

Park House, Park Drive, Market Harborough

Ref: MH/004



Construction Date: 1880s

Architect: Unknown

Original Use: House

Current Use: Residential Apartment Block

Condition: Good

Occupancy: Occupied

Ward: Market Harborough Logan

Reason for Inclusion

Historic Interest

Park House was built in Elms Park as the home of William Henry Symington. William Henry and his brother, Robert were partners in the corset making business R and W H Symington & Co Ltd. By the 1880s their Market Harborough factory employed 1600 people and exported corsets to Australia, Africa, Canada and the United States.

In 1944 the house and grounds were home to the 456th Parachute Artillery Battalion and 82nd Airborne Division of the United States Army. Inside the building is a plaque from veterans of the 456th Battalion which states that 'it was from this lovely English town that our Battalion invaded Normandy and Holland'.

In 1958 Park House was occupied by government offices and in 1980 it was converted into apartments.

Architectural Interest

Built in the 1880s, in the style of the French Second Empire, Park House is a large mansion which was originally set in landscaped grounds

Associative Interest

- Economic and employment history of Market Harborough
- Other WWII sites within the district – notably airfields.