[WEST MOORS . . . . . . AND ITS RAILWAY HISTORY](https://www.westmoors-tc.gov.uk/_UserFiles/Files/Comm_Docs/WMTodayYesterday/WM_RailwayHistory.pdf)

The Second World War (1939-45) brought an abrupt halt to residential building. For the six years of hostilities, the United Kingdom became an armed camp – all public services were 'tuned' to one aim: to fight total war. The railway system played a pivotal (though largely unsung) part in all this. From a few days before the outbreak of war, evacuation trains were run to local stations – and an enormous amount of goods and military / essential personnel traffic passed this way – including the Royal Train! There was already a small British army fuel & ammunition depot on Gundry's Inclosure (to the NE of the village) and in 1943, the US Army began the task of expanding this to supply fuel to units taking part in the 'D-Day' invasion. West Moors was one of six such depots across southern England – and arguably the most vital. Huge amounts of fuel & lubricants were brought in by rail (to a hurriedly constructed set of sidings off the main line), then offloaded onto lorries to supply units in training – and later for the invasion in June 1944. This was of course a highly dangerous business.

[The railway goes to war](https://www.westmoorsmiscellany.co.uk/the-railway-goes-to-war/)