

## SOCIAL HISTORY

### SOCIAL CHARACTER

Although the medieval parish was dominated by the manor and the lord of the manor retained the advowson until the late 17th century, there is no evidence for a resident lord of the manor until the 1840s when Charles Noel Welman built Norton Manor.<sup>1</sup> In 1700 the tenant at Knowle Hill had been able to fell a considerable amount of timber and establish a stone quarry before the lord was able to take any action.<sup>2</sup>

In 1327 Richard Stapeldon, lord of the manor, was assessed at 10s., substantially the largest assessment in the parish and only eight other taxpayers were assessed at 1s. or more, half of them in Langford.<sup>3</sup> Fifteen persons with land or goods in Norton were assessed for the 1581 subsidy, though not all may have been resident.<sup>4</sup> In 1742 the parish was assessed at 3s. 8d. as its proportion towards the county rate, an average figure for the parishes in the hundred of Taunton and Taunton Deane.<sup>5</sup> By 1782 William Hawker, lord of the manor, was the chief landowner in the village, but there were several smaller estates and a number of small freeholders with a single dwelling or plot of land.<sup>6</sup> Not until c.1842,

There may have been tensions in the parish between more prosperous householders and the labouring classes. In 1849 concerns were expressed about the 'excess and immorality' in the village occasioned by labourers frequenting beer houses.<sup>7</sup> In 1855 the vestry meeting agreed to offer a reward for information leading to a conviction after a spate of burglaries in the parish.<sup>8</sup>

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<sup>1</sup> See landownership.

<sup>2</sup> TNA, C 8/360/65.

<sup>3</sup> Dickinson, *Kirby's Quest Som.*, 144–5.

<sup>4</sup> A. J. Webb, *Two Tudor Subsidy Assessments: 1558 and 1581—2* (Som. Rec. Soc. 88), 122.

<sup>5</sup> Dickinson, *Kirby's Quest*, 306.

<sup>6</sup> SHC, Q/REL/35/14.

<sup>7</sup> *Morning Post*, 23 Jun. 1849, 2.

<sup>8</sup> SHC, D/P/n.fitz/9/1/2, 10 Dec. 1855.

By 1831 the parish had 545 persons, living as 111 families in 102 dwellings, which suggests some sub-dividing of properties had taken place. Two homes were uninhabited. Agriculture was the main employment and some women worked as domestic servants.<sup>9</sup> By 1891 530 persons lived in 123 dwellings of which 60 had five rooms or fewer and 16 were uninhabited, including three in the small settlement of Venhampton. That suggests some contraction in the agricultural depression of the 1880s. Agriculture continued to be the major employer in the parish, though increasingly men were working for the railway, at the brewery, or at the bakery at Norton Mills. Working women were largely employed in domestic service, a sector which also employed a number of men as coachmen or gardeners. Nine persons were in receipt of parish relief.<sup>10</sup> Despite the small size of many of the homes, there was no housing shortage in the village, but the condition of some homes was squalid. In 1896 a parish council report found that a number of dwellings had inadequate sanitary facilities, and others had no drinking water. The parish council, by this date composed of major landowners, farmers and businessmen in the village, resolved to take action to address the sanitary arrangements.<sup>11</sup>

Despite some new housing between the First and Second World Wars, in part to replace condemned housing,<sup>12</sup> the housing shortage in 1946 led a number of families to take matters into their own hands. Twelve families occupied an empty military site at Norton Fitzwarren. These 'squatters' intended to establish themselves as bona fide tenants, paying rent for their huts, and despite some local opposition were allowed to remain.<sup>13</sup> Some tenants

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<sup>9</sup> *Census, 1831* (Parl. Papers 1833 (149), i), pp. 604–5.

<sup>10</sup> TNA, RG 12/1878.

<sup>11</sup> SHC, D/PC/n.fitz/1/2/6, 20–4.

<sup>12</sup> *Taunton Courier*, 22 Apr. 1936, 2; *Som. Co. Herald*, 23 Oct. 1937, 11; SHC, D/PC/n.fitz/6/10, ann. rep. MOH (1938), 17; below, local govt.

<sup>13</sup> *Western Morning News*, 19 Aug. 1946, 2; *Som. Co. Herald*, 24 Aug. 1946, 6; SHC, A/BVF/1/2, 'Norton Nuggets'.

were in occupation as late as 1953, waiting for local authority housing to be completed along Rectory Road.<sup>14</sup>

By 2011 the percentage of people in the village aged 20–34 was significantly higher than in Somerset overall, probably reflecting an influx of young people and families onto the new housing estates. About a third of the population aged 16–74 was working in public administration or related employment areas, with retail trades and health care or social work also employing large numbers of people. Agriculture, formerly the largest source of employment in the village, now accounted for less than 5 % of the workforce.<sup>15</sup>

### Migration

In c.1733 Elizabeth Thomas, a single woman born in Madron (Cornwall), gave birth to an illegitimate daughter in a public house at Norton Fitzwarren.<sup>16</sup> There are records of involuntary migration under the old Poor Law when paupers were returned to their place of legal settlement. Most paupers were removed to nearby parishes, but some had come from further afield. In 1764 a married couple were removed to a Bristol parish,<sup>17</sup> and the following year a family were ordered to be removed to Yeovil.<sup>18</sup> In 1766 the father of a young family was removed to Exminster (Devon), while his wife and two children remained in Norton Fitzwarren.<sup>19</sup>

### COMMUNAL LIFE

Little is known about village festivities in the medieval and early modern period, but the youngmen's wardens would have organised an annual celebration to raise money for the

<sup>14</sup> SHC, D/PC/n.fitz/4/2/7, 5 Aug. 1953.

<sup>15</sup> <http://www.somersetintelligence.org.uk/community-profiles.html> (accessed 5 Mar. 2018).

<sup>16</sup> SHC, Q/SR/314/268–270.

<sup>17</sup> SHC, Q/SO/13, f. 354a.

<sup>18</sup> SHC, Q/SO/13, f. 388.

<sup>19</sup> SHC, Q/SO/13, f. 446.

church. They continued to be appointed until 1643.<sup>20</sup> In the 1780s Rack recorded a ‘revel’ held in the village on the Sunday after 3 May.<sup>21</sup>

### Public houses

A man was presented as a tapster in 1568 and 1569, and there was a licensed tippler in 1608.<sup>22</sup> An innholder was recorded in 1619.<sup>23</sup> The first known named public house is the Anchor, recorded in 1651.<sup>24</sup> By the 1670s there were four licensees rising to five in the mid 18th century.<sup>25</sup> The village’s oldest surviving public house, the Ring of Bells, was recorded by 1720<sup>26</sup> and had a beer licence in 1813 when the New Inn was also licensed.<sup>27</sup> Parishioners were convicted of selling beer or cider without a licence in 1754, 1763 and 1765.<sup>28</sup> However, one woman had previously been licensed.<sup>29</sup>

By 1849 there were four beer and cider houses in the village.<sup>30</sup> The Cross Keys public house had opened at the junction of the Minehead and Milverton roads by 1851.<sup>31</sup> In the same year there was a public house at Langford Bridge called the Rose which was still open in 1871. Bryants Cottage inn was open between 1841 and 1871.<sup>32</sup> By 1886 there were licensed refreshment rooms were at the railway station,<sup>33</sup> renamed the Railway Inn between 1923 and 1928 and the Railway Hotel by 1966 but since demolished.<sup>34</sup> Five unnamed public houses

<sup>20</sup> SHC, D/P/n.fitz/9/1/1, 10 Apr. 1626, 29 Mar. 1630, 3 Apr. 1643.

<sup>21</sup> McDermott and Berry, *Rack’s Survey*, 277.

<sup>22</sup> SHC, DD/SP/2; Q/SR/3/116.

<sup>23</sup> SHC, Q/RLA/33.

<sup>24</sup> SHC, Q/SR/83/122.

<sup>25</sup> SHC, Q/RLa/19/1—2.

<sup>26</sup> SHC, D/P/n.fitz/9/1/1, 20 Apr. 1720.

<sup>27</sup> SHC, Q/RLA/30.

<sup>28</sup> SHC, Q/RS/322/2/41; Q/RS/322/2/42; Q/SR/331/3/20; Q/SR/333/3/19d.

<sup>29</sup> SHC, Q/RLa/19/2.

<sup>30</sup> *Morning Post*, 23 Jun. 1849, 2.

<sup>31</sup> *Taunton Courier*, 12 Mar. 1851, 4.

<sup>32</sup> TNA, HO 107/959, 1923; RG 9/1619; RG 10/2375.

<sup>33</sup> *Taunton Courier*, 22 Sept. 1886, 1.

<sup>34</sup> *Kelly’s Dir. Som.* (1923, 1928); *Kelly’s Dir. Taunton* (1966).

were recorded in 1947<sup>35</sup> but by 2018 only the Ring of Bells and the Cross Keys were still in existence.

### Village organisations

The Village Club opened in 1897, the gift of Wilfred Marshall, lord of the manor, and his wife to the village. Early committee meetings discussed the availability of refreshments, including alcohol.<sup>36</sup> Later in 1897 a skittle alley was added and Marshall gave a piano.<sup>37</sup> The club hosted numerous activities for its members, including regular dances and an annual dinner; 120 members enjoyed the meal in 1901.<sup>38</sup> Various village societies met as part of the club or used its premises for meetings, such as the glee club, founded in 1900, and the village band from 1901.<sup>39</sup> In 1919 Wilfred Marshall's widow conveyed the building and land to a board of trustees, together with a gift of money to put the building into repair.<sup>40</sup>

A youth club met at the Village Club in 1950 and a billiard room was added in 1954.<sup>41</sup> In 1980 the Charity Commissioners raised concerns that the club's charitable status was at odds with its function as a members' social club. To keep its charitable status, it was required to make its facilities available to all inhabitants of the parish.<sup>42</sup> It closed in 1998 and the building became the village hall. In 2018 the hall continued to host community events, and the former skittle alley had been converted to a community coffee shop.<sup>43</sup>

A scout troop formed in 1910, closed in 1921, re-formed briefly in 1936 and closed c. 1939. The scout troop re-formed in 1976.<sup>44</sup> A Women's Institute was in existence by 1926.<sup>45</sup>

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<sup>35</sup> SHC, A/AGH/1/255.

<sup>36</sup> SHC, A/BLZ/1/1, 5 Jan., 7 Jan., 12 Jan., 26 Jan. 1897.

<sup>37</sup> SHC, A/BLZ/1/1, 10 Nov. 1897.

<sup>38</sup> *Taunton Courier*, 25 Apr. 1900, 7; 24 Feb. 1904, 6; SHC, A/BLZ/1/1, 18 Feb. 1901.

<sup>39</sup> *Taunton Courier*, 25 Apr. 1900; SHC, A/BLZ/1/1, 17 Jan. 1901.

<sup>40</sup> SHC, A/BLZ/4/6, 30 Dec. 1919; *Taunton Courier*, 4 Feb. 1920, 4.

<sup>41</sup> SHC, A/AGH/1/255; A/BLZ/4/1.

<sup>42</sup> SHC, A/BLZ/2/5. The Commissioners stated that the Club had been conveyed in 1920.

<sup>43</sup> <http://www.nortonfitzwarrenvillagehall.co.uk/> (accessed 26 Jan. 2018).

<sup>44</sup> SHC, A/BVF/5/3; A/BVF/1/2.

<sup>45</sup> SHC, DD/WI/131/1/1, 131/2/7.

It closed after 1980 but was revived in 1999. In 2002 it amalgamated with Staplegrove, which closed in 2008.<sup>46</sup>

### Recreational space

A children's garden or recreation ground adjoined the Village Club by 1917,<sup>47</sup> and was leased by the trustees to the parish council in 1948.<sup>48</sup>

There was no playing field in the village in 1919,<sup>49</sup> though there may have been one by 1928.<sup>50</sup> By 1950 the village was using a farmer's field for sports and hoped to raise funds for a new sports and recreation ground, including football and cricket pitches and a children's play area.<sup>51</sup> This does not appear to have been successful, as in 1972 the parish council hoped to buy part of the former Burnshill Camp site for the purpose, but the land had been earmarked for residential purposes and the cost was too high.<sup>52</sup> A playing field or recreation ground was recorded in 1980.<sup>53</sup> By 1984 a playing field with football pitches and changing rooms had opened along Stembridge Way.<sup>54</sup>

An activity centre operated at Burnshill in 1984 and 1999, but has since gone.<sup>55</sup> A BMX track was in the village in 2003.<sup>56</sup>

### Sport

Cricket was played in the village before 1887, as at a meeting held that year to form a new club it was observed that one had existed in the village a few years previously.<sup>57</sup> Another

<sup>46</sup> SHC, A/AGH/1/255; DD/WI/78/1/8, 11; 131/1/1; 131/2/7—8.

<sup>47</sup> SHC, A/BLZ/2/4

<sup>48</sup> SHC, A/BLZ/4/6, 24 Jun. 1948.

<sup>49</sup> SHC, D/PC/n.fitz/1/2/7, 17 Mar. 1919.

<sup>50</sup> SHC, DD/BRO/4/7; see football.

<sup>51</sup> *Som. Co. Herald*, 24 Jun. 1950, 8.

<sup>52</sup> SHC, D/PC/n.fitz/1/2/2, 6 Mar. 1972.

<sup>53</sup> SHC, A/AGH/1/255.

<sup>54</sup> <https://sports-facilities.co.uk/sites/view/6005988> (accessed 19 Apr. 2018); see sport.

<sup>55</sup> SCH, A/BGJ/1/7, 14 Jun. 1984; *Taunton Times*, 22 Apr. 1999, 5.

<sup>56</sup> SHC, D/PC/n.fitz/1/2/10, 3 Feb. 2003.

cricket club formed in 1899 and was revived in 1905.<sup>58</sup> That may be the club recorded in 1920 and 1950.<sup>59</sup>

A football club was proposed in 1900, but failed for lack of support.<sup>60</sup> However, in 1928 a 'Football Field' was part of the Norton Court estate sale.<sup>61</sup> The village had a football club in 1950.<sup>62</sup> By 2018 football was being played at the Stembridge Way ground.<sup>63</sup>

Wilfred Marshall was Master of West Somerset Foxhounds to his death in 1904, and a hunting map of 1910 shows the Taunton Vale Foxhounds and Taunton Vale Harriers as meeting in Norton Fitzwarren.<sup>64</sup> A sale catalogue of 1929 described the village as well situated for hunting, and the Culmstock Otter Hounds were holding meets in the village in the 1930s.<sup>65</sup> Hunting continued in the area, and in 1975 it was reported that hounds from a local hunt had run amok over some of the gardens on the Hilly Park estate.<sup>66</sup>

### Libraries

A parochial lending library operated in the village from at least 1865–89, possibly situated in the parish church. Its stock was largely religious works, but also history, biography, travel and works for children.<sup>67</sup> A Magazine Club operated on a subscription basis c.1897.<sup>68</sup> The Village Club had a lending library by 1899,<sup>69</sup> but it is not recorded later. There was no local authority library, but a mobile library was visiting the village by 1980 and in 2017 visited every four weeks.<sup>70</sup>

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<sup>57</sup> *Taunton Courier*, 16 Mar. 1887, 9.

<sup>58</sup> SHC, A/BLZ/1/1, 15 May 1899; *Taunton Courier*, 17 May 1905, 2.

<sup>59</sup> *Taunton Courier*, 26 Oct. 1921, 5; 21 May 1930, 8; SHC, A/AGH/1/255.

<sup>60</sup> SHC A/BLZ/1/1, 4 Sept. 1900, 6 Nov. 1900.

<sup>61</sup> SHC, DD/BRO/4/7.

<sup>62</sup> SHC, A/AGH/1/255.

<sup>63</sup> <https://sports-facilities.co.uk/sites/view/6005988> (accessed 19 Apr. 2018).

<sup>64</sup> *Taunton Courier*, 21 Aug. 1907, 4; SHC, DD/CM/170.

<sup>65</sup> SHC, A/BNK/1/1/22; *Devon and Exeter Gaz.*, 29 May 1933, 17; 14 May 1937, 17.

<sup>66</sup> SHC, D/PC/n.fitz/1/2/2, 17 Feb. 1975.

<sup>67</sup> SHC, D/P/n.fitz/6/8.

<sup>68</sup> SHC, A/BLZ/1/1, 12 Jan. 1897.

<sup>69</sup> SHC, A/BLZ/1/1, 14 Sept. 1899.

<sup>70</sup> SHC, A/AGH/1/255; *Norton News*, Oct. 2017, 18.

## SOMERSET HERITAGE CENTRE

Following the closure of the military supply depot in 1966, the site became a trading estate.<sup>71</sup>

In the early 21st century the area was redeveloped, and most of the remaining buildings demolished. In 2010 the Somerset Heritage Centre was built on the site of the depot's railway sidings.<sup>72</sup> It held the archives and local studies reading room, conservation services for the county, and reserve stores for the county museums' collection.

## EDUCATION

In 1818 six to eight village children were educated from the sacrament money.<sup>73</sup> By 1833 there were three schools in the village. One of these had been founded in 1831 and was supported by the offertory and by the rector, while the other two schools in the village educated a total of 15 boys and 19 girls at their parents' expense. There were two Sunday schools, one founded in 1831 with 28 boys and 36 girls, supported by subscriptions, and a second with 26 boys and 34 girls funded by subscriptions and by contributions from the parish church.<sup>74</sup>

By c.1846 there was a village school with two schoolrooms, teaching a total of 42 boys, 52 girls and 13 infants. Classes were offered during the week, and on Sundays, with some pupils attending both weekdays and Sundays, while others attended only on weekdays or only on Sundays. The annual running costs of the school were £50, paid for by voluntary subscriptions and fees from the parents, out of which £36 paid the salaries of two schoolmistresses.<sup>75</sup>

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<sup>71</sup> Below, military hist.

<sup>72</sup> <https://www.victoriacountyhistory.ac.uk/explore/items/somerset-heritage-centre> (accessed 9 May 2018).

<sup>73</sup> *Educ of Poor Digest* (1819), 792.

<sup>74</sup> *Educ Enq Abstract* (1835), 816.

<sup>75</sup> *Nat. Soc. Schs. Inquiry, 1846-7* (1849), Som. 12-13.

### Public education to 1945

By 1859 there was a National (Church of England) school in the parish.<sup>76</sup> In 1871 there was also a nonconformist school, probably short-lived, and the two schools together taught at least 35 boys and 41 girls.<sup>77</sup> The foundation stone of a new National school building was laid on 13 March 1872. The land had been donated by Charles Noel Welman, lord of the manor, and the new school buildings were funded by the National Society, the Diocesan Board, donations and a grant from the Education Department. The premises contained a school room and a second, smaller, classroom, with a house for the head teacher.<sup>78</sup> It was a mixed school for 113 boys and girls and was enlarged in 1891 for an additional 22 pupils.<sup>79</sup>

In a rural community the school year reflected the demands of the agricultural year. In March 1878 it was agreed that the schoolchildren should have a holiday for the harvest for three weeks from 24 June, and a further three weeks from 1 August.<sup>80</sup> Older children were liable to be removed from school by their parents to go out to work; in 1903 the head teacher recorded that several children had left because a demand for boys had arisen locally.<sup>81</sup>

By November 1902 there were 93 pupils at the school.<sup>82</sup> In 1903 the school was recorded as having one classroom, with an additional classroom for infants, and a playground, and could accommodate 137 pupils. Singing and physical education were taught, but the school's report on core subjects was poor. Grammar was not taught, spelling was weak, and the teaching of arithmetic was unsatisfactory.<sup>83</sup> Under the provisions of the Education Act 1902, school boards had been abolished and local education authorities

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<sup>76</sup> *Bristol PO Dir. and Gaz., with Gloucs. and Som.* (1859).

<sup>77</sup> *Returns of Civil Parishes in Eng & Wales under the Education Act*, HC 201 (1871), 342—3.

<sup>78</sup> *Taunton Courier*, 20 Mar. 1872, 3.

<sup>79</sup> *Kelly's Dir. Som.* (1902).

<sup>80</sup> SHC, D/P/n.fitz/9/1/3, 28 Mar. 1878.

<sup>81</sup> SHC, A/BGJ/1/3, 252.

<sup>82</sup> SHC, A/BGJ/1/3, 238.

<sup>83</sup> SHC, C/E/4/380/297.

(LEAs) established. The first meeting of school managers under the terms of the Act took place on 28 July 1903.<sup>84</sup>

By 1905 the school had two teachers, one supplementary assistant, and two pupil teachers, with an average attendance of 112 pupils.<sup>85</sup> In 1919 there were 123 children on the register, but by 1925 this had fallen to 92 children.<sup>86</sup> A village school garden was recorded in 1927.<sup>87</sup> Just 61 pupils were on the register in 1931. In August 1939 the head noted that five children had left to attend secondary school, probably in Taunton.<sup>88</sup>

In September 1939, on the outbreak of the Second World War, evacuee children arrived from a London school, as a result of which additional teaching space had to be found in the Village Club. By February 1940 there were 84 children on the register, although this figure may not include the evacuee school, which did not formally merge with Norton Fitzwarren school until May 1941. The number of evacuee children appears to have reduced, as by October 1943 the extra accommodation at the Village Club could be given up and all the children accommodated in the school building.<sup>89</sup>

#### Public education after 1945

Under the terms of the Education Act 1944, children would attend primary school to the age of 11, and secondary school to the age of 15. Fees for state secondary education were abolished. From 1945 children at Norton Fitzwarren sat examinations for grammar school places. The effect of no longer having children on the roll to the age of 14 led to a fall in

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<sup>84</sup> SHC, A/BGJ/1/3, 256.

<sup>85</sup> SHC, C/E/4/64.

<sup>86</sup> SHC, A/BGJ/1/4, 238; 1/5, 40.

<sup>87</sup> *Taunton Courier*, 10 Aug. 1927, 5.

<sup>88</sup> SHC, A/BGJ/1/5, 166, 231.

<sup>89</sup> SHC, A/BGJ/1/5.

numbers to 63 pupils in 1945, under three teachers.<sup>90</sup> Young people travelled to school in Taunton once they reached secondary school age.<sup>91</sup>

By 1946 the situation of the school was a concern for the parish council; it was on a dangerous corner, and a proposed new playing field would have to be built on good agricultural land. It was resolved that the money proposed by the county council to spend on converting the school would be better put towards a school on a new site.<sup>92</sup> In 1948 the school became a Voluntary Controlled school.<sup>93</sup> By May 1952 teaching was provided by the headmistress and two assistant mistresses, and the school was once again having to use a room at the Village Club, numbers having risen to 85 pupils.<sup>94</sup> Numbers had increased to 123 by 1955, with four teachers, possibly as a result of the new housing developments in the village.<sup>95</sup> The buildings of 1872 were insufficient for the numbers attending,<sup>96</sup> and in 1955 a new classroom unit was installed 100 yards up Rectory Road,<sup>97</sup> which appears to have replaced the Village Club accommodation.

By 1971 there were 133 children on the roll, which had fallen by 1979 to 102 children.<sup>98</sup> In 1976 the parish council had noted that a new school was scheduled to be built in 1978/9.<sup>99</sup> This did not materialise, and by 1983 there were just 79 pupils registered, the re-opening of Norton Manor Camp for the Royal Marines having added only another three children.<sup>100</sup> By 1986 numbers had risen to 110, and the long-anticipated new school buildings

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<sup>90</sup> SHC, C/E/4/64.

<sup>91</sup> SHC, A/AGH/1/255.

<sup>92</sup> SHC, D/PC/n.fitz/1/2/7, 27 Jun. 1946.

<sup>93</sup> SHC, A/BGJ/1/5, 267.

<sup>94</sup> SHC, A/BGJ/1/5, 286–90.

<sup>95</sup> SHC, C/E/4/64.

<sup>96</sup> SHC, A/BLZ/1/5, 14 Aug. 1950.

<sup>97</sup> SHC, A/BVF/5/3, parents' info. booklet, n.d.

<sup>98</sup> SCH, A/BGJ/1/6, 8 Sept. 1971; A/BGJ/1/7, 4 Sept. 1979.

<sup>99</sup> SHC, D/PC/n.fitz/1/2/2, 20 Jul. 1976.

<sup>100</sup> SHC, A/BGJ/1/7, 1 Sept. 1983.

of the Norton Fitzwarren Church of England Voluntary Controlled primary school finally opened along Blackdown View in 1987.<sup>101</sup>

There were 124 children on the roll by 2004, although it was observed by inspectors that numbers had been falling owing to a declining birth rate. About a quarter of the children came from military families, and this seems to have contributed to a high proportion of children joining and leaving the school during the year. Although pastoral care was rated highly, the school's performance in English, maths and science led to it being rated unsatisfactory and placed in special measures.<sup>102</sup> The school was judged satisfactory in 2006, and the special measures were removed. By this date there were 94 children on the roll.<sup>103</sup> Though the school maintained its satisfactory rating in 2008, by 2012 numbers had fallen to 61 pupils, though improvements had been taking place since a new head was appointed in 2011.<sup>104</sup> The school became an academy in 2014.<sup>105</sup> New housing in the parish and the improvements noted in 2012 may have been responsible for a dramatic increase in pupil numbers over the next five years, as by 2017 the primary school had 201 pupils on the roll, close to its total capacity of 210 pupils.<sup>106</sup> By then known as Norton Fitzwarren Church School, it was partnered with Staplegrove Church School, another local primary.<sup>107</sup>

### Nurseries and pre-schools

<sup>101</sup> SHC, A/BGJ/1/7, 2 Sept. 1986; A/BVF/5/3, programme for official opening 21 Oct. 1987.

<sup>102</sup> Norton Fitzwarren CE Primary School, 29 Nov.–2 Dec. 2004, <https://reports.ofsted.gov.uk/inspection-reports/find-inspection-report/provider/ELS/123798> (accessed 27 Apr. 2018).

<sup>103</sup> Norton Fitzwarren CE VC Community School, 4–6 Oct. 2006, <https://reports.ofsted.gov.uk/inspection-reports/find-inspection-report/provider/ELS/123798> (accessed 27 Apr. 2018).

<sup>104</sup> Norton Fitzwarren CE VC Community School, 27 Nov. 2008, 4–5 Jul. 2012, <https://reports.ofsted.gov.uk/inspection-reports/find-inspection-report/provider/ELS/123798> (accessed 27 Apr. 2018).

<sup>105</sup> Notice of academy conversion, 6 Aug. 2014, <https://reports.ofsted.gov.uk/inspection-reports/find-inspection-report/provider/ELS/141162> (accessed 27 Apr. 2018).

<sup>106</sup> Norton Fitzwarren Church School, <https://reports.ofsted.gov.uk/inspection-reports/find-inspection-report/provider/ELS/141162> (accessed 16 Feb. 2018).

<sup>107</sup> Norton Fitzwarren Church School, 15 Jun. 2017, <https://reports.ofsted.gov.uk/inspection-reports/find-inspection-report/provider/ELS/141162> (accessed 16 Feb. 2018).

By 1998 a pre-school had been established in the village for over 15 years and was by then meeting in the playing field pavilion.<sup>108</sup> This may have been the pre-school that was situated in the grounds of the village primary school by 2008. It was not then managed by the primary school governors but came under their governorship in September 2013.<sup>109</sup> A children's centre for children aged up to five years and their families opened at Brock House, Vilberie Close, in 2008.<sup>110</sup> By 2014 the site was also home to a separate private nursery for babies and pre-school children.<sup>111</sup> In 2018 a local charity for the families of Royal Marines was instrumental in opening a nursery opposite the gates of Norton Manor Camp for service families and the wider community.<sup>112</sup>

### Private schools

In 1887 Alexander Knox's private military school at Norton Court prepared students for the universities and for the army. French and German were taught, and the school advertised opportunities for cricket and fishing. It had been founded in 1877, though it is not clear how long it had been at Norton Court.<sup>113</sup> It had closed or moved by 1889, when Norton Court was the residence of the head brewer at the adjacent brewery.<sup>114</sup>

When the village primary school moved into its new premises in 1987, the former primary school buildings were sold and became Manor School, a fee-paying preparatory school. The school was still on the site in 1997, but had closed by 2000, when planning

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<sup>108</sup> SHC, DD/TBL/97/13.

<sup>109</sup> Ofsted inspections, Norton Fitzwarren CE School, 27 Nov. 2008; 8–9 Feb. 2014, <https://reports.ofsted.gov.uk/inspection-reports/find-inspection-report/provider/ELS/123798> (accessed 27 Apr. 2018).

<sup>110</sup> *Somerset County Gaz.*, 16 Oct. 2008, 9.

<sup>111</sup> Brock House Day Nursery, 20 Jan. 2014, <https://reports.ofsted.gov.uk/inspection-reports/find-inspection-report/provider/CARE/EY464738> (accessed 27 Apr. 2018).

<sup>112</sup> *Somerset County Gaz.*, 1 Feb. 2018, 5; <http://thebramblesdaynursery.co.uk/go-commando> (accessed 27 Apr. 2018).

<sup>113</sup> *Goodman's Dir. Taunton* (1887), 237; *Morning Post*, 13 May 1887, 1.

<sup>114</sup> *Taunton Courier*, 7 Aug. 1889, 5.

permission was sought to turn the premises into two residential dwellings.<sup>115</sup> The proposed conversion did not take place, and by 2017 the buildings were abandoned and derelict.

## SOCIAL WELFARE

### Poor relief

No overseers accounts survive, though the vestry book of 1574–1836 records the placing of apprentices and the appointment of overseers.<sup>116</sup> Persons not entitled to relief by the parish were removed. In 1666 Thomas Hinde was ordered to be removed from Norton Fitzwarren to Bishop's Hull.<sup>117</sup> Fathers of illegitimate children were obliged to pay for their upkeep, as in 1675 when Joan Nurton, a singlewoman of Norton, had a son by Christopher Tarr, a Chipstable schoolmaster.<sup>118</sup> In 1815 James Chappel of Heathfield was ordered to pay the overseers for the upkeep of an illegitimate child that would otherwise be chargeable to the parish of Norton Fitzwarren.<sup>119</sup>

The parish apprenticed young people from impoverished families in 1691 and 1693.<sup>120</sup> The practice continued throughout the 18th century.<sup>121</sup> In 1816 children were apprenticed to a butcher, a blacksmith, a cordwainer, a maltser and two to gentlemen, presumably as domestic servants.<sup>122</sup>

Some records of poor relief from the 1830s are found in the vestry book of 1830–76.<sup>123</sup> A select vestry, consisting of nine members, heard applications for relief from the village poor. Among the cases heard in 1830 were a woman applying on behalf of her sick husband who was given 3s., and two persons who were given 1s. each in owing to the high

<sup>115</sup> *Sunday Telegraph*, 13 Jul. 1997, 11; Johnson, *100 Years of Norton Fitzwarren*, 32.

<sup>116</sup> SHC, D/P/n.fitz/9/1/1.

<sup>117</sup> M.C.B. Dawes, *Quarter Sessions Records: 1666-1677* (Som. Rec. Soc. 34), 27.

<sup>118</sup> *Quarter Sessions Records: 1666-1677*, 183.

<sup>119</sup> SHC, D/P/n.fitz/9/1/1, 14 Jun. 1815.

<sup>120</sup> SHC, D/P/n.fitz/9/1/1, 1691, 1693.

<sup>121</sup> SHC, D/P/n.fitz/9/1/1, f. 83 (1708–43), 25 May 1770.

<sup>122</sup> SHC, D/P/n.fitz/9/1/1, 1816.

<sup>123</sup> SHC, D/P/n.fitz/9/1/2.

price of potatoes. A couple where the husband was sick were finding the rent on their house too high while he was out of work. They were offered accommodation in the poor house, which they refused, and were given 2s., in addition to 3s. relief already received.<sup>124</sup>

William Hewett represented Norton Fitzwarren at the first meeting of Board of Guardians of Taunton Union in May 1836.<sup>125</sup> Despite the establishment of the Union workhouse in Taunton, the poor of Norton Fitzwarren continued to receive some measure of out-relief in the latter half of the 1830s. In the quarter ending 29 September 1836 a sum of £31 2s. 8 ¼d. was distributed for this purpose, and £38 8s. 11d. in the quarter to 25 December 1837.<sup>126</sup>

Over twenty persons were identified as paupers or the wives of paupers in 1871,<sup>127</sup> but not until the 1891 census were individuals identified as being in receipt of parish pay. Nine people were being relieved in that year, and six persons in 1901.<sup>128</sup> This may suggest a move towards outdoor relief, rather than the poor having to enter the Taunton workhouse but expenditure on relief fell from £231 in 1875 to £94 in 1893 although over five per cent of the population was still on relief.<sup>129</sup> Norton Fitzwarren residents continued to receive outdoor relief at least to 1927.<sup>130</sup>

A parish poor house was recorded in 1699.<sup>131</sup> In 1828 the vestry agreed to pull down the south end of the house and rebuild it.<sup>132</sup> By 1836 the poor house consisted of a freehold cottage with garden land known as Leigh.<sup>133</sup> In that year it was proposed to sell the poor house to meet the sum of £105 required from the Taunton Board of Guardians towards the Taunton Union workhouse. The vestry eventually agreed to the proposal and it was sold the

<sup>124</sup> SHC, D/P/n.fitz/9/1/2, 18 Jun. 1830, 10 Sept. 1830.

<sup>125</sup> SHC, D/G/ta/8a/1, 4.

<sup>126</sup> SHC, D/G/ta/8a/1, 127, 420.

<sup>127</sup> TNA, RG 10/2375.

<sup>128</sup> TNA, RG 12/1878; RG 13/2279.

<sup>129</sup> SHC, D/G/ta/57/21.

<sup>130</sup> SHC, D/G/ta/27/9.

<sup>131</sup> SHC, D/P/n.fitz/9/1/1, f. 68.

<sup>132</sup> SHC, D/P/n.fitz/9/1/1, 28 Mar. 1828.

<sup>133</sup> SHC, D/P/n.fitz/9/1/2, 22 Dec. 1836.

following year.<sup>134</sup> By 1895 the building, still referred to as ‘The Poor House’, had been converted to three tenements.<sup>135</sup>

### Charities for the poor

In the winter of 1342—3 the manor distributed more than 9 quarters of peas to 12 poor men and women for 25 weeks. It is not clear if this was a regular gift or due to a harsh winter.<sup>136</sup>

John Prowse, on his death in 1684, left to the poor of the parish who received no parochial relief 40s. annually, payable at Lady Day (25 March) out of the Court farm estate.<sup>137</sup> In the 1780s Rack the charity paid 40s. each year to the second poor from a large field called Great Park.<sup>138</sup> The bequest was recorded on a board placed in the church c.1807. Distributions ceased after 1817 and it had been given to any poor as there were few poor persons in the parish who did not receive parochial relief.<sup>139</sup> By 1873 no distributions were being made and the estate owners refused to pay the 40s. rent charge.<sup>140</sup> In 1894 the Congregational minister, Revd Dixon, made enquiries concerning the Prowse charity, and calculated that the arrears built up over 73 years, with compound interest at 5%, would amount to over £1,328, enough to build two or three houses for the poor.<sup>141</sup> His conclusions were challenged by a claim that no trace of Prowse’s bequest could be found and the evidence of the board in the church was at best doubtful since it had been put up over 120 years after the alleged bequest was made. A counter-claim was made by Dixon that the charity had been administered for 10 years after the board was placed in the church,<sup>142</sup> but nothing seems to have come of his efforts.

<sup>134</sup> SHC, D/P/n.fitz/9/1/1, 4 Aug. 1836; 9/1/2, 22 Dec. 1836; D/G/ta/8a/1, 186; 57/4/1.

<sup>135</sup> SHC, D/PC/n.fitz/1/2/6, 20–4.

<sup>136</sup> Glos. Archives, MF1418 (Berkeley Castle Muniments BCM/A/3/14/1 (GAR386)).

<sup>137</sup> *5th Rep. Com. Char.* (1821), 475.

<sup>138</sup> McDermott and Berry, *Rack’s Survey*, 277.

<sup>139</sup> *5th Rep. Com. Char.* (1821), 475.

<sup>140</sup> *Endowed Charities, Somerset* (1873), 46–7.

<sup>141</sup> *Taunton Courier*, 9 May 1894, 5.

<sup>142</sup> *Taunton Courier*, 13 Jun. 1894, 7.

William Cutting of West Tilbury, by his will of 1599, left James Clarke of the Middle Temple and other trustees the lease on property, including a shop, at the Three Swans in the parish of St Katherine by the Tower, London, which Cutting held by lease from the Hospital of St Katherine. The trustees were to use the profits from the lease for the benefit of the poor of St Katherine's, of East Dereham (Norfolk) and of Norton Fitzwarren. The Norton poor were to receive 40s. annually, to be paid before Christmas by the churchwardens and overseers.<sup>143</sup> By the 1690s the ownership of the Three Swans property was in dispute, and there is no known record of the charity after this date.<sup>144</sup>

In 1873 it was said that there had formerly been a charity which gave 5s. a year each to eight of the oldest men in the village to buy tools, but it had been lost for many years.<sup>145</sup>

By her will of 1875 Miss Betty North provided an income for the benefit of the poor, to be distributed by the rector. The sum invested was £100 and the interest of £2 15s. was to be distributed as £1 in money to the poor, £1 as goods in kind to the poor, and 15s. for educational purposes to the church Sunday School.<sup>146</sup> In 1898 the churchwardens reported that the sum of £10 from this charity was distributed among the 20 oldest parishioners on St Thomas Day (21 Dec.).<sup>147</sup> As the Betty North charity it was registered with the Charity Commission by 1962 to support for the church Sunday School, but by 2004 it had ceased to exist and was removed from the register.<sup>148</sup>

James Summerhayes, in his will proved in 1940, left the interest on the proceeds from the sale of a house in Rectory Road, after the death of Bertha Summerhayes, to provide for a district nurse in Norton Fitzwarren. In 1960 the charity was to be administered as the Somerset County Nursing Association (Summerhayes Bequest) Trust, for the aid of any

<sup>143</sup> TNA, PROB 11/95/170; C 6/369/71; C 7/288/1.

<sup>144</sup> TNA, C 6/369/71; C 7/288/1.

<sup>145</sup> E. Jeboult, 'The Valley of the Tone' in *A General Account of West Somerset* (1873), 69.

<sup>146</sup> SHC, D/PC/n.fitz/1/2/6, 19 Apr. 1895.

<sup>147</sup> *Supplement (1891) to Return of the Digest of Endowed Charities* (HMSO, 1892), 26–7; SHC, D/D/va/21/12.

<sup>148</sup> <http://www.charitycommission.gov.uk/find-charities> (accessed 10 October 2017).

district nurse employed in the parish before the National Health Service, or for sick or infirm persons of the village.<sup>149</sup> Bertha Summerhayes died in 1972.<sup>150</sup> The charity had ceased to exist by 1994 and was removed from the Charity Commission register.<sup>151</sup>

### Friendly Societies

A friendly society was meeting in the parish by 1803, when it had 37 members.<sup>152</sup> In 1855 a friendly society was meeting at the Ring of Bells inn.<sup>153</sup> By 1862 the Norton Fitzwarren Friendly Society was providing financial assistance to members in times of sickness, as well as benefits in the event of the death of a member or his wife. Members met annually for a church service and dinner at the Ring of Bells inn.<sup>154</sup> A friendly society emblem, a brass ball to fit on top of a pole to be carried in the annual procession to the church, survives.<sup>155</sup>

A friendly society for brewery employees, the Norton Court Friendly Society, had an annual dinner in 1877.<sup>156</sup> The United Benefit friendly society was meeting by 1893.<sup>157</sup> The Norton Fitzwarren and Staplegrove lodge of the Bridgwater Equalised Independent Druids held its eighth annual fete in 1913, having given out £4. 15s. 8 ½d. in sickness benefit payments to members in the previous year. Women and juvenile members were also admitted to the Druids' lodge.<sup>158</sup> The United Patriots' Society was meeting at Norton Fitzwarren by 1905<sup>159</sup> and was still active in 1966.<sup>160</sup>

<sup>149</sup> SHC, A/BTO/5.

<sup>150</sup> B. Summerhayes (1972), Nat. Probate Cal.: accessed 10 Oct. 2017. Her relationship to James Summerhayes is unclear.

<sup>151</sup> <http://www.charitycommission.gov.uk/find-charities> (accessed 10 October 2017).

<sup>152</sup> *Abstract of Returns...of the poor* (Parl. Papers 1803–04 (175), xiii), pp. 442–3.

<sup>153</sup> *Western Flying Post*, 4 Dec. 1855.

<sup>154</sup> *Rules of the Norton Fitzwarren Friendly Society* (1862).

<sup>155</sup> M. Fuller, *West Country Friendly Societies* (Reading, 1964), 141, plate XLII.

<sup>156</sup> *Somerset County Gaz.*, 27 Oct. 1877, 6.

<sup>157</sup> *Taunton Courier*, 24 May 1893, 7.

<sup>158</sup> *Taunton Courier*, 6 Aug. 1913, 8.

<sup>159</sup> *Western Daily Press*, 14 Jan. 1905, 6.

<sup>160</sup> *Devon and Exeter Gaz.*, 4 Sept. 1929, 7; *Kelly's Dir. Taunton* (1966).

## Health

In 1609 Joan Shattock was recorded as an unlicensed midwife.<sup>161</sup> The overseers had appointed a medical officer for the poor by 1831.<sup>162</sup> In 1891 one woman was a monthly nurse.<sup>163</sup> In 1896 an outbreak of measles in the village resulted in the school being closed for a month.<sup>164</sup>

By 1906 the Norton Fitzwarren District Nursing Association had been established to provide a nurse for the village. Her annual salary of £95 was, by 1915, paid by Mrs Sturdee of Norton Manor, with holiday cover and emergency nursing paid by the Association.<sup>165</sup> Two nurse midwives were resident in 1911.<sup>166</sup> Mrs Sturdee died in 1928, her will desiring her daughters to continue paying the salary of the district nurse, though without setting up a formal arrangement.<sup>167</sup> By 1920 the association was the Norton Fitzwarren and Hillfarrance District Nursing Association and it amalgamated with Bishops Hull in 1944. The nursing care provided included midwifery services and visits to state schools. Local residents could subscribe to a benefit scheme and pay reduced rates for nursing services and local fundraising also contributed towards costs.<sup>168</sup> In 1948 the Association became affiliated to the Somerset County Nursing Association but was disbanded in November 1952.<sup>169</sup>

In 1950 there was no doctors' surgery in the village, and the district nurse was based in Bishop's Hull.<sup>170</sup> There was still no doctor or district nurse in the village in 1976, although a flat was leased on a temporary basis in 1978 to ascertain the need for permanent medical facilities.<sup>171</sup> This may have been the surgery recorded in the village in 1980, but it appears to

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<sup>161</sup> SHC, D/D/Ca/57, 160.

<sup>162</sup> SHC, D/P/n.fitz/9/1/1, 14 Apr. 1831.

<sup>163</sup> TNA, RG 12/1878.

<sup>164</sup> SHC, A/AUV/2.

<sup>165</sup> SHC, C/DN/BH/1.

<sup>166</sup> TNA, RG 14/14259.

<sup>167</sup> *Western Times*, 1 Mar. 1928, 12.

<sup>168</sup> SHC, C/DN/BH/1, 7.

<sup>169</sup> SHC, C/DN/BH/5—6.

<sup>170</sup> SHC, A/AGH/1/255.

<sup>171</sup> SHC, D/PC/n.fitz/1/2/2, 20 Jul. 1976, 24 Apr. 1978.

have closed by 1992, when a Taunton surgery proposed opening a surgery in the village due to the growth in the area.<sup>172</sup> A general practitioner surgery was established at Orchard Medical Centre, Norton Mills, by 2017.<sup>173</sup>

### House of St Martin

The Somerset Training Home for Young Wayfarers (or Young Vagrants) was established at Woodcroft House, Langford in 1932. The home provided accommodation and training for disadvantaged young men, the training consisting of agricultural work, some workshop skills and domestic duties.<sup>174</sup> During the Second World War the house was used as accommodation for elderly female evacuees.<sup>175</sup>

After the war Woodcroft House returned to its former function until at least 1958.<sup>176</sup> By 1968 it was known as the House of St Martin and was being run by the London-based St Martin in the Fields Social Services Unit, providing training and support for homeless young men and ex-offenders.<sup>177</sup> In 1973 the Langley House Trust, a charity working for the rehabilitation of offenders, took over the running of the House of St Martin. It was run as a working community, offering horticultural and IT training. By 2018 it was still run by Langley House Trust, but as a care home for men with multiple needs.<sup>178</sup>

### MILITARY

Three men from the parish were noted as absent from their homes during Monmouth's rebellion of 1685.<sup>179</sup> Men from the parish joined the army during the late 18th and 19th

<sup>172</sup> SHC, A/AGH/1/255; D/PC/n.fitz/1/2/5, 3 Aug. 1992.

<sup>173</sup> *Norton News*, Oct. 2017, 18.

<sup>174</sup> SHC, A/DQE/1; *Taunton Courier*, 11 Jul. 1934, 4.

<sup>175</sup> *Taunton Courier*, 1 Jan. 1944, 3.

<sup>176</sup> *Som. Co. Herald*, 5 Oct. 1946, 4; 19 Jul. 1958, 3.

<sup>177</sup> SHC, A/DQO/303/37.

<sup>178</sup> <http://langleyhousetrust.org/about-us/history/>; <http://langleyhousetrust.org/our-projects/house-of-st-martin/> (accessed 14 Feb. 2018).

<sup>179</sup> W. M. Wigfield, *The Monmouth Rebels 1685* (Som. Rec. Soc. 79), 8, 190.

centuries.<sup>180</sup> Eight young men served in the Royal Navy during the last half of the 19th century.<sup>181</sup> Fifty-four men of voting age were absent on active service in 1918.<sup>182</sup> Hugh Trenchard, later Viscount Trenchard, known as the ‘father’ of the Royal Air Force, lived as a child at Courtlands (now Meadow Court) on the Taunton to Minehead road.<sup>183</sup>

In 1939 the War Department acquired Norton Manor and its grounds, which were converted into a militia camp. In September 1939 it was occupied by 22 Searchlight (SL) Militia Depot Royal Artillery (RA), renamed 222 SL Training Unit RA later that month. The camp was taken over by US V Corps Headquarters in 1943. In the early part of 1944 the camp was converted and occupied by 101 US General Hospital to take casualties from the D-Day landings.<sup>184</sup>

Land to the north of the railway line and to the south of the Taunton to Wiveliscombe road was levelled in 1940 to create a military supply depot.<sup>185</sup> As 3 Supply Reserve Depot it was under the control of British forces until 1942, when it became the United States Army’s General Depot G 50. The extensive site included warehousing, cold storage facilities and rail marshalling yards to receive supplies coming by train. By 1943 the US Army had established a large depot on a site between Courtlands and the railway.<sup>186</sup> Towards the end of the Second World War the Cross Keys camp was established to house prisoners of war; it was converted from existing US Army premises.<sup>187</sup> Both Italian and German PoWs were housed there at various times. Four German PoWs, still incarcerated in March 1946, escaped by taking the

<sup>180</sup> TNA, WO 97/564/142; WO 97/1094/240; WO 121/15/61; WO 69/13/38; SHC, A/DQO/303/30.

<sup>181</sup> TNA, ADM 139/737/33603; ADM 188/9/42429; ADM 188/113/99040; ADM 188/141/113141; ADM 188/193/139423; ADM 188/196/140538; ADM 188/293/177605; ADM 188/365/209198; ADM 188/368/210507.

<sup>182</sup> SHC, Q/REr 15/2.

<sup>183</sup> R. Miller, *Trenchard: Father of the Royal Air Force* (London, 2017), 10.

<sup>184</sup> Somerset HER, 43413.

<sup>185</sup> TNA, WO 227/51; <https://www.victoriacountyhistory.ac.uk/explore/items/somerset-heritage-centre> (accessed 16 Feb. 2018).

<sup>186</sup> Somerset HER, 44543.

<sup>187</sup> R. J. C. Thomas, *Prisoner of War Camps (1939–1945)* (English Heritage Twentieth Century Military Recording Project), (Swindon, 2003), 47; Somerset HER, 44543.

commanding officer's car, which was found abandoned near Taunton railway station, but they were recaptured a few days later near Basingstoke.<sup>188</sup>

The G 50 depot returned to British military control in 1945 as 3 SRD RASC. By 1963 it was the only Supply Reserve Depot in the UK, providing ration packs to British troops.<sup>189</sup> The depot closed in 1966, by which time it employed 213 largely civilian staff.<sup>190</sup> There were no immediate plans for the 70 a. site, but it was deemed suitable for warehousing, storage and distributing facilities, or light industry.<sup>191</sup>

After the end of the Second World War the camp at Norton Manor returned to British military control. It was occupied by various units to 1983, when the camp was taken over by 40 Commando Royal Marines.<sup>192</sup> In 2003 40 Commando was awarded the freedom of the borough of Taunton Deane.<sup>193</sup> It was announced in 2016 that Norton Manor Camp would close by 2028, one of 56 military bases to shut across the country. The 710 marines at Norton would be relocated to Plymouth or Torpoint.<sup>194</sup>

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<sup>188</sup> SHC, DD/ASC/1/5/2; D/PC/n.fitz/4/1/11, letter of 17 Sept. 1945; *Western Gaz.*, 15 Mar. 1946, 8; *Som. Co. Herald*, 16 Mar. 1946, 8.

<sup>189</sup> Somerset HER, 44543.

<sup>190</sup> <https://www.victoriacountyhistory.ac.uk/explore/items/somerset-heritage-centre> (accessed 16 Feb. 2018).

<sup>191</sup> TNA, EW 22/92.

<sup>192</sup> Somerset HER, 43413.

<sup>193</sup> *Somerset County Gaz.* (Wellington edn), 5 Sept. 2003, 3.

<sup>194</sup> *Somerset County Gaz.*, 10 Nov. 2016, 2–3.