

Stamford in the Second World War

Polish Troops in the Stamford Area

The 1st Independent Polish Paratroop Brigade arrived in the Stamford/Peterborough area in July 1944. They were 3,100 volunteers who had escaped from Nazi Germany or been released from Russian camps in Siberia.

General Sosabowski was their esteemed commander. They had been trained in Scotland and were eventually deployed in Arnhem during Operation Market Garden. They were housed at Uffington, Barnack and Easton and surrounding areas as well as in town, and many settled here after the war ended.



Members of the Stamford medical unit with equipment.



Rock House



Ready to fly out to Arnhem September 1944



General Sosabowski inspecting troops at Wansford.



Polish troops marching from the Brigade's HQ at Rock House in Scotgate. When marching informally into town from their village camps they would sing loudly to keep in time.



Operating theatre in a school during the battle of Arnhem.

On VE Day most of them were sent to Germany for occupation duties until the end of June 1947.

The medical unit of 250 medics and 11 surgeons was based in Stamford School grounds with a first aid post in King's Mill Lane.



Memorial at Stamford School.

