

ONE SMALL VILLAGE AT WAR
BINGHAM
1939-1945

Pictures taken by David J Sibley

Locality 16



Photo taken in 1974

Bingham Rural District Offices on the north side of the Market Place. An air raid siren was situated on the roof. There were air raid shelters in Market Place itself. The RDC was the nerve centre during the war.



Photos taken July 1974

The Women's Institute hut in Station Street was made from two World War I Army surplus huts purchased in 1922 for about £60. The house on the right was the steam mill manager's house built in the mid 19th century and has since been demolished to build Old Mill Court. Throughout the war the W.I. Raised money for the local comforts fund and initiated a number of activities to help the war effort. The W.I. was also the local centre for various national campaigns.

Locality 6



Photo taken December 1974

Buildings on the north side of Nottingham road to the right of Pacey's garage (in 1974) were used by the Ministry of Agriculture as a depot for agricultural machinery during the war. These buildings have gone through many changes of use since then, but were still there in 2011 owned by Foley's Books.

Locality 6



Photos taken December 1974



Buildings at the rear of Foley's Books that were used as an agricultural machinery depot. They have now been demolished and the land used for to build housing in Harvest Close.

Locality 6



Photo 2st December 1974



Photo March 1997

Newgate Farm on the south side of Nottingham Road. The blister hangar (right) was used By the Ministry of Agriculture for storing agricultural machinery. All of these buildings have since been destroyed for housing

Locality 18



Photos taken November 1973

Left is a view down what is now Thoresby Road from Nottingham Road. The blister hangar is just beyond what is now the junction between Forest and Bowland roads. A second blister hangar nearby can be seen on the far right in the picture on the right. These are wartime structures, but their use has not been established.

Locality 12



Photos taken 27th January 1973

Farm buildings at 41 Long Acre at the corner with Market Street. This site is now (2011) the Yeung Sing restaurant. These buildings were used by Boots the Chemists during the war mainly for storing machinery.

Locality 11



Photo taken 1965



Photo taken January 1973

Methodist Schoolroom at the corner of Needham and Union streets. The schoolroom is now the Methodist Hall. It was used as a Forces canteen during the war. Local ladies provided meals on a daily basis for airman and others who fancied a change from their own NAAFI or canteen food. In the picture on the left the building to the left of the schoolroom was the Barley Mow pub, which was demolished to provide access to Eaton Place when the shopping centre was built. The picture of the rear view of the schoolroom (right) was taken before Eaton Place was developed and the extension for Worldly Goods was added.

Locality 15 Kirkland House, School Lane



Photo taken 1974

Locality 10 10 The Banks



Photo taken October 1995

Locality 9 2 Stanhope Way



Photo taken October 1995

Several air raid shelters survived to be put to various uses after the war. They were built to a standard design; almost cubic with a flat concrete roof.

Locality 14



Photo taken 10th November 1974

Crow Field or Crow Close, east of Cogley Lane, was considered to be the site of a deserted Medieval village, but has now been reinterpreted as a post-medieval house and associated farm buildings. There was a tented camp and searchlight there during the war. One person recalls a Nissen hut there. Recent archaeological investigations revealed the locality of the searchlight and identified other possible WWII installations including a possible artillery platform and areas of rubble from demolished buildings.

See:

http://www.binghamheritage.org.uk/history_of_settlement/crow_close/analysis_of_results.php

Locality 3



Photo taken 25th October 1995

Remains of a pillbox on Chapel Lane.
It was destroyed in the 1970s. The concrete
base remains in a strip of woodland along
the road.



Photo taken 26th January 1975

There are several War Graves Commission headstones in Bingham cemetery from both World Wars and more recent conflicts.