

The Shalford Photograph Exhibition

The East Anglia Air War Project in Shalford

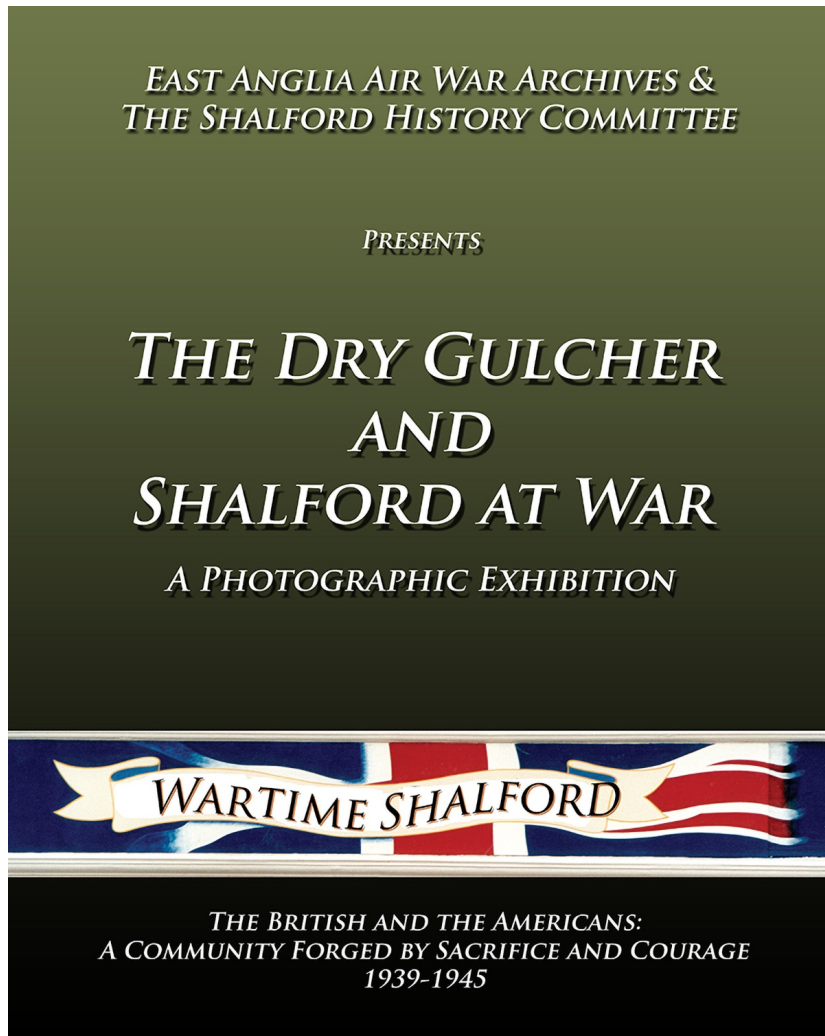
The East Anglia Air War Project (hereafter referred to as EAAWP) began in 2001 to support an oral history interview program of veterans of the Eighth Air Force in England and also the British people who lived in the villages and town across East Anglia and west into the Midlands during World War II. Later, the Project expanded to include the Ninth Air Force. Along the way, the EAAWP established programming at venues throughout East Anglia. These activities included documentary film premieres, exhibitions, speeches and talks, erecting memorials, and scheduling meetings to update British communities in rural villages and towns about the World War II history work being done by the EAAWP.

In 2008, a memorial stone was placed in the church yard at Shalford in memory of the crew of the *Dry Gulcher* who came down in Shalford village area on August 4, 1944. Crew families designed the memorial and sponsored its placement in Shalford. On hand for the dedication were a number of crew family members, and the EAAWP worked with the Shalford History Committee to plan a memorial service at the memorial site and an evening exhibition and program in the village hall to celebrate the occasion. The program included a sneak preview of the film, *Dry Gulcher Down*, then in production, and a multiple-panel photograph exhibition. The exhibition is reproduced here in the following pages.

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*EAST ANGLIA AIR WAR ARCHIVES &
THE SHALFORD HISTORY COMMITTEE*



*THE FLYING FORTRESS DRY GULCHER
AND HER CREW CAME DOWN
AT SHALFORD VILLAGE ON 4 AUGUST 1944*

*IN MEMORY OF THE CREW
WHO SERVED THE CAUSE OF FREEDOM AND OF
HAROLD F. NORRIS WHO GAVE HIS LIFE AT THIS PLEASANT PLACE*

*LT HANLEY G. CUPERNALL
CAPT IRVING MOORE
LT JAMES W. SNEED, JR.
LT. CHARLES W. YOUNG
TSGT EARL T. YANKTON
LT RUSSELL J. HADLEY
TSGT FRANK H. HEINZE, SR.
CAPT FRANCIS G. HAWKINS
SSGT LOREN W. MURPHY
SSGT HAROLD F. NORRIS*

*PILOT
CO-PILOT, DEPUTY MISSION LEAD
NAVIGATOR
BOMBARDIER
TOP TURRET GUNNER, ENGINEER
RADAR (MICKEY) OPERATOR
RADIOMAN
WAIST GUNNER, PHOTOGRAPHER
WAIST GUNNER
TAIL GUNNER (KILLED)*



WARTIME SHALFORD

*~ THE DRY GULCHER MEMORIAL ~
DEDICATED ON 28 MAY 2008*

532ND BOMB SQUADRON • 381ST BOMB GROUP • U.S. ARMY AIR FORCE

*EAST ANGLIA AIR WAR ARCHIVES &
THE SHALFORD HISTORY COMMITTEE*



*CORONATION DECORATIONS
AT SHALFORD VILLAGE HALL, 1937*

*EAST ANGLIA AIR WAR ARCHIVES &
THE SHALFORD HISTORY COMMITTEE*



WARTIME SHALFORD

*SHALFORD HALL DAMAGE RESULTING FROM THE
CRASH OF THE DRY GULCHER FLYING FORTRESS*

*EAST ANGLIA AIR WAR ARCHIVES &
THE SHALFORD HISTORY COMMITTEE*



*VIEW 1: DEBRIS FIELD FROM THE
CRASH OF THE DRY GULCHER FLYING FORTRESS*

*EAST ANGLIA AIR WAR ARCHIVES &
THE SHALFORD HISTORY COMMITTEE*



*VIEW 2: DEBRIS FIELD FROM THE
CRASH OF THE DRY GULCHER FLYING FORTRESS*

*EAST ANGLIA AIR WAR ARCHIVES &
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*VIEW 3: DEBRIS FIELD FROM THE
CRASH OF THE DRY GULCHER FLYING FORTRESS*

*EAST ANGLIA AIR WAR ARCHIVES &
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*LARGEST SURVIVING PIECES OF THE DRY GULCHER
(THE "E" WAS PART OF THE 532ND SQUADRON
MARKING NEAR THE WAIST GUN POSITION)*

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*DRY GULCHER CREWMAN RETURNS
TO THE CRASH SITE AT SHALFORD*

*EAST ANGLIA AIR WAR ARCHIVES &
THE SHALFORD HISTORY COMMITTEE*



*DAMAGE TO THE ROOF OF ST. MICHAELS CHURCH
FROM THE CRASH OF THE DRY GULCHER*

*EAST ANGLIA AIR WAR ARCHIVES &
THE SHALFORD HISTORY COMMITTEE*



*Left, at the front door of Shalford Hall:
(clockwise from top right)*

- Thomas Goodchild*
- Kate Goodchild*
- Peggy Goodchild*
- Pleasance Goodchild*
- Christopher Tuffle*
- Irene Tuffle*
- Willy Tuffle*



*Above, Pleasance Goodchild &
Christopher Tuffle playing tennis at
Shalford Hall.*



*A DAY OF TENNIS MARKS THE SUMMER DAY
FOR THE GOODCHILD FAMILY AND THEIR TRUFFLE
COUSINS FROM BROADSTAIRS, CIRCA 1930S-1940S*

EAST ANGLIA AIR WAR ARCHIVES &
THE SHALFORD HISTORY COMMITTEE

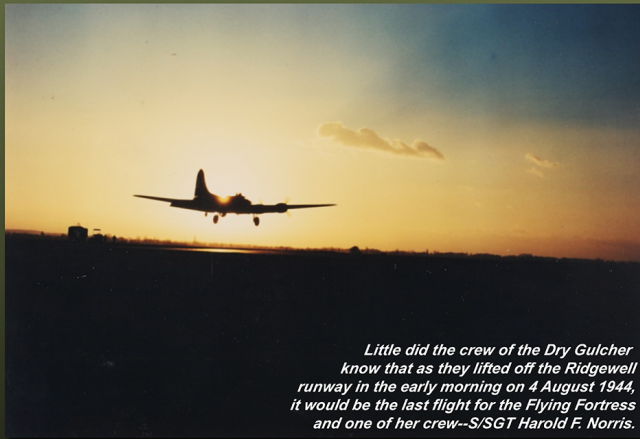


The Dry Gulcher belonged to the same squadron (532nd BS) as these aircraft and carried the same livery design. Pieces of the Dry Gulcher's red wing tips were found in the wreckage nearby.



381ST BOMB GROUP AIRCRAFT FROM RIDGEWELL
OVER THE ENGLISH COUNTRYSIDE

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THE SHALFORD HISTORY COMMITTEE



Little did the crew of the Dry Gulcher know that as they lifted off the Ridgewell runway in the early morning on 4 August 1944, it would be the last flight for the Flying Fortress and one of her crew--S/SGT Harold F. Norris.



THE DRY GULCHER TOOK OFF AT 9:00 A.M.
ON 4 AUGUST 1944. THIRTY MINUTES LATER
THE AIRCRAFT AND CREW WOULD COME DOWN
OVER SHALFORD VILLAGE

EAST ANGLIA AIR WAR ARCHIVES &
THE SHALFORD HISTORY COMMITTEE



Bottom, counter clockwise: Control tower at Ridgewell with personnel waiting for mission return. Hospital area with ambulances parked in front (Dry Gulcher survivors and Sgt. Norris brought here following crash). Looking southeast, with aircraft on the move on runways and perimeter tracks.



THE STARTING AND ENDING POINTS FOR THE
DRY GULCHER ON 4 AUGUST 1944:
THE PERIMETER TRACKS AND RUNWAYS
AND THE HOSPITAL AT RIDGEWELL AIRDROME

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S/SGT Harold F. Norris was the only crewman on the Dry Gulcher to perish in the crash at Shalford.

Left, top to bottom: military portrait, circa 1943; barracks roommates (Norris, center, back row). Right, clockwise from top: Norris high school portrait, last family photograph together, Norris' wife, Jeanette with son Frank whom Sgt. Norris never saw, and last photograph with wife, Jeanette. These last photographs were taken with family during a visit to Brevard, North Carolina just before departure for England.



**TAIL GUNNER S/SGT HAROLD F. NORRIS
WAS THE ONLY CREWMAN TO PERISH IN THE CRASH**

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THE SHALFORD HISTORY COMMITTEE*



Left, clockwise: Early Shalford street scene. Ironbridge Cottages, circa 1954. Prayers Thorn, Ironbridge Lane, 1947.



SHALFORD AT MID-TWENTIETH CENTURY

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THE SHALFORD HISTORY COMMITTEE*



THE VICTORIA INN, SHALFORD, EARLY POST-WAR

*EAST ANGLIA AIR WAR ARCHIVES &
THE SHALFORD HISTORY COMMITTEE*



WARTIME SHALFORD

*CONGREGATIONAL CHAPEL AT SHALFORD GREEN
AS IT APPEARED DURING WARTIME AND
FIRE DAMAGE IN THE POST-WAR ERA*

*EAST ANGLIA AIR WAR ARCHIVES &
THE SHALFORD HISTORY COMMITTEE*



Arthur Grubb, first in back row; Mr. Gregory (manager at Boots), centre in first row; Harold Bright, first left in back row; others probably from Braintree. Can you identify anyone in this photograph?



*HEAVY DUTY AMBULANCE GROUP
SECOND WORLD WAR*

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Mrs. Tanner with Alec, Peggy Legerton with Simon, Joyce Tanner with daughter. Photograph taken outside The Mount, Hulls Lane, circa 1945. A year earlier the parachutists from the Dry Gulcher crash assembled at The Mount and waited to be collected after Mr. Legerton made a telephone call to the authorities. His wife, Peggy, is second from left in the top photograph.



WARTIME SHALFORD

VISITING IN SHALFORD AT WAR'S END
AT THE MOUNT WHERE IN 1944, DRY GULCHER
SURVIVORS GATHERED TO AWAIT THE AMBULANCE
FROM RIDGEWELL AIRDROME

*EAST ANGLIA AIR WAR ARCHIVES &
THE SHALFORD HISTORY COMMITTEE*



Elsie Peacock (centre) and Mrs. Gill (right) of Whitehall, Shalford Green selling blackcurrants at the door during World War 2



*THE LAND AROUND SHALFORD PRODUCED
A BOUNTY FOR LOCAL FAMILIES AND FOR THE NATION*

*EAST ANGLIA AIR WAR ARCHIVES &
THE SHALFORD HISTORY COMMITTEE*



On the morning of 4 August 1944 Audrey Sparrow set off on her bicycle to deliver the mail to her patrons along her assigned Shalford postal route. As she approached Water Hall Lane (marked as X), an American military policeman stopped her and escorted to her final deliveries, not far from the wreckage site (marked as XX).



*AUDREY SPARROW DELIVERS MAIL DURING
THE DRY GULCHER CRASH AND TELLS HER
STORY IN THE NEW FILM, DRY GULCHER DOWN*

EAST ANGLIA AIR WAR ARCHIVES & THE SHALFORD HISTORY COMMITTEE



Mr. Peter Morgan, who once lived at the Old Vicarage, described how, as a boy during the war, he remembered the USAF bomber crashing near Shalford Hall. Before the crash the plane had flopped over and flew on its back and they saw all the parachutes floating down.

When the plane did crash, his mother, Mrs. Sybil Morgan and Albert Tarbin were first on the scene. Peter followed them as they disappeared into the smoke near the Hall. There were explosions constantly as the plane was fully loaded for a bombing raid and was on its way out when a fire broke out in the cockpit. No one was found in the area, but Mrs. Morgan noticed a rucksack with something soft and nasty-looking in it and she feared the worst before she discovered it was melting chocolate.

Peter's mother told him to go home and when he returned to the house, Peter thought that it seemed to be raining in the kitchen. The house, of course, was very old and shaky, and it had a huge galvanized reservoir in the roof which had rusted so thin that the shock of the plane crash caused it to leak, with water flooding through the ceiling.

It was much later that Peter found the oxygen tank from the Dry Gulcher in the garden behind Shalford Hall (pictured above).

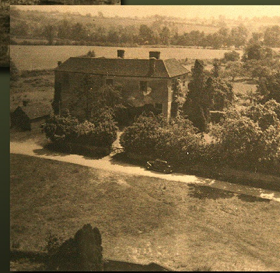
WARTIME SHALFORD

PETER MORGAN'S ADVENTURE ON THE DAY THE DRY GULCHER CRASHED IN SHALFORD

*EAST ANGLIA AIR WAR ARCHIVES &
THE SHALFORD HISTORY COMMITTEE*



Right: Shalford Hall, taken from the church tower in the 1940s. Top: Behind Shalford Hall, 1961.



*THEN AND NOW,
SHALFORD HALL CLAIMING ITS PLACE IN HISTORY*

*EAST ANGLIA AIR WAR ARCHIVES &
THE SHALFORD HISTORY COMMITTEE*

Lt. Hadley returned to Shalford a few days after the crash to examine the wreckage site.



WARTIME SHALFORD

*LT. RUSSELL HADLEY
RADAR NAVIGATOR ON THE ILL-FATED MISSION
THE DRY GULCHER, 4 AUGUST 1944*

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Back row, left to right: Earl T. Yankton (top turret, burned), Orby K. Putman (not on board), Frank H. Heinze, Sr. (radio, no injuries), Harold F. Norris (tail gunner, killed), Anthony V. Diamonte (not on board), Loren W. Murphy (gunner, no injuries). Front row, left to right: Handley G. Cupernall (pilot, broken ankle), Frank Scurlock (not on board), James W. Sneed (navigator, sprained ankle), Charles W. Young (bombardier, injuries unknown).

WARTIME SHALFORD

~~ THE CUPERNALL CREW ~~
SEVEN OF THESE MEN WERE ON THE DRY GULCHER
AND CAME DOWN OVER SHALFORD