The houses in Dorchester called Kohima and Normandy are situated in The Grove, which was the site of Christ’s Church, this Church was the Church that served the depot and the adjacent barracks (running back from the Keep).  It was also known as the Tin Roofed Church and was adopted by the 54th Regiment of Foot as its Church despite it being used by the depot and barracks and to some extent the barracks across the road from the depot as well.

The Church was demolished at some point and a large stained-glass window was moved and reinstated in St Peter’s Borstal Church on Portland by Crickmay Architects.  The window was commissioned by the Senior

Non-Commissioned Officers of the 54th Foot in memory of one of their Sergeant Majors who was one of the heroes at the Sarah Sands incident during the Indian Mutiny.

The stained-glass window was lost when, during World War 2, a German bomber released a bomb which landed and exploded outside of the Church window aperture in which the window was mounted and blew it in destroying it.

It is understood that Reverend Moule would preach in Christ’s Church. After it’s demolition he conducted services in the riding school at the Barracks at the head of the road that now leads down to Scats.

In 1881 the 54th Regiment of Foot, as part of the Childers Reforms became the 2nd Battalion, The Dorsetshire Regiment.  The 39th Regiment of Foot incidentally became the 1st Battalion, The Dorsetshire Regiment.

There is a marble wall plaque inside the church on the junction opposite Woods furniture shop and Edwards & Keeping, in remembrance of an officer of the 54th Regiment of Foot.  The church is now leased to the County Museum as a location for storing artefacts not on display in the Museum.  Another little piece of history in Dorchester referring to the 54th.

The 54th were also at the Battle of Waterloo, their task was to keep the exit route from the battlefield open in the event of a hasty British withdrawal but of course Wellington won the Day!