

Harpley Dams update.

Information has now surfaced about the origins of the RAF fuel depot at Harpley Dams near Peddars Way.

In March 1939 the joint committee of the LNER&M&GN railways decided to close down the Ballast Pits that had been used to build the railway in the 1880s. One was Wilson's Sidings at the foot of Harpley Hill near Peddar's Way. The RAF wanted to purchase it to build a Rail-served fuel store for the nearby aerodromes. This gave the contractors less than five months to construct it although there was no external pipework to lay. It was not connected to the national system until well after the war. Sculthorpe was ultimately the only Aerodrome to be serviced by pipeline from this depot.