

VILLAGE WARTIME WALK

1 Mothers' Union Hut

The Mothers' Union Hut, erected in Westmorland Terrace (where 2A, 2B and 2C are now) was originally a wooden hut used during the First World War. During the Second World War, like a number of other locations, it was used for village gatherings such as Jumble Sales, Film Shows, Beetle Drives, etc.



2

Saltersford School

The school, occupying Saltersford Hall, had its own brass band, sports teams, army cadet corps, and also a physical training team. The Brass Band regularly paraded through the village. One of the Village Fallen from the Second World War, Frank Vasey was assistant carpentry instructor at the School. During the Second World War, the Hall was used for social purposes including ballroom dancing, where music was provided by bands such as Ivy Benson's All Girls' Band, Geraldo and the Glenn Miller Orchestra.



4

Sandiford Cottage

Located where the Fire Station is now, Sandiford Cottage was built in the 19th Century. As war approached, it became the HQ for the Women's Voluntary Service and ToCH.

During the war, it was requisitioned and used as a billet for troops, both British and American and later a hostel for German prisoners of war.



6

The Good Companions

The Good Companions Hotel opened in March 1939. During the Second World War, numerous social events were organised within the building.

On VE Day most of the village congregated in the car park where there was dancing and drinking, with a band playing on the back of a farm flat-bed trailer.



8

The Assembly Rooms

The Assembly Rooms were located on Church Walk.

During the Second World War, the ground floor was used by American forces to store equipment. The hall upstairs was used for social gatherings, but more for normal village activities, such as Brownies, youth club, and films shown by Ivor Williams the grocer.

7

The Victoria Club

The Victoria Social Club was built in 1924 for the workers at the Wallpaper Factory. Members enjoyed tennis courts, a bowling green and a cricket square. During the Second World War it was well used for social events such as dances, bridge drives, concerts and plays.

9

Millingfield Surgery

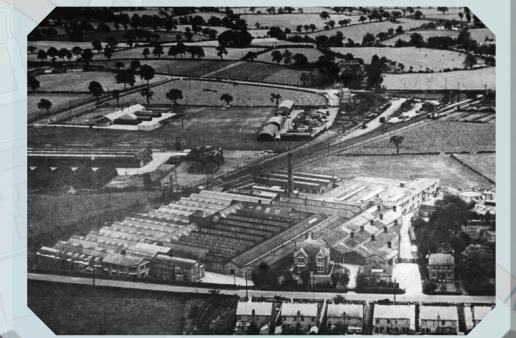
A house behind the George and Dragon was originally the surgery of Doctor Lionel Picton but by the time of the Second World War it had moved to Millingfield, opposite what is now Bernard Court. After the Second World War, he was joined in the practice by his son Dr Arthur Picton who was a decorated War hero.

3

Victoria Wallpaper Works & Munitions Store

At the start of the Second World War, the wall paper factory was employed in packing shells, fabricating Rolls Royce engine parts, and making "window" - paper foil which was dropped as strips to confuse enemy radar.

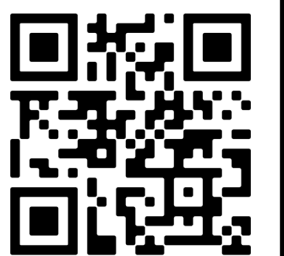
Across the railway line from the Works was a Royal Army Ordnance Corps Depot used for storing munitions.



5

Railway Station

The station was the site of a serious railway accident in 1941. A Crewe to Manchester express train smashed into the rear of the York express leaving the station. Both trains were packed with servicemen. The official death toll was put at nine, with thirty-nine injured.



SCAN ME