**Camp 187** **(& 404) Ivybridge Camp, Ivybridge, Devon**

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| **Prisoner of War Camps (1939 – 1948) - Project report by Roger J.C. Thomas - English Heritage 2003** |
| OS NGR | Sheet | No. | Name & Location | County | Cond’n | Type 1945 | Comments |
| SX 642 564 | 202 | 187 | Ivybridge Camp, Ivybridge | Devon | 4 |  | Site occupied by housing and schools. See Camp no.187 / 404. |
| 404 | Base Camp |

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| **Location:** Ivybridge is on the S edge of Dartmoor.**Before the camp:** farmland.**Pow Camp:** *“Numerous structures and earthworks of banks and ditches of Ivybridge Prisoner of War camp are visible on aerial photographs taken from 1946 onwards. The camp occupies an area of circa 9 hectares and is set within several former agricultural land parcels, off Exeter Road, from which the camp is accessed.* *It comprises numerous pitched-roof and Nissen hut structures interconnected by a series of trackways. A concentration of small rectilinear vegetation marks of probable removed tents, circa 6m by 6m, is visible at SX64325645.* *Narrow linear earthwork ditches, circa 1m wide, which are flanked in places by banks, are* |  |
| Ordnance Survey 1954 |

*visible along the perimeter of the camp to the east and west and are interpreted as possible open trench shelters. Additional linear banks of possible covered shelters are also visible to the west of the camp. A sport’s pitch probably associated with the camp is visible in an adjacent field to the east of the camp at SX64465631. The camp is extant in 1947, although by 1951, the eastern half of the former camp has been levelled and has reverted to agricultural use, whilst the western half of the camp remains extant. By 1969, the camp has been completely cleared and partly developed to the east, although vegetation marks of former trackways remain visible. The 2019 Ordnance Survey MasterMap shows that the area of the former camp has been developed on.”*

**Hegarty, C., Knight, S. and Sims, R.**, ‘2019-2020, The South Devon Coast to Dartmoor, Aerial Investigation and Mapping Survey. Area 2, Avon Valley to Plymouth.’



**1946** – aerial photo above **-** [raf\_cpe\_uk\_1890\_rp\_3165 - Aerial Photo | Historic England](https://historicengland.org.uk/images-books/archive/collections/aerial-photos/record/raf_cpe_uk_1890_rp_3165)

**7 February 1947** - South Devon Times; “*South Devon has experienced its worst winter weather since the Great Blizzard of 1891…* ” in Ivybridge - “…*Prisoners-of-war indulged in a snowball battle with mill girls. Later, these same prisoners were digging to relieve a near-by village.”*

**< 1948** – the camp can be see on the top edge of a photograph showing a paper mill in Ivybridge – Nissen style huts. <https://www.britainfromabove.org.uk/en/image/EAW014978>

**After the camp:** 2020 residential area and schools

**Further Information:**