Beck

Nationalities: 1573 Germans, 328 ‘Rumainians,’ 1 Russian. Pows had arrived from camps in the UK, USA, Germany and Belgium.

Discipline was recorded as ‘*good*,’ but there were 4 men in the detention block.

The general state of health described by the senior M.O. was; “*Medium chronic illnesses and injuries*.” He requested more cigarettes for patients. Nutrition was generally “*good*.”

Pows were mainly working in agriculture, others with the Ministry of Works, supply and transport.

The canteen was short of razor blades. Sales of cigarettes had fallen by 50% due to a price rise.

Religion – Protestant and RC chaplains in place.

Sport – Ground available.

Education – Classes for English, maths, shorthand, farming, French, Russian.

Entertainment – Theatre group with 8 members, orchestra with 20 instruments. Films from YMCA shown every 3 weeks.

No complaints from the C/L. One pow complained that a parcel from the USA had been opened in his absence and cigarettes were missing. Parcels were to be opened in the presence of pows after this.

General impression – “*Good. Commandant’s treatment of POW is fair.”* A further comment was made that the Camp leader did “*not leave a first class impression*.”

**28/30 June 1947** – Re-educational survey. Strength; 7 officers, 1970 OR.

Commandant: Lt Col J L G Marjoribanks Egerton Camp leader: Fw Paul Beck (B+) [was deputy]

Interpreter: BQMS S/Sgt J Wadey Deputy C/L: Fw Karl-Ernst Gossel (B+)

 Senior M.O.: St/Arzt Dr Theo Huetten (B-) [had been C graded].

The Commandant started about 6 weeks earlier. He was interested in re-education and held a monthly meeting with all hostel leaders.

The BQMS had very weak German and was not liked by the pows.

Because of the size of the camp there was an overall Camp leader (above) and a leader for Eden Camp; Uffz Kurt Rugenstein (B+).

Simplified screening in place: A 67; B 1910. 50 appeals were pending. 671 pows repatriated to date.

Morale was regarded as ‘*fair*.’ The usual negative factors applied – slow repatriation and bad news from home.

Outside contacts were; “*of good influence but rare, probably due to the nature of the East Riding population. An exhibition of wax figures showing scenes from Belsen Camp is said to have prejudiced the people of Bridlington who made gestures of throat cutting when passing Ps/W in the streets*.” Visits to Norton Town Council had been made.

Although a large percentage of pows were youth, only about 20 attended special group meetings.

The standard list of re-education activities was very similar to the previous report. Changes –

Travelling Films had replaced Gaumont Films at the main camp; they charged 6d which was considered to be too expensive and some films were not popular as they contained elements of wartime propaganda.

Press reviews were carried out by means of a ‘wall newspaper’ and weekly meetings; nearly all the hostels held press reviews.

Information room – this had developed and held regular exhibitions of pictorial and text materials.

Other camp activities –

Religion – RC priest; Divisions-Pfarrer Eduard Spuelbeck (B). Protestant padre; Fritz Gebhardt (B+). Hostels were visited fortnightly.

Education – only very small classes with 2-4 pows.

Entertainment – Numerous football teams, first class 18 piece orchestra, several choirs, theatre group. Ball room dancing was taught.

**17 September 1947 –** Lorry collision with a train at Burton Agnes Level Crossing.

(Details from reports issued later by the ICRC and by the Ministry of Transport – <https://www.railwaysarchive.co.uk/documents/MoT_BurtonAgnes1947.pdf>)

Early in the morning, pows who had been working in the area were being transported from Eden Camp to the railway station at Burton Agnes and then on to their own camp at Wolviston Hall (Camp 139). One of the lorries transporting 26 pows broke through the level-crossing gate, came to a stand still on the railway line and was hit by a train.

Witnesses; “*Schlupper and Jungblut said that Wadey drove unusually fast on the way from the camp, and that the prisoners were thrown about when rounding bends in a way which caused comment; they remembered no sensation of braking just before the accident. Adams and Reichenbach watched the lorry approaching the station, unexpectedly fast, and said that it hardly slowed down at all as it reached the gates, which it hit at 15-20 m.p.h. according to the former. Adams, Schlupper, Hoermann and Reichenbach all remembered hearing its engine racing at the last moment, as if the driver was changing into a lower gear*.”

The conclusion stated – “*There can be no criticism of the railway arrangements at the crossing and it is clear that this accident, which might well have had even more serious consequences… was due to careless handling of the lorry by an unauthorised and apparently inexperienced driver, Staff Sergt. Wadey.”*

Two British NCOs and seven pows were killed on the spot – ten prisoners were seriously injured and three died later in hospital, nine pows received minor injuries.

The two guards were buried in their hometown of London. The 10 pows killed were buried at Bridlington Cemetery. Present were several hundred pows and local residents from Bridlington – also Lieutenant Colonel John Louis Gerard Marjoribanks-Egerton (Commandant 250 camp, from the Royal Irish Fusiliers), Major Covenay (Commandant 139 camp), Captain H C Holmes (Commandant of the camp at Rudston) and RSM Small (Rudston camp). The orchestra from Camp 250 at Malton (Eden Camp) played at the burial service. Messages and parcels of food were sent to the relatives of the victims organised by the Bridlington Council of Churches. In 1962 the bodies of the pows were transferred to the German War Cemetery at Cannock Chase. As there were 2 British representatives from Rudston, it is likely the pows from Camp 139 were temporarily detached there. Those killed were:

British - Staff Sergeant Wadey, interpreter at Camp 250, and Sergeant R Cramer.

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| German - | From Camp 250: | Gefr Ulrich-Hans Graf |  |  |  |  |
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|  | From Camp 139: | Sold Burkhart Fischer |  | Sold Albert Gronen |  | Gefr Paul Halsig |  | OGefr Heinz Krause |
|  |  | Sold Gerhard Petry |  | Ogfr Walther Praeger |  | OGefr Bruno Przywarra |  | Gefr Erich Schmidt |
|  |  | OGefr Hermann Schoene |  |  |  |  |  |  |

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| Metal plaque at Eden Camp museum. “*This plaque commemorates S/Sgt James Joseph Wadey, Sgt Ronald Montague Cramer and the 10 German prisoners of war who were killed when their lorry was in collision with a train at Burton Agnes level crossing near Bridlington on the 17th September 1947. Also all Axis Power pow’s who ‘worked in our fields and have gathered our harvest. We thank them for the work they have done in our land for us.”* **16/19 & 23/26 September 1947** – Re-educational Survey. Strength; 6 officers, 1814 OR in main + 10 hostels and billets.The Interpreter, S/Sgt J Wadey, had been killed in the accident at Burton Agnes. Pows were busy with the harvest. Re-education activities had reduced, but were expected to pick back up as the days grew shorter. General education classes had reduced to just English, mainly due to repatriation of the teachers. 901 pows repatriated to date.Some pows had been transferred from camps at RAF sites which were closing down, they found it difficult to change from RAF discipline to the stricter army camp discipline.Different areas responded to pows in very different ways, some were very welcoming and pows were involved in many activities, this was not the case at Eden Camp:  |  |

Contacts with civilians at Malton were described as “*not too friendly*.” Pows had not been allowed in to the local cinemas, this had recently changed. Some cafes in the town would not serve pows. The situation in Bridlington was much better due to the local YMCA.

Small group visits had been made to; Malton Town Council and Scarborough Town Hall at the invitation of the mayor. The local MP for Thornton-le-Dale, Mr Spearman regularly visited the camp to talk to the pows.

**1 October 1947** – ICRC Visit. Strength; 5 officers, 1860 OR.

Nationalities – 1536 German / 328 Volksdeutsche from Rumania / 1 Ukrainian.

This report was very similar to the last, except 11 deaths were recorded - 10 of these occurred in the lorry accident, above. The other was Gefr B Boellenghaues, died 2 July 1947 in the Camp Hospital, cause given as ‘Lichtbogen’ (heat lamp/arc light?). Court martial verdict: ‘*Misadventure*.’ There is a record for Kurt Boellinghaus, from the Luftwaffe, died 28 June 1947 and reinterred at Cannock Chase German Military Cemetery – surely the same person?

Overall – “*Good camp.”* The Camp Leader Beck; “*seems to be the right man*.”

**5/12 November 1947** – Re-educational Survey. Strength; 4 officers, 1684 OR.

New Interpreter; S/Sgt L W Smith. All other senior staff the same as before.

Simplified screening in use: A 5 / B 1680 / C 3. 1048 pows repatriated to date.

Morale was ‘*reasonably good*.’ Length of captivity was a major negative aspect. The Commandant took a personal interest in pow welfare. There was some unemployment in some of the hostels and that lowered morale.

Noteworthy changes to re-education activities – Weekly copies of Hansard were sent. The camp magazine had to be cut down due to a national shortage of paper, however, it was considered to be of a high standard. Exhibition materials for the Information Room had not been sent by COGA, the pows had made some of their own exhibitions.

The YMCA had started a ‘Home’ for pows in Bridlington which was open at weekends. Pows and civilians were putting on shows and other entertainments.

**14 November 1947** - Camp number 250 included in an ‘Urgent Memorandum’ (FO 939/270) regarding inspection of food parcels.

**Christmas 1947** – pows were allowed to stay with families for 1 or 2 days over Christmas.

**6/9 January 1948** – Re-educational Survey. Strength; 4 officers. 1152 OR in main, 6 hostels + billets.

No changes to senior personnel.

Simplified screening in use: A 2 (both had deferred repatriation) / B 1152 / C 2. 1337 pows repatriated to date.

Morale had fallen with 40% unemployment – this had a triple effect, firstly boredom, second no earnings, third raising questions as to why they were still being held in the UK. A positive aspect was the increased rate of repatriations.

Limited formal outside contacts had developed slowly with links to town councils, Toc H., court sittings, and the WEA. The civilians at Malton continued to be unco-operative.

As the camp slowly wound down, and with repatriations of teachers, activities were decreasing. Exhibition materials for the Information Room had eventually turned up.

**11 February 1948** – ICRC Report. Strength; 3 officers, 660 OR.

No change to senior personnel.

Clothing needed renewal, but new items were not arriving. The ICRC were raising this matter in London.

Work – Mainly agriculture, also employed in quarries, forestry and drainage.

One pow held on a minor case was in detention.

There are no further reports in the National Archive files. The camp closed down not long after the last report.

Known Camp Commandants:

1945 Major L E Keiller

1945 Major E W Holding, moved to Camp 121.

1946 Lieutenant Colonel R H O Hanbury, had been Commandant at Storwood Camp 73

1947 Lt Col John Louis Gerard Marjoribanks-Egerton (1901-1965) from the Royal Irish Fusiliers. [His brother, Lt Col Philip Morys Marjoribanks-Egerton was Commandant at Pool Park Camp 38].

**After the camp:** Used for a short time as an agricultural hostel.

**Further information:**

<https://www.edencamp.co.uk/>

National Archives FO 939/163 83 Working Camp, Eden Camp, Malton, East Yorkshire. Dated 1945-1946. Used above.

National Archives FO 1120/236 – Re-educational survey visit reports for camps 247 to 251. Dated 1 January 1946 – 31 December 1948. Used above.

‘The Burton Agnes Disaster’ by Richard Jones.

**Numbers of pows**

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| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | Open |  |  | With other camps |  |  | Unknown |  |  | Not listed / not open |

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|  | 1943 | 1945 | 5/1946 | 6/1946 | 1/1947 | 4/1947 | 6/1947 | 9/1947 | 10/1947 | 11/1947 | 1/1948 | 2/1948 |
| Main | 250 | 630 | c.830 | 698 | 609 | 453 | 504 | 482 | 470 | 586 | 505 | 366 |
| Sherburn |  |  | 94 | ? | 33 | ? |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Strensall |  |  | With C73 | With C108 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Wydale Hall |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Bath House |  |  |  |  | 42 | ? | 48 | 47 | 46 | 46 | 52 | 15 |
| Dawson’s Plant |  |  |  |  | 169 | ? | 124 | 202 | 194 | 112 |  |  |
| Elmswell |  |  |  |  | 147 | 76 (4) | 134 | 139 | 135 | 142 | 90 | 15 |
| Frodingham |  |  |  |  | 79 | ? | 89 | 71 | 96 | 66 |  |  |
| Ganton |  |  |  |  | 161 | ? | 185 | 210 | 181 | 95 | 115 | 49 |
| Nafferton | With C73 |  |  |  | 74 | ? | 77 |  |  |  |  |  |
| Nafferton Hall |  |  |  |  | 59 | ? | 94 | 117 | 117 | 86 |  |  |
| North Burton |  |  |  |  | 35 | ? | 54 | 48 | 50 | 18 |  |  |
| Norton Grove |  |  |  |  | 188 | 186 | 212 | 212 | 212 | 218 | 134 | 57 |
| Rudston CRS |  |  |  |  | 23 | ? | 16 | ? | 16 |  |  |  |
| Thornton le Dale |  |  |  |  | 264 | ? | 205 | 153 | 151 | 235 | 244 | 141 |
| Thorpe Hall East |  |  | Camp 250 | 108 | ? | 79 | 139 | 114 | 84 |  |  |
| Buckton |  |  |  |  |  | 27 (4) |  |  | 22 |  | 16 | 20 |
| Further detached |  |  |  |  |  | 136 |  |  | 61 |  |  |  |
| Billetees |  |  | ? | 85 | ? (3) | 155 | 156 | ? (3) | 143 | ? (3) | ? (3) | ? (3) |
| TOTALS |  |  | 1112 (1) | 783+ (2) | 1991 | 1902 | 1977 | 1820 | 1865 | 1688 | 1156 | 663 |

(1) The total number given did not match the numbers given for screening. I do not believe it is correct, allowing for 80-90 billetees it was more likely to be 1012.

(2) Did NOT include number for Sherburn hostel. (3) included in figures above. (4) see notes below.

**Satellite Camps**

**Elmswell.**

**April 1947** – ICRC Report. Described as a satellite camp. Strength; 76 + 29 billetees and 20 men detached to ‘1st Camp Hull.’

Officer I/C: Captain Clayton Camp leader: Wm Johann Wolff.

6 huts. Pows issued with 4 blankets. Electric lighting. 3 hostels were attached to this satellite camp, but not listed.

No complaints, general impression; “*Good.”*

**June 1947** – Camp leader; Wm Johann Wolff (A)

**November 1947** – Camp leader; Fw Meyer (B+).

**January 1948** – Camp leader; Gren Bloess (B+) – “*very keen and intelligent*.”

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|  | 1943 | 1945 | 5/1946 | 6/1946 | 1/1947 | 4/1947 | 6/1947 | 9/1947 | 10/1947 | 11/1947 | 1/1948 | 2/1948 |
| Elmswell |  |  |  |  | 147 | 76 (4) | 134 | 139 | 135 | 142 | 90 | 15 |

**Thorpe Hall (East).** Satellite Camp. (See Thorpe Hall Camp 250 for location).

Thorpe Hall was independent Camp 250. When it became a satellite camp for Eden 83, it continued to administer some hostels, these were called the ‘Rudston Group’ in a couple of reports listed as: HQ Thorpe Hall – Hostels; Bath House, Dawson’s Plantation, North Burton, and Rudston CRS. (This was set out in the October 1947 ICRC report).

**June 1947** – Hostel leader; Dw Erhard Steudner (A)

**November 1947** – Hostel leader; O/Strm Schlupper (B)

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|  | 1943 | 1945 | 5/1946 | 6/1946 | 1/1947 | 4/1947 | 6/1947 | 9/1947 | 10/1947 | 11/1947 | 1/1948 | 2/1948 |
| Thorpe Hall East |  |  | Camp 250 | 108 | ? | 79 | 139 | 114 | 84 |  |  |

**Hostels**

**Bath House.** Linked to Thorpe Hall Satellite Camp. (Location? I wonder if it could be ‘Barff House’ at TA 103 474???)

**June 1947** – Hostel leader; Ofw Edmund Taubenheim (B+)

**November 1947** – same leader.

**January 1948** – Hostel leader; Gefr Schreiter (B) – “*a capable man*.”

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|  | 1943 | 1945 | 5/1946 | 6/1946 | 1/1947 | 4/1947 | 6/1947 | 9/1947 | 10/1947 | 11/1947 | 1/1948 | 2/1948 |
| Bath House |  |  |  |  | 42 | ? | 48 | 47 | 46 | 46 | 52 | 15 |

**Buckton,** Bempton, Nr Bridlington, E.Yorks., (Tel. Flam-borough 243).

**24 April 1947** – ICRC Report. Stated that the site had been British, then German from 31 March 1947.

27 Pows at Buckton detached to “*2 Bomb Disposal Unit, HQ in Lowthorpe*.” NOTE: The pows came from Darras Hall Camp 69 and were attached administratively to Eden Camp 250. Later in the year Buckton was listed as attached to 1 Bomb Disposal Unit, administered by Bunny Camp, which was a hostel for Langar Camp 262. (Ref FO 939/83).

Officer I/C: Lt Panten Hostel leader: Fw Ernst Boy

There were 5 huts (3 used for dormitories), with single beds and 5 blankets. Electric lighting. Stove heating.

Sanitary – Showers once a week. Latrines were pails.

Food – H/L stated that it was good.

Clothing – satisfactory.

Entertainment – No films, but they had been promised.

The legal nature of the work was in some doubt as the Geneva Convention stated; **Art. 32**. It is forbidden to employ prisoners of war on unhealthy or dangerous work. The ICRC Report stated:

*“Compulsory mine-clearing work.*

*The German P.o.W search for mines in mine-fields with detectors (American made). They are not experts but have been given a three weeks course in hostel Westerhope, Camp 69.*

*Only British personnel, Royal Engineers, take the mines out and defuse them. (There are 4 types of mines: Mark 1, 2 & 3, and B, type C).*

*They work in teams for about 20 minutes at a stretch so that they do not become accustomed to the sound of the ticking of the mines.*

*The work is dangerous, according to the Camp leader, but there have been no accidents on these live mine-fields for three weeks.*

*Salary: 1½d per hour.*

*The mine-clearing in the area Buckton-Brampton, near Bridlington-on-sea will presumably last another three months*.”

ICRC Comment: “*Good hostel; fair treatment.”*

**January 1948** – same leader.

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|  | 1943 | 1945 | 5/1946 | 6/1946 | 1/1947 | 4/1947 | 6/1947 | 9/1947 | 10/1947 | 11/1947 | 1/1948 | 2/1948 |
| Buckton |  |  |  |  |  | 27 (4) |  |  | 22 |  | 16 | 20 |

**Dawson’s Plantation.** Linked to Thorpe Hall Satellite Camp. Location? There is a Dawson’s Plantation near to Sunderland at NZ 433 554, but that is 90km away).

**June 1947** – Hostel leader; Fhr W Schulz (A)

**November 1947** – same leader.

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|  | 1943 | 1945 | 5/1946 | 6/1946 | 1/1947 | 4/1947 | 6/1947 | 9/1947 | 10/1947 | 11/1947 | 1/1948 | 2/1948 |
| Dawson’s Plant |  |  |  |  | 169 | ? | 124 | 202 | 194 | 112 |  |  |

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| **Frodingham -** beside South Townside Road, one hut was later used as a village hall and the site as a recreation ground. TA 099 530 Would have been linked to a different HQ camp before these entries.**June 1947** – Hostel leader; Karl Jaeger (B+) **November 1947** – Hostel leader; Gefr Lenz (B+) – “*not very impressive*.”

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|  | 1943 | 1945 | 5/1946 | 6/1946 | 1/1947 | 4/1947 | 6/1947 | 9/1947 | 10/1947 | 11/1947 | 1/1948 | 2/1948 |
| Frodingham |  |  |  |  | 79 | ? | 89 | 71 | 96 | 66 |  |  |

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| Ordnance Survey 1956 |

**Ganton**

**June 1947** – Hostel leader; Uffz H Schroeder (A)

**November 1947** – Hostel leader; Gefr Heinrich Hippmann (B) **January 1948** – same leader.

**February 1948** – ICRC report. 14 Nissen huts, 6 wooden huts. Bunk and single beds. Electric light, stove heating, showers, bath, toilets using pails. Same leader.

Food – basically good, but hostel leader stated it was not sufficient for those performing hard manual work.

Main employment – road repairs.

Clothing – shortages. It was pointed out that there were plenty of army surplus stores.

General impression – “*Good*.”

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|  | 1943 | 1945 | 5/1946 | 6/1946 | 1/1947 | 4/1947 | 6/1947 | 9/1947 | 10/1947 | 11/1947 | 1/1948 | 2/1948 |
| Ganton |  |  |  |  | 161 | ? | 185 | 210 | 181 | 95 | 115 | 49 |

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| --- | --- |
| **Nafferton.** TA 604 589 next to school, shown in photo.**1943** – Nafferton (did not say Hall) was listed for Italian pows attached to Storwood Camp 73.**June 1947** – Hostel leader; Ofw Franz Ewen (B+) **Nafferton Hall.** TA 603 593.**June 1947** – Hostel leader; OGefr Eugen Schmidt (B)**November 1947** – Hostel leader; Ofw Ewen (B+) (From the other Nafferton site). |  |

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|  | 1943 | 1945 | 5/1946 | 6/1946 | 1/1947 | 4/1947 | 6/1947 | 9/1947 | 10/1947 | 11/1947 | 1/1948 | 2/1948 |
| Nafferton | With C73 |  |  |  | 74 | ? | 77 |  |  |  |  |  |
| Nafferton Hall |  |  |  |  | 59 | ? | 94 | 117 | 117 | 86 |  |  |

**North Burton.** Linked to Thorpe Hall Satellite Camp.

(May 1945 – North Burton Camp 158 opened. This does not seem to be the same site as the Camp held over 3000 pows.)

**June 1947** – Hostel leader; OStrm Karl Schulze (B)

**November 1947** – same leader.

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|  | 1943 | 1945 | 5/1946 | 6/1946 | 1/1947 | 4/1947 | 6/1947 | 9/1947 | 10/1947 | 11/1947 | 1/1948 | 2/1948 |
| North Burton |  |  |  |  | 35 | ? | 54 | 48 | 50 | 18 |  |  |

**Norton Grove** (Probably near to Norton Grove Stud – SE 807 720).

**24 April 1947** – ICRC Report. Strength 186 – 50% German / 50% Rumanian-German.

I/C: Sgt Maj Cogan Hostel leader: Ofw Emile Korn Deputy H/L: Ofw Karl Buerger

Low morale mainly due to bad news from home, especially for the ‘Rumanians.’ Mail took 5 to 6 weeks to arrive.

21 huts, concrete floors, bunk beds, electric lighting. Each pow issued with 4 blankets. Canteen stocked regularly.

Food - The H/L commented that the food was, “*Just enough for Russian stomachs*.” ICRC stated that food was good, but there was a shortage of potatoes.

Clothing – New regulations stated that all pows must be “*well-dressed”* when leaving the camp. Many had jackets that were too small and they were having to share clothes with other pows if they went out. Tailors in the camp were trying to adjust clothing.

Sanitary – Hot water for showers and laundry was turned on only every fortnight. ICRC commented that this was insufficient as the pows were working on farms.

Recreation / Entertainment – 40 library books. Wireless. Regular films, but Gaumont British not wanted as they charged 6d which was too expensive. Sports ground available.

General - No complaints raised. “*Good hostel, treatment is fair*.” The Commandant stated that he would ensure hot water supply was increased.

**June 1947** – Hostel leader; Ofw Emil Korn (B+).

**November 1947** – Hostel leader; Hwm Burk (B+) – “*a pleasant open and broadminded personality who has done everything to improve condition in this hostel*.” A new theatre group had been formed. **January 1948** – same leader.

**February 1948** – ICRC Report.

I/C: Sergeant Watson. Hostel leader; Sold Richard Kockler.

Work – forestry and road repairing.

‘Difficulties’ had arisen with a British Lance Corporal, the Commandant was due to replace him and the hostel leader.

General impression – “*Good.”*

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|  | 1943 | 1945 | 5/1946 | 6/1946 | 1/1947 | 4/1947 | 6/1947 | 9/1947 | 10/1947 | 11/1947 | 1/1948 | 2/1948 |
| Norton Grove |  |  |  |  | 188 | 186 | 212 | 212 | 212 | 218 | 134 | 57 |

**Rudston CRS – aka Thorpe Hall CRS.** Linked to Thorpe Hall Satellite Camp. A Camp Reception Station was a medical facility located at, or near, a pow camp – note the known hostel leader was a Dr.

**June 1947** – Hostel leader; OArzt Dr Werner Schmidt (B+)

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|  | 1943 | 1945 | 5/1946 | 6/1946 | 1/1947 | 4/1947 | 6/1947 | 9/1947 | 10/1947 | 11/1947 | 1/1948 | 2/1948 |
| Rudston CRS |  |  |  |  | 23 | ? | 16 | ? | 16 |  |  |  |

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**Sherburn**

NOTE - This is not the same place as Sherburn-in-Elmet hostel linked to Camp 53.

Recorded in Parish Plan 2009 as being located at - Vicarage Farm Close, Sherburn – with picture of brick built huts.

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|  | 1943 | 1945 | 5/1946 | 6/1946 | 1/1947 | 4/1947 | 6/1947 | 9/1947 | 10/1947 | 11/1947 | 1/1948 | 2/1948 |
| Sherburn |  |  | 94 | ? | 33 | ? |  |  |  |  |  |  |

**Strensall**, York

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| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | 1943 | 1945 | 5/1946 | 6/1946 | 1/1947 | 4/1947 | 6/1947 | 9/1947 | 10/1947 | 11/1947 | 1/1948 | 2/1948 |
| Strensall |  |  | With C73 | With C108 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |

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| **Thornton le Dale.** SE 838 830 – “*The camp entrance is still used to access the field just up from the junction of Rectory Lane, Peaslands Lane and Dog Kennel Lane*.”**June 1947** – Hostel leader; Fw Heinz Wenzel (B+). **November 1947** – same leader; “*self centred.”***January 1948** – Hostel leader; O/Maat Deppe (B+) – “*does not seem quite strong enough for this rather unruly hostel*.” Unfortunately, no explanation as to why it was ‘unruly.’**February 1948** – ICRC Report. 21 Nissen huts with 16 men in each accommodation hut. Bunk beds, electric light, stove heating, showers, bath, toilets using pails.Work – sawmill, road works, forestry, 17 farm workers. Clothing shortages. Overall impression – “*Good.”* |  |
| Ordnance Survey 1958 |

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|  | 1943 | 1945 | 5/1946 | 6/1946 | 1/1947 | 4/1947 | 6/1947 | 9/1947 | 10/1947 | 11/1947 | 1/1948 | 2/1948 |
| Thornton le Dale |  |  |  |  | 264 | ? | 205 | 153 | 151 | 235 | 244 | 141 |

**Wydale (Hall),** Snainton, Yorkshire. During WW2 “*the hall was used as a base for the Northumberland Hussars and subsequently it became a Defence Platoon HQ. During the final part of the war the house was used to accommodate Italian Prisoners of War.”*

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|  | 1943 | 1945 | 5/1946 | 6/1946 | 1/1947 | 4/1947 | 6/1947 | 9/1947 | 10/1947 | 11/1947 | 1/1948 | 2/1948 |
| Wydale Hall |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |