**Camp** **90 - Friday Bridge Camp, Wisbech, Cambridgeshire**

Included in the 1945 ICRC camp list – Labour Camp. 90. Friday Bridge Camp, Wisbech, Cambs.

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| 1947 camp list |
| 90(G.W.C.) | Friday Bridge Camp, Wisbech, Cambs | E. | Priswar, Wisbech | Friday Bridge 253 and 256 | Coldham | (Blank) | 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 |
| TF 4548 0417 | 143 | 90 | Friday Bridge, Wisbech | Cambridgeshire | 3 | German Working Camp | STANDARD type. Agricultural and youth hostel |

**Location:** About 1.5 km from the small village of Friday Bridge.

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| **Before the camp:** FarmlandCourtesy of the Wisbech & Fenland Museum |  |
| Ordnance Survey 1958 |

**Pow Camp:** Italian pows up to 1945, then a German working camp. The site had a standard layout with a main pow compound, and with guards’ huts and offices at the front. Buildings included a water tower, offices, officer's mess, a canteen, guard rooms, barrack huts, ablution blocks, cell blocks, a camp reception station (medical facility/hospital), a cookhouse, dining rooms, recreation rooms and living huts or tents.

**1942 / 1943** – built and opened for Italian pows.

**1943** - Hostel for Italian pows; C.S.D. Whittlesey

**May 1944** - The camp was listed as an Italian Labour Battalion under the Eastern Command area, (WO 32/10737).

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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. |

**8 November 1945** – English Education visit. Strength 872 in HQ and 1 hostel. 132 pows studying English at both sites + a number studying privately. If there were still Italian pows in hostels, they were ignored by PID.

English inspectors met teachers, gave talks, checked teaching texts and resources, and tested the pow pupils. Additional dictionaries were requested.

Commandant: Lt Col E W Kennedy.

The pows had not been politically screened.

**1946** – Intake of many pows from camps in the USA. Most had very low morale as they had been misinformed in the US that they were being repatriated. Instead, they found themselves in working camps in the UK.

Some pows were from camps in Canada. They were often C grade having been captured early in the war and retained their Nazi ideology.

**12 June 1946** – English Inspector’s Report. Strength 1590 in HQ, 6 hostels and billets. 229 pupils in 13 classes at all sites.

Commandant: Lt Col E W Kennedy. Lagersprecher (Camp Leader): Hoeruegel

Interpreter: Cohen

More newspapers requested.

**22 August 1946** – Members of theSegregation Section of PID visited to carry out political screening. Strength; 2 officers, 2546 Other Ranks.

Commandant: Lt Col P Crosthwaite Camp Leader: St.O.M. Peter Hoeruegel (C+)

Interpreter: S/Sgt Cohen Deputy C/L: Hfw Henri Giesecke (C+)

 German M.O.: Oberstabsarzt Joachim Nickol (C) / Dentist S.Gefr August Schramm (C).

The Interpreter was “*patient and reliable and has a keen interest in and a sound knowledge of all that takes place in the compound*.” Many Interpreters also acted as Intelligence officers. The other British staff showed no interest in re-education, as in most camps.

The previous Camp Leader, Ofw Enders, had been removed for his Nazi attitude. The new Leader, Hoeruegel, aged 53, had been graded as ‘A’, but this visit re-classed him as C+. He had joined the Nazi Party in 1933 and it was believed he had been politically active before then and a secret member of the S.A. – he still held the view that Hitler had peaceful intentions. *“He has a selfish and over-bearing attitude… and is in our opinion a bully and minor version of Goering*.” He denied being a member of the SA, but admitted he had been a secret member of Der Stahlhelm.

Deputy CL, aged 46, no Nazi Party record, but the Segregation team had no doubt he was an “*ardent and clever Nazi sympathiser*.” There had been a democratic council in the camp (Vertrauensrat), but he had arranged to end it.

The MO was graded C. Aged 33, retaining ideas of Lebensraum and a, “*milder form of racial theory*.” He had served in the German navy since 1932, with S-boats and mine sweepers during the war. He was not politically active within the camp.

The dentist was graded C. Aged 42, a Nazi party member since 1933 – “*there is no doubt that he is still a Nazi at heart.”*

The protestant padre was also graded C, see below. Fortunately, there were others, such as the study leader and some hostel leaders, who were anti-Nazi.

It was recommended that the Leader, deputy and padre be removed from the camp.

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| Political screening: | A+ | A | A- | B+ | B | B- | C | C+ | Unknown |
|  | 4 | 210 | 2 | 633 | 926 | 302 | 200 | 20 | 251 |

The previous commandant had instructed pows to retain their badges of rank. The visitors recommended that this should be discontinued.

30 pows were considered to be active communists – several had been imprisoned in Germany. Another 250 men were from the Russian zone and showed an interest in communism. Overall, they were not considered to be a problem in the camp.

Religion – Protestant Padre, Gren. Wolfram Krupka (C), aged 43. Nazi Party member since 1932, stating it was “*Europe’s bulwark against Bolshevism and Godlessness*.” The visitors stated, “*He is a miserable specimen of a man who is still imbued with Nazi ideas…. He is quite useless for his job as padre*.”

**10 – 14 October 1946** – English Inspector’s Report. Strength 2532 in HQ, 1 satellite, 5 hostels and billets. 271 pupils in 12 classes at all sites.

A new Camp Leader; StFwbl H Simon.

There was a theatre with a capacity of 200 – most lessons were carried out there. Although lessons were continuing, there were frequent interruptions due to working long hours for the harvest.

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| **1947** – Abridged memories by a German pow at Friday Bridge.*I and two others were then moved on to Friday Bridge Camp near Wisbech in Cambridgeshire. The guard allocated me the top bunk. All our basic requirements were provided for on site, including night school. I enrolled as soon as possible to study English. I was put to hoeing crops, which could sometimes be very boring on the huge fields. As it was summer time, sandwiches were provided and cold black tea! I spent a lot of time studying English and Russian language. After three months there my Russian teacher came to my hut one day and offered me a job in the camp Post Office on the other side of the barbed wire fence sorting and delivering mail. Was I pleased!**The Friday Bridge Camp held 950 POWs* [Not including satellite and billets?] *when I started working at the Post Office so there were a lot of letters to be sorted and delivered to inmates. More and more comrades were being sent home and the Sergeant had to collect POWs from Satellite camps and I sometimes used to go with him. On one of these trips I met up with Werner Grunental who was camp leader* [\*below] *and we became friends. Since I was a post office worker I lived outside the camp, just 20 metres from the fence, in fact. There was another Sergeant in charge and he sometimes took me in the car when he went shopping - he loved sausages especially! We had a few musicians in the camp and sometimes they would play for the British. I had never been to dance lessons, but I learnt to dance later on.**When the weather was really hot I would go swimming in the River Nene at high tide. The water was very brown, but that didn't matter to me, nor did the spectators who stood on the embankment - I received no donations! Back in the camp I would take part in the ‘weight shot' competition. I also liked the parallel bars.**In May 1947 there was double summertime, so it was light until about 11.00pm! …It was a very hot summer that year and there was a bumper crop to be harvested. On Wednesday afternoons I used to pick peas, strawberries and other fruits for real money, which made my shopping easier. On Sundays I would go to the Parish Church in Friday Bridge and once we had an invitation from the vicar for tea. I think there were five of us POWs and we had a tea party in the vicar's garden - the ham and jelly were especially appreciated. When I bought myself a bicycle I could go further afield and so I paid visits to the Roman Catholic Church, but somehow I didn't seem to fit in there. I tried the Methodist and Baptist churches too…* [He met a lady and helped her with luggage and was invited for Christmas day]… *I arrived at the lady's home where I was made very welcome. I enjoyed the day with her family and we played board games. She was a good hostess and managed to make me laugh. We listened to the King's speech and had turkey dinner and drinks - a good time was had by all. Unfortunately, I had to be back in camp by 10.00pm. It had been a memorable day and my pigeon English had served me well!* [Released in February 1948]… *Werner suggested that we should become European Volunteer Workers on our release because we did not want to be repatriated to the Russian Zone. So, Werner and I joined up and were moved to Thorney Camp near Peterborough.* [Ex-pow satellite camp, by this time a EVW hostel].\*This should read “a camp leader” - OFhr Werner Gruenenthal was listed in July 1947 as aged 25, studied political economics. He had been a member of the National Socialist German Students' Union, but a description stated - “*was a Nazi, just as he would have been a communist under the communists*.” For a while he was Study leader at Greenland hostel.<https://www.bbc.co.uk/history/ww2peopleswar/stories/25/a3323125.shtml> |

**3 - 5 March 1947** – English Inspector’s Report. Strength 1739 in HQ, 1 satellite, 4 hostels and billets. 209 pupils in 9 classes at all sites.

New Commandant: Lt Col C H Rawlings, MM. New Camp Leader: Seegers.

The area had suffered from heavy snowfall. More books were requested.

**9-12 April 1947** – Re-educational Survey. (This report was mis-filed under FO 939-132). Strength; 2 officers, 1775 OR.

Commandant: Lt Col C H Rawlings, MM. Camp Leader: Kurt Seegers (B-)

2nd I/C: Major Hyde Deputy C/L: None

Interpreter: None German M.O.: Oberstabsarzt Joachim Nickol (C)

Camp leader, aged 34, a merchant – appointed to this post in January 1947. Not a Nazi Party member. “*Intelligent. Very military bearing.”*

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| Political screening: | A | B+ | B | B- | C |
|  | 4 | 431 | 884 | 252 | 196 |

180 pows were appealing against their political grading – the better the grade, the sooner repatriated, in theory. In most camps, most appeals were successful. 713 pows repatriated to date.

Morale was fairly good, with dips at HQ and Greenlands due to long spells of unemployment.

The standard list of re-education activities was given:

Wochenpost and Ausblick – separate appendix

Newspapers – Good supply of English newspapers. The visitor suggested some papers be changed to be; “*more balanced in political views*.” This usually meant that papers such as The Times and Daily Telegraph were received, whereas other papers would give a different political perspective. COGA were sending a small supply of German papers. 1 pow, (‘Krause’ – the leader at Thorney?) was obtaining a supply of Swiss papers from a private source.

Library – At HQ and at Thorney satellite. More novels requested. Hostels were not well served due to lack of books.

Lectures – Regular, good attendance at the hostels, but only 20-30% at HQ and Thorney.

Discussion groups – 100 to 200 men attended meetings provided by a group of 10 pows.

Films – YMCA and Gaumont British at HQ and Thorney. YMCA only at hostels.

Wireless – Good at HQ and Thorney. Battery sets only at the hostels, which limited reception.

Camp magazine – HQ; *Unsere Stimme* (Our Voice), and Thorney; *Von Drinnen und Draussen: Park Farm Camp Zeitung des 90 GPWW Satellite Camp,* (From Inside and Out).20 page magazines monthly with 180 copies. HQ magazine was sent to the hostels.

Press review – Held weekly at all sites.

English Instruction – separate reports.

Information Room – these held text and pictorial exhibitions of materials mainly produced by PID. The latest exhibition at HQ was; ‘The British Empire.’

Other camp activities –

Religion – About 15% of pows attended services. Protestant lay preacher, Uffz Wilhelm Muehlendieck (B-) was described as *“a cranky potter aged 42…. Sincere and well regarded by his flock.”* RC priest, Muecke, visited monthly from Sawtry Camp 59.

Education – only a few small classes, unnamed.

Theatre – At HQ and Thorney.

Band – HQ had a newly formed band, the previous one disbanded due to repatriations. Thorney had a band of 7 members playing classical and light music. Music scores wanted.

Choirs – at Thorney (35 men), Greenlands (12) and Eastwood House (8) who sang with the Salvation Army.



**7/10 July 1947** – Re-educational Survey. Strength; 2 officers, 2278 OR.

Only change to senior personnel – Interpreter; S/Sgt G D S Smartley, “*young and highly strung… lacks experience.”* He was unhappy in this post.

Simplified screening in use: A 21 / B+ 530 / B 1328 / B- 401. Note, the 196 C grade pows in April had either been regraded or moved to other camps. 148 pows were appealing against their political grades. 514 pows repatriated to date.

Overall morale fairly good or satisfactory, but low at Hilton Hall. The pows had shown “*magnificent team spirit when fighting the floods in the fens*.” Relaxation of fraternisation rules had been a positive factor.

There were some “*Rumanian and Jugoslav Volksdeutsche*” in the camp – they were being taught German.

Youth pows (under-25) were not seen as an “*acute problem*.” A group of young ex-Waffen-SS had arrived, but it was yet to be seen how they would settle down. These were often young men who had been given no choice as to which unit they served, they did not select the SS. The next report stated that they had, “*been absorbed without difficulty*.”

The standard list of re-education activities was very similar to the previous report. Changes – Travelling Films Ltd had replaced Gaumont British; Press reviews were less often and had stopped at Greenlands, the Information Room had very little to display.

Changes to other camp activities –

HQ held classes for; agriculture, carpentry, Russian and French. Thorney had classes for; shorthand and mathematics.

Football, table tennis and handball were the most popular sports. A group of pows from HQ were given permission to use the gym at Wisbech Grammar School.

Many pows maintained good relationships with local civilians, though this was restricted in some hostels due to isolation. Minor formal contacts were developed through the choir visiting Wimblington Church and table tennis competitions. Wisbech Museum were particularly helpful, supplying exhibition materials and developing a small library of German books.

Various recommendations were made, mainly about changing personnel – most (all?) of which were ignored by the Commandant.

**11 – 13 July 1947** – English Inspector’s Report. Strength 2280 in HQ, 1 satellite, 4 hostels and billets. Handwritten, few details.

**2 – 5 September 1947** – Re-educational Survey. Strength; 2 officers, 2010 OR.

The Commandant was described as, “*a strict disciplinarian*.”

The Interpreter had left and not been replaced. The Camp Leader had been regraded from B- to B+. There was a new Deputy C/L: Fw R Thuemmrich (B)

Screening; A 4 / B+ 535 / B 1180 / B- 293. 304 pows repatriated since 7 July.

Overall morale remained satisfactory or good. 30% of the pows at HQ had friends in Wisbech. A relaxation on rules regarding sending parcels home had a positive effect. The pows were able to buy goods to send home, often for barter in Germany. A major negative factor for many was the increasingly bad news from the Russian zone.

Good weather and being able to walk out + long harvest work, resulted in less interest in re-education activities. The ability to buy goods from outside the camp meant that the Welfare Fund created from profits in the canteen, had decreased and less newspapers were being bought due to this. Only Thorney continued with discussion groups. Wisbech Museum provided a “*remarkable”* exhibition about ‘British Paintings.’

Education – only shorthand and mathematics classes at Thorney.

The theatre group at HQ had ended due to repatriations.

Formal outside contacts were developed with; Peterborough, Eastwood and Wisbech Councils and Wisbech Museum. Thorney’s choir performed at various church services. Football matches were organised against local teams.

**11 November 1947** – English Inspector’s Report. Strength 1918 in HQ, 1 satellite, 3 hostels and billets. 107 pupils in 5 classes at all sites.

A new Commandant; Lt Col R L Yates

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

**30 December 1947 – 2 January 1948** – Re-educational Survey. Strength; 3 officers, 1458 OR

A new Deputy C/L: Erwin Lindau (B-), “*a hard, forceful young man*.” No other changes to senior personnel.

With speedier repatriations and pows knowing their approximate release date, the camp was settled with no particular issues arising. There was a general closing down atmosphere. Thorney satellite was expected to close very soon.

Many pows visited local families at Christmas. Some had been allowed to stay for a night or two.

**13/14 February 1948** - English Inspector’s Report. Strength 507 in HQ, 2 hostels and billets. 0 pupils, all classes had ceased.

**24-26 February 1948** – Re-educational Survey. Strength; 1 officer, 435 OR.

Commandant: Lt Col R L Yates Camp Leader: Erwin Lindau [Previously deputy].

2nd I/C: Major Hunt Deputy C/L: None

Interpreter: None German M.O.: O/S Arzt K Drees.

Activities winding down – camp magazine, press reviews, discussion groups, information room, formal contacts, theatre, orchestra, choir, education classes – all ceased.

**30 March 1948** - a letter was written to Captain Hubert Sulzbach by SS-Major Emil Reinhard Stűrzbecher about his despair at the news of events that the Waffen-SS had been involved with. Why was a Major at this camp?

**10/11 May 1948** – Re-educational Survey – why? Strength; 3 officers, 449 OR.

Commandant: Lt Col Dundas DSO Camp Leader: St/Wm H Schulz

Interpreter: Capt Broekere Deputy C/L: O/Schaf H Joepplich

 German M.O.: O/Arzt Etzler

The new Commandant was an ex-pow. Complaints were made by British officers and pows that he was too strict on interpreting orders. A valid point was made that when the Germans should be sent home with a positive outlook about Britain, it was not the time for a nit-picking Commandant. “*He dislikes the Germans and there is little doubt they are aware of it.”*

The majority of pows were new, just passing through on their way to repatriation.

A survey was carried out in this and other camps that were still open. It was a pointless exercise, carried out too late and in ways that rendered them totally worthless. In this case the visitor rounded up 27 pows who happened to be present and asked them questions about their attitude to Britain. For what its worth;

9% hate / 16% dislike / 25% mistrust / 17% indifferent / 15% benefit of doubt / 17% liking. [How were these figures calculated? E.g. 9% would be 2½ pows].

Principal grudges came from length of time as pow, petty regulations, unfair pay, and thefts from pows.

The main positive factor in this, and other camps, was always contacts with local families.

The camp closed soon after this report.

Known Camp Commandants:

1945 Lt Col E W Kennedy.

1946 Lt Col P Crosthwaite [Royal Artillery – not confirmed].

1947 Lt Col Charles Henry Rawlings, MM**,** Yorks LIand Pioneer Corps. 1891 – 1971.

1947 Lt Col R L Yates, Royal Scots Fusiliers.

1948 Lt Col Dundas DSO

**After the camp:** Used as a hostel for migrant workers. 2019 still listed as a hostel, but with new buildings.

In 2013 a former pow, Wilhelm Lagoda, who stayed in England and served 22 years with the Wisbech Fire Service was given ceremonial honours at his funeral.

**Further Information:**

National Archives FO 939/171 – 90 Working Camp, Friday Bridge Camp, Wisbech, Cambridgeshire. Dated 1945-1948. Used above.

The Wisbech and Fenland Museum has some artefacts made by the pows.

The German Federal Archives have a copy of the camp magazine.

IWM have a copy of Park Farm satellite camp magazine, dated December 1946. Ref LBY E.J. 431.

**Camp numbers:**

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

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|  | 1943 | 11/1945 | 6/1946 | 8/1946 | 10/1946 | 3/1947 | 4/47 | 7/1947 | 9/1947 | 11/1947 | 1/1948 | 2/1948 | 5/1948 |
| Friday B. | Italian | 764 German | 890 | 727 | 836 | 635 | 600 | 805 | 620 | 518 | 611 | 336 (1) | 452 |
| Whittlesey | Italian |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Greenlands |  | 108 German | 124 | 113 | 120 | 94 | 92 | 113 | 103 | 78 | 67 |  |  |
| Bowthorpe H |  |  | 160 | 171 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Eastwood H |  |  | 75 | 80 | 74 | 58 | 56 | 75 | 73 | 60 | 38 | 16 |  |
| Hilton Hall |  |  | 85 | 81 | 84 | 61 | 60 | 53 | 50 |  |  |  |  |
| Manea |  |  | 30 | 31 | 31 | 22 | 22 | 30 | 27 | 20 | 12 | 1 |  |
| Welney |  |  | 30 | 30 | 31 | With C26 |  |  |  |  |  |
| Thorney Sat |  | Camp 265 | 914 | 1058 | 611 | 600 | 862 | 909 | 981 | 490 |  |  |
| Billets |  | ? | 200 | 401 | 298 | 354 | 347 | 342 | 230 | 192 | 243 | 82 | 0 |
| Total |  | 872 | 1590 | 2548 | 2532 | 1739 | 1777 | 2280 | 2012 | 1918 | 1461 | 436  | 452 |

(1) + 1 in Civil Prison.

**Satellite camp**

**Thorney** (aka Park Farm) – was independent Camp 265. NGR - TF 2925 0361.

**22 August 1946** – Strength; 1 officer, 913 OR (including 117 billetees). Still a mainly tented camp.

Commandant: Capt Hyde. Camp leader: Stfw W Krause (B)

Interpreter: S/Sgt Lyner Deputy C/L: Ofw A Hoefer

The British staff showed no interest in re-education.

The camp leader was aged 36, a clerk. Joined the Nazi Party for just 1 year. “*A pleasant personality and is efficient.”*

Deputy C/L, aged 26, a commercial clerk. Member of Hitler Youth, but did not join the Nazi party. “*Intelligent… his manner is not pleasing.”*

German MO, Stabsarzt Wolfgang Hofrichter (A), aged 30. Had been a member of the Hitler Youth, but did not join the Nazi Party. Studied medicine as a member of the Luftwaffe. “*He is extremely intelligent and has a balanced and thoughtful outlook and a pleasing personality.”*

There was an extremely unusual comment about the study leader, Paul Wilhelm Stock (A), aged 34. Actively promoting re-education, but *“…holds no official position on the camp staff on account of homosexual tendencies.*” A report was made on this in July 1946. He had suffered long periods in concentration camps at Dusseldorf and Oranienburg for his political activity with the Zentrum Party and Christian Woodworkers Union. He “*has had remarkable success with his re-education programme.”* The difficulties he faced must have been immense.

High morale had been developed by the previous Commandant, Major Hobbs, before it became a satellite camp. There was a small group of Nazis, but they were not regarded as a problem.

**October 1946** – accommodation in huts and tents

**March 1947** – tents no longer in use.

**April 1947** – same leader, increasingly bitter as his family were having hard times in Germany.

**July 1947** – Major Poole recorded as new Commandant. Same leader. **January 1948** – same leader.

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|  | 1943 | 11/1945 | 6/1946 | 8/1946 | 10/1946 | 3/1947 | 4/47 | 7/1947 | 9/1947 | 11/1947 | 1/1948 | 2/1948 | 5/1948 |
| Thorney Sat |  | Camp 265 | 914 | 1058 | 611 | 600 | 862 | 909 | 981 | 490 |  |  |

**Hostels**

**Bowthorpe Hall** (Wisbech). Permanent Building. TG 177 090.

**8/1946** – Hostel leader; Fw Karl Hoehne (A), aged 27, a commercial clerk. “*A sensible, intelligent and very pleasant type of man*.” Anti-Nazi. Taught English, gave press reviews and supported re-education in the hostel.

Politically mixed, but the pows who had been held in camps in the US were causing difficulties – they were; “*undisciplined, insolent and contemptuous in their general attitude*.” It was estimated that 47 of the pows, almost all young men, still held nazi ideas.

Most of the pows worked in a jam factory, weekdays 7.30a.m. to 8 p.m. and until 5 p.m. on Saturdays – long hours which left them tired and with little interest in other activities.

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|  | 1943 | 11/1945 | 6/1946 | 8/1946 | 10/1946 | 3/1947 | 4/47 | 7/1947 | 9/1947 | 11/1947 | 1/1948 | 2/1948 | 5/1948 |
| Bowthorpe H |  |  | 160 | 171 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |

**Eastwood House.** (March). Permanent building. TL 416 952.

**8/1946** – Hostel leader; Stfw Richard Roegner (B), aged 41, regular soldier, then mechanic. Did not join the Nazi Party. “*A typical old soldier of the talkative type*.”

**9/1947** – Hostel leader; Uffz K Fischer (B-), aged 37, baker, not a member of the Nazi Party – “*politically innocuous, reasonable, fairly efficient and co-operative*.”

**2/1948** – Hostel leader; Hummelsheim

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|  | 1943 | 11/1945 | 6/1946 | 8/1946 | 10/1946 | 3/1947 | 4/47 | 7/1947 | 9/1947 | 11/1947 | 1/1948 | 2/1948 | 5/1948 |
| Eastwood H |  |  | 75 | 80 | 74 | 58 | 56 | 75 | 73 | 60 | 38 | 16 |  |

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| **Greenland** (Farm) Hostel (Clenchwarton/Kings Lynn) – Huts and permanent building. Described by one inspector as; “*A very remote and dreary place.”* TF 593 238**6/1946** – Oil lamps, no electric.**8/1946** – Hostel leader; Stfw Johannes Wuestner (A), aged 34, regular soldier and carpenter. *“A quiet but sincere anti-Nazi*.” He had previously been held in pow camps in the USA.**4/1947** – Hostel leader; Fw Georg Häusler (B), [Mäusler and other variations] aged 36, mechanic. Hostel stated to be used as a, “*dump for undesirables.”* **1/1948** – same leader.

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|  | 1943 | 11/1945 | 6/1946 | 8/1946 | 10/1946 | 3/1947 | 4/47 | 7/1947 | 9/1947 | 11/1947 | 1/1948 | 2/1948 | 5/1948 |
| Greenlands |  | 108 German | 124 | 113 | 120 | 94 | 92 | 113 | 103 | 78 | 67 |  |  |

 |  |
| Ordnance Survey 1959 |

**Hilton Hall** (Parsons Drove / Sutton St Edmund). Outbuildings and huts. TF 363 098.

**6/1946** – Oil lamps, no electric.

**8/1946** – Hostel leader; Stfw Heinrich Simon (A), aged 35, regular soldier. He was actively promoting re-education activities.

**4/1947** – Hostel leader; Uffz Wilhelm Olbert (B), aged 46, clerk. “*His cheerfulness has a good effect on his hostel.”*

**7/1947** – same leader, it was stated he had become emotionally unstable and had lost control of discipline. It was recommended he be replaced.

**9/1947** – same leader. Now stated to be, *“in a better frame of mind*.” A slight improvement in overall morale noted.

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|  | 1943 | 11/1945 | 6/1946 | 8/1946 | 10/1946 | 3/1947 | 4/47 | 7/1947 | 9/1947 | 11/1947 | 1/1948 | 2/1948 | 5/1948 |
| Hilton Hall |  |  | 85 | 81 | 84 | 61 | 60 | 53 | 50 |  |  |  |  |

**Manea.** (March). Huts. Local memories place it behind the village hall – Nissen huts seen in a photo taken after the hostel.

**8/1946** – Hostel leader; Fw Otto Pierron, aged 41. He had been a member of the Nazi Motor Corps (NSKK). “*Suitable for his job*.” **9/1947** – same leader.

**1/1948** – Hostel leader; Helmut Rau (B-), “*a quiet, easy going type who expects a compassionate repatriation early this month*.”

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | 1943 | 11/1945 | 6/1946 | 8/1946 | 10/1946 | 3/1947 | 4/47 | 7/1947 | 9/1947 | 11/1947 | 1/1948 | 2/1948 | 5/1948 |
| Manea |  |  | 30 | 31 | 31 | 22 | 22 | 30 | 27 | 20 | 12 | 1 |  |

**Welney** (Littleport). Huts.

**6/1946** – Oil lamps, no electric.

**8/1946** – Hostel leader; Fw Erwin Tietze, (B+), aged 36, landowner. He had joined the Nazi party in 1933 and had been a member of the SA. The visitors believed he had rejected Nazism and was a satisfactory leader.

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| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | 1943 | 11/1945 | 6/1946 | 8/1946 | 10/1946 | 3/1947 | 4/47 | 7/1947 | 9/1947 | 11/1947 | 1/1948 | 2/1948 |  |
| Welney |  |  | 30 | 30 | 31 | With C26 |  |  |  |  |  |

**Whittlesey C.S.D.** (Command Supply Depot)

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | 1943 | 11/1945 | 6/1946 | 8/1946 | 10/1946 | 3/1947 | 4/47 | 7/1947 | 9/1947 | 11/1947 | 1/1948 | 2/1948 |  |
| Whittlesey | Italian |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |