

416TH.COM

The purpose of the "416th Bomb Group Archive" is to preserve the memory and honor the accomplishments of this World War II combat unit and its personnel through research, education and public interaction.

The "Friends of the 416th Bomb Group" Mission is Keeping memories alive by perpetuating the accomplishments and heritage of the 416th Bomb Group for present and future generations.

The "416th.com" website serves as one component of these common goals.

416TH.COM Memorials

Veteran Memorials:

- Acquired and added 44 Individual Deceased Personnel Files (IDPFs) (Courtesy of Geoff Gentilini, Golden Arrow Research, LLC and Ms. Corey Stewart, NARA, St. Louis, MO). This completed the known IDPF records for the 416th BG.

416TH.COM Memorials



Born: 19-Apr-1914, Lowell, Middlesex County, Massachusetts

Entered Military Service: Date: 7-Sep-1940 At: Manchester, NH From: Hillsborough County, New Hampshire

NARA Enlistment Record: [Enlisted Serial # 11014588](#)

Buried: [Arlington National Cemetery](#), Arlington, Virginia, Section 12 Site 3472

On-line Memorials:

[National World War II Registry](#)

[Find-A-Grave](#)

See also Capt William Battersby [Individual Deceased Personnel File \(IDPF\)](#)

Disclaimer: IDPF files document efforts to locate, identify, move, notify relatives and provide final resting for Soldier Dead, often months or years after death, thus some pages may contain potentially disturbing or distressing information.

If you are sensitive, please consider whether to read this or not.

[Click Here](#) for information on WWII IDPFs.

416TH.COM Memorials

668-BattersbyWilliam_IDPF_goldenarrowresearch.com_ED....

2 / 80

62%

+



1



2



3



4



293
Battersby, Wm.

det
1681

RECEIPT OF REMAINS

DISTRIBUTION CENTER, PHILA QM DEPOT

SUPERINTENDENT
ARLINGTON NATIONAL CEMETERY
FORT MYER VIRGINIA

DAY LETTER
XXXXXX
ROUTINE

REMAINS CONSIGNED TO:

FIFTY SIX (56) REMAINS DELIVERED TO YOU BY THIS DEPOT
ACCOMPANIED BY MILITARY ESCORT AT APPROXIMATELY 7:00
AM 13TH JULY 48.

FRANK M. GREEN, JR. MAJOR TC

RAT
FILE
RECORDS AND RATES
DATE *9-3-48*
NAME *Custom*
W & R ER.

I, THE UNDERSIGNED, DO HEREBY ACKNOWLEDGE RECEIPT OF THE REMAINS OF THE ABOVE-NAMED DECEASED
THIS 13th DAY OF July, 19 48

Sgt. Claude H. Hollifield WITNESS (Escort) J. J. Walsh Sr. Supt. CONSIGNEE

Original receipt filed under #2 Lt. Donald A. Bath, SN 0-821652*.

QC FORM 1193
15 NOV 46

16-52072-1 U. S. GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE

416TH.COM Website

General Website Enhancements:

- Added page for Nigel Staniforth book "Air Battles Over Bexley Borough".
- Added Ross Stewart's "Theme Song for Wethersfield Airfield Museum" video and 2024 Wethersfield Airfield Museum Museum Brochure to 416th Videos and Wethersfield RAF Station, England, Station AAF-170 pages.
- Added new Archive Board of Directors (Arlene and Roy Hohn) photos to 416th Bomb Group Archive page.

416TH.COM Website

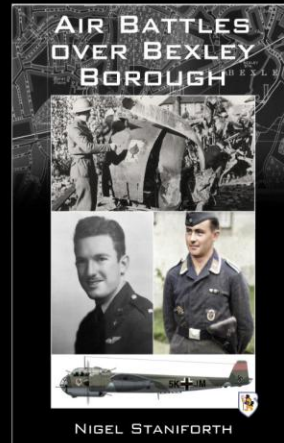
416th Bombardment Group (L)

Air Battles Over Bexley Borough

By Nigel Staniforth



[Return to Table of Contents](#)



416TH.COM Website

416th Bombardment Group (L)

Wethersfield RAF Station, England

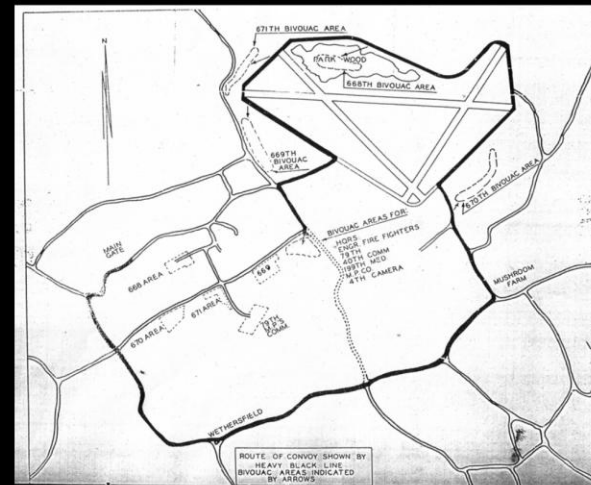
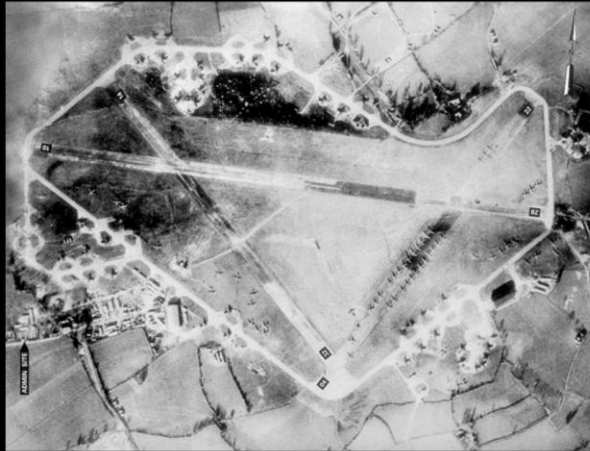
Station AAF-170

1 February 1944 to 23 September 1944



[Return to Table of Contents](#)

[Click Here for Base Transfer Ceremony Photos](#)



416TH.COM Website

has written the Digital PDF ebook [A Brief History of RAF Wethersfield](#).

For some additional photos and information, see the [Wethersfield](#) page at the [American Air Museum](#).

[History of RAF Wethersfield](#)

The history of RAF Wethersfield from creation in 1942 to present day.

Published on [YouTube](#) May 5, 2017 by Wethersfield Museum.

Duration (Min:Sec): 09:28

[Wethersfield History Talk 2018](#)

Wethersfield History Talk given by Curator Ross Stewart in the Base Chapel at Easter 2018.

Published on [YouTube](#) Feb 25, 2022 by Wethersfield Museum.

Duration (Hr:Min:Sec): 1:01:29

[RAF Wethersfield, Essex](#)

[Traveling back to 1940s RAF Airfields](#)

Sean Edwards has produced this superb video about the history of RAF Wethersfield.

Duration (Min:Sec): 03:24

[Memorials at RAF Wethersfield, Essex](#)

[Some of the known memorials at RAF Wethersfield record on the 23/4/2022](#)

The Museum Team have created this video to record the known memorials at RAF Wethersfield due the disposal of the site by MOD.

Duration (Min:Sec): 06:23

[RAF Wethersfield Facebook Public Group.](#)

[Wethersfield Airfield Museum Public Facebook Group.](#)

Richard E Flagg's [UK Airfields](#) photography of [Wethersfield, Essex](#) page.

Wethersfield Airfield Museum [Museum Brochure 2024](#) from Curator Ross Stewart.

["Theme Song for Wethersfield Airfield Museum"](#) YouTube video from Curator Ross Stewart.

416TH.COM Website

Airfield Occupation.

RAF Wethersfield was, on and off, an active USAF and RAF airbase from 1944 until 1990. After the USAF 819th Red Horse deactivated, Wethersfield became the home of the Ministry of Defence Police (MDP). Since that time the MDP was the primary occupier of the facility until 2022. In 2016 the Government had planned to put 5,000 houses on the airfield that plan was scrapped. In 2021 the Ministry of Justice considered the airfield as the site for two prison complexes, that plan has not as yet been dismissed. In 2022 the Home Office and UK Border Force took control of the airfield and it created an Asylum Camp, still in place at June 2024.

Who operates the Museum?

Ross Stewart is the curator of the museum, originally the Information Manager in the MDP. After retiring from the MDP in 2012 Ross was asked in 2014 by the Chief Constable to host visitors from the USA. Ross is assisted by a small group of dedicated volunteers, all of whom have some connection with or interest in the history of the airbase.

Opening hours are normally April to October 10am to 4pm with last entry at 3pm. Due to the space available opening might be restricted to 90 minute visits. There may be open days for other events and private visitors.

The museum will sell bottled water, for refreshments we encourage the use of the village cafes and pubs. There is no toilet facility but there are public toilets in the village car park.

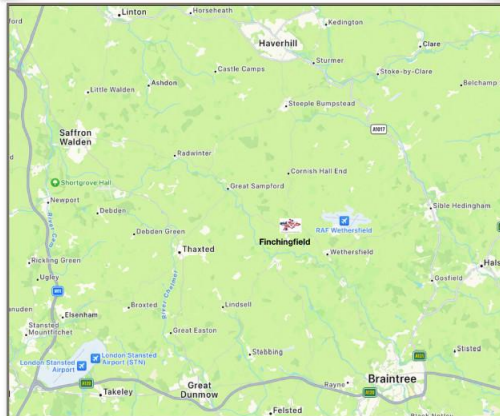
Finding the Museum

For Sat Nav use Post Code CM7 4JS

Wethersfield Airfield Museum.

At the Finchingfield Bridge the Museum door is in the archway on the right.

NOTE: it is upstairs and unfortunately we have no stair lift at this time.



Wethersfield Airfield Museum

Sat & Sun 10am - 4pm
Last entry 3pm
April to October



416TH.COM Website

Museum Update

In June 2022, the museum was required to leave the building used on the airfield since 2016. With the goodwill of two local property owners, the archive was put in storage. On August 20th 2023 we held an airfield 80th anniversary event. June 2024 the Museum has taken a rental lease on a property in Finchingfield, with a view over the village pond. A museum display will open to the public in August 2024. While the space is small and not accessible to all we will endeavour to mitigate this as funds become available. The display allows us to stay in the public eye and carry out our mission to tell the story of RAF Wethersfield and the men and women who served there. The Museum committee is currently applying to be a Charitable Incorporated Organisation and Charity Bank Account.

We will continue to seek to have the museum back on the airfield.

Funding

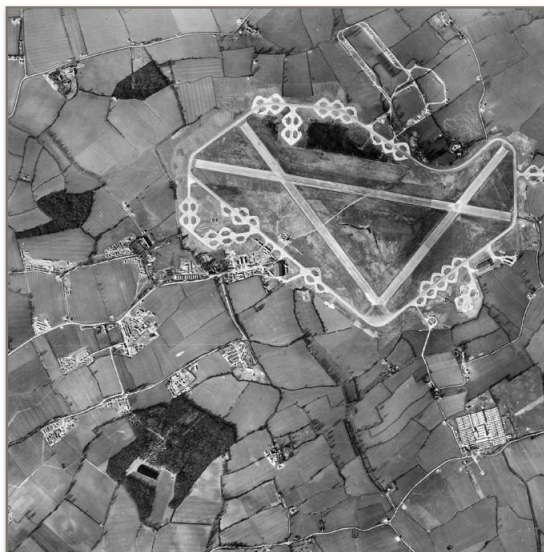
The museum will be free to enter and will rely on donations and sale of donated items supplemented by grants from the Parish Councils and other organisations.



The Airfield

Top 1944 showing the various accommodation sites around the base.

Bottom current showing the extended runway and build of the technical, administration and housing area.



1944 - 1990

Anglo - American Heritage
Wethersfield.Museum@gmail.com



416TH.COM Website

The Archive HQ is located in a cozy and historic Depression Era building at [52 Fourth Street, Gainesville, Missouri 65655](#), that was used for many years as a Community Center and City Hall. The building has been completely renovated inside and out and visitors are always welcome. Gainesville is a tiny hamlet that serves as the seat of Ozark County in the heart of the Ozark Mountain region and is a popular vacation spot for those seeking a quiet sylvan getaway. The Archive is staffed entirely by volunteers and maintains a significant presence online through the 416th.com web site and the 416th Archive Facebook page. One new feature on the Facebook page is the album of personnel portraits compiled and updated by Margaret McEvoy. The improvement and expansion of the group web site, with the help and guidance of Rick Prucha, Chris Adams and Carl Sgamboti is a major initiative that makes the story of the 416th available worldwide.



The business of the Archive is managed by a seven member Board of Directors, consisting of Wayne Sayles, Archivist, Founder and 416th BG Honorary Command Pilot; Doris Sayles, Registrar and Treasurer; Tom Rickels; Jean Sittarich, Arlene and Roy Hohn and Rick Prucha, all family and friends of 416th veterans. [Archive Bylaws](#) document the governance and duties of the Board.

Contributions of 416th Bomb Group related material (orders, photos, diaries, articles, etc.) are warmly welcomed and greatly appreciated. Donations to the library normally qualify as tax deductions for individuals due to the Archive's IRS tax exempt status. 100% of all revenues go directly toward Archive programs.

See additional [Archive Photos](#)

416TH.COM Friends

Friends of the 416th Bomb Group:

- Added 2023 Colorado Springs, CO Reunion photos from Jean
- Added 2024 Bethesda, MD Reunion pages/photos/presentations
- Added Friends of the 416th Bomb Group - 2025 Branson, MO Reunion Announcement

416TH.COM Friends

Friends of the 416th Bomb Group

Keeping memories alive by perpetuating the accomplishments and heritage of the 416th Bomb Group for present and future generations

2023 Reunion Photos

Colorado Springs, Colorado

October 11-15, 2023

[416th.com Table of Contents](#)

[Friends Welcome Page](#)



Unless otherwise noted, these images were graciously provided by Jean Sittarich. Click on an image link below to view a larger display.



416TH.COM Friends



Friends of the 416th Bomb Group

Keeping memories alive by perpetuating the accomplishments and heritage of the 416th Bomb Group for present and future generations

2024 Reunion

Bethesda, MD

September 12-15, 2024

[416th.com Table of Contents](#)

[Friends Welcome Page](#)



THANK YOU Very Much for another WONDERFUL and MEMORABLE Reunion Maggie, Simon and Zoe.

Brief Reunion Summary

Most folks arrived Wednesday, so those here started the Reunion early at the Embassy Suites in Bethesda, MD. We visited, had our Happy Hour "refreshments", dinner at the hotel, then more visiting.

Thursday started with a great breakfast at the hotel, followed by more visiting while some folks did a bit of shopping. Maggie, Sue and Jean, with help from others got the Hospitality room set up and equipped with (mostly) healthy refreshments. The room "officially" opened at 4 PM, so we all migrated there to continue telling stories.

We couldn't pass up Happy Hour, then we all went to Maggie's favorite "Fish Taco" restaurant for a delicious dinner. When we got back to the Hospitality Room, Dr. Vernon Williams was waiting for us after an eventful trip from Abilene. Vernon set up a number of 2x3 foot posters he and Ross Stewart created about the recent events concerning the Wethersfield Museum and its new home.

416TH.COM Friends



Friends of the 416th Bomb Group

Keeping memories alive by perpetuating the accomplishments and heritage of the 416th Bomb Group for present and future generations

2025 Reunion Announcement

Branson, MO

September 17-20, 2025

[416th.com Table of Contents](#)

[Friends Welcome Page](#)



Friends of the 416th Bomb Group - 2025 Reunion Announcement

28-May-2025 - From Jean Sittarich

Dear 416th Family,

I hope this finds everyone well. I apologize for the delay in getting this out. Life happens but I am very much looking forward to the 2025 reunion. I know everyone has busy schedules and it is not always easy to coordinate but I hope these dates work for most if not all who would like to attend .

Wednesday, September 17 - Saturday, September 20, 2025

After researching several Branson hotels I think I found one that best fits our needs. The La Quinta by Wyndham Branson, located at 3226 Shepherd of the Hills Expy, Branson, MO 65616, will hold a block of rooms for us until September 1st. Rooms available are 2 Queens (2 Queen beds), 3 Kings which are pet friendly and 16 deluxe Kings with all rooms having a rate of \$119/per night. This rate is available to us September 15-20, for those who wish to come early or stay later than the reunion dates. Please make your reservations by calling the hotel directly at 417-320-5060 and ask for a room reserved for the 416th Bomb Group Reunion (Individuals will pay for their own rooms). Breakfast is included. Parking is included.

One outing is planned to visit the 416th Archives in nearby Gainesville, MO on Thursday, September 18th. Further details on this outing, meetings and the Friday dinner will be forthcoming.

416TH.COM 2025 Counts

1,062 Individual Web Pages
(5 more than 2024)

10,995 Images (Photos/Documents)
(528 more than 2024)

2,947 PDF files
(139 more than 2024 - Mostly IDPFs/409th & 410th BG History Files)

41 Videos
(Same count as 2024)

Total Website Size is 33.8 GB, 23,929 Files
(4 GB and 1,020 Files more than 2024)

(Above counts do not include 334 Carl Sgamboti Website files)

416TH.COM



416TH BOMB GROUP

In honor and memory of those who served

[ENTER HERE](#)

27 March 1945

"Too much credit cannot be given to these men of the 12th Army Group, Ninth Air Force tactical team who are relentlessly battering our foe on the ground and from the air. They beat him on the beachhead, drove him from the occupied nations, crushed him in his own Rhineland, and next will destroy him in the heart of his Fatherland. It is these fighting men who are responsible for our past successes, and it is their indomitable spirit which assures a speedy and crushing victory for our cooperating arms."

//s// Omar N. Bradley, Lt. General, U.S.A. Commanding.

THANKS to our amazing group of past and present
Website and Research Volunteers:

Chris and Mary Adams, David Andrews, Johnathan Clayborn, Jeremy Cole, Jane Enman, Brian Gibbons, Rick Greer, Arlene and Roy Hohn, Lionel Letendre, Allen McQuade, Rich Milhorn, Zean Moore, Jim Roeder, Wayne and Doris Sayles, Carl Sgamboti, Jean Sittarich, Nigel Staniforth, Ross Stewart, Kathe and Gary Rensner, Tom Rickels, Steven Roy, Alain Trouplin