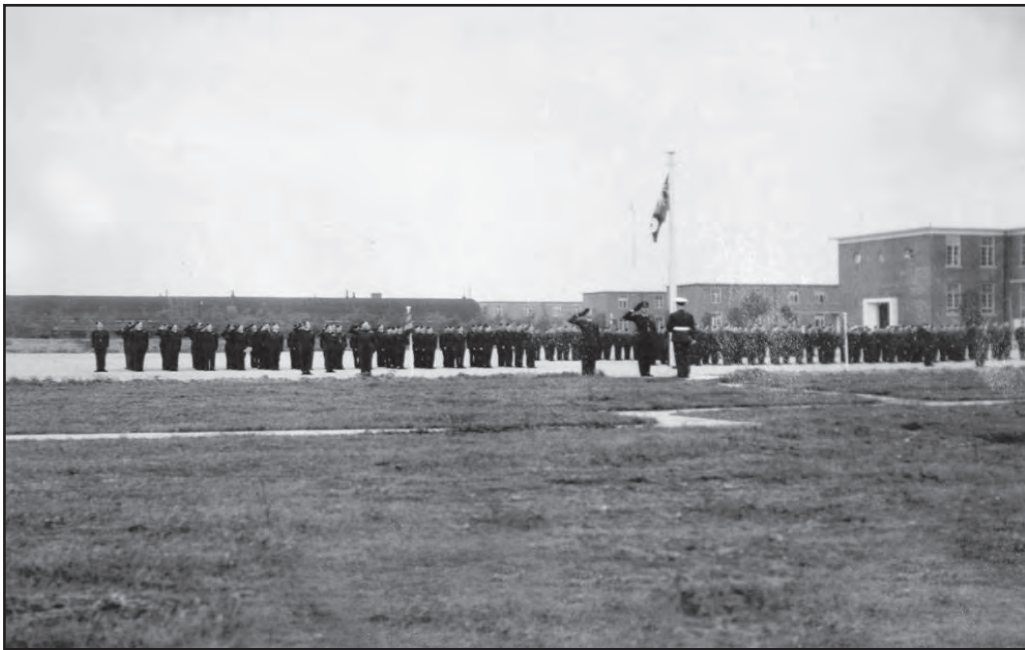


FORMER RAF UPPER HEYFORD, OXFORDSHIRE

HISTORIC BUILDING RECORDING AND INVESTIGATION

VOLUME 2: GAZETEER OF RECORDED STRUCTURES



Front cover: View of Barrack Area taken between 1940 and 1942

Figure 1 contains Ordnance Survey data © Crown copyright and database right 2015

<http://www.ordnancesurvey.co.uk/docs/licences/os-opendata-licence.pdf>

Designed and typeset by Markus Dylewski, Oxford Archaeology

Client Name: The Dorchester Group
 Document Title: Former RAF Upper Heyford, Oxfordshire

Document Type: Historic Building Investigation and Recording (2 volumes)
 Issue Number: 3

Grid Reference: SP5919824756

Site Code: UPHF11
 Invoice Code: UPHFBS2
 Archive deposition: Oxfordshire Museum Service

Prepared by: Jane Phimester, Jon Gill and Angela Warner
 Position: Project Managers and Project Officer (Buildings Archaeology)

Checked by: Julian Munby
 Position: Head of Buildings Archaeology Department

Approved by: Julian Munby Signed.....
 Position: Head of Buildings Archaeology Department
 Date: February 2017

Document File Location:

Illustrated by: Markus Dylewski

Disclaimer:

This document has been prepared for the titled project or named part thereof and should not be relied upon or used for any other project without an independent check being carried out as to its suitability and prior written authority of Oxford Archaeology being obtained. Oxford Archaeology accepts no responsibility or liability for the consequences of this document being used for a purpose other than the purposes for which it was commissioned. Any person/party using or relying on the document for such other purposes agrees, and will by such use or reliance be taken to confirm their agreement to indemnify Oxford Archaeology for all loss or damage resulting therefrom. Oxford Archaeology accepts no responsibility or liability for this document to any party other than the person/party by whom it was commissioned.

© Oxford Archaeology Ltd 2015

Oxford Archaeology

Janus House

Osney Mead

Oxford OX2 0ES

t: (0044) 01865 263800

e: oasouth@oxfordarch.co.uk

f: (0044) 01865 793496

w: www.thehumanjourney.net

Oxford Archaeological Unit Limited is a Registered Charity No: 285627

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Volume 1: Background Information

Figure and Plate List: Volumes 1 & 2	ix
Table 1: Structures described within the Gazetteer (Vol.2) (organised by OA Area).....	xxxi
Table 2: Structures described within the Gazetteer (in numerical order by building number)	xxxv
Glossary.....	xxxix
Summary	xli
1 Introduction.....	1
1.1 Background.....	1
1.2 Report Format.....	1
1.3 Planning background and related works	1
2 Airbase Description and Significance.....	5
2.2 Significance of former RAF Upper Heyford	7
3 Aims and Methodology.....	9
3.1 Aims and objectives.....	9
3.3 Methodology	9
4 Historical Background	14
Bibliography.....	31

Volume 2: Gazetteer of Recorded Structures

Table 1: Structures described within the Gazetteer (Vol.2) (organised by OA Area).....	xxxi
Table 2: Structures described within the Gazetteer (in numerical order by building number)	xxxv
Glossary.....	xxxix
Area OA1	35
Building UH31: Store	37
Building UH32: Store	39
Area OA8, South-west Edge	41
Building 293: Flight Simulator.....	43
Building 293A: Gatehouse	55
Building 294: '20th Fighter Group'	57
Operations' building	57
Building 300: 20th Squadron	61
Maintenance and Equipment building.....	61
Building 301: Generator.....	69
Building 301a: Fuel Tank	71
Building 346: Fuel Tanks	73
Building UH33: Substation	75
Area OA9, Subsidiary Buildings.....	77
Building 804-815: School huts.....	79
Building UH74: Water Tower.....	91
Area OA10, Sports field and large buildings	95
Building 515: Leisure	97
Building 527: Substation	99
Building 528: Store.....	101
Building 566: Store.....	103
Building 567: Baseball dugout	105

Building 570: Store.....	107
Building 577: Baseball dugout	109
Building 578: Fuel Inlet.....	111
Building 579: Medical Gas Storage	113
Building 581: Supermarket.....	115
Building 582: Hospital	119
Building 584: Store/ Pre-match room.....	123
Building 590: Waste Disposal	125
Building 595: Baseball Dugout	127
Building 599: Baseball Dugout	129
Building UH3: Distribution Substation	131
Building UH5: Viewing Tower.....	133
Building UH15: Works/ Maintenance Building	135
Area OA11, South Residential	137
Building 291: Water Tower.....	139
Building 546: Keesler Federal Credit Union.....	145
Building 547: Laundrette (former Grocery Store).....	147
Building 548: Electric substation	157
Building 551: Water Pump	159
Building 552: Water tank.....	161
Building 564: Pump House	163
Building 565: Water Tank.....	165
Building 568: Waste Disposal	167
Building 573: Water Tank.....	169
Building 588: Store.....	171
Building 712: Bungalow.....	173
Building UH2: Electricity Substation.....	175
Area OA12, Barracks and Institutions	177
Building 440: Barrack Block.....	179
Building 440b: Boiler Room	187
Building 441: Boiler House.....	189
Building 442: Education Centre and Nursery	191
Building 443: Cold Store.....	193
Building 444: Office	195
Building 445: Barrack Block.....	197
Building 446: Barrack Block.....	199
Building 449: Storage Unit.....	201
Buildings 450, 466, 471, 480, 483: C-Type Barrack Blocks.....	203
Building 454: Water Tank.....	251
Building 459: Barracks for Airmen	253
Building 460: Bus Shelter	267
Building 461: Storage Unit.....	269
Building 465: Decontamination Centre.....	271
Building 466: Barrack Block - Type C	281
Building 468: Hut.....	295
Building 470: Shed/ Store	297
Building 471: Barrack Block - Type C	299
Building 472A & 472B: Mess Complex	301
Building 474: Dining Room & Cookhouse	321

Building 475: Ration Store & Shop.....	341
Building 476: Electric Substation.....	351
Building 480: Barrack Block - Type C.....	353
Building 481: Thrift Shop.....	355
Building 483: Barrack Block - Type C.....	357
Building 484: Nursery.....	359
Building 485: Type 'C' Barrack Block.....	361
Building 486: Bio-environmental Engineering	381
Building 487: Electric Substation.....	383
Building 488: Combined Dining Room and Institute.....	385
Building 489, 498 & 500: Barrack Block - Type H.....	423
Building 491: Store.....	441
Building 492: 'Shopette'.....	443
Building 493: Petrol Station	445
Building 498: Barrack Blocks – Type H	447
Building 500: Barrack Block – Type H	449
Building 502: USAF Security Police	451
Building 529: Field Force Motor Transport Shed	465
Building 593: Barrack Block.....	487
Building 594: Barrack Block	489
Building 596: Barrack Block.....	491
Building 598: Barrack Block.....	493
Building UH8: Oil Storage.....	495
Building UH9: Generator	497
Building UH10: Electrical Substation.....	499
Building UH11: Portacabin	501
Area OA13, Huts.....	503
Building 400: Huts: Finance Office.....	505
Building 401: Huts - Housing Office.....	511
Building 402: Huts - Offices.....	515
Building 403: Huts - Offices.....	519
Building 404: Huts - Community Bank.....	521
Building 405: Huts - Offices.....	529
Building 406: Huts - Incinerator.....	533
Building 407: Huts - Exchange Retail Warehouse	535
Building 408: Huts - Ablution Block	539
Building 409: Huts - Offices.....	541
Building 410: Huts - Plant/Boiler House.....	545
Building UH12: Tank	549
Building UH13: Offices.....	551
Area OA14, Technical Area	553
Building 32-35: Commissary	555
Building 36: Area Defence/ Veterinary Clinic.....	567
Building 38: Car Wash	569
Building 51: Briefing Rooms.....	571
Building 53: Office	583
Building 54: Single Storey Hut	589
Building 56: The Works Squadron	593
Building 59: Works Service Building.....	595

Building 62/ 69: Workshops (Electrical)	607
Building 63: Water Tower.....	609
Building 64: Store.....	611
Building 65: Civil Engineering Ops Office	613
Building 66: Offices	623
Building 67: Substation	633
Building 68: Offices	635
Building 70: 20th CES Conference Room	641
Building 72: Storage Sheds	643
Building 79: Garage	655
Building 81: Auto Admin. Maintenance.....	657
Building 84: Petrol Kiosk.....	663
Building 85: Store/ Workshop	665
Building 86: Auto Hobby Shop	667
Building 88: Refuelling/ Vehicle Maintenance	669
Building 89: Firing Range	671
Building 89A: Petrol Pump Booth	679
Building 89B: Blast separation wall.....	681
Building 101/ 102: Fire-party House.....	683
Building 106: Post Office	695
Building 107: Reservoir	699
Building 108: Water Tower.....	703
Building 113: Transformer House Sub-Station	705
Building 113A: Transformer House Tanks.....	709
Building 113B: Electricity Substation.....	711
Building 114: Transformer House	713
Building 115: Motor Transport Shed.....	727
Building 117: Motor Transport Shed.....	739
Building 118: Office (Link Trainer)	755
Building 119: Garage and Store	763
Building 130: Workshop/ Theatre	769
Building 131: Boiler House.....	783
Building 145: Inflammables Store.....	785
Building 146: Lubricant Store.....	795
Building 147: Link Trainer Building.....	805
Building 156: Store	811
Building 171: Petrol Tanker Shed	813
Building 312: Electric Substation.....	817
Building 313: Pavilion.....	819
Building 317: Workshop.....	821
Building 317A: Canopy.....	823
Building 2x: Refrigeration Unit.....	825
Building 3x: Refrigeration Unit.....	827
Building 4x: Refrigeration Unit.....	829
Building UH44: Electricity Sub-station	831
Building UH46: Portacabin	833
Bibliography.....	837

FIGURE AND PLATE LIST: VOLUMES 1 & 2

Volume 1: Background Information

Front cover: View of Barrack Area taken between 1940 and 1942.....	ii
Figure 1 Site location	2
Figure 2 RAF Upper Heyford Area and Designations (reproduced and amended from ACTA et.al 2005)	3
Figure 3 Character areas within the airbase (reproduced from the CDC 2006).....	5
Figure 4 Historic Character Areas within the area to the south of the Flying Field (the area of redevelopment)	6
Figure 5 1st Edition 1 inch map of 1833, with approximate location of airfield	14
Figure 6 Upper Heyford Location Plan (1926), annotated to show key buildings	15
Figure 7 RAF Upper Heyford c.1928.....	18
Figure 8 Aerial photograph (1937).....	20
Figure 9 Upper Heyford Record Site Plan (1945), annotated to show key buildings recorded within this report	21
Figure 10 Aerial Photograph (1954), annotated to show key structures recorded in this report.....	25
Figure 11 Aerial Photography (1969).....	27
Figure 12 Base Comprehensive Plan (1991).....	29

Volume 2: Gazetteer of Recorded Structures

Front cover: View of Barrack Area taken between 1940 and 1942.....	ii
Figure 1: Historic Character Areas within area of demolition	xli
Building UH31: Store	37
Plate UH31.1 Building UH31	37
Building UH32: Store	39
Plate UH32.1 Building UH32	39
Building 293: Flight Simulator.....	43
Figure 293.1 Plan and elevation (1968)	45
Figure 293.2: EF-111A OFT facility plan (undated but post 1986 showing extension)	46
Plate 293.1 Front (south) entrance and elevation.....	47
Plate 293.2 West elevation of extension.....	47
Plate 293.3 East view of maintenance room	48
Plate 293.4 Detail of doorway from corridor to flight simulator room	48
Plate 293.5 North view of flight simulator room	49
Plate 293.6 Detail of lighting pulley control within flight simulator room.....	49
Plate 293.7 Detail of wooden ramp at south loading doorway within flight simulator room	50
Plate 293.8 Detail of tachometer on west elevation of flight simulator room.....	50
Plate 293.10 West view west of plant room roof space.....	51
Plate 293.9 South-east view of plant room	51
Plate 293.11 Detail of metal structure suspended from ceiling in plant room	52
Plate 293.12 South-west view of tactical delivery missile trainer room.....	52
Plate 293.13 Detail of door from tactical delivery missile trainer room to flight simulator room...	53
Plate 293.14 View of training room east elevation and loading bay entrance	53
Building 293A: Gatehouse.....	55
Plate 293A.1 Front (south) entrance and elevation	55

Building 294: ‘20th Fighter Group Operations’ building.....	57
Plate 294.1 Front (east) entrance and elevation	59
Plate 294.2 Rear (west) elevation.....	59
Plate 294.3 Rear elevation, central section showing projecting metal clad roof	60
Building 300: 20th Squadron Maintenance and Equipment building	61
Figure 300.1 Plan of Building from 1985	63
Figure 300.2 Plan from 1985.....	64
Plate 300.1 Front (east) elevation of 300a.....	65
Plate 300.2 South elevation of 300b, 300c and 300d.....	65
Plate 300.3 View from south-east.....	66
Plate 300.4 View towards north-west.....	66
Plate 300.5 West- end of building	67
Plate 300.6 Courtyard to west	67
Plate 300.7 West end	68
Plate 300.8 General view	68
Building 301: Generator	69
Plate 301.1 North (front) elevation	70
Plate 301.2 Internal view.....	70
Building 301a: Fuel Tank.....	71
Plate 301a.1 South-east view	71
Building 346: Fuel Tanks	73
PlateUH33.1	73
Building UH33: Substation.....	75
Plate UH33.1	75
Building 804-815: School huts.....	79
Plate 804-815.1 Typical elevation of hut.....	81
Plate 804-815.2 Hut 812 from north-west.....	81
Plate 804-815.3 Hut 804 from west	82
Plate 804-815.4 Secondary corridors looking south	82
Plate 804-815.5 Shared WC block in west block.....	83
Plate 804-815.6 Hut 828 at south-west corner of block.....	83
Plate 804-815.7 Huts 827-828 at south-west corner	84
Plate 804-815.8 Hut 837 looking north-west	84
Plate 804-815.9 Corridor looking north-west	85
Plate 804-815.10 Typical interior of hut	85
Plate 804-815.11 Open-plan interior with modern ceiling panels.....	86
Plate 804-815.12 Roof trusses.....	86
Plate 804-815.13 Interior of hut 830	87
Plate 804-815.14 Painting on walls of Hut 830	87
Plate 804-815.15 Painting on walls of Hut 830	88
Plate 804-815.16 Direction arrows on walls	88
Plate 804-815.17 Arrows on walls	89
Plate 804-815.18 Shelves	89
Plate 804-815.19 Sink	90
Plate 804-815.20 Secondary corridor.....	90
Building UH74: Water Tower.....	91
Plate UH74.1 View of water tower from south.....	92
Plate UH74.2 North face of tower from Camp Road.....	92
Plate UH74.3 View of water tank at top of tower	93

Plate UH74.4 View of supporting tower posts	93
Plate UH74.5 Base of tower, with concrete pads just visible.....	94
Building 515: Leisure	97
Plate 515.1 Fireplace at south end of 515	97
Plate 515.2 General view of 515 from east	98
Plate 515.3 General view of 515 from east	98
Building 527: Substation.....	99
Plate 527.1 General view of substation.....	99
Building 528: Store.....	101
Plate 528.1 General view of store	101
Building 566: Store.....	103
Plate 566.1 General view of 566 from north-east	103
Building 567: Baseball dugout	105
Plate 567.1 Dugout.....	105
Building 570: Store.....	107
Plate 570.1 Building 570 to rear	107
Building 577: Baseball dugout	109
Plate 577.1 Dugout.....	109
Building 578: Fuel Inlet	111
Plate 578.1 Front elevation.....	111
Building 579: Medical Gas Storage	113
Plate 579.1 Front elevation.....	114
Plate 579.2 Contemporary image of building 579 (EH archive ref.-p_g25408_022a)	114
Building 581: Supermarket	115
Plate 581.1 Front elevation.....	116
Plate 581.2 Rear elevations	116
Plate 581.3 Contemporary internal view (HE archive ref.-p_g25408_022a)	117
Building 582: Hospital	119
Plate 582.1 Front and west elevations.....	120
Plate 582.2 East elevation	120
Plate 582.3 Contemporary internal view (HE archive ref.-p_g25408_022a)	121
Building 584: Store/ Pre-match room.....	123
Plate 584.1 West elevation	123
Building 590: Waste Disposal.....	125
Plate 590.1 East elevation	125
Building 595: Baseball Dugout.....	127
Plate 595.1 East elevation	127
Building 599: Baseball Dugout.....	129
Plate 599.1 South elevation.....	129
Building UH3: Distribution Substation.....	131
Plate UH3.1 East elevation.....	131
Building UH5: Viewing Tower	133
Plate UH5.1 North-west elevation	134
Building UH15: Works/ Maintenance Building.....	135
Plate UH15.1 West elevation.....	135
Building 291: Water Tower.....	139
Plate 291.1 North-west elevation	140
Plate 291.2 Contemporary view from west (HE archive ref. p_g24693_003).....	140
Plate 291.3 Metal frame supporting the water tank	141

Plate 291.4 Water tank.....	141
Plate 291.5 Bolted metal frame.....	142
Plate 291.6 Metal tower extending the height of the tower	142
Plate 291.7 Platforms and ladders leading up to the water tank	143
Plate 291.8 Blockwork shed associated with the tower	143
Plate 291.9 Pipes extending from the base of the tank.....	144
Plate 291.10 Water pipes with lagging.....	144
Building 546: Keesler Federal Credit Union	145
Plate 546.1 Front (north-west) elevation.....	146
Building 547: Laundrette (former Grocery Store).....	147
Figure 547.1 Plan of former 'British Canteen' (1962)	149
Plate 547.1 East elevation	150
Plate 547.2 North elevation.....	150
Plate 547.3 South elevation.....	151
Plate 547.4 West elevation, northern end	151
Plate 547.5 West elevation, southern end.....	152
Plate 547.6 Former chimney serving the kitchen.....	152
Plate 547.7 Former laundry area, northern end.....	153
Plate 547.8 Former laundry area, southern end.....	153
Plate 547.9 Boiler room, looking south.....	154
Plate 547.10 Entrance to Dry Cleaning Service.....	154
Plate 547.11 Dining room fixed furniture	155
Plate 547.12 Former kitchen area, looking south west	155
Building 548: Electric substation.....	157
Plate 548.1 General view of sub-station.....	157
Building 551: Water Pump	159
Plate 551.1 South side of Building 551.....	159
Building 552: Water tank.....	161
Plate 552.1 View of tank	161
Building 564: Pump House.....	163
Plate 564.1 East elevation	163
Plate 564.2 West elevation	164
Plate 564.2 Interior.....	164
Building 565: Water Tank.....	165
Plate 565.1 East elevation	165
Building 568: Waste Disposal.....	167
Plate 568.1 East elevation	167
Building 573: Water Tank.....	169
Plate 573.1 West elevation	169
Building 588: Store.....	171
Plate 588.1 Front elevation.....	171
Building 712: Bungalow.....	173
Plate 712.1 Front elevation.....	174
Building UH2: Electricity Substation.....	175
Plate UH2.1 West elevation.....	175
Building 440: Barrack Block.....	179
Figure 440.1 Floor plan (1983)	181
Plate 440.1 Sign and front elevation	183
Plate 440.2 South side of northern range	183

Plate 440.3 Smaller rear courtyard.....	184
Plate 440.4 South side main front courtyard.....	184
Plate 440.5 Rear (east) elevation.....	185
Plate 440.6 Southern end of complex.....	185
Plate 440.7 Typical internal room.....	186
Plate 440.8 Typical internal view.....	186
Building 440b: Boiler Room.....	187
Plate 440b.1 Front elevation.....	187
Building 441: Boiler House.....	189
Plate 441.1 North-east elevation.....	190
Plate 441.2 Contemporary (1970-2) view looking east (HE archive ref.-p_g14942_01).....	190
Building 442: Education Centre and Nursery.....	191
Plate 442.1 Front (north-east) elevation.....	192
Building 443: Cold Store.....	193
Plate 443.1 West elevation.....	194
Building 444: Office.....	195
Plate 444.1 West elevation.....	195
Building 445: Barrack Block.....	197
Plate 445.1 East elevation.....	198
Building 446: Barrack Block.....	199
Plate 446.1 East elevation.....	200
Building 449: Storage Unit.....	201
Plate 449.1 East elevation.....	201
Buildings 450, 466, 471, 480, 483: C-Type Barrack Blocks.....	203
Figure 450, 466, 471, 480, 483.1 C Type Barracks general arrangement plans.....	207
Figure 450, 466, 471, 480, 483.2 C Type Barracks first floor.....	208
Figure 450, 466, 471, 480, 483.3 C Type Barracks Elevations.....	209
Figure 450, 466, 471, 480, 483.4 C Type Barracks historic elevations.....	210
Plate 450.1 South half of west elevation.....	211
Plate 450.2 South side of front (west) projection.....	211
Plate 450.3 North-eastern corner of building.....	212
Plate 450.4 General view of east elevation.....	212
Plate 450.5 Southern half of east elevation.....	213
Plate 450.6 Door to plant room.....	213
Plate 450.7 Typical secondary window.....	214
Plate 450.8 Typical window.....	214
Plate 450.9 Typical secondary door.....	215
Plate 450.10 First floor door to lounge.....	215
Plate 450.11 Hatch to roof above first floor doors.....	216
Plate 450.12 General view of west front.....	216
Plate 466.1 East elevation.....	217
Plate 466.2 North end.....	217
Plate 466.3 Typical balcony detail.....	218
Plate 466.4 Door to plant room.....	218
Plate 466.5 Gablet in roof added in 1980s alterations.....	219
Plate 466.6 Sign outside building.....	219
Plate 466.7 Pavilion outside building.....	220
Plate 466.8 Interior of shared utility area.....	220
Plate 466.9 Shared area at centre of building.....	221

Plate 466.10 Typical room refurbished in 1980s.....	221
Plate 466.11 Room with more individual decoration.....	222
Plate 466.12 Exposed concrete block above ceiling line	222
Plate 466.13 Internal room.....	223
Plate 466.14 Central shared room at first floor.....	223
Plate 466.15 Central shared room at first floor.....	224
Plate 466.16 View within roof apace.....	224
Plate 471.1 West elevation	225
Plate 471.2 Exterior from south-east.....	225
Plate 471.3 Stairs at south-east corner	226
Plate 471.4 South end of building	226
Plate 471.5 North end of building.....	227
Plate 471.6 South-west corner of building.....	227
Plate 471.7 Door to plant room.....	228
Plate 471.8 South side of west projection	228
Plate 471.9 Typical window	229
Plate 471.10 Typical view of first floor walkway.....	229
Plate 471.11 Typical interior of 1980s refurbished room.....	230
Plate 471.12 First floor shared area.....	230
Plate 471.13 First floor shared area.....	231
Plate 471.14 Typical room.....	231
Plate 471.15 Typical door to WC	232
Plate 471.16 Typical WC area in flat.....	232
Plate 480.1 South end of Building 480	233
Plate 480.2 Southern end of west elevation	233
Plate 480.3 General view of west elevation.....	234
Plate 480.4 Doors at centre of east elevation	234
Plate 480.5 Typical interior of flat.....	235
Plate 480.6 Central shared service block	235
Plate 480.7 Central shared service block	236
Plate 480.8 Typical interior of refurbished flat.....	236
Plate 480.9 Shared room at centre of first floor.....	237
Plate 480.10 Drinking fountain in Building 480.....	237
Plate 480.12 Roof detail	238
Plate 480.11 Store in shared area	238
Plate 480.13 General view of trusses	239
Plate 480.14 Roof ridge detail.....	239
Plate 480.15 Truss apex detail.....	240
Plate 480.16 Truss detail	240
Plate 480.17 Vent in roof.....	241
Plate 480.18 Corner detail in roof.....	241
Plate 480.19 Roof detail	242
Plate 480.20 Rafters detail	242
Plate 480.21 Roof detail	243
Plate 480.22 Roof partition	243
Plate 483.1 View from south-east.....	244
Plate 483.2 View of east projection looking north	244
Plate 483.3 General view of west elevation	245
Plate 483.4 Southern end of east wall	245

Plate 483.5 South end of Building 483	246
Plate 483.6 East wall of building	246
Plate 483.7 General view of west elevation	247
Plate 483.8 First floor walkway looking south.....	247
Plate 483.9 Typical doors to flats	248
Plate 483.10 Central shared service area.....	248
Plate 483.11 Central shared area	249
Plate 483.12 Typical interior of an apartment	249
Plate 483.13 First floor shared area.....	250
Plate 483.14 First floor shared area.....	250
Building 454: Water Tank.....	251
Plate 454.1 East elevation	251
Building 459: Barracks for Airmen	253
Figure 459.1 Floor plan (1978)	257
Plate 459.1 Main part of east elevation	259
Plate 459.2 Southern end of east elevation	259
Plate 459.3 General view of east elevation	260
Plate 459.4 Northern end of west elevation	260
Plate 459.5 View from south-east.....	261
Plate 459.6 View from north-east.....	261
Plate 459.7 View from south-west	262
Plate 459.8 Building number sign	262
Plate 459.10 Typical room.....	263
Plate 459.9 Typical primary window	263
Plate 459.11 Corridor looking north.....	264
Plate 459.12 Reception room on west side of building.....	264
Plate 459.13 Showers etc at south end of building	265
Plate 459.14 Typical primary crittall type window	265
Plate 459.15 Typical rooms	266
Building 460: Bus Shelter	267
Plate 460.1 South-east elevation	267
Building 461: Storage Unit	269
Plate 461.1 North elevation.....	270
Building 465: Decontamination Centre.....	271
Figure 465.1 Floor plan (1985)	273
Plate 465.1 North-west (front) elevation.....	274
Plate 465.2 Brick parapet wall to front elevations	274
Plate 465.4 Front elevation revetment walls	275
Plate 465.3 Metal door to front elevation.....	275
Plate 465.6 South-east elevations.....	276
Plate 465.5 Passage way to south-east elevation and rear elevations	276
Plate 465.7 Internal passage running along the north-east elevation	277
Plate 465.8 Internal war art	277
Plate 465.9 Internal view of south-east room.....	278
Plate 465.10 Internal view of command room	278
Plate 465.11 Bank of desks along south-west wall	279
Plate 465.12 Internal view of south-east room.....	279
Building 466: Barrack Block - Type C	281
Figure 467.1 Floor plan (1971)	286

Plate 467.1 Front (south-east) elevation.....	287
Plate 467.2 Front elevation and concrete wall	287
Plate 467.4 Rear (south-west) elevation.....	288
Plate 467.3 Front elevation, window and surrounding infill	288
Plate 467.6 Rear elevation access doors.....	289
Plate 467.5 Rear elevation and brick shaft.....	289
Plate 467.7 North-east elevation	290
Plate 467.8 North-east elevation, showing roller door.....	290
Plate 467.10 Internal area to front (south-east extension)	291
Plate 467.9 Internal central space (boiler room)	291
Plate 467.12 Internal view of main boiler room.....	292
Plate 467.11 Internal south-west area ('Flow Pump' room).....	292
Plate 467.14 Three primary opening in (now) internal wall between boiler room and south-east extension	293
Plate 467.13 Internal view of flue, at west corner of boiler room.....	293
Plate 467.15 Internal area to front (south-east)	294
Plate 467.16 Internal view of south-west 'Flow Pump' room.....	294
Building 468: Hut	295
Plate 468.1 Front (south) elevation	296
Plate 468.2 Internal view of north room	296
Building 470: Shed/ Store	297
Plate 470.1 North-east elevation	297
Building 471: Barrack Block - Type C	299
Building 472A & 472B: Mess Complex	301
Figure 472.1 Floor plan of 472A (proposed 1984).....	305
Plate 472.1 North side of building from Parade Ground.....	307
Plate 472.2 Entrance on north side of building	307
Plate 472.3 Entrance on north side of building	308
Plate 472.4 West side of northern range.....	308
Plate 472.5 Northern end of west elevation	309
Plate 472.6 South-west corner of building	309
Plate 472.7 East side of building.....	310
Plate 472.8 West side of building.....	310
Plate 472.9 South-west corner of building.....	311
Plate 472.10 North end of building	311
Plate 472.11 South-eastern corner of building	312
Plate 472.12 South-eastern corner of building.....	312
Plate 472.13 Projection on west side of building.....	313
Plate 472.14 Detail of entrance on north side	313
Plate 472.16 Entrance lobby (EH photo)	314
Plate 472.15 Entrance Hall (EH photo).....	314
Plate 472.17 Main room on east side (EH photo)	315
Plate 472.18 Carved brick artwork in hall.....	315
Plate 472.19 John Bull brick relief in hall.....	316
Plate 472.20 Uncle Sam brick relief in hall	316
Plate 472.21 Telephone booths in hall.....	317
Plate 472.22 Safe.....	317
Plate 472.23 Bar towards south-east corner.....	318
Plate 472.24 Stickers above bar	318

Plate 472.25 Open-plan room.....	319
Plate 472.26 Ballroom at time of recording.....	319
Plate 472.27 Booths	320
Plate 472.28 Northern part of building.....	320
Building 474: Dining Room & Cookhouse.....	321
Figure 474.1 Floor plan with phasing	325
Figure 474.2 Floor plan and elevations (1977)	327
Plate 474.1 General view, looking south west	329
Plate 474.2 East elevation, southern end.....	329
Plate 474.3 West elevation of the west wing.....	330
Plate 474.4 North elevation of the west wing	330
Plate 474.5 South elevation of the south wing.....	331
Plate 474.6 East and north elevations of the north wing.....	331
Plate 474.7 South elevation of the east wing	332
Plate 474.8 East elevation of the east wing.....	332
Plate 474.9 North elevation of the east wing	333
Plate 474.10 Supply storeroom, looking south	333
Plate 474.11 Eastern end of the south elevation of the east wing	334
Plate 474.12 Remains of a central corridor of the dormitory wings	334
Plate 474.13 An example of a blocked door between bed-sits.....	335
Plate 474.14 The original ceiling above the ablutions area.....	335
Plate 474.15 The roof truss and original ceiling above the calorifier and supply store	336
Plate 474.16 An example of a removed partition in the offices	336
Plate 474.17 Examples of the offices created from the bed-sits.....	337
Plate 474.18 The door and window arches to the south wall of the lobby.....	337
Plate 474.19 The office within the north east extension of the east wing.....	338
Plate 474.20 The calorifier room.....	338
Plate 474.22 The teak veneer in the former television lounge	339
Plate 474.21 The cleaner's cupboard	339
Plate 474.23 The partitioned women's WCs	340
Plate 474.24 The switchgear room within the WC area.....	340
Building 475: Ration Store & Shop	341
Figure 475.1 Floor plan (undated).....	343
Plate 475.1 North and east elevations	345
Plate 475.2 Front (north) elevation	345
Plate 475.3 East elevation	346
Plate 475.4 East elevation, replacement windows for internal sanitary area	346
Plate 475.5 Rear (south) elevation	347
Plate 475.6 West elevation	347
Plate 475.7 West elevation, replacement windows for internal sanitary area and holding room... 348	
Plate 475.8 Internal, north end reception area.....	348
Plate 475.9 Internal, 'holding' cell	349
Plate 475.10 Internal, former sanitary area	349
Plate 475.11 Internal roof space (looking south)	350
Building 476: Electric Substation	351
Plate 476.1 South and west elevations	351
Building 480: Barrack Block - Type C	353
Building 481: Thrift Shop.....	355
Plate 481.1 North-east (front) elevation.....	355

Building 483: Barrack Block - Type C	357
Building 484: Nursery.....	359
Plate 484.1 Front (north) elevation	360
Building 485: Type ‘C’ Barrack Block	361
Figure 485.1 Ground floor plan with phasing	365
Figure 485.2 First floor plan with phasing	367
Plate 485.1 North, front, elevation	369
Plate 485.2 Single window in a side elevation.....	369
Plate 485.3 Rear, south, elevation: east end and ablutions block.....	370
Plate 485.4 East elevation	370
Plate 485.5 New and old building numbers	371
Plate 485.6 Example of a doorway between the ablutions and the corridor	371
Plate 485.8 The stairwell, also showing the location of blocked lights to ablutions.....	372
Plate 485.7 Example of a recess beside the ablutions doorway	372
Plate 485.9 The glazed brickwork in the ablutions, visible above suspended ceiling	373
Plate 485.10 The range of finishes in the ablutions block.....	373
Plate 485.11 The partition panel construction	374
Plate 485.12 The blocked lights visible in the ablutions brickwork	374
Plate 485.13 An example of a former decorative scheme.....	375
Plate 485.14 The suspended ceiling obscuring a ground floor window pelmet.....	375
Plate 485.15 The suspended ceiling abutting a first floor window pelmet.....	376
Plate 485.16 Ceiling staining showing the previous light fitting	376
Plate 485.17 Current numbering system, stencilled outside the rooms	377
Plate 485.18 The eastern wall of the day room and squadron emblem.....	377
Plate 485.19 ‘Underground’ stencil in a ground floor room.....	378
Plate 485. 20 ‘Judge Dredd’ artwork, first floor corridor	378
Plate 485.21 Bird and snake artwork, first floor corridor.....	379
Plate 485.22 Western end of first floor landing following artwork removal.....	379
Plate 485.23 The ‘Invisible Man’ artwork, removed and stored in the day room.....	380
Plate 485.24 Crow artwork in a first floor room	380
Building 486: Bio-environmental Engineering	381
Plate 486.1 North and west elevations	382
Building 487: Electric Substation	383
Plate 487.1 North-west view	383
Building 488: Combined Dining Room and Institute	385
Figure 488.1 Ground floor plan.....	391
Figure 488.2 First floor plan, west wing	393
Figure 488.3 First floor plan, east wing	395
Figure 488.4 Second floor plan	397
Plate 488.1 South (front) and east elevations.....	398
Plate 488.2 North (rear) elevation.....	398
Plate 488.3 Example of a vent.....	399
Plate 488.4 Example of an Art Deco wing entrance doorway and porch.....	399
Plate 488.5 The entrance block extension.....	400
Plate 488.6 The two second storey tank rooms visible in the roofline.....	400
Plate 488.7 The west wing south elevation	401
Plate 488.8 An example of alterations to the apertures in the rear range.....	401
Plate 488.9 The east elevation of the west wing	402
Plate 488.10 East elevation	402

Plate 488.11 The covered area of the service yard.....	403
Plate 488.12 An example of the recessed dado.....	403
Plate 488.13 An example of the American and British power sockets.....	404
Plate 488.14 The entrance extension looking from the servery.....	404
Plate 488.15 The corridor alongside the servery, looking towards the dining room.....	405
Plate 488.16 An example of a dining room booth.....	405
Plate 488.17 The east dining room.....	406
Plate 488.18 The former décor scheme in the dining room.....	406
Plate 488.19 The servery décor.....	407
Plate 488.20 The types of brick used in the servery wall.....	407
Plate 488.21 The west dining room.....	408
Plate 488.22 The Art Deco fireplace in the linen exchange.....	408
Plate 488.23 The linen exchange.....	409
Plate 488.24 The kitchen.....	409
Plate 488.25 The salad preparation area.....	410
Plate 488.26 A walk-in refrigerator in the food storage area.....	410
Plate 488.27 The platewash area.....	411
Plate 488.28 The former décor in the corridor and blocked-in staircase.....	411
Plate 488.30 The calorifier room.....	412
Plate 488.29 The blocked in staircase.....	412
Plate 488.31 The corridor to the enclosed courtyard.....	413
Plate 488.32 The boiler room.....	413
Plate 488.34 The former kitchen equipment store.....	414
Plate 488.33 The steps from the boiler room to the yard.....	414
Plate 488.35 The logo for the catering staff's sports team.....	415
Plate 488.36 The east wall of the recreation room with field kitchen artwork.....	415
Plate 488.37 The staircase to the NAAFI dormitories.....	416
Plate 488.38 The landing of the NAAFI dormitories.....	416
Plate 488.39 The WC in the west wing.....	417
Plate 488.40 The staircase in the west wing.....	417
Plate 488.41 The basement.....	418
Plate 488.42 The doorway to the north of the east wing.....	418
Plate 488.43 The staircase in the east wing.....	419
Plate 488.44 The staircase in the east wing.....	419
Plate 488.45 The open plan area of the first floor offices.....	420
Plate 488.46 The original cupboards at the west end of the open plan area.....	420
Plate 488.47 The server room.....	421
Plate 488.48 The former service rooms on the first floor.....	421
Plate 488.49 The landing in the east wing.....	422
Plate 488.50 The ladies WC in the east wing.....	422
Building 489, 498 & 500: Barrack Block - Type H.....	423
Figure 489, 498 & 500.1 Building 489 Ground and First Floor plans (1979).....	427
Plate 489, 498 & 500.1 Building 489 front (west) elevation.....	429
Plate 489, 498 & 500.2 Building 498 rear elevation.....	429
Plate 489, 498 & 500.3 Building 500, rear elevation entrance.....	430
Plate 489, 498 & 500.4 Building 498, rear elevations.....	430
Plate 489, 498 & 500.6 Building 500, south elevation.....	431
Plate 489, 498 & 500.5 Building 500, south elevation.....	431
Plate 489, 498 & 500.7 Building 489, west facing element of rear elevation.....	432

Plate 489, 498 & 500.8 Building 498, rear elevation.....	432
Plate 489, 498 & 500.9 Building 500, rear elevation.....	433
Plate 489, 498 & 500.10 Building 498, rear elevation infill	433
Plate 489, 498 & 500.11 Building 498, south elevation.....	434
Plate 489, 498 & 500.12 Building 500, east elevation infill	434
Plate 489, 498 & 500.13 Building 500, rear elevation.....	435
Plate 489, 498 & 500.14 Building 500, rear elevation.....	435
Plate 489, 498 & 500.16 Building 498, internal entrance.....	436
Plate 489, 498 & 500.15 Building 500, rear elevation ‘Calorfier’	436
Plate 489, 498 & 500.17 Building 498, internal entrance.....	437
Plate 489, 498 & 500.18 Building 489, first floor corridor	437
Plate 489, 498 & 500.19 Building 500, bedroom.....	438
Plate 489, 498 & 500.20 Building 500, first floor entrance	438
Plate 489, 498 & 500.21 Building 500, first floor sanitary area.....	439
Plate 489, 498 & 500.22 Building 489, ceiling.....	439
Plate 489, 498 & 500.23 Building 489, basement.....	440
Building 491: Store.....	441
Plate 491.1 Front (east) and south elevation	441
Building 492: ‘Shopette’.....	443
Plate 492.1 South (front) elevation	444
Building 493: Petrol Station	445
Plate 493.1 South elevation.....	446
Building 498: Barrack Blocks – Type H.....	447
Building 500: Barrack Block – Type H	449
Building 502: USAF Security Police	451
Figure 502.1 Phased floor plan.....	455
Plate 502.5 South-west elevation	459
Plate 502.6 Internal (south-east) view of main spinal corridor	459
Plate 502.7 Internal view of male W.Cs.....	460
Plate 502.8 Internal (north-east) view of crush hall.....	460
Plate 502.9 Internal (north-west) view of Training Room 4	461
Plate 502.10 Internal (north-west) view of ‘Class 2/ Test’ room	461
Plate 502.11 Internal (south-east) view of ‘Class 2/ Test’ room	462
Plate 502.12 Internal view of south-west area	462
Plate 502.13 Internal view of south-east area	463
Building 529: Field Force Motor Transport Shed.....	465
Figure 529.1 Phased and annotated floor plan	469
Plate 529.1 Historic north-west view of south elevation (1970-2) (EH archive ref.-p_ g18127_014)	471
Plate 529.2 Historic north-west view of south elevation (1970-2) (EH archive ref.-p_ g171324_006)	471
Plate 529.3 General view from south-east	472
Plate 529.4 South elevation.....	472
Plate 529.5 North-east corner.....	473
Plate 529.6 South elevation.....	473
Plate 529.7 East end	474
Plate 529.8 Extension on north side of building	474
Plate 529.9 North-east corner of building	475
Plate 529.10 Primary metal cladding encased behind 1980s panels	475

Plate 529.11 Western part of interior looking south-east	476
Plate 529.12 West part of interior looking west	476
Plate 529.13 West part of interior looking south	477
Plate 529.14 Sunken area at south end of west half	477
Plate 529.15 Sunken area at south end of west half	478
Plate 529.16 Typical area	478
Plate 529.17 Western area	479
Plate 529.18 Sliding partition	479
Plate 529.19 Open plan room	480
Plate 529.20 Room in east half	480
Plate 529.21 Space above suspended ceiling	481
Plate 529.22 Corridor in east half	481
Plate 529.23 Room in east half	482
Plate 529.24 Tall room in east half	482
Plate 529.25 Room in east half	483
Plate 529.26 Room in east half	483
Plate 529.27 Room in east half	484
Plate 529.27 WC in east half	484
Plate 529.29 Room in east half	485
Plate 529.30 Corridor in east half	485
Building 593: Barrack Block	487
Plate 593.1 Front (north-west) elevation	488
Building 594: Barrack Block	489
Plate 594.1 Southern view of building 594 shortly after construction (ref no.- p_g171324_002)	490
Plate 594.2 Front (north-east) elevation	490
Building 596: Barrack Block	491
Plate 596.1 Front (north-east) elevation	492
Building 598: Barrack Block	493
Plate 598.1 Front (north-east) elevation	494
Building UH8: Oil Storage	495
Plate UH8.1 South and west elevation	495
Building UH9: Generator	497
Plate UH9.1 Front (east) elevation	497
Building UH10: Electrical Substation	499
Plate UH10.1 East view of substation	499
Building UH11: Portacabin	501
Plate UH11.1 Front (north) elevation	501
Building 400: Huts: Finance Office	505
Plate 400.1 West elevation	507
Plate 400.2 Northern part of west elevation	507
Plate 400.3 UH 13 adjacent to building 400	508
Plate 400.4 Southern end of west elevation	508
Plate 400.5 North elevation facing Camp Road	509
Plate 400.6 East elevation	509
Plate 400.7 South elevation	510
Plate 400.8 Extension on east side	510
Building 401: Huts - Housing Office	511
Plate 401.1 West elevation	512
Plate 401.2 North end of west elevation	512

Plate 401.3 North end facing Camp Road.....	513
Plate 401.4 Concrete block connecting structure.....	513
Plate 401.5 East elevation.....	514
Plate 401.6 South elevation.....	514
Building 402: Huts - Offices.....	515
Plate 402.1 North end of building 400.....	516
Plate 402.2 Building 400 viewed from south-west.....	516
Plate 402.3 East side of building.....	517
Plate 402.4 South end of building 400.....	517
Building 403: Huts - Offices.....	519
Plate 403.1 General view of 403 from south.....	519
Building 404: Huts - Community Bank.....	521
Plate 404.1 North end of building 404.....	523
Plate 404.2 East side of building 404.....	523
Plate 404.3 South-east corner of building 404.....	524
Plate 404.4 South end of building 404.....	524
Plate 404.5 Western part of interior of 404.....	525
Plate 404.6 Typical roof truss.....	525
Plate 404.7 Western part of interior.....	526
Plate 404.8 Western part of interior.....	526
Plate 404.9 Central part of interior.....	527
Plate 404.10 Towards eastern part of interior.....	527
Plate 404.11 Central part of interior.....	528
Plate 404.12 Eastern part of interior.....	528
Building 405: Huts - Offices.....	529
Plate 405.1 Exterior from north-west.....	530
Plate 405.2 West side of building.....	530
Plate 405.3 South end of building.....	531
Plate 405.4 South-eastern corner of building.....	531
Building 406: Huts - Incinerator.....	533
Plate 406.1 Exterior view.....	534
Building 407: Huts - Exchange Retail Warehouse.....	535
Plate 407.1 South-west corner of building.....	536
Plate 407.2 South end of building.....	536
Plate 407.3 East side of building.....	537
Plate 407.4 South side of building.....	537
Building 408: Huts - Ablution Block.....	539
Plate 408.1 West end of building 408.....	540
Plate 408.2 East end of building 408.....	540
Building 409: Huts - Offices.....	541
Plate 409.1 East side of building.....	542
Plate 409.2 North end of east side.....	542
Plate 409.3 North end of building.....	543
Plate 409.4 South end of building.....	543
Building 410: Huts - Plant/Boiler House.....	545
Plate 410.1 North side of building.....	546
Plate 410.2 West side of building 410.....	546
Plate 410.3 South side of building.....	547
Plate 410.4 East side of building.....	547

Building UH12: Tank	549
Plate UH12.1 East elevation.....	549
Building UH13: Offices	551
Plate UH13.1 East elevation.....	551
Building 32-35: Commissary	555
Plate 32-35.1 View of front elevation	557
Plate 32-35.2 Entrance to commissary store	557
32-35.3 View of commissary store front elevation	558
32-35.4 External side elevation showing temporary stores.....	558
Plate 32-35.5 View of rear elevation	559
Plate 32-35.6 Internal view of store entrance.....	559
Plate 32-35.7 Internal view across store to rear	560
Plate 32-35.8 Internal view across store to entrance.....	560
Plate 32-35.9 View of meat preparation room	561
Plate 32-35.10 View of rear warehouse with staff rooms	561
Plate 32-35.11 View of cash office.....	562
Plate 32-35.12 View of vegetable preparation room.....	562
Plate 32-35.13 External view of warehouses 33-35.....	563
Plate 32-35.14 Warehouse 44, front elevation.....	563
Plate 32-35.15 Open space and conveyor housing between 34 and 35.....	564
Plate 32-35.16 External view of 33	564
Plate 32-35.17 Internal view of infill warehouse	565
Plate 32-35.18 Internal view of 34	565
Plate 32-35.19 Internal view of 35	566
Building 36: Area Defence/ Veterinary Clinic.....	567
Plate 36.1 North-east elevation	568
Building 38: Car Wash.....	569
Plate 38.1 South-east facing view of car wash.....	570
Building 51: Briefing Rooms	571
Figure 51.1 Floor plan (1961, updated 1983).....	573
Plate 51.1 Concrete vault, looking west.....	575
Plate 51.2 West elevation	575
Plate 51.3 South elevation.....	576
Plate 51.4 Construction of the plinth.....	576
Plate 51.5 Original range, looking north east.....	577
Plate 51.6 North elevation.....	577
Plate 51.7 Easternmost room in the later range.....	578
Plate 51.8 The original ceiling in the later range	578
Plate 51.9 The ceiling of the concrete vault	579
Plate 51.10 The blocked window between the two phases	579
Plate 51.11 An example of a later internal doorway with window	580
Plate 51.12 An example of an original internal glazed door	580
Plate 51.14 The entrance to the concrete vault.....	581
Plate 51.13 An example of an original internal panelled door.....	581
Plate 51.15 An example of the moulded skirting board	582
Building 53: Office.....	583
Plate 53.1 West elevation	584
Plate 53.2 An example of the three colour schemes.....	584
Plate 53.3 South elevation	585

Plate 53.4 North elevation, western end.....	585
Plate 53.5 North elevation, eastern end.....	586
Plate 53.6 East elevation	586
Plate 53.7 Interior of the westernmost room	587
Plate 53.8 The later suspended ceiling and partitions	587
Plate 53.9 The structural members visible in the southern offices	588
Plate 53.10 An example of an original internal door.....	588
Building 54: Single Storey Hut.....	589
Plate 54.2 West elevation	590
Plate 54.1 North and east elevations	590
Plate 54.3 South elevation	591
Building 56: The Works Squadron	593
Plate 56.1 Front (north-west) and side elevations.....	594
Building 59: Works Service Building	595
Figure 59.1 Phased floor plan (1985)	597
Plate 59.1 West side of building	599
Plate 59.2 South side of building 59	599
Plate 59.3 South-east corner of building 59	600
Plate 59.4 East side of building 59	600
Plate 59.5 Doors in east side of building.....	601
Plate 59.6 Central part of west wall	601
Plate 59.7 West side of northern extension	602
Plate 59.8 North extension viewed from north-east.....	602
Plate 59.9 Interior of primary building.....	603
Plate 59.10 Interior of primary building.....	603
Plate 59.11 Roof of primary building.....	604
Plate 59.12 Typical room in primary building	604
Plate 59.13 Refurbished room in primary building.....	605
Plate 59.14 Northern extension	605
Plate 59.15 Northern extension	606
Building 62/ 69: Workshops (Electrical)	607
Plate 62/69.1 Front (south) elevation	608
Building 63: Water Tower.....	609
Plate 63.1 View of east and south elevations	610
Building 64: Store.....	611
Plate 64.1 Front (north) elevation	611
Plate 64.2 Rear elevation.....	612
Plate 64.3 Internal view of store.....	612
Building 65: Civil Engineering Ops Office.....	613
Figure 65.1 Floor plan (1985)	615
Plate 65.1 Northern end of building.....	617
Plate 65.2 East elevation	617
Plate 65.3 Detail of east elevations	618
Plate 65.4 Door in east elevation.....	618
Plate 65.5 Southern elevation.....	619
Plate 65.6 Western elevation	619
Plate 65.7 Shelving in small room	620
Plate 65.8 Typical room.....	620
Plate 65.9 Corridor	621

Plate 65.10 Door in room	621
Building 66: Offices	623
Plate 66.1 East elevation, northern end	625
Plate 66.2 Northern elevation	625
Plate 66.3 Concrete vault and boiler room	626
Plate 66.4 The enclosed walkway between the buildings, looking south	626
Plate 66.5 The two storey extension, looking south	627
Plate 66.6 East elevation obscured by building 70	627
Plate 66.7 An example of an office in the later range	628
Plate 66.8 The workshop in the later range	628
Plate 66.9 The staircase in the later range	629
Plate 66.10 The ground floor corridor in the later range	629
Plate 66.12 An example of an office in the earlier range	630
Plate 66.11 The corridor in the earlier range	630
Plate 66.13 The workshop in the earlier range	631
Plate 66.14 An example of a blocked door in the earlier range	631
Building 67: Substation	633
Plate 67.1 Sub-station looking north	633
Plate 66.15 The interior of the concrete vault	634
Plate 66.16 The door to the concrete vault	634
Building 68: Offices	635
Plate 68.1 East and north elevations, looking south west	637
Plate 68.2 South elevation, western end	637
Plate 68.4 Interior of the small southern extension	638
Plate 68.3 An example of the modern fittings to the interior	638
Plate 68.5 An example of a room in the western rang	639
Building 70: 20th CES Conference Room	641
Plate 70.1 Front (south) and side elevations	642
Building 72: Storage Sheds	643
Figure 72.1 Elevations (1952)	645
Plate 72.1 West side of building	647
Plate 72.2 West side of building	647
Plate 72.3 Southern end of west side	648
Plate 72.4 Central part of west side	648
Plate 72.5 Northern end of building	649
Plate 72.6 Northern end of building	649
Plate 72.7 Southern end of building	650
Plate 72.8 Rear (east) side of building	650
Plate 72.9 Interior looking north	651
Plate 72.10 Roof	651
Plate 72.11 Interior looking west	652
Plate 72.12 South end of building	652
Plate 72.13 Roof of building	653
Plate 72.14 Typical wall bay	653
Building 79: Garage	655
Plate 79.1 Rear (north) elevation	656
Building 81: Auto Admin. Maintenance	657
Figure 81.1 Construction plan	658
Plate 81.1 North elevation	659

Plate 81.2 West elevation	659
Plate 81.3 South elevation	660
Plate 81.4 East elevation	660
Plate 81.6 Window in south elevation	661
Plate 81.5 Door in west elevation	661
Plate 81.7 Window detail	662
Plate 81.8 Interior view	662
Building 84: Petrol Kiosk	663
Plate 84.1 East elevation	663
Building 85: Store/ Workshop	665
Plate 85.1 West elevation	665
Building 86: Auto Hobby Shop	667
Plate 86.1 Front (east) elevation	668
Building 88: Refuelling/ Vehicle Maintenance	669
Plate 88.1 Front (east) elevation	670
Plate 88.2 Internal view to east	670
Building 89: Firing Range	671
Plate 89.1 Front (north) elevation	672
Plate 89.2 West elevation	672
Plate 89.4 South elevation	673
Plate 89.3 West elevation	673
Figure 89.1 Plans and elevations (1982)	674
Plate 89.6 Firing range wall (east elevation)	675
Plate 89.5 Door to front (north) elevation within plywood extension	675
Plate 89.7 North elevation (west end)	676
Plate 89.8 Infilled door at west element of north elevation	676
Plate 89.9 Rear elevation, crittall window	677
Plate 89.10 Rear elevation, crittall window and door	677
Plate 89.11 Internal view, looking east	678
Plate 89.12 Internal view of vents in rear wall	678
Building 89A: Petrol Pump Booth	679
Plate 89A.1 Front (south) elevation	679
Building 89B: Blast separation wall	681
Plate 89B.1 East side of wall 89B	681
Building 101/ 102: Fire-party House	683
101/2.1 Engine Stalls, front (south) elevation at west end of building	686
101/2.2 Engine Stalls, front and side elevation	686
101/2.3 Engine Stalls, internal view looking towards entrance doors	687
101/2.4 Engine Stall, view of internal door linking to Ready Station	687
Plate 101/2.5 Ready Station, front (south) elevation	688
Plate 101/2.6 Ready Station, rear elevation	688
101/2.7 Ready Station, infilled door to front elevation	689
101/2.8 Ready Station east elevation and linking passage to Barrack Area	689
101/2.9 Internal view of Ready Station, from linking corridor	690
101/2.10 South elevation, showing Barrack Area between the Ready Station and Maintenance Shop	690
101/2.11 Barrack Area, rear elevation	691
101/2.12 Internal west view of Barrack Area	691
101.2.13 Maintenance Shop, front (south) elevation	692

101.2/14 Maintenance Shop, showing brick infill to south and west elevations	692
101.2/16 Maintenance Shop, rear elevation	693
101.2.15 East elevation with ‘Crash Tender’ evident above the door	693
101.2/17 Maintenance Shop, front elevation showing 1970/ 80s extension	694
101.2.18 Internal view to east of Maintenance Shop	694
Building 106: Post Office	695
106.1 South-east (front) and side elevation	696
106.2 Rear and side elevations	697
106.3 Internal view of colour coded storage warehouse	697
Building 107: Reservoir	699
Plate 107.1 South elevation	700
Plate 107.2 Rear view showing concrete panels	700
Plate 107.3 Base of water tank showing projection and channel running around the footprint	701
Plate 107.4 Top of tank showing cowels	701
Building 108: Water Tower	703
Plate 108.1 View from west of tower	704
Plate 108.2 South elevation	704
Building 113: Transformer House Sub-Station	705
Plate 113.1 North east and south west elevations	706
Plate 113.2 South-east elevation	706
Plate 113.2 North west elevation	707
Building 113A: Transformer House Tanks	709
Plate 113A South-east elevation	709
Building 113B: Electricity Substation	711
Plate 113B East elevation	711
Building 114: Transformer House	713
Figure 114.1 Floor plan (1961)	715
Plate 114.2 North-west elevation	717
Plate 114.1 View between the blast wall and the north-east elevation	717
Plate 114.3 South-east elevation	718
Plate 114.4 North-east elevation	718
Plate 114.5 A Charles Collinge, Lambeth hinge	719
Plate 114.6 Gully in the walkway	719
Plate 114.7 South-west elevation	720
Plate 114.8 Alterations to the extension within the blast wall	720
Plate 114.9 An example of a vent	721
Plate 114.10 The interior of the Set House, looking south east	721
Plate 114.11 The interior of the Set House, looking towards the extension	722
Plate 114.12 The support structure for the former machinery	722
Plate 114.13 The interior of the Set House, looking north west	723
Plate 114.14 An example of a window in the workshops	723
Plate 114.15 The workshops, looking north east	724
Plate 114.16 The workshops in the extension, looking south east	724
Plate 114.18 The concrete roof structure in the extension	725
Plate 114.17 Plant in the extension, looking north west	725
Building 115: Motor Transport Shed	727
Figure 115.1 M.T vehicle sheds, plan and construction (revised 1937)	729
Figure 115.2 Plan of M.T vehicle sheds (1927)	731
Plate 115.1 North-west elevation	733

Plate 115.2 South-west elevation	733
Plate 115.3 North-east elevation	734
Plate 115.4 South-east elevation	734
Plate 115.6 An original hinge surviving on a column	735
Plate 115.5 An example of a window and steel column.....	735
Plate 115.7 An original hinge surviving on a column	736
Plate 115.8 An example of the modern glazed partitions and suspended ceiling	736
Plate 115.9 The large open plan office, looking south-west.....	737
Plate 115.10 Blockwork lobby between office and kitchen	737
Plate 115.12 The roof structure above the suspended ceiling	738
Plate 115.11 A partition pre-dating the suspended ceiling	738
Building 117: Motor Transport Shed.....	739
Figure 117.1 Floor plan (1978)	741
Plate 117.1 South-east and south-west elevations.....	743
Plate 117.2 South -east and north-east elevations	743
Plate 117.4 The double doors to the former repair bay, removed 2009	744
Plate 117.3 Original hinges surviving on a column	744
Plate 117.5 The door and window now serving the former motorcycle bay.....	745
Plate 117.6 North-east elevation	745
Plate 117.7 North-east elevation and north-west elevation, northern end.....	746
Plate 117.8 North-west elevation, southern end.....	746
Plate 117.9 Later southernmost bays.....	747
Plate 117.10 An example of a rear window to the tall bays	747
Plate 117.12 Sunken entrance to the boiler room.....	748
Plate 117.11 The boiler room, looking east.....	748
Plate 117.13 Entrance to the Shutter Test Room.....	749
Plate 117.14 Mezzanine floor, looking north-east.....	749
Plate 117.15 The lower floor of the former repair bay	750
Plate 117.16 The upper floor and roof structure of the repair bay	750
Plate 117.17 The workshop area, looking north-east	751
Plate 117.18 The office area in the former motorcycle repair bay	751
Plate 117.19 A disused flue in the north eastern office.....	752
Plate 117.20 The modern kitchen, looking north-east.....	752
Plate 117.21 The WC, looking north-east	753
Building 118: Office (Link Trainer).....	755
Figure 118.1 Floor plan (1978)	757
Plate 118.1 North east elevation.....	758
Plate 118.2 Entrance double doors to the units	758
Plate 118.4 Right hand unit, southernmost office, looking west.....	759
Plate 118.3 Southern end of the north east elevation	759
Plate 118.5 South east elevation.....	760
Plate 118.6 North west elevation.....	760
Plate 118.7 South west elevation.....	761
Plate 118.8 The reused window to the WC	761
Plate 118.9 Internal view of the front elevation	762
Plate 118.10 Internal view between units, looking north west.....	762
Building 119: Garage and Store.....	763
Figure 119.1 Floor plan (1961)	764
Plate 119.1 South east elevation.....	765

Plate 119.2 Area below the mezzanine, looking north west.....	765
Plate 119. 4 Upper rail for the former door.....	766
Plate 119.3 Personnel door for the roller shutter and the rail for the former door.....	766
Plate 119.5 North west and north east elevations.....	767
Plate 119. 6 North west elevation.....	767
Plate 119. 7 A high level window, barred internally.....	768
Building 130: Workshop/ Theatre.....	769
Figure 130.1 Floor plan (1960).....	773
Plate 130.1 South-east elevation.....	775
Plate 130.2 Roof structure and blocked skylights above the stage.....	775
Plate 130.3 Yard area and infill between the two north east wings.....	776
Plate 130.4 North east elevation of the south eastern wing.....	776
Plate 130.5 North-west elevation.....	777
Plate 130.6 South-west elevation.....	777
Plate 130.7 Doors between the vestibule and auditorium.....	778
Plate 130.8 Decorative woodwork and planters to the edge of the stage.....	778
Plate 130.9 Auditorium, looking north-east towards the projector room.....	779
Plate 130.10 South east wall of the auditorium, including ceiling levels.....	779
Plate 130.11 Cinema speaker behind the screen.....	780
Plate 130.12 South eastern dressing room, looking south-west.....	780
Plate 130.14 Drawer and cupboard unit in the western corner.....	781
Plate 130.13 First bay of the south-west extension, looking south east.....	781
Plate 130.15 Example of the partitions in the south-west and north west ranges.....	782
Building 131: Boiler House.....	783
Plate 131.1 South-east (front) elevation.....	784
Plate 131.2 Rear (north-west) elevation.....	784
Building 145: Inflammables Store.....	785
Figure 145.1 Floor plan (1971).....	787
Plate 145.1 South-west elevation.....	788
Plate 145.2 Example of the ventilation louvres above the doors and concrete roof.....	788
Plate 145.3 North-west elevation.....	789
Plate 145.4 South-east elevation.....	789
Plate 145.5 Two phases of building numbers.....	790
Plate 145.6 Building numbers and later number plaque.....	790
Plate 145.7 South-west elevation.....	791
Plate 145.8 North-east elevation.....	791
Plate 145.9 Entrance to the small north-west room.....	792
Plate 145.10 Interior of the small north-west room.....	792
Plate 145.11 South-west and south-east elevations.....	793
Plate 145.12 Easternmost room to the south-east end, looking north-east.....	793
Plate 145.13 Painted bays on the floor.....	794
Plate 145.14 Southernmost room to the south-east end, looking north west.....	794
Building 146: Lubricant Store.....	795
Figure 146.1 Lubricant Store construction drawing (329/26).....	797
Plate 146.1 The date stone in the south-west elevation.....	798
Plate 146.2 South-west elevation.....	798
Plate 146.3 Lubricant store, looking south-west.....	799
Plate 146.4 Roof vents, looking north-east.....	799
Plate 146.5 North-west elevation.....	800

Plate 146.6 South-east elevation	800
Plate 146.7 Concrete capping to the western corner of the Lubricant Store	801
Plate 146.8 Shelter to the north-west end	801
Plate 146.9 North-east elevation	802
Plate 146.10 Three phases of building numbering	802
Plate 146.11 Lubricant store, looking north-west	803
Plate 146.12 Space heater in the Lubricant Store	803
Plate 146.13 Roof structure in the Lubricant Store	804
Plate 146.14 Doors to the Lubricant Store including artwork	804
Building 147: Link Trainer Building	805
Plate 147.1 North elevation, prefab range and link building	806
Plate 147.2 Prefab addition and south elevation	806
Plate 147.3 North elevation	807
Plate 147.4 East elevation and linking structure to 1980s prefab addition	807
Plate 147.5 West elevation	808
Plate 147.6 North elevation	808
Plate 147.7 South elevation	809
Plate 147.8 Dilapidated 1980s prefab	809
Plate 147.9 Covered link between 147 prefab range and building 133	810
Building 156: Store	811
Plate 156.1 Front (north) elevation	812
Plate 156.2 Internal view	812
Building 171: Petrol Tanker Shed	813
Plate 171.1 Front (west) elevation	814
Plate 171.2 North bay of west elevation	814
Plate 171.3 Bays 3 and 4 of west elevation	815
Plate 171.4 South elevation	815
Plate 171.5 Rear (east) elevation	816
Building 312: Electric Substation	817
Plate 312.1 Front (north) elevation	817
Building 313: Pavilion	819
Plate 313.1 North and east elevations	819
Building 317: Workshop	821
Plate 317.1 Front (west) elevation	821
Building 317A: Canopy	823
Plate 317A.1 North-east view	823
Building 2x: Refrigeration Unit	825
Plate 2x.1 Front (west) elevation	825
Building 3x: Refrigeration Unit	827
Plate 3x.1 Front (north) elevation	827
Building 4x: Refrigeration Unit	829
Plate 4x.1 Front (north-west) elevation	829
Building UH44: Electricity Sub-station	831
Plate UH44 Front (south) elevation	831
Building UH46: Portacabin	833
Plate UH46.1 Front (east) elevation	833

TABLE 1: STRUCTURES DESCRIBED WITHIN THE GAZETTEER (VOL.2) (ORGANISED BY OA AREA)

Building Number	Area	Recording Level	Date	Function
Area OA1				
UH31	OA1D	1	U/d	Store
UH32	OA1D	1	U/d	Store
Area OA8: South-West Edge				
293	OA8A	2	1971	Flight Simulator
293A	OA8A	1	1988	Gatehouse
294	OA8A	1	1971	20th Fighter Group Operations
300a	OA8A	2	1953	20th Maintenance and Equipment
300b	OA8A	2	1953	20th Maintenance and Equipment
300c	OA8A	2	1953	20th Maintenance and Equipment
300d	OA8A	2	1953	20th Maintenance and Equipment
300e	OA8A	2	1953	20th Maintenance and Equipment
301	OA8A	1	1953	Generator
301A	OA8A	1	1953	Fuel Tank
346	OA8A	1	1950s	Fuel Tanks
UH33	OA8A	1	U/d	Sub-station
Area OA9: School Huts				
804-815	OA9	1	1950s	School huts
UH74	OA9	2	1972	Water Tower
Area OA10: Playing Fields and Large Buildings				
515	OA10A	1	1983	Leisure
527	OA10	1	1976	Electric sub-station
528	OA10A	1	1982	Store
566	OA10B	1	1989	Store
567	OA10A	1	1977	Baseball dugouts
570	OA10A	1	U/d	Store
577	OA10A	1	70s/80s	Baseball dugout
578	OA10A	1	1955	Fuel inlet
579	OA10B	1	1980	Medical Gas Storage
581	OA10B	1	1975	Supermarket
582	OA10B	1	1982	Hospital
584	OA10A	1	1982	Store/ Pre-match
590	OA10A	1	1940	Waste disposal
595	OA10A	1	1970/80	Baseball dugout
599	OA10A	1	1970s	Baseball dugout
UH3	OA 10A	1	1970s	Distribution Substation
UH5	OA10A	1	1970s	Viewing tower
UH15	OA10A	1	1970s	Works/ Maintenance
Area OA 11: South Residential Area				
291	OA11B	2	1972	Water tower
546	OA11B	1	1977	Credit union
547	OA11B	2	1940-42	Laundrette
548	OA11B	1	1940	Electric sub-station

551	OA11B	1	1935	Water pump
552	OA11B	1	1952	Water tank
564	OA11B	1	1970s/80s	Hut by 548
565	OA11B	1	1979	Water tank
568	OA11B	1	1945	Hut
573	OA11B	1	1987	Water tank
588	OA11B	1	1975	Store
712	OA11A	1	1960s	Bungalow
UH2	OA11B	1	1970s	Electricity Substation
Area OA12: Barracks and Institutions				
440	OA12B	2	1980s	Barrack Block
440b	OA12B	1	1980s	Boiler Room
441	OA12C	1	1970	Boiler House
442	OA14B	1	1984	Education Centre and Nursery
443	OA12D	1	1971	Cold Store
444	OA12D	1	1982	Office
445	OA12C	1	1970/2	Barrack Block
446	OA 12D	1	1970/2	Barrack Blocks
449	OA12B	1	1940	Storage Unit
450	OA12B	2	1925	Barrack Blocks - Type C
454	OA12B	1	1950	Water tank
459	OA12A	2	1925	Barracks for Airmen
460	OA12A	1	1950s	Bus shelter
461	OA12B	1	1980s	Storage Unit
465	OA12B	2	1935	Decontamination Centre
466	OA12B	2	1925	Barrack Block - Type C
467	OA12B	2	c.1939	Central Heating Station
468	OA12B	2	c. 1950	Hut
470	OA12B	1	1977	Shed/ store
471	OA12B	2	1925	Barrack Block - Type C
472A & 472B	OA12B	2	1947-1954	Mess complex
474	OA12B	3	1925	Dining Room/ cookhouse
475	OA12B	2	1925	Ration store & shop
476	OA12B	1	1980s	Electric Substation
480	OA12B	2	1925	Barrack Block Type C
481	OA12B	1	1973	Thrift shop
483	OA12B	2	1925	Barrack Block Type C
484	OA12B	1	1950/60s	Nursery
485	OA12B	3	1937	Barrack Block Type C
486	OA12B	1	1976	Bio-environmental engineering
487	OA12B	1	1940	Electric substation
488	OA 12D	2	1937-1942	Combined Dining Room and Institute
489	OA 12D	2	1939	Barracks Block - Type H
491	OA12B	1	1935	Store
492	OA12A	1	1985	'Shopette'
493	OA12A	1	1985	Petrol Station
498	OA 12D	2	1939	Barracks Block - Type H
500	OA 12D	2	1939	Barracks Block - Type H
502	OA12C	2	1950s	USAF Security Police
529	OA12B	2	1939	Field Force Motor Transport shed
593	OA12C	1	1970-2	Barrack Block
594	OA12C	1	1970-72	Barrack Block
596	OA12C	1	1970-2	Barrack Block

598	OA12C	1	1970-2	Barrack Block
UH and Subsidiary buildings				
UH8	OA12B	1	1970s	Oil Storage
UH9	OA 12D	1	1970s	Generator
UH10	OA12C	1	1970s	Electrical Substation
UH11	OA12C	1	1980s	Portacabin
Area OA13: East Huts				
400	OA13	1	1947-1954	Huts (Finance Offices)
401	OA13	1	1947-1954	Huts (Housing Offices)
402	OA13	1	1947-1954	Huts (Offices)
403	OA13	1	1947-1954	Huts (Offices)
404	OA13	1	1947-1954	Huts (Community Bank)
405	OA13	1	1947-1954	Huts (Offices)
406	OA13	1	1947-1954	Huts - Incinerator
407	OA13	1	1947-1954	Huts - Exchange Retail Warehouse)
408	OA13	1	1947-1954	Huts – Abolition Block
409	OA13	1	1947-1954	Huts - Offices
410	OA13	1	1947-1954	Huts - Boiler House
UH and Subsidiary Buildings				
UH12	OA13	1	1950s	Tank
UH13	OA13	1	1980s	Offices
Area OA14: Technical Area				
32-35	OA14D	2	1947	Commissary
36	OA14D	2	1970	Air Defence/ Veterinary Clinic
38	OA14D	2	1986	Car Wash
51	OA14E	1	1942	Briefing rooms
53	OA14B	2	1950s	Office
54	OA14B	2	1940s	Single storey hut
56	OA14B	1	1951	The Works Squadron
59	OA14B	2	1928 & 1980s	Works Service building
62/69	OA14B	1	1981	Workshops (Electrical)
63	OA14B	1	1947	Water Tank
64	OA14B	2	1940s	Petrol Store
65	OA14A	2	1960s	Civil Engineering Operations Office
66	OA14B	2	1939	Offices
67	OA14	1	U/d	Sub-station
68	OA14B	2	1947-1954	Offices
70	OA14B	1	1972	20th CES Conference Room
72	OA14B	2	1953	Storage sheds
79	OA14B	1	1940	Garage
81	OA14A	2	1947-54	Auto Admin. Maintenance
84	OA14C	1	1975	Petrol Kiosk
85	OA14C	1	1950/60s	Store/ Workshop
86	OA14C	1	1981	Auto Hobby Workshop
88	OA14C	1	1985	Refuelling Vehicle Maintenance
89	OA14A	2	c.1939	Firing Range
89A	OA14C	2	1950s	Petrol Pump Booth
89B	OA14A	2	1939	Blast separation wall
101/102	OA14B	2	1926	Fire-party House
106	OA14B	1	1954 and 1980s	Post Office
107	OA14B	1	1926	Reservoir
108	OA14B	1	1926	Water tower

113	OA14B	2	1937- 42	Transformer House Substation
113A	OA14B	1	1937 - 42	Tanks
113B	OA14B	1	1980s	Electric Substation
114	OA14B	2	1937 - 42	Transformer House
115	OA14B	2	1927-31	Motor Transport shed
117	OA14B	2	1927-31	Motor Transport shed
118	OA14B	2	c.1939	Link Trainer
119	OA14B	2	c.1939	Garage and store
130	OA14A	2	1925	Workshop
145	OA14B	2	1925	Inflammables store
146	OA14B	2	1926	Lubricant Store
147	OA14B	2	1940s	Office Link Trainer
156	OA14A	2	1926	Store
131	OA14A	1	1965	Boiler House
171	OA14A	1	1939	Petrol Tanker sheds
312	OA14A	1	1970/80s	Electric Substation
313	OA14A	1	1950	Pavilion
317	OA14A	1	1947-54	Workshop
317A	OA14A	1	1950s	Canopy
UH and Subsidiary buildings				
2x	OA14D	1	1980s/ 1990s	Refrigeration Unit
3x	OA14D	1	1980s/ 1990s	Refrigeration Unit
4x	OA14D	1	1980s/ 1990s	Refrigeration Unit
UH44	OA14B	1	1970s/ 1980s	Electricity Sub-station
UH46	OA14B	1	1980s	Office/ Portacabin

TABLE 2: STRUCTURES DESCRIBED WITHIN THE
GAZETTEER (IN NUMERICAL ORDER BY BUILDING
NUMBER)

Building Number	OA Area	Recording Level	Date	Function
32-35	OA14D	1	1947	Commissary
36	OA14D	2	1970	Air Defence/ Veterinary Clinic
38	OA14D	2	1986	Car Wash
51	OA14E	1	1942	Briefing rooms
53	OA14B	2	1950s	Office
54	OA14B	2	1940s	Single storey hut
56	OA14B	1	1951	The Works Squadron
59	OA14B	2	1928 & 1980s	Works Service building
62/69	OA14B	1	1981	Workshops (Electrical)
63	OA14B	1	1947	Water Tank
64	OA14B	2	1940s	Petrol Store
65	OA14A	2	1960s	Civil Engineering Operations Office
66	OA14B	2	1939	Offices
67	OA14B	1	U/d	Sub-station
68	OA14B	2	1947-1954	Offices
70	OA14B	1	1972	20th CES Conference Room
72	OA14B	2	1953	Storage sheds
79	OA14B	1	1940	Garage
81	OA14A	2	1947-54	Auto Admin. Maintenance
84	OA14C	1	1975	Petrol Kiosk
85	OA14C	1	1950/60s	Store/ Workshop
86	OA14C	1	1981	Auto Hobby Workshop
88	OA14C	1	1985	Refuelling Vehicle Maintenance
89	OA14A	2	c.1939	Firing Range
89A	OA14C	2	1950s	Petrol Pump Booth
89B	OA14A	2	1939	Blast separation wall
101/102	OA14B	2	1926	Fire-party House
106	OA14B	1	1954 and 1980s	Post Office
107	OA14B	1	1926	Reservoir
108	OA14B	1	1926	Water tower
113	OA14B	2	1937- 42	Transformer House Substation
113A	OA14B	1	1937 - 42	Tanks
113B	OA14B	1	1980s	Electric Substation
114	OA14B	2	1937 - 42	Transformer House
115	OA14B	2	1927-31	Motor Transport shed
117	OA14B	2	1927-31	Motor Transport shed
118	OA14B	2	c.1939	Link Trainer
119	OA14B	2	c.1939	Garage and store
130	OA14A	2	1925	Workshop
131	OA14A	1	1965	Boiler House
145	OA14B	2	1925	Inflammables store
146	OA14B	2	1926	Lubricant Store
147	OA14B	2	1940s	Office Link Trainer
156	OA14A	2	1926	Store
171	OA14A	1	1939	Petrol Tanker sheds
291	OA11B	2	1972	Water tower

293	OA8A	2	1971	Flight Simulator
293A	OA8A	1	1988	Gatehouse
294	OA8A	1	1971	20th Fighter Group Operations
300a	OA8A	2	1953	20th Maintenance and Equipment
300b	OA8A	2	1953	20th Maintenance and Equipment
300c	OA8A	2	1953	20th Maintenance and Equipment
300d	OA8A	2	1953	20th Maintenance and Equipment
300e	OA8A	2	1953	20th Maintenance and Equipment
301	OA8A	1	1953	Generator
301A	OA8A	1	1953	Fuel Tank
312	OA14A	1	1970/80s	Electric Substation
313	OA14A	1	1950	Pavilion
317	OA14A	1	1947-54	Workshop
317A	OA14A	1	1950s	Canopy
346	OA8A	1	1950s	Fuel Tanks
400	OA13	1	1947-1954	Huts (Finance Offices)
401	OA13	1	1947-1954	Huts (Housing Offices)
402	OA13	1	1947-1954	Huts (Offices)
403	OA13	1	1947-1954	Huts (Offices)
404	OA13	1	1947-1954	Huts (Community Bank)
405	OA13	1	1947-1954	Huts (Offices)
406	OA13	1	1947-1954	Huts - Incinerator
407	OA13	1	1947-1954	Huts - Exchange Retail Warehouse)
408	OA13	1	1947-1954	Huts – Abolition Block
409	OA13	1	1947-1954	Huts - Offices
410	OA13	1	1947-1954	Huts - Boiler House
440	OA12B	2	1980s	Barrack Block
440b	OA12B	1	1980s	Boiler Room
441	OA12C	1	1970	Boiler House
442	OA14B	1	1984	Education Centre and Nursery
443	OA12D	1	1971	Cold Store
444	OA12D	1	1982	Office
445	OA12C	1	1970/2	Barrack Block
446	OA 12D	1	1970/2	Barrack Blocks
449	OA12B	1	1940	Storage Unit
450	OA12B	2	1925	Barrack Blocks - Type C
454	OA12B	1	1950	Water tank
459	OA12A	2	1925	Barracks for Airmen
460	OA12A	1	1950s	Bus shelter
461	OA12B	1	1980s	Storage Unit
465	OA12B	2	1935	Decontamination Centre
466	OA12B	2	1925	Barrack Block - Type C
467	OA12B	2	c.1939	Central Heating Station
468	OA12B	2	c. 1950	Hut
470	OA12B	1	1977	Shed/ store
471	OA12B	2	1925	Barrack Block - Type C
472A & 472B	OA12B	2	1947-1954	Mess complex
474	OA12B	3	1925	Dining Room/ cookhouse
475	OA12B	2	1925	Ration store & shop
476	OA12B	1	1980s	Electric Substation
480	OA12B	2	1925	Barrack Block Type C
481	OA12B	1	1973	Thrift shop
483	OA12B	2	1925	Barrack Block Type C
484	OA12B	1	1950/60s	Nursery
485	OA12B	3	1937	Barrack Block Type C

486	OA12B	1	1976	Bio-environmental engineering
487	OA12B	1	1940	Electric substation
488	OA 12D	2	1937-1942	Combined Dining Room and Institute
489	OA 12D	2	1939	Barracks Block - Type H
491	OA12B	1	1935	Store
492	OA12A	1	1985	‘Shopette’
493	OA12A	1	1985	Petrol Station
498	OA 12D	2	1939	Barracks Block - Type H
500	OA 12D	2	1939	Barracks Block - Type H
502	OA12C	2	1950s	USAF Security Police
515	OA10A	1	1983	Leisure
527	OA10	1	1976	Electric sub-station
528	OA10A	1	1982	Store
529	OA12B	2	1939	Field Force Motor Transport shed
546	OA11B	1	1977	Credit union
547	OA11B	2	1940-42	Laundrette
548	OA11B	1	1940	Electric Sub-station
551	OA11B	1	1935	Water pump
552	OA11B	1	1952	Water tank
564	OA11B	1	1970s/80s	Hut by 548
565	OA11B	1	1979	Water tank
566	OA10B	1	1989	Store
567	OA10A	1	1977	Baseball dugouts
568	OA11B	1	1945	Hut
570	OA10A	1	U/d	Store
573	OA11B	1	1987	Water tank
577	OA10A	1	70s/80s	Baseball dugout
578	OA10A	1	1955	Fuel inlet
579	OA10B	1	1980	Medical Gas Storage
581	OA10B	1	1975	Supermarket
582	OA10B	1	1982	Hospital
584	OA10A	1	1982	Store/ Pre-match
588	OA11B	1	1975	Store
590	OA10A	1	1940	Waste disposal
593	OA12C	1	1970-2	Barrack Block
594	OA12C	1	1970-72	Barrack Block
595	OA10A	1	1970/80	Baseball dugout
596	OA12C	1	1970-2	Barrack Block
598	OA12C	1	1970-2	Barrack Block
599	OA10A	1	1970s	Baseball dugout
712	OA11A	1	1960s	Bungalow
804-815	OA9	1	1950s	School huts
UH and Subsidiary buildings				
2x	OA14D	1	1980s/ 1990s	Refrigeration Unit
3x	OA14D	1	1980s/ 1990s	Refrigeration Unit
4x	OA14D	1	1980s/ 1990s	Refrigeration Unit
UH2	OA11B	1	1970s	Electricity Substation
UH3	OA 10A	1	1970s	Distribution Substation
UH5	OA10A	1	1970s	Viewing tower
UH8	OA12B	1	1970s	Oil Storage
UH9	OA 12D	1	1970s	Generator
UH10	OA12C	1	1970s	Electrical Substation
UH11	OA12C	1	1980s	Portacabin
UH12	OA13	1	1950s	Tank
UH13	OA13	1	1980s	Offices

UH15	OA10A	1	1970s	Works/ Maintenance
UH31	OA1D	1	U/d	Store
UH32	OA1D	1	U/d	Store
UH33	OA8A	1	U/d	Sub-station
UH44	OA14B	1	1970s/ 1980s	Electricity Sub-station
UH74	OA9	2	1972	Water Tower
UH46	OA14B	1	1980s	Office/ Portacabin

GLOSSARY

AP	Aerial Photograph
CDC	Cherwell District Council
EIA	Environmental Impact Assessment
GPS	Global Positioning System
HAS	Hardened Aircraft Shelter
HE	Historic England (formerly English Heritage)
HER	Historic Environment Record
OA	Oxford Archaeology
PSA	Property Services Agency
RAF	Royal Air Force
SAM	Scheduled Ancient Monument
USAF	United States Air Force
WSI	Written Scheme of Investigation

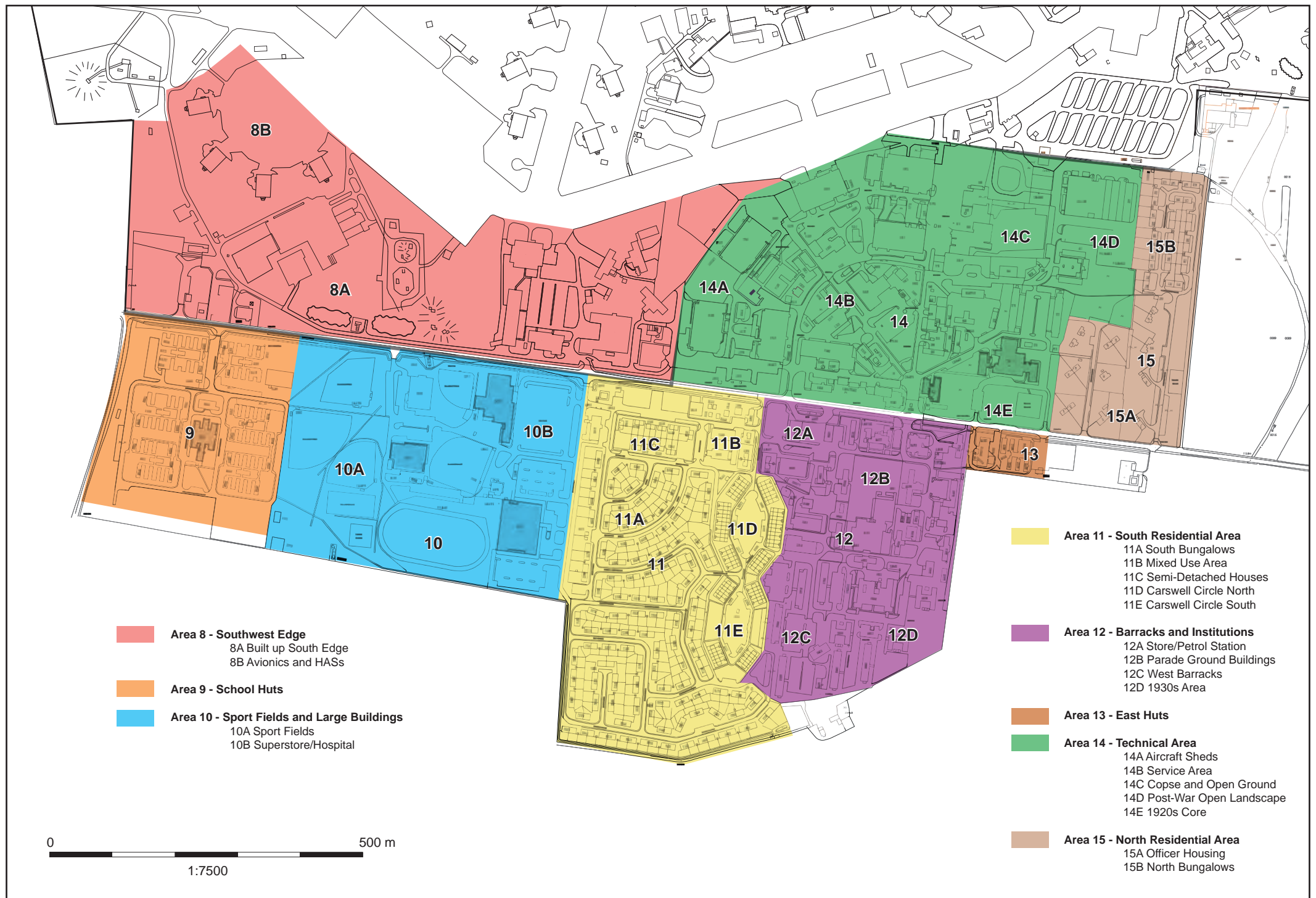
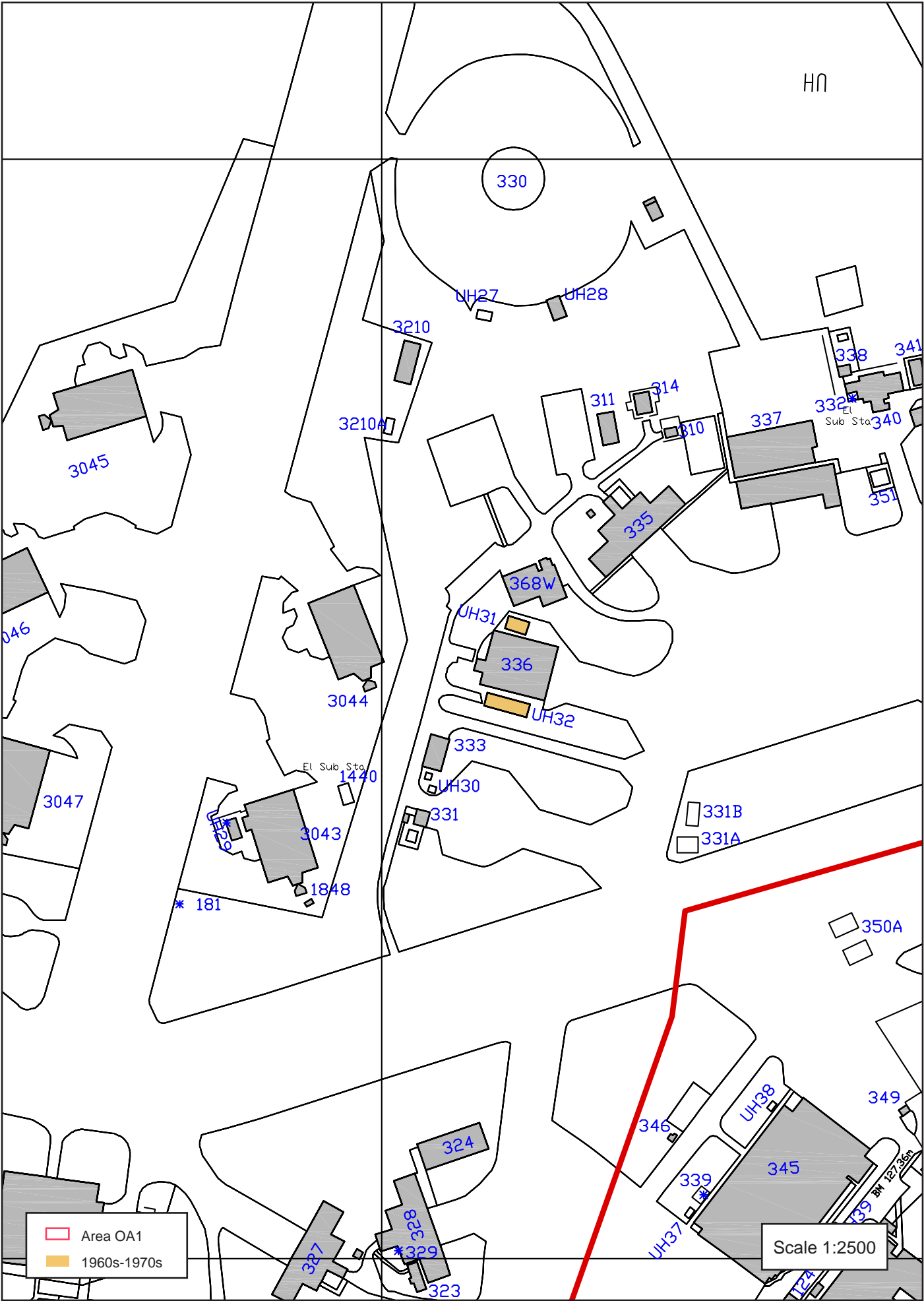


Figure 1: Historic Character Areas within area of demolition

AREA OA1



Building UH31: Store

NGR: SP51062 26286

Recording Level: 1

Location

This building is located within Area OA1D (South Aircraft Shelters) on the southern edge of the main airfield to the north of Camp Road. This would have provided a store for the adjacent buildings.

History/ Function

This building was a store to serve the adjacent aircraft maintenance shed. The date of the building is uncertain but from its form it is likely to have been constructed in the 1960s or 70s. Such a date is also supported by the Upper Heyford Conservation Plan which suggests that the hangars in this area were constructed during this phase.

Description

This is a single storey steel-framed structure on a concrete base. It has a shallow-pitch gabled roof and large doorways to each end. It has a rectangular plan (c.10 m x 6 m). The building is clad in metal sheeting and a cantilevered metal box to one side.

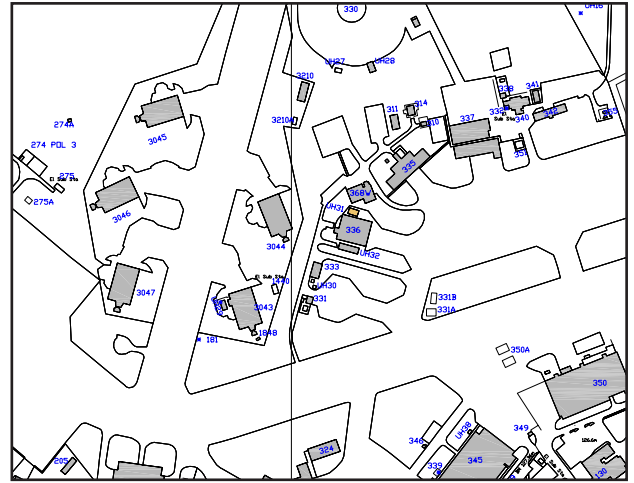


Plate UH31.1 Building UH31

Building UH32: Store

NGR: SP51056 26250

Recording Level: 1

Location

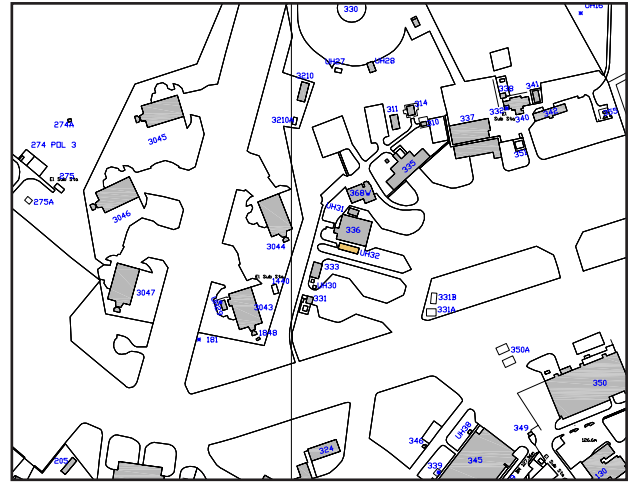
This building is located within Area OA1D (South Aircraft Shelters) on the southern edge of the main airfield to the north of Camp Road. This would have provided a store for the adjacent hangar.

History/ Function

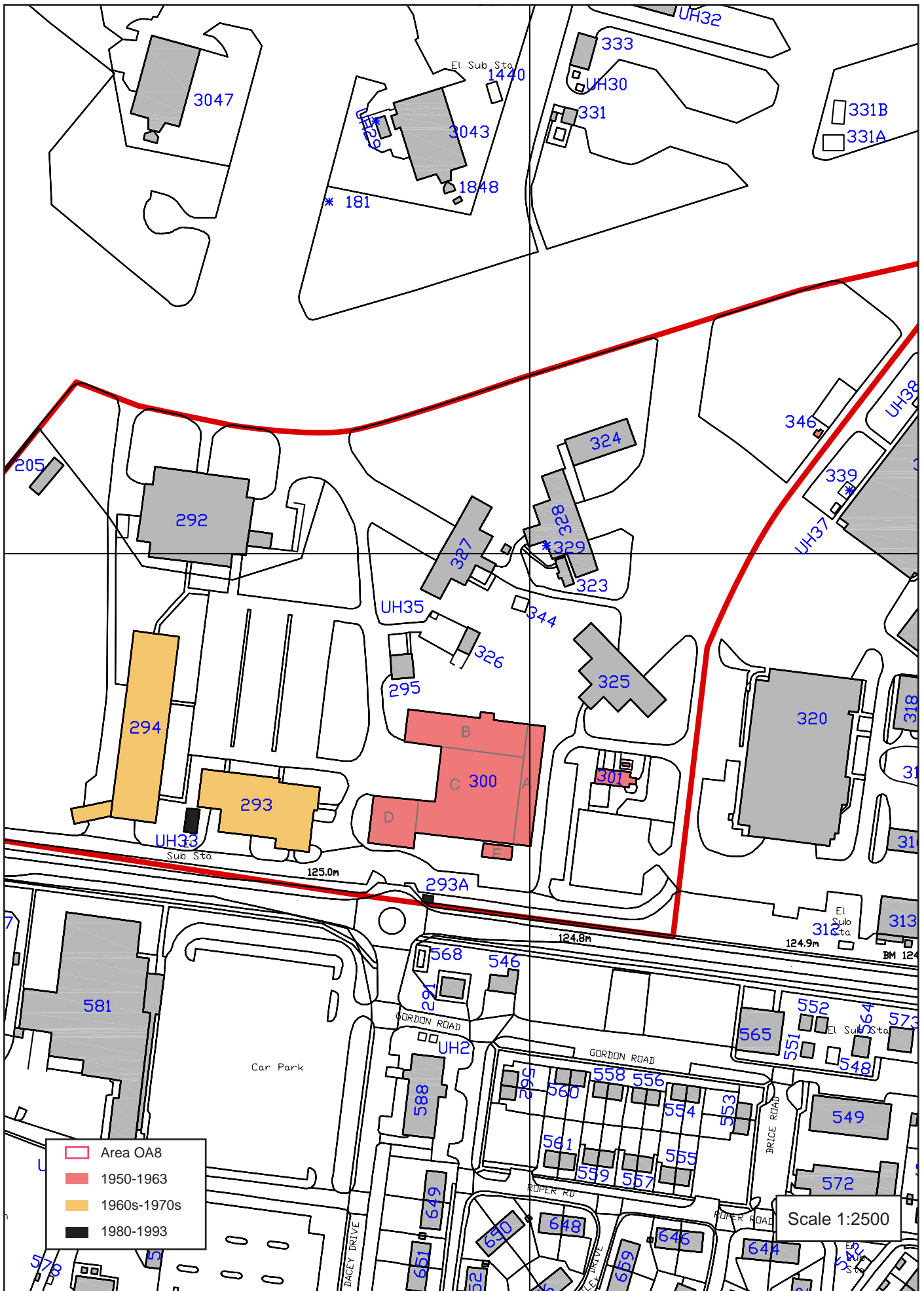
This building was a store to serve the adjacent aircraft maintenance shed. The date of the building is uncertain but from its form it is likely to have been constructed in the 1960s or 70s. Such a date is also supported by the Upper Heyford Conservation Plan which suggests that the hangars in this area were constructed during this phase.

Description

This is a single storey steel-framed structure on a concrete base. It has a long rectangular plan (c.20 m x 6 m), a shallow-pitch gabled roof and large double doorways to the end. The building is clad in metal sheeting and a cantilevered metal box to one side.



AREA OA8, SOUTH-WEST EDGE



Building 293: Flight Simulator

NGR: SP 50878 25884

Recording Level: 2

Location

This building is located within Area OA8A, which is located in the built of southern edge of the airfield. The building is situated along side Camp Road, and sandwiched between building 294 and 300.

History/ Function

The building dates from 1971, with later additions, and served as a flight simulator training facility. Within the Upper Heyford archives there are construction drawings dating from 1968 and 1969. The building was re-roofed, along with building 294, in 1986. There is an undated plan that depicts the building with the eastern extension however the date of the extension is unclear from the documentary evidence (Figs. 293.1 and 293.2).

At time of survey the building was in good condition and being used as a prop storage facility for the Oxford Playhouse Theatre.

Description

The building is clearly comprised of two distinct parts the western half having an orange clad roof and the eastern half has a metal sheet roof with low central pitch, this latter building is the original building which has been extended to the west (Plate 293.1).

The south elevation has a single storey flat roof brick faced building that continues around the building to the east elevation. The bricks are dark red/brown in colour and laid in a stretcher bond with hard gritty brown coloured mortar. There is a concrete block wall beneath the brickwork. Beneath the eaves of the shallow pitched roof, the elevation has a detail of concrete or concrete render with clay ventilation tiles measuring 20 x 20cm evenly spaced across the elevation. This building has 6 metal casement windows to the western end of the south elevation and then a doorway set within a brick entrance with flanking horizontal casements. The entrance doors are 15 light French doors with the wood frame painted blue. Adjacent to the entrance the number of the building is painted directly on the brickwork. To the east of this door are two further metal casement windows however these have internal metal bars. All windows and the door have plain concrete sills and lintels. There are four metal downpipes on the south elevation of this building.

Behind the single storey structure the main section of the building is over two storeys in height with no windows but with one horizontal concrete band and six concrete columns set within the brickwork. The ventilation tile detail seen on the single storey building is also replicated beneath the eaves of the roof.

To the west the extension is also of brick construction and comprises a tall windowless structure with a windowless single storey section in front (Plate 293.2). The tall building has the horizontal concrete band and concrete columns as seen on the original building. The roof for both sections is clad in yellow coloured sheeting, shallow pitched with curved outer arris and orange and grey coloured detail.

Internally, the single storey part of the original building consists of offices and wc facilities. Access is by double multi light doors leading to a lobby with corridor access to rooms and wcs (Plate 293.4). The walls are exposed brickwork in a stretcher bond, painted cream. Either side of the lobby entrance are the male and female wcs.

The majority of rooms have suspended ceiling with integrated lighting. The easternmost room (listed as 'maintenance' on the undated floorplan) has metal bars on both windows and there is no ceiling, instead the exposed roof is supported on metal beams with additional bracing and hanging striplights (Plate 293.6). This section of the building is mostly carpeted and the doors are modern and the electrics are enclosed in trunking fixed to the wall. The easternmost rooms are used for office and admin and the walls are mainly plastered and some are almost fully clad in wood effect board. A storage room adjacent to these offices has no natural light and stable style doors and contains the telephone and electrical boxes. Adjacent to this room and within this single story wing of the facility is a room which is accessed via external double doors. There was no access to this room at time of survey but it is listed on the undated plan as 'utility'. The main corridor runs E-W and provides access to further classrooms and offices. There is a board arch detail located within the corridor which appears to serve no purpose. Outside the entrance to the flight simulator room there is a red light which presumably was used to indicate when the room was in use (Plate 293.5) and also a metal fixture with the brand name 'AL KO KTC Trailer Control' on. This appears to be a connection system for trailers and caravans however it is not clear why it is in this position. It is situated at chest height to

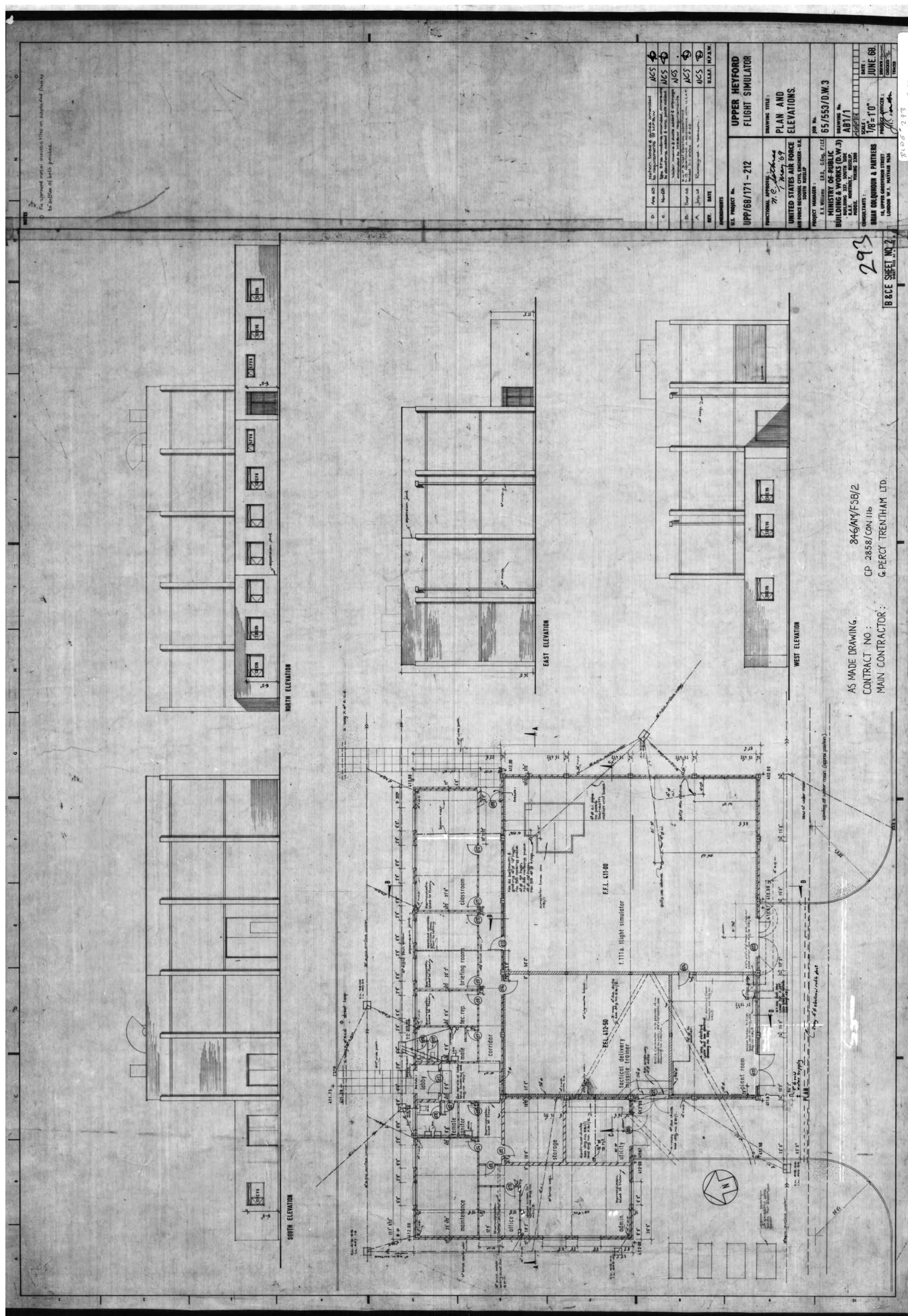
the east of a wide metal door providing access to the main flight simulator room. The door itself is a wide metal door painted blue with a locking bar that can be pulled down and slotted into a fixing to lock (Plate 293.9). To open the door a code would need to be entered into a keypad on the wall as well. On the walling to the west of this are a series of metal plates possibly connected to the fixtures within the 'flight simulator' room.

The main section of the building consists of the largest room which is marked on the undated plan as 'F-III A Flight Simulator' (Plate 293.10). The entrance is via a blue painted metal door with two steps leading down into the room. This room has a high level suspended ceiling with ceiling tiles on a metal frame. A series of striplights on a pulley system provide the main lighting to this room, the pulley mechanisms are fixed to the north and south interior elevations (Plate 293.11). A large roller shutter opening to the exterior is a later replacement to what were originally double doors, a wooden timber ramp over the threshold appears original (Plate 293.12). Adjacent to this opening the concrete block partition wall has been opened up and four pipes extend through. The walls contain many fixings and pipes including a metal extractor fan pipe on the east wall and a tachometer unit which sits adjacent to the doorway to the plant room (Plate 293.13). This doorway also has a metal door and two steps up due to the difference in floor level. A further door is located centrally on this elevation with double metal doors and 3 steps. In the north east corner of the room a low wood structure containing two rooms has been constructed flush to the walls (Plate 293.14). The first room is a small office or store with a window and doorway into the larger second room. This room has no natural light and appears to have soundproofing material on the walls. Fixtures relating to the flight simulator space are still in situ on the north and eastern walls. The mechanism for the pulley lighting have been boxed in but are still accessible for use. An electrical fire control system is also located on this wall. The materials used for this small structure are a mix of reused and new and there has been little attempt to decorate the interior. The exterior has large panels advertising a car but these may be remnants of the sticker/sign company that occupied the building in recent years. To the west elevation of the flight simulator room are two sets of doors, one single metal door leads to the plant room and a wide double door leads through to the 'tactical delivery missile trainer' room.

The plant room has no suspended ceiling and extends almost up to the roof with a metal ceiling structure providing a platform for insulation beneath the roof. The room is dominated by a series of steel pipes fixed to the wall and air conditioning ducts which are fixed higher in the wall and cross the room. There is a window within the western elevation that is not shown on the as built plan but is a simple single glazed window. On the southern elevation there are a series of ladders reaching up into the roofspace allowing access to high level vent ducting (Plate 293.15). There are two balcony structures at intervals on the ladder which were presumably used as working platforms as well. The upper part of the ladder is above the metal clad ceiling in a shallow space and is filled with insulation material (Plate 293.17). Large vents continue through this space to the roof. Beneath and attached to the ceiling and adjacent wall is a metal frame, although it is unclear what this is for (Plate 293.16). On the southern elevation, there are large external double wooden doors which are fixed shut with a metal bar.

To the north of the plant room is a large room referred to on the as built plan as 'tactical delivery missile training'. This is accessed via a metal door from the corridor. The room has concrete block walling, painted white and a suspended ceiling with lighting on a pulley system as seen within the flight simulator room (Plate 293.7). An additional doorway has been inserted into the partition wall providing access to the flight simulator room (Plate 293.7). This door is a double door with standard doors however within the missile training room there are two metal barred panels that swing close and lock over these doors preventing access from the flight simulator room to the missile training room (Plate 293.8).

The eastern end of the corridor forms part of the extension to the main building discussed previously. This is clearly shown on the undated plan but the current configuration is slightly different around the emergency exit doors (Plate 293.18). A small lobby provides access to a small classroom and a briefing room. A larger room identified as the 'maintenance and technical library' on the undated plan is accessed through the large training room that forms the main part of the extension (Plate 293.19). This room also has a small single room constructed of timber and board as seen within the main flight simulator room.



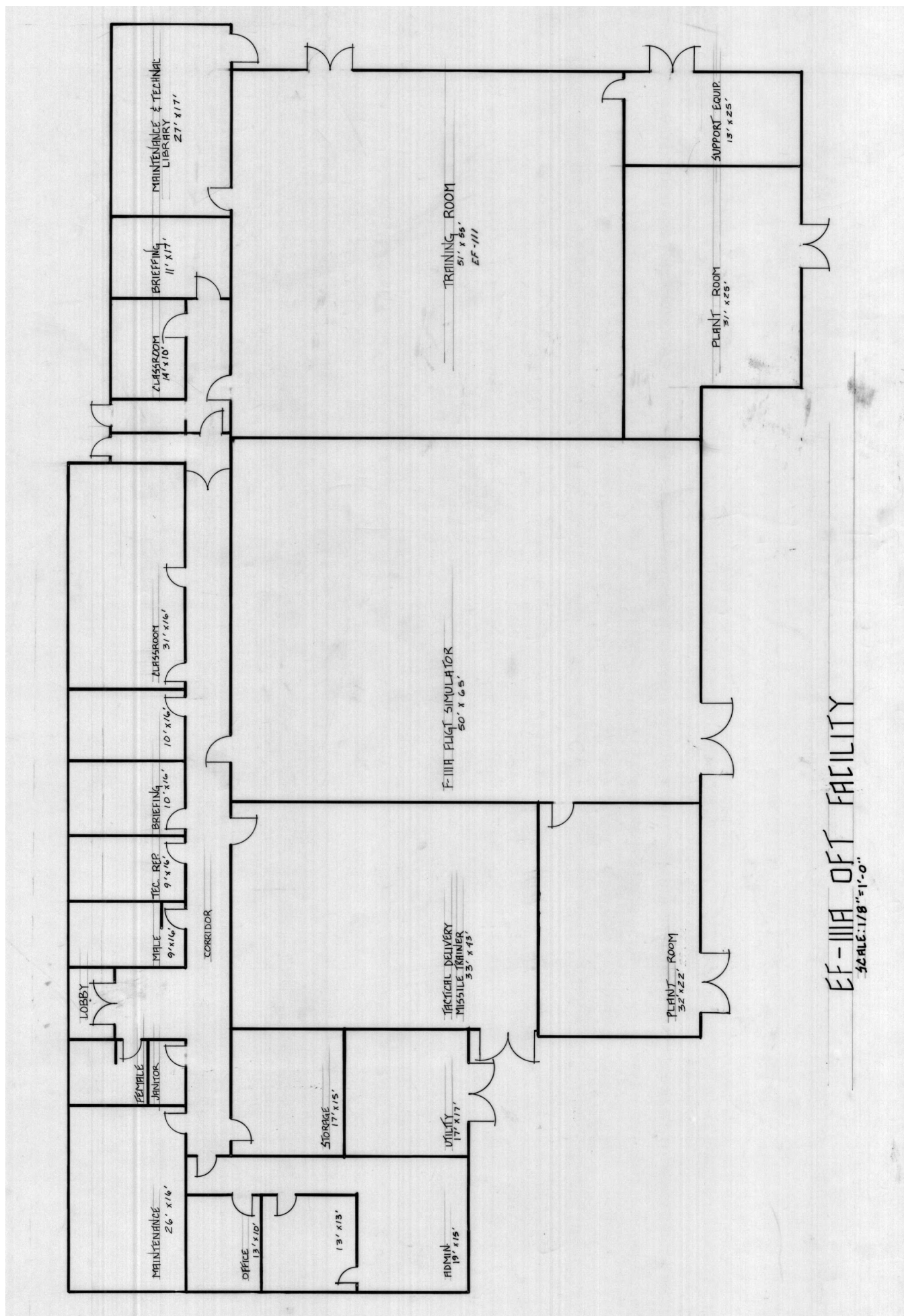


Figure 293.2: EF-III A OFT facility plan (undated but post 1986 showing extension)



Plate 293.1 Front (south) entrance and elevation



Plate 293.2 West elevation of extension



Plate 293.3 East view of maintenance room



Plate 293.4 Detail of doorway from corridor to flight simulator room



Plate 293.5 North view of flight simulator room



Plate 293.6 Detail of lighting pulley control within flight simulator room



Plate 293.7 Detail of wooden ramp at south loading doorway within flight simulator room



Plate 293.8 Detail of tachometer on west elevation of flight simulator room



Plate 293.9 South-east view of plant room



Plate 293.10 West view west of plant room roof space



Plate 293.11 Detail of metal structure suspended from ceiling in plant room



Plate 293.12 South-west view of tactical delivery missile trainer room



Plate 293.13 Detail of door from tactical delivery missile trainer room to flight simulator room



Plate 293.14 View of training room east elevation and loading bay entrance

Building 293A: Gatehouse

NGR: SP 50958 25848

Recording Level: 1

Location

This building is located within Area OA8A, at the southern edge of the airfield. It is situated opposite building 300, along the road running adjacent to Camp Road and would have provided a check-point for those accessing the southern flying field.

History/ Function

This building is a former Gatehouse dating from c.1988, which was constructed as part of the security enhancements at Upper Heyford in the late 1980s.

Description

This is a single storey brick structure, which is roughly square in plan (Plate 293A.1). It has a hipped roof with concrete tiles and metal framed windows on each elevation. The single timber door which provides the only point of access, has an adjacent window with a sliding hatch. To the east is a half circular brick enclosure which provided additional protection.

Internally, the gatehouse has painted cream concrete block walls, and a plaster ceiling with an access hatch to the roof space above. The floor is carpeted, and other than a small heater the building is featureless.

Archive

A plan dating from May 1988 survives in the Upper Heyford archives.

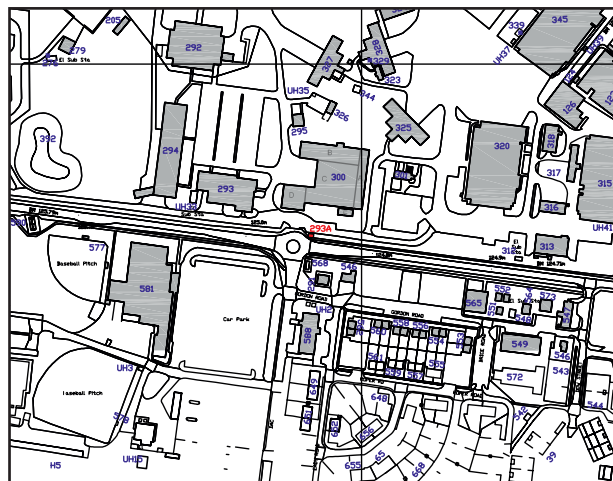


Plate 293A.1 Front (south) entrance and elevation

Building 294: '20th Fighter Group Operations' building

NGR: SP 50826 25929

Recording Level: 1

Location

This building is located within Area OA8A, which is situated at the southern edge of the airfield. It is located to the south-west of the three nose docking sheds, and to the west of the Flight Simulator building (293).

History/ Function

This building, dating from 1971 was the: '20th Fighter Group Operations Group', which is displayed on the front elevation. A further timber sign states it was the: 'Fld. Training Def. 916'.



Description

The building is large single storey structure, rectangular in plan with a very shallow pitched metal roof (Plate 294.1). It is constructed in brick (English bond) with wood casement windows, and a large car park to the front that is shared with 292 and 294. This building forms part of a group of administrative/ operational buildings with these two structures.

A particular feature of this building is the three examples of internal war art which are further described in the separate Upper Heyford War Art report (forthcoming), and below.

The front (main) entrance has an entrance porch with plastic barrel vault roof, and double wood and glass doors recessed within the front elevation (Plate 294.1). There are two windows to each side of the entrance which are clearly later insertions, with replacement brickwork surrounding the windows. There are a series of metal vents along the elevation, with four to the south of the entrance projecting from the face of the brickwork and four to the north set within the brickwork. Directly below the roof line is a band of concrete render with clay ventilation tiles in groups of sixteen set within this. At the south end of the elevation is a set of double metal doors providing a further point of entry for goods to the main building, directly to the south the roofline is higher suggesting a possible later build. However, the external appearance of this end block suggests that it is contemporary with the main body of the structure as described below.

The south elevation is situated directly on the main access road running adjacent to Camp Road, externally the elevation is the same appearance as described with the band of concrete vents continued below the roofline. There is also a set of tall double metal doors of the same type as described within the front elevation, which are accessed from the road by a concrete ramp. A metal staircase directly to the west of the doors provides access to the tall, brown metal clad west section of the elevation via a single door. The tall west section of the elevation has a shallow pitched roof, steel frame and is set on concrete pads. It contains a lift, providing access to a bridge which joins the brick east section of the elevation and has two windows facing north. Below the bridge is a carriage driveway with some parking spaces, where it is possible to gain entry to the lift. The lift has steel folding doors for goods, with a metal staircase situated directly to the west also set within the metal structure.

The west elevation is of the same form as the front elevation with the concrete band and vents continuing around the building and a series of double metal doors (four) and timber framed windows with concrete lintels (Plate 294.2). Within the north half of the building are three sets of double and one single glass and timber doors (of the same type at the front entrance), which would have provided access for staff and a light working environment. There has clearly been some reconfiguration of this elevation with sections of replacement brickwork surrounding the doors and windows, and a blocked door. A large section of the roof is recessed, with a taller metal clad section of roof projecting above the main flat roof with an aerial situated on the roof (Plate 294.3).

The north elevation retains its original form ableit with replacement timber windows to both sides of the central timber and glass door. It is of the same build and form as described elsewhere including the concrete band and vents below roof level.

Internally, the building consists of a series of rooms which are mostly carpeted and now largely without fixtures and fittings, they appear to have been used for administrative/ operational and training purposes. The walls are a mixture of rendered and breeze blocks walls mostly accessed by timber or timber and glass doors. Some have suspended ceilings and evidence of banks of desks, whilst some larger rooms appear to have been used for training and include platforms for training. There are three examples of war art including a black and white sign painted on breeze blocks stating 'Show the Way', an emblem in American colours with an eagle surrounded by writing stating ' Aim High Air Force/ A Rewarding Career' and also on breeze block is a badge stating ' The World Is Our Classroom/ 3785th Field Training Wing' with a illustration of a planet, F111s and eagle wings in American colours.

Archives

Two plans survive within the Upper Heyford archives.



Plate 294.1 Front (east) entrance and elevation



Plate 294.2 Rear (west) elevation



Plate 294.3 Rear elevation, central section showing projecting metal clad roof

Building 300: 20th Squadron Maintenance and Equipment building

NGR: SP 50981 25896

Recording Level: 2

Location

This building is located within Area OA8A, with is situated at the southern edge of the flying field. The building lies to the south-west of the three nose docking sheds, which also date from the 1950s, and to the east of buildings 293 and 294 which date from the 1970s and 1980s.

History/ Function

Building 300 consists of six sections (300a-300f), sections 300a, 300b, 300c and 300f date from 1953 and sections 300d and 300e are thought to date from the 1970s/ 80s. This analysis is confirmed through building analysis and aerial photograph research.



Building 300 is not visible in the 1946 AP, however it is visible in an AP dating from 1954 (with later extensions). The earliest plan of the building located in the Upper Heyford archives dates from 1968 when it was in use as a ‘rearmament and electronic workshop’. The record site plan of 1984 describes the building as a ‘store’, however plans dating from the 1980s show that it was used as tuition rooms. Internally the fabric of the east end of the building in particular reflect this later use.

Two signs indicate the most recent function of the east element of the building: ‘20th Equipment Maintenance Squadron, Maintenance Supervisor Orderly Room’ and ‘300 20th CRS TMDE Branch’ (Test, Measurement and Diagnostic Equipment’).

Description

The single-storey building is divided into 6 sections 300a-300f.

Section 300a is rectangular in plan with a pitched roof and modern cladding (Plate 300.1). The gabled building is constructed from concrete panels on a brick plinth and structurally is thought to date from the earliest phase of construction (1953). The north and south elevations have three critical windows with modern plastic inner glazing. The east elevation has 26 windows and a central doorway which reflect the primary phase of construction, with a later porch constructed over the entrance. Other features of interest include blast protection banks around the north-east edge of the building, these are corrugated sheeting infilled with earth.

Internally, the space has been recently used and is carpeted with ceiling tiles and wood cladding to walls beneath a dado rail. There is evidence of the primary phase of construction including doors and brickwork. A corridor runs along the west side of the building adjoining the various elements of the building which also contains evidence of the primary phasing of building 300.

Two signs to the front of section 300a indicate the most recent function of the building ‘300E, 20th Equipment Maintenance Squadron, Maintenance Supervisor Orderly Room’ and ‘300 20th CRS TMDE Branch’.

Section 300b dates from the primary build and is largely single phase. It is rectangular in plan, brick build (stretcher bond, painted) and double gabled with later corrugated roofing panels with protecting piers at the truss ends. The west elevation has two wide doorways in each gable with sliding metal doors and concrete ramps providing vehicular access. In three areas lettering beneath a layer of paint are visible which are thought to read: ‘SURE FIRE 89 CMY ONLY’. The south elevation is now partly enclosed with only the western half of the elevation still external. Two doors and one window remain visible, the west window and door are later insertions but at the east end the door is part of the primary build (although it has been made narrower in more recent years). The north elevation has 9.5 bays and is similar to the south elevation, although differs in character towards the east end.

Section 300c is rectangular in plan and thought to date from the 1970s/ 1980s (Plate 300.2) It is double gabled with corrugated cladding, and thought to date from the primary phase of construction although it has been refaced probably in the 1970s/ 80s. The west elevation only is visible, the others are enclosed within the building’s other ranges. This has two gables, a brown brick plinth and one projecting porch to each bay. There is war art on the north gable ‘20th Equipment Maintenance Squadron’.

Section 300d dates from the primary phase of construction and constructed in brown brick (stretcher bond) with a flat metal clad roof holding a tank (thought to contain either plant or water). The south elevation has six metal-framed windows (those to the east are thought to be later in date). It has cladding at the eaves and a concrete plinth. The west elevation has seven windows and a door, the north elevation has four windows and one double door.

Section 300e is a 1970s/1980s extension to accommodate plant, constructed from breeze blocks with double timber doors. It has two large metal vents in the upper section of the building which are clad in timber, and a further vent at ground floor level.

Section 300f is thought to date from the primary phase of construction. It is built from concrete panels, with a gabled metal panelled roof (which is a later addition) and metal framed windows. The south elevation consists of 25 bays with three vertical panels at the top of each bay, with windows and lintels between a further row of vertical panels at the base of the elevation. The south elevation has *c.*7 primary windows *in situ* but towards the west end these are hard to inspect due to a large blast wall (constructed from corrugated sheeting infilled with earth). At the east end 5 brick infilled windows are visible with the cill remaining *in situ*, and to the east are 10 bricked up bays without cills. Internally it is possible to see concrete portal trusses typical of the date of construction. Concrete pads are visible at alternate bays indicating the position of internal trusses, therefore there are thought to be a total of 12-13 trusses. The remaining elevations are adjoined by other elements of the building.

War art is extant on the external gable of section 300c.

Archives

Eight plans survive within the Upper Heyford archives.

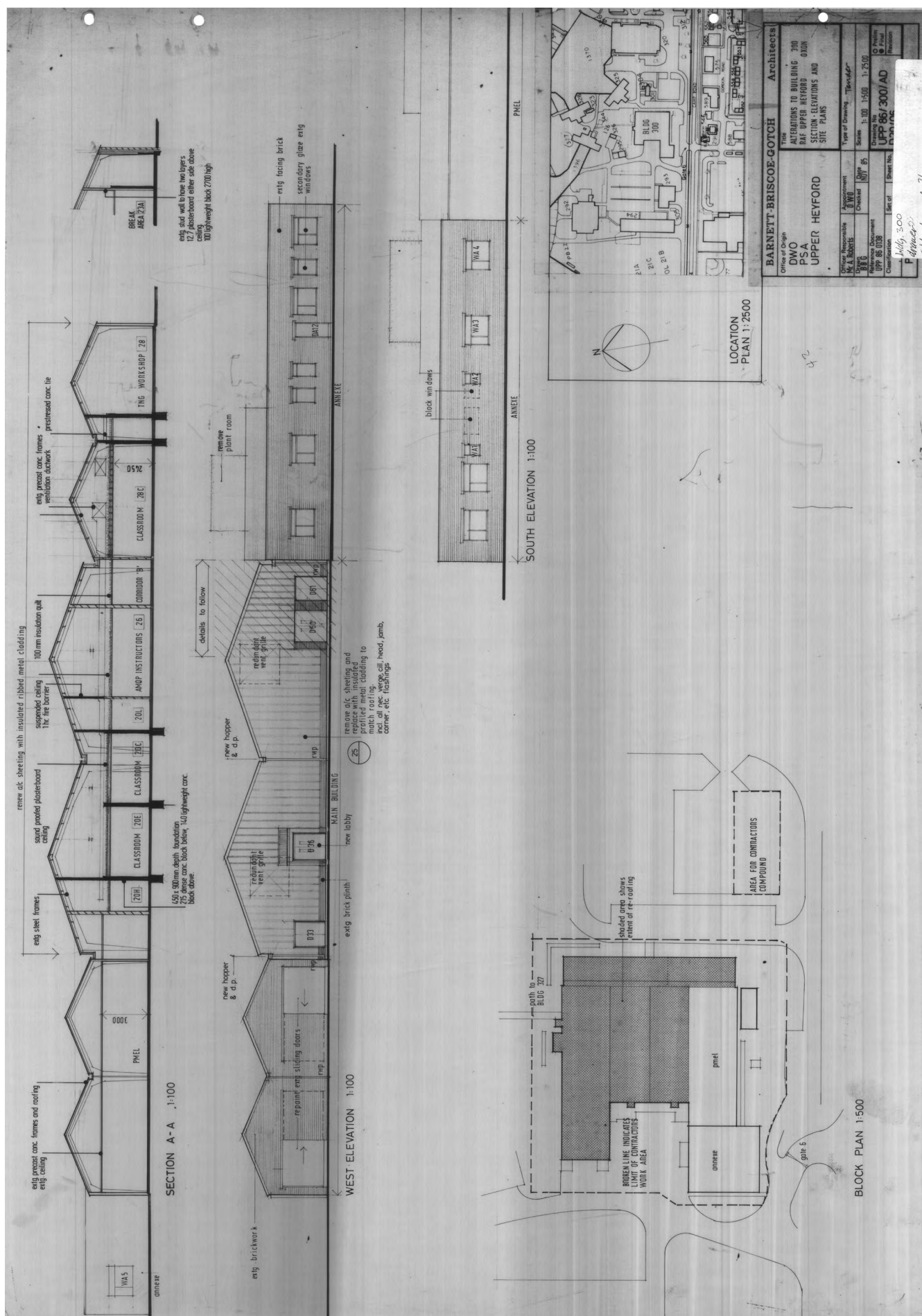




Plate 300.1 Front (east) elevation of 300a



Plate 300.2 South elevation of 300b, 300c and 300d



Plate 300.3 View from south-east



Plate 300.4 View towards north-west



Plate 300.5 West- end of building



Plate 300.6 Courtyard to west



Plate 300.7 West end



Plate 300.8 General view

Building 301: Generator

NGR: SP 51041 25900

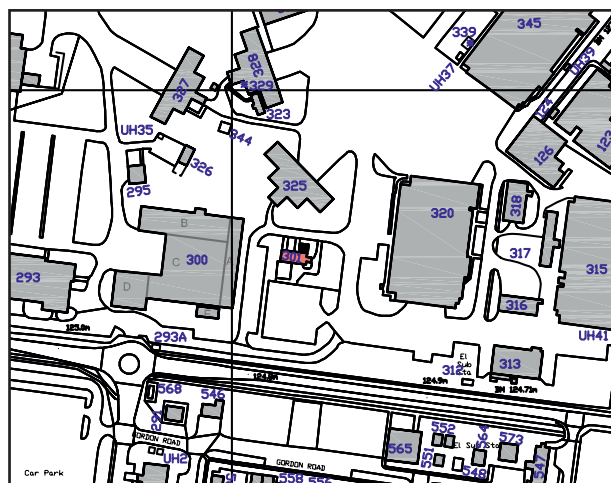
Recording Level: 1

Location

This building is located within Area OA8A, which is situated at the southern edge of the flying field. The generator and fuel tank (301a) are situated immediately to the south of the nose-docking shed (325), which also dates from the 1950s.

History/ Function

This former generator building dates from 1953, and is visible on a 1954 aerial photograph of the site. The building is now disused and in poor condition.



Description

The former generator building is rectangular in plan and constructed in brick, with a flat asphalt roof and crittal windows. The building stands largely in its original form (with the exception of a small extension to the west), although the white painted render is now missing in places exposing the red brick beneath. The brown paint work on the doors and windows is also in poor condition.

The front (north) elevation was large double timber doors with six windows above which would have provided considerable light to the mechanics within the internal space (Plate 301.1). The windows are of various sizes (2 windows with 2 rows of 3 lights, 2 windows with 2 rows of 5 lights, and 2 windows with single panes). There is a blast wall to the front of the building which is constructed from corrugated metal sheeting infilled with earth. The primary double wood panelled doors remain extant situated roughly centrally within the elevation.

The east elevation has two large metal louvre vents, but otherwise has no features of interest. The south (rear) elevation is similar in form to the front elevation with the same arrangement of windows, but with two double wood panelled doors which are separated by a blast wall. A tank is located to the front of the elevation at the west end surrounded by a short concrete wall (see 301a).

The west elevation has a small extension projecting from the elevation accessed by louvred timber doors. This is shorter and narrower than the primary build, which has small louvre vents to each corner and possible blocked windows to each side of the extension. The extension is of the same build with a flat roof and rendered in concrete which has been painted white.

Internally, considerable plant equipment remains extant including convertors, an isolator/ alternator, a generator and numerous electrical boxes (301.2). The rendered brick walls are painted cream (with green paint visible beneath), four brick pilasters support four steel beams which in turn support the metal clad roof. The floor retains numerous channels, with concrete slabs covering over pipe work. The extended space is thought to be constructed from concrete, and is accessed via a large square opening.

Archives

Two plans survive within the Upper Heyford archives.



Plate 301.1 North (front) elevation



Plate 301.2 Internal view

Building 301a: Fuel Tank

NGR: SP 51041 25900

Recording Level: 1

Location

This building is located within Area OA8A, which is situated at the southern edge of the flying field. The fuel tank and associated generator (301), are situated immediately to the south of the nose-docking shed (325), which also dates from the 1950s.

History/ Function

The fuel tank is thought to be contemporary with the construction of building 301 in 1953.

Description

Building 301a is a metal storage tank sitting on concrete feet and surrounded by a short perimeter wall (0.75m high) (Plate 301a.1). Pipes extend from the top of the tank, and printed in white on the south-east end of the tank is: 'Tank No 5010, Usage Generator, USA for 2, 235 secs, Imp Galls 5000'. Also printed on the front of the tank is: 'No smoking within 50 feet'.

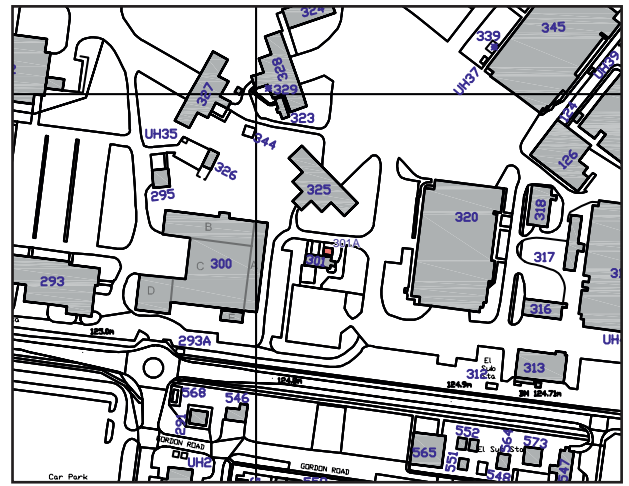


Plate 301a.1 South-east view

Building 346: Fuel Tanks

NGR: SP 51136 26060

Recording Level: 1

Location

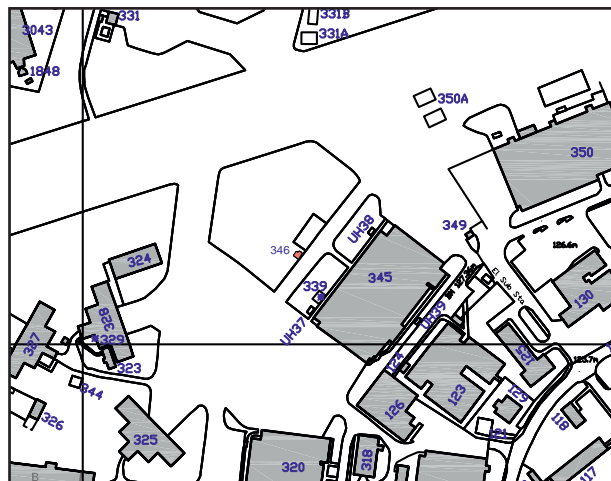
This building is located within Area OA8A, situated to the rear (north-west) of hangar 345, at the southern edge of the flying field.

History/ Function

The fuel tanks are not visible in historic plans of the site from 1947, or in aerial photography from 1954. Structurally, the building appears to date from the 1950s.

Description

This minor brick-built building is constructed in stretcher bond. It is roughly square in plan with a flat corrugated asbestos sheet roof, and a small projection on the east side which is thought to be contemporary with the primary build. The front (south) elevation had double doors, which are no longer *in situ*. There is a projection to the east elevation, and adjacent to this a concrete platform, probably to hold former fuel tanks. Internally, there are various fuse boxes and switch gear extant.



PlateUH33.1

Building UH33: Substation

NGR: SP50842 25876

Recording Level: 1

Location

This building is located within Area OA8A, at the southern edge of the airfield and immediately north of Camp Road. It is situated at the corner of Building 293 and also opposite building 294

History/ Function

This building is a electricity substation and it was probably constructed in the 1980s.

Description

This is a simple rectangular plan structure (c.11 m x 7 m) with corrugated metal, baffle walls filled with earth, surrounding the substation plant. The baffle walls are painted brown and they are formed from prefabricated metal panels with horizontal ridges.

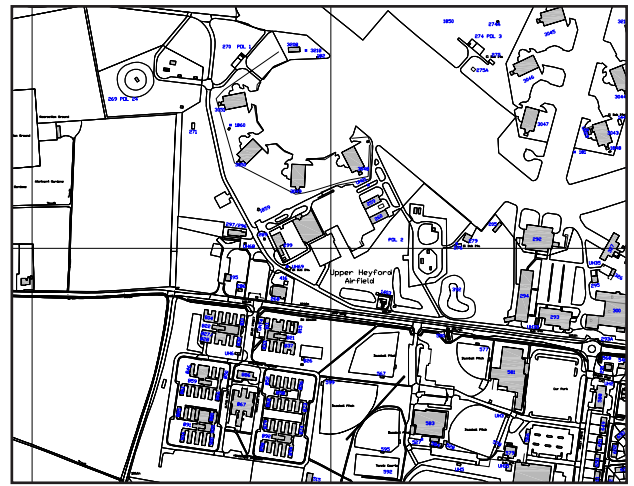
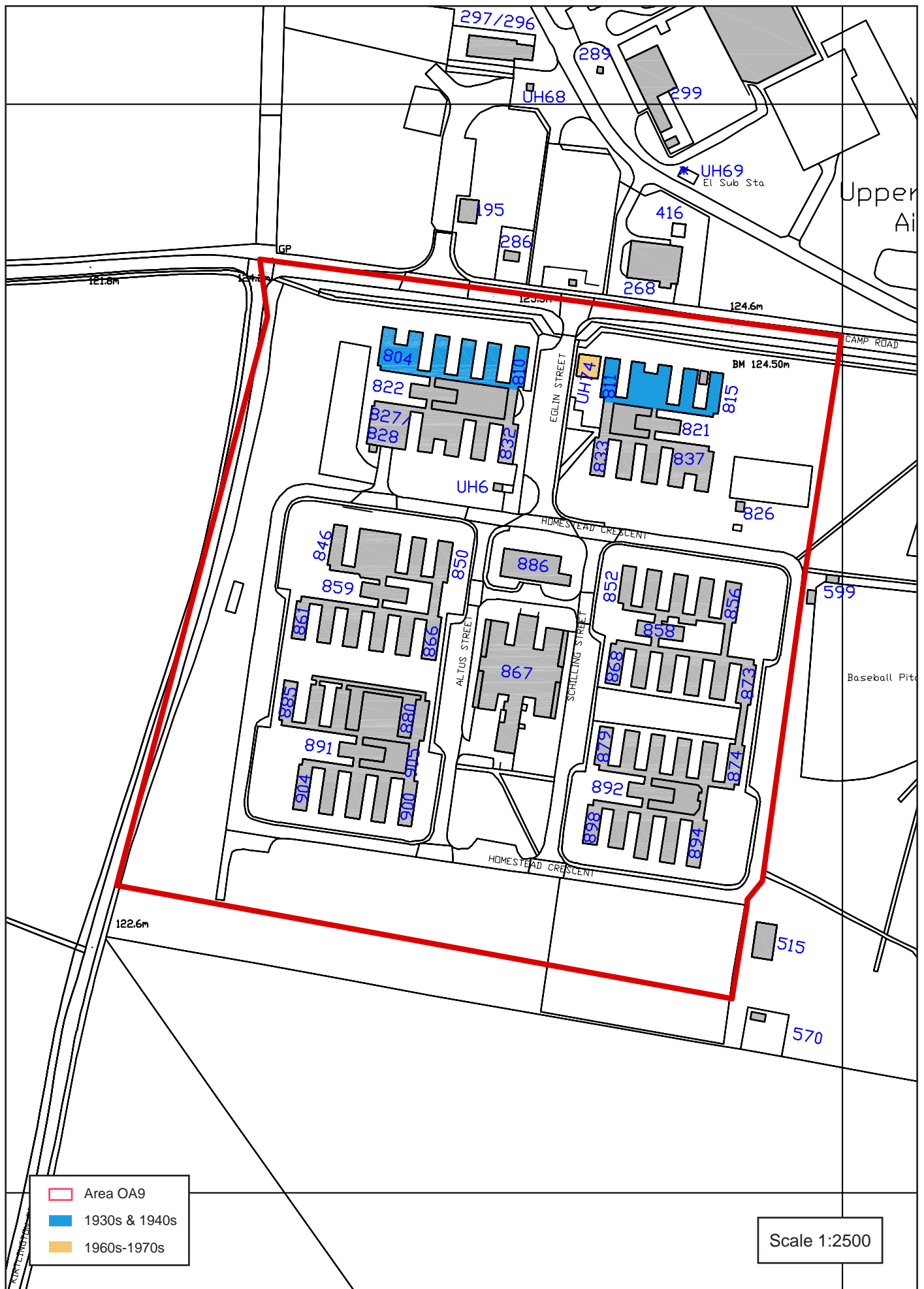


Plate UH33.1

AREA OA9, SUBSIDIARY BUILDINGS



Building 804-815: School huts

NGR: SP 50363 25868

Recording Level: 1

Location

The school huts recorded in the current project are located in Area 9, on the south side of Camp Road towards the south-west corner of former RAF Upper Heyford. The group of buildings which OA were commissioned to record is a row closest to Camp Road (804-815) although these are part of a much larger group of former school buildings which extends towards the south away from the road.

History/ Function

The large group of buildings of which No's 804-815 form one part are not shown on site plans of 1942 and 1945 (Air Ministry 5671/42 and 1607/45) and they first appear on an aerial photograph of c.1954 when there were up to 100 huts. Their origin was unknown to the author of the 'Airfield Research' report who described them as 'monolithic concrete hutting' (Paul Francis 1996, 64).

Some useful background on this group of structures is provided by a website of the 'Hadites' school history (<http://garystuff.homestead.com/cool.html>)

'Upper Heyford High School was established in the Fall of 1966, in an old barracks where prisoners of war were sometimes held during World War II. Most of the students and faculty came from American bases in France after French President Charles DeGaulle withdrew his country from military involvement with NATO and told the American armed forces to leave. There was an elementary school and a junior high school at Upper Heyford at the time, but high school students attended Lakenheath High School, staying in dorms during the school week and returning home on weekends. However, when the Americans who had been in France arrived at Upper Heyford and High Wycombe, there were far too many new students for Lakenheath to accommodate, and there wasn't time to build a new high school, so the old barracks were made available and became Upper Heyford High School. Maroon and white was selected as the school colors, and Rick Hunter '68 and Mike Brown '69, came up with the school nickname, the Hadites.'

In the Fall of 1975, the school closed at Upper Heyford and was moved to RAF Croughton, but was still called Upper Heyford High School until the end of the Spring semester in 1982. Beginning with the Fall semester of 1982, the school officially became Croughton High School. With the end of the Cold War and reduction of American forces in Europe, CHS was closed in 1997, bringing an end to the Hadite legacy'.

An overall site plan survives from the first half of the 1980s which shows the use of buildings and this suggests that the former school huts were used by the Girl Scouts. The exact date of the plan is uncertain and it is also not entirely clear whether it was a proposal which potentially may not have been implemented. The original survey date of the plan appears to have been 1980 but there are amendments from June 1984 and it seems likely that the Girl Scouts note was added at this date.

Description

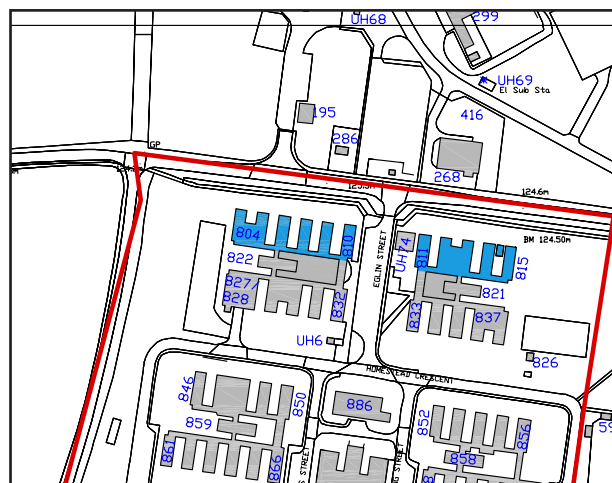
Exterior

As referred to above OA was only commissioned to record the northernmost row of buildings (No.s 804-815) although the opportunity was also taken to undertake some recording on the adjacent row immediately to the south (821-837), partly because these buildings were all physically connected. However, to the south of this there is a much larger group of structures which are all part of the same complex but as there was no access to this area no recording was undertaken.

The overall school complex (including the area to the south) has a regular array in a grid of streets, with institutional buildings on the central axis aligned on the front gate. The buildings towards the front (north) of the complex comprise two blocks, one to either side of a north-to-south road which is the main entrance off Camp Road and which is labelled on plans as Eglin Street. A water tower (UH74) is immediately adjacent to the corner of Eglin Street and Camp Road.

Each block had a typical barracks 'spider' plan with repeated rows of north-to-south rectangular plan huts connected at one end by long corridors. The block to the east of Eglin Road had two pairs of five huts (10 huts in total), while the block to the west of the road had two pairs of six huts (12 in total). The two sets of huts in each block were also connected by further north-to-south corridors and between each set there was also a shared WC block.

It is interesting to compare the extant complex with that shown on the 1954 aerial photograph due to a number of interesting differences. The main difference is that the complex was originally larger than it is today. In addition to the huts which survive



today there were also a number of slightly smaller huts continuing the rows to each side. To the eastern end of the complex there were another four huts while to the western side there were a further three huts. Another interesting aspect of the aerial photograph is that in 1954 it appears that the huts were all detached; there does not appear to have been shared enclosed corridors at the end of the buildings and similarly the washrooms were also detached.

The construction of the buildings is similar to various other groups of huts at Upper Heyford such as the Eastern Huts (400 – 409). Each hut has a very similar form with a rectangular plan and brick-rendered walls which are painted white with some brown banding (Plate 804-815.1). There's a brown painted 'plinth' around the base of each hut and some of the huts have brown banding half way up the wall (although not all of them). In many areas the brown paint to the plinths is peeling and revealing an earlier green paint beneath (Plate 804-815.2 & 3).

The walls of the corridors are formed from painted brick with regularly spaced piers (Plate 804-815.4), and the fact that these walls are not rendered like the huts is the clearest indication that they were a secondary addition as shown by the aerial photographic evidence. The corridors have large metal-framed windows suggestive of a 1960s date and it may be that the corridors were added when the complex was converted to a school in the mid 1960s.

Some other secondary additions have also been made in painted brick such as a small number of infill ranges to connect separate huts (Plate 804-810.5). One example is towards the south-western corner of this group where huts 827 and 828 have been linked by a gabled, brick-built structure with a 'up-and-over' garage style door in the south wall (Plate 804-815.6 & 7). The adjacent hut at the south-western corner (827) has various ducts and vents entering it suggesting that this was a plant room (Plate 804-815.6).

At the centre of the east wall of Hut 810, facing Eglin Street, is a secondary door and simple covered porch. Similar covered porches have also been added to the south gable elevations of some of the southern ranges (eg 833-837 – see Plate 804-815.8).

Metal-framed, crittal-type windows survive widely throughout all the buildings with brown painted frames and many of these windows have secondary security bars to the inside face. The main windows have eight lights (four to either side of a mullion) and there are generally five windows to the principal elevations of each hut.

The hut buildings have gabled roofs and corrugated asbestos sheet cladding. There are slat vents, particularly in many of the end walls, and circular 'bosses' at the ends of each roof ridge (at apex of gables – see Plate 804-815.9) .

Interior

Generally the interiors of the buildings are open-plan for their main part and with smaller rooms at either end (Plate 804-815.10). Many of these open-plan areas have secondary ceiling panels (Plate 804-815.11), although these were largely being stripped out while the recording was undertaken, and the earlier chipboarded ceilings, sloped with the roof, were exposed above.

The roofs are supported by very simple light-weight metal trusses formed from bolted L-section lengths of steel (Plate 804-815.12).

Some of the huts do not have modern ceilings such as building 830 which appears to have been used by children (girl scouts?). This room has a thin carpet, brightly coloured boxing around the edge to form seating and various paintings on the wall with the theme of moving house or relocating (Plates 804-815.13-15). There are simple paintings of ferry boats, passenger aeroplanes, luggage and an image of a smiling sun with flowers and 'Home Sweet Home' written above.

There are several signs in the corridors pointing the way to class rooms or Block Training but instead of the point of an arrow, these have aircraft showing the direction (Plates 804-815.16-17). These are particularly in the south-western group (around Hut 830 etc). The sign on the door to Hut 831 states: 'Transition Assistance Program Seminar Room'.

The doors are plain and non-panelled but there are some older ones (possibly reused from other buildings) with four horizontal panels. These older doors are more suggestive of a 1930s date which is clearly earlier than the date of this building.

Many of the huts are relatively featureless but in a small number there are some features such as corner sinks and shelves (Plates 804-815.18-19).



Plate 804-815.1 Typical elevation of hut



Plate 804-815..2 Hut 812 from north-west



Plate 804-815.3 Hut 804 from west



Plate 804-815.4 Secondary corridors looking south



Plate 804-815.5 Shared WC block in west block



Plate 804-815.6 Hut 828 at south-west corner of block



Plate 804-815.7 Huts 827-828 at south-west corner



Plate 804-815.8 Hut 837 looking north-west



Plate 804-815.9 Corridor looking north-west



Plate 804-815.10 Typical interior of hut



Plate 804-815.11 Open-plan interior with modern ceiling panels



Plate 804-815.12 Roof trusses



Plate 804-815.13 Interior of hut 830



Plate 804-815.14 Painting on walls of Hut 830



Plate 804-815.15 Painting on walls of Hut 830



Plate 804-815.16 Direction arrows on walls



Plate 804-815.17 Arrows on walls



Plate 804-815.18 Shelves



Plate 804-815.19 Sink



Plate 804-815.20 Secondary corridor

Building UH74: Water Tower

NGR: SP 50389 25878

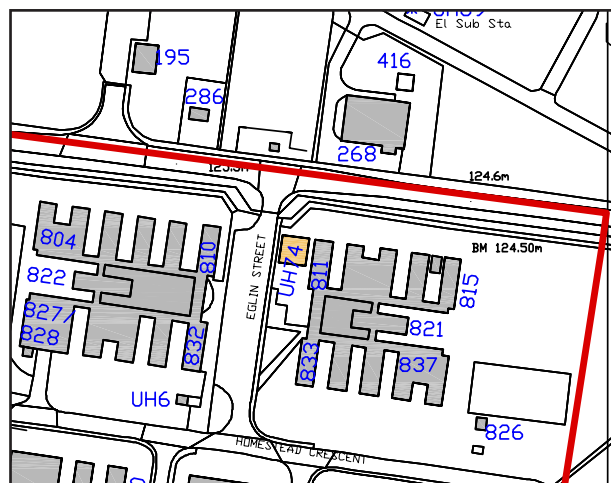
Recording Level: 2

Location

This building is located within the area of the old school huts at the west edge of the airbase, and directly on the southern edge of Camp Road.

History/ Function

The aerial photography does not cover the area of the water tower at the west edge of the site, the tower is also not clear on historic mapping of the site. Building number 291, which is of the same build, is thought to date from 1972.



Description

The water tower is situated directly on Camp Road and has a very visible presence on the landscape, its functional design enhances the military character of the site (Plate UH74.1). This is one of three identical water towers, including 291 which is recorded within this report. They are broadly of the 'Braithwaite' type of tower steel built to supply water to the area.

The water tank is supported on a metal frame measuring c.25m in height (Plate UH74.2). The tank is painted brown and roughly square in plan, a ladder extends the height of the tower providing access to the tank (Plate UH74.3). The steps run up the south elevation, meeting a platform just below the height of the tank, and then projecting to the east meeting a platform with railings situated at the base of the tank. From here, the steps extend up the east face of the tank providing access to the top, where there are further railings surrounding the top perimeter. The tank is constructed from corrugated sheet metal painted brown with coats of cream and white also visible beneath.

The tank sits on a platform of metal trusses running east to west, which provide the basis of support for the metal frame below. These in turn are supported on three north to south RSJs, with long vertical posts extending from this platform to the ground (Plate UH74.4). The vertical posts are arranged in a grid of 3 rows of 3 posts, the posts are constructed from three upright sections bolted together with metal plates and 16 bolts (2 metal plates per post). The posts are given additional support by diagonal and horizontal metal bars providing greater rigidity in this 25m high structure. Each of the 9 verticals sit on a concrete square pad measuring 74cm (Plate UH74.5).

There is a set of stairs running up the west face of the structure, which are enclosed by metal hoops, with additional wire around them at the base only (for safety) (visible on Plate UH74.4). There are two platforms along the stairs before meeting a platform just below the tank. This extends from the west to the east face with metal railings running either side of it for safety. A short set of the same stairs runs between the platform just below the tank to the base of the tank. Various metal water pipes extend from the centre of the tank, with three extending down to the ground. One in the north-east corner has a section of pipe extending to the west, formerly there was further pipe extending from this which has since been removed. There are two water pipes which are in the north-west and north-east quarter of the supports, which have lagging on them and wire mesh around.

Archive

No plans were identified in the Upper Heyford archives.



Plate UH74.1 View of water tower from south



Plate UH74.2 North face of tower from Camp Road



Plate UH74.3 View of water tank at top of tower

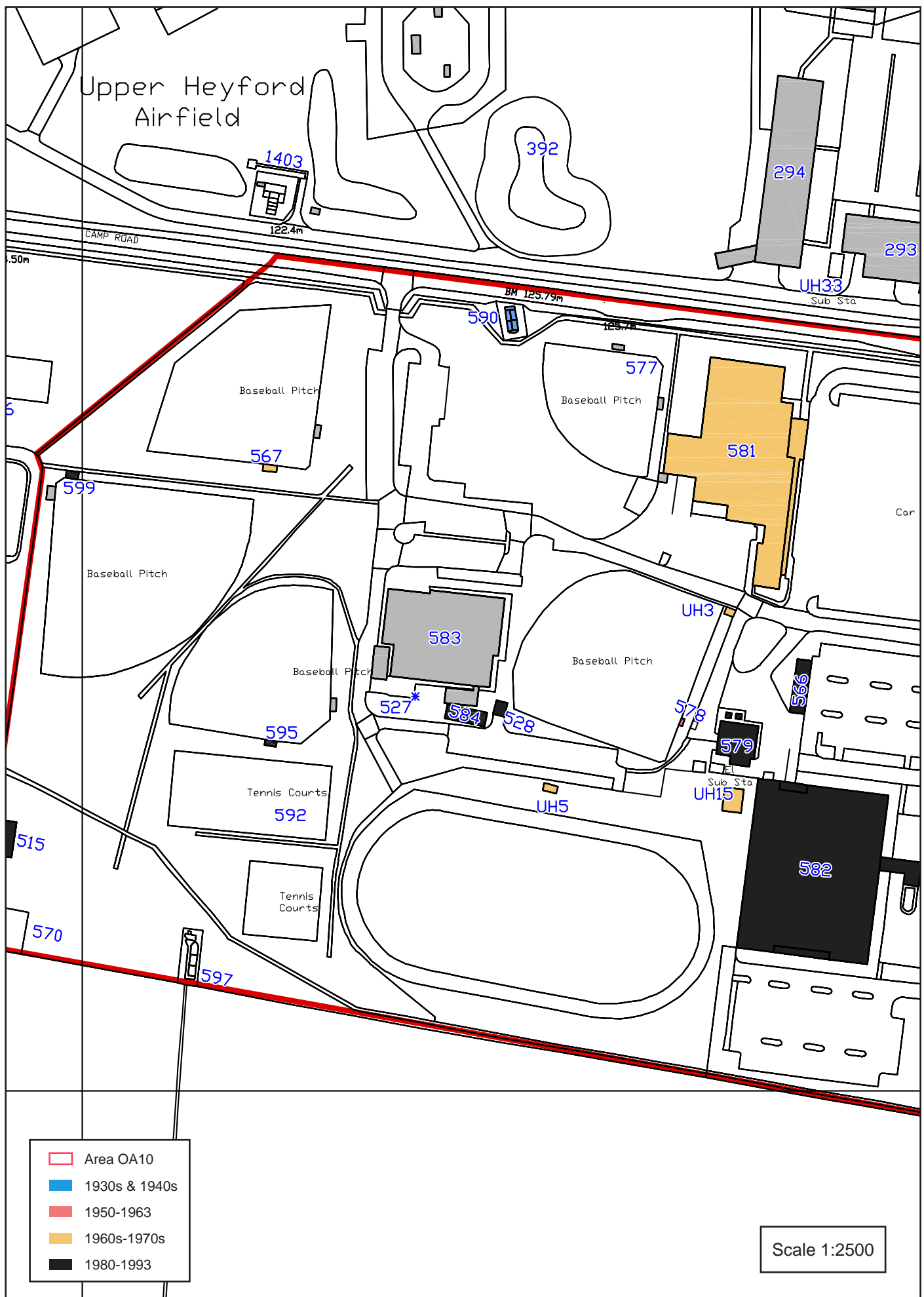


Plate UH74.4 View of supporting tower posts



Plate UH74.5 Base of tower, with concrete pads just visible

AREA OA10, SPORTS FIELD AND LARGE BUILDINGS



Building 515: Leisure

NGR: SP50465 25614

Recording Level: 1

Location

This building is located towards the south-western corner of Area OA10A, to the south of Camp Road. This area comprises the sports fields and other communal or leisure facilities.

History/ Function

Building 515 was constructed in 1983. The exact function of this building is not known although it could be hired out and was presumably a small function room.

Description

This is a single storey, rectangular plan building (c.16 m x 9 m) with a gabled roof covered in asphalt tiles. It has a timber frame with 7 pairs of posts supporting curved composite rafters which support the roof and which form an overall portal profile. Metal brackets at the top of the posts secure the timber frame members together. The wall panels have been entirely removed and the roof covering has also partly been lost.

At the south end of the building there is a large 'rustic American' freestanding fireplace formed from brick clad in concrete to look like stone.

The interior of the building appears to have been a single open-plan space and the underside of the ceiling is clad in timber boards. At one end of the building is a sign which says: 'prior reservation for this facility must be made at the recreation centre'.

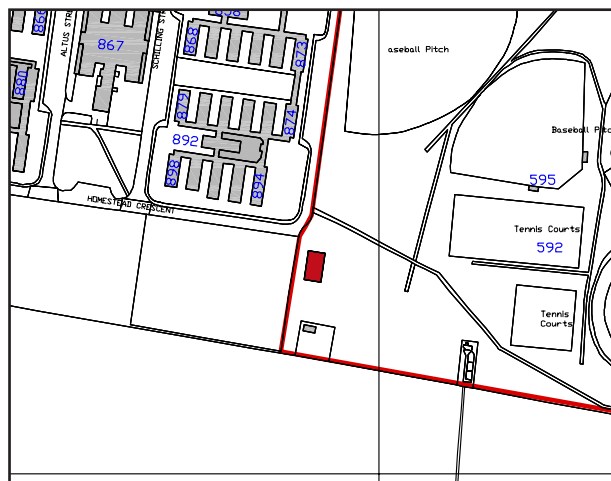


Plate 515.1 Fireplace at south end of 515



Plate 515.2 General view of 515 from east



Plate 515.3 General view of 515 from east

Building 527: Substation

NGR: SP5065925674

Recording Level: 1

Location

This building is located towards the centre of Area OA10, immediately to the south of the gymnasium (Building 583). This area to the south of Camp Road contains the sports fields and other leisure facilities.

History/ Function

This structure was built in 1976 and was an electricity substation.

Description

This is a small, rectangular plan, open enclosure (5 m x 4 m) for the substation plant. The enclosure is formed from standard reinforced concrete fence posts and timber fence panels. The concrete posts are found at each corner and one mid-spaced to each side wall. The enclosure is c.1.8 m tall and there is a door in one wall.

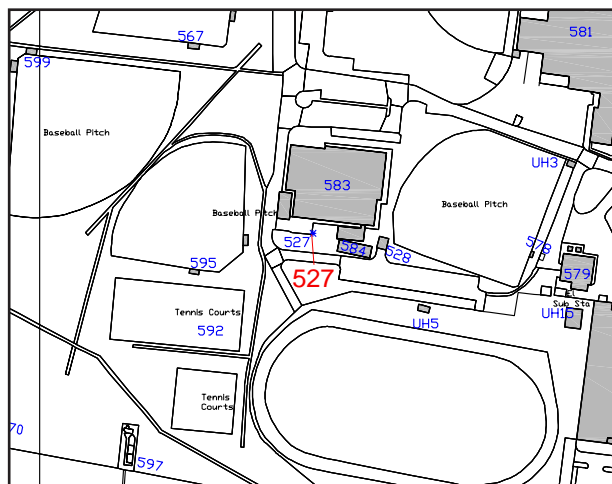


Plate 527.1 General view of substation

Building 528: Store

NGR: SP5069425673

Recording Level: 1

Location

This building is located towards the centre of Area OA10, immediately to the south-east of the gymnasium (Building 583). This area to the south of Camp Road contains the sports fields and other leisure facilities.

History/ Function

This building was constructed in 1982 and it served as a store (possibly for the adjacent gymnasium).

Description

This is a simple, single storey store building with rectangular plan (c.5.5 x 6.5 m) and gabled roof covered in corrugated sheeting. The building has a concrete plinth and structural frame and the walls are clad in pebble-dashed panels. Access is via a set of double garage doors.

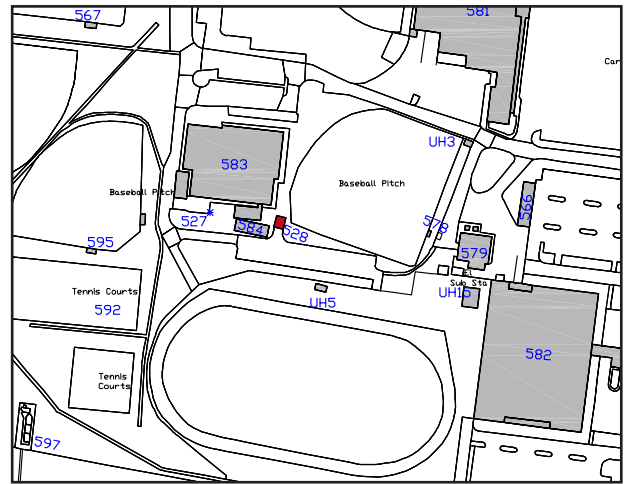


Plate 528.1 General view of store

Building 566: Store

NGR: SP50829 25682

Recording Level: 1

Location

This building is located towards the eastern end of Area OA10. This area to the south of Camp Road contains the sports fields and other leisure facilities.

History/ Function

The building was constructed in 1989 and it was a store.

Description

This is a long, single storied, rectangular plan building (25 x 6.5 m) with a single pitch roof clad in corrugated metal panels. The walls are formed from concrete block and there are no windows.

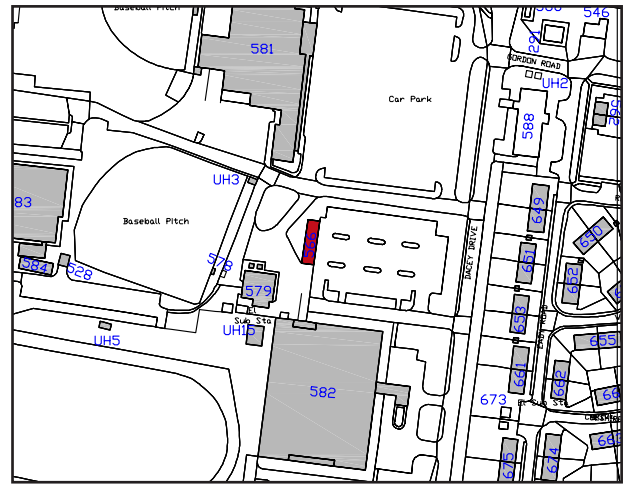


Plate 566.1 General view of 566 from north-east

Building 567: Baseball dugout

NGR: SP 50588 25784

Recording Level: 1

Location

This building is located within Area OA10A, to the south side of Camp Road. It is on the south side of a baseball pitch.

History/ Function

This structure was a baseball dugout/shelter for the players waiting to bat and it was constructed in 1977.

Description

This is a very simple structure constructed from concrete block walls and with a single pitch roof clad in corrugated sheeting. The dugout has a rectangular plan (c.6 m x 3 m), a doorway in one end and a long window facing the pitch. The window has a wire mesh (chicken wire) to add protection.

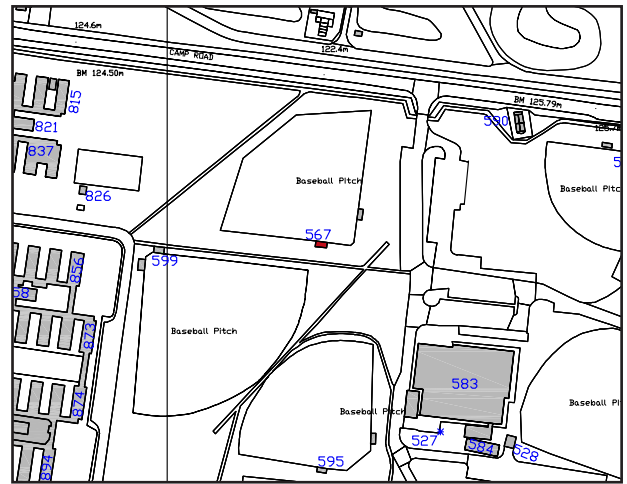


Plate 567.1 Dugout

Building 570: Store

NGR: SP 50465 25572

Recording Level: 1

Location.

This building is located towards the south-western corner of Area OA10A to the south of Camp Road.

History/ Function

This was a store building of unknown date of construction.

Description

This is a single storey square plan building (19 x 19 m) with a flat roof and plant upon the roof. There is a concrete plinth and the walls are formed from panels (probably concrete). There is barbed wire to the tops of the walls.

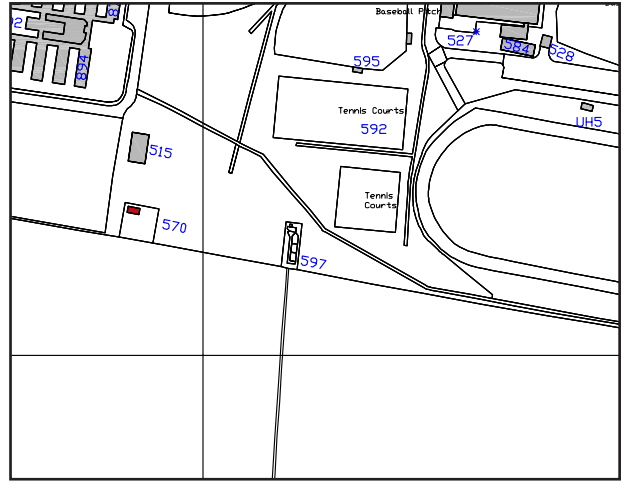


Plate 570.1 Building 570 to reart

Building 577: Baseball dugout

NGR: SP 50748 25838

Recording Level: 1

Location

This building is located within Area OA10A, to the south of Camp Road. This area contains the airfield's sports fields and other leisure facilities.

History/ Function

This structure was a baseball dugout/shelter and it was probably constructed in the 1970s or 80s.

Description

This is a very simple structure constructed from concrete block walls and with a single pitch roof clad in corrugated sheeting and supported by metal rafters. The dugout has a rectangular plan (c.6 m x 3 m), a doorway in one end and a long window facing the pitch. The window is open but the structure is immediately behind a protective wire mesh (chicken wire) fence. There is a bench inside the dugout for the players waiting to bat.

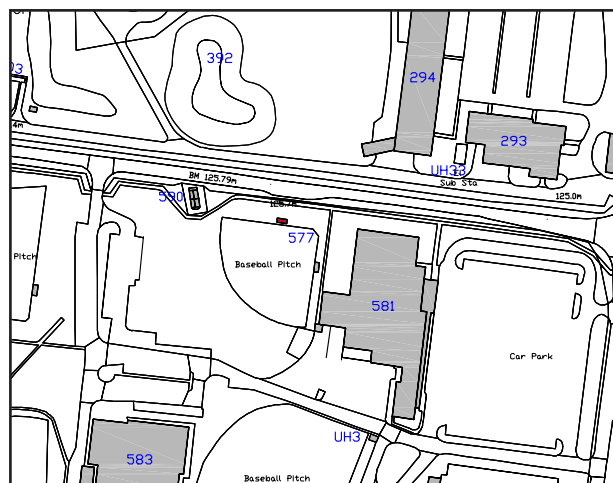


Plate 577.1 Dugout

Building 578: Fuel Inlet

NGR: SP 50782 25667

Recording Level: 1

Location

This building is located within Area OA10A, within the sports area to the south of Camp Road. The fuel inlet is located to the west of building 579 (a Boiler House), and at the edge of the Baseball Pitch.

History/ Function

The fuel inlet is thought to date from 1955, unfortunately the area is now shown on historic mapping or photography of the airbase.

Description

This oil inlet is a small brick construction (1.8m high) with a flat concrete covering and four pipes extending from the top (Plate 578.1). Dials and a tap are evident on the front elevation. Openings for below-ground storage tanks are visible to the front of the floor inlet.

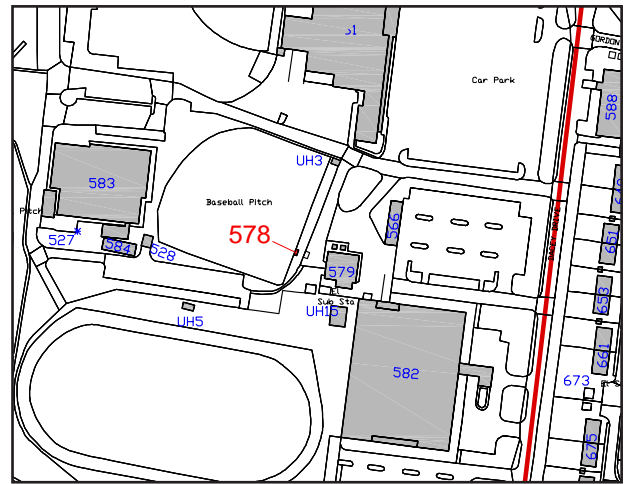


Plate 578.1 Front elevation

Building 579: Medical Gas Storage

NGR: SP 50803 25660

Recording Level: 1

Location

This building is located within Area OA10B, immediately to the north-west of the hospital (582) and at the east edge of the sports fields.

History/ Function

Building 579 dates from 1980, and is probably contemporary with the construction of the hospital.

Description

Building 579 is rectangular in plan, of steel frame construction with a flat asphalt roof and faced in corrugated metal sheeting (Plates 579.1 and 579.2). The building is c.8m in height with a band of basic metal vertical windows situated at roughly a third of the height of the building. Some windows have plain glass openings, others have glass shutters, and some are boarded up.

The north (front) elevation has a single door providing access at ground floor level, and a further providing access at second floor level via a ladder reaching a platform in front of the door. Situated directly at the north of the building are two small plant areas built on a breeze block base, with steel cladding and chimneys at the top.

The east elevation has two single doors and one double door at ground floor level within the north half of the elevation. The south half of the ground floor contains a large area of metal vents. At the southern end is a shorter single storey projection (reaching approximately to the height of the windows), which is also metal clad with double wood doors and vents above.

The south elevation is metal clad with vents at the west end. There is a single storey projection which is also metal clad with vents below the roof level and there is a large concrete chimney (c. 18m in height), situated directly to the west which connects via a pipe to the single storey element of the building. There is a breeze block wall surrounding the rear elevation and a electricity sub-station separated by a wire fence.

The west elevation is metal clad with a metal roller door and windows extending the width of the building. Internally, it is possible to see machinery and plant equipment, although in deteriorating condition.

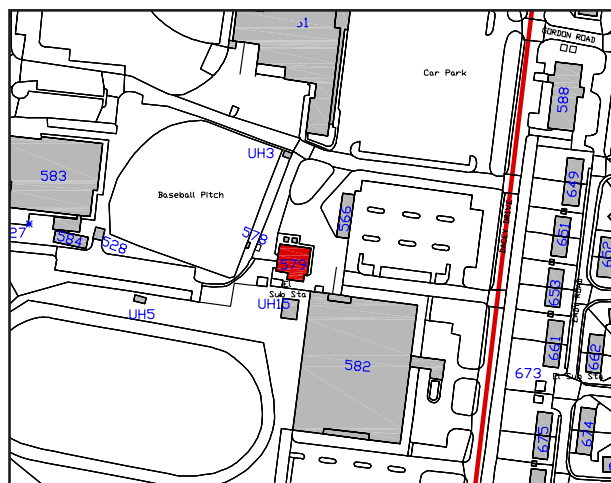




Plate 579.1 Front elevation



Plate 579.2 Contemporary image of building 579 (EH archive ref.-p_g25408_022a)

Building 581: Supermarket

NGR: SP 50801 25803

Recording Level: 1

Location

This building is located within Area OA10B, in close proximity to the residential areas to the south of Camp Road, and at the east edge of the sports fields.

History/ Function

Built in 1975, this supermarket was constructed for the American employees on the base and was commonly referred to as the 'Exchange'.

Description

Building 581 is a large supermarket with a long front (east) elevation and a stepped in service area to the rear. It is generally constructed from block work (painted cream with a brown band at the base), with a large metal roof and a deep metal fascia painted brown. To the front of supermarket is a large car park which stretches across the width of the elevation and meets Dacey Road to the rear.

At the front elevation is the main customer entrance to the supermarket with 'Welcome to Your Store' written across the doors (Plate 581.1). The fascia extends from the front of the elevation providing a covered entrance to the supermarket and shops. At the north end, the elevation is stepped back, stepping forward again to meet a garden bed immediately to the north of the entrance door. To the south of the supermarket entrance door are a series of smaller shops: 'Elite Beauty', a barbers shop, 'Supreme Hardware', an insurers and a canteen. These are all accessed from metal (brown) glass tinted doors with individual opening hours printed on the front, and metal framed glass tinted windows. This arrangement with smaller shops surrounding a large supermarket reflects 'little America' in rural Oxfordshire, and untypical of 1970s commercial architecture in Britain.

At the east end of the south elevation there is a short brick and breeze block wall running along this short section of side elevation (which also has metal framed windows and doors), before the block work substantially steps in to the rear service area (Plate 581.2). The south elevation contains plant and provides the entrance point for goods, there is also a (much smaller) car park to the front. In the area to the east there are four double timber doors and large vents for plant, a sign states: 'No Parking Access to the Boiler House and Underground Fuel Tanks/ Keep Clear At All Times' and 'Fuel Tanker Off Loading Area/ No Parking/ Danger'. An area is surrounded by a metal fence within which are two below-ground fuel tanks and a green transformer. Further to the west, a single door provides access for employees and there is a 'Fire Exit' located next to a covered area for smokers. At the west end of the elevation is the goods entrance which has double roller doors and a metal loading platform. Here, the floor level slopes down to facilitate the unloading of goods, and steps lead up to a single timber doors providing access from this lower area. To the west is a further roller door with a sign stating: 'Merchandise Pick Up', and at the very west of the elevation is a single timber door painted green.

The rear elevation has lights below the roof level, but otherwise has no features of interest. The north elevation also has lights below the roof level, and can be accessed by double timber doors via a concrete path which meets a path running parallel to Camp Road. Otherwise it has no features of interest.

Internally, the supermarket space is largely empty and fixtures and fittings relating to the supermarket have been removed (Plate 581.3). There is a suspended ceiling supported in places by pilasters in the main shopping area, and to the rear some plant can be seen including overhead ventilation ducts.

Archive

Elevation drawings dating from 1972 were identified in the Upper Heyford archives.

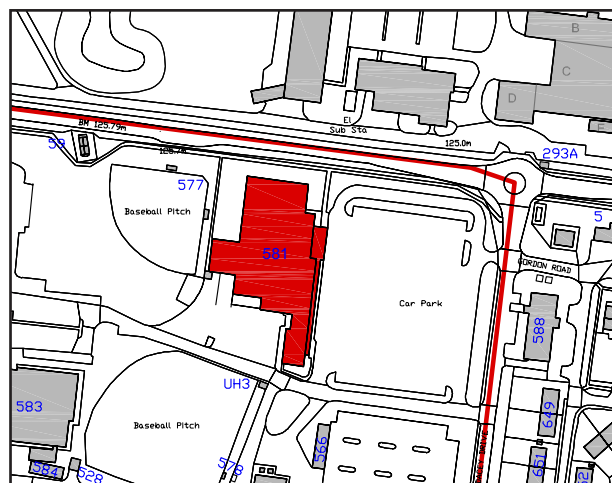




Plate 581.1 Front elevation



Plate 581.2 Rear elevations



Plate 581.3 Contemporary internal view (HE archive ref.-p_g25408_022a)

Building 582: Hospital

NGR: SP 50837 25601

Recording Level: 1

Location

This building is located within Area OA10B, close to the residential areas at the south of Camp Road, and to the south of the Supermarket (581). It is accessible from Dacey Road, and surrounded by car parking to the front, east and west.

History/ Function

The former 60-bed hospital dates from 1982, when it was constructed to provide medical services for the Americans on the airbase.

Description

The hospital is built from precast concrete panels which have been pebble dashed. It is single phase, rectangular in plan with a flat metal roof similar to the Supermarket (581) and car parking to the front, east and west of the building. Many windows and openings have been infilled with breeze blocks to prevent intruders, particularly at ground floor level. The windows are tall and narrow, and either single or double (i.e - two single windows together). The building is very functional, lacking architectural embellishment.

The south (front) elevation has a substantial front entrance with a long 'L' shaped canopy extending into the car parking area, which is supported on 2 sets of 3 steel posts at the front, and a timber post to either side of the metal and glass sliding entrance doors (Plate 582.1). It is of steel frame construction with lighting incorporated within the roof. At first floor level the windows have been infilled, but there are several single or double rectangular windows along the first floor (6 single in the east half, and 11 double in the west half). To the south of the entrance is a small spiral stair in metal and concrete which provides access to the basement.

The west elevation at ground floor level has 4 infilled single windows at the south end, and 8 large metal and glass doors which are centrally recessed (and now boarded over). At the north end of the elevation is a concrete spiral staircase, which has an infilled door. There are also 3 infilled single rectangular windows to the north of the doors. At first floor level are 10 sets of double windows.

The windows of the north (rear) elevation at ground floor level have been boarded up and there is a spiral staircase at the east end of the elevation leading to an infilled door. At first floor level there are 13 double windows.

The east elevation has a set of concrete steps leading down to a basement area (which is flooded). Immediately to the south of these is a loading bay which has an incline extending down to the entrance, that has a metal grill to the front to prevent access (Plate 582.2). This area is separated from the remaining hospital by a breeze block wall which extends to the east from the elevation. Further to the south is another boarded up area which formerly served as the 'Dental Clinic'. There 2 infilled single windows between the loading area and the dental clinic, and a further 10 windows to the south of this at ground floor level. At first floor level are 13 single windows with the glass intact.

The level of asbestos in the building prevented internal access, contemporary images of the building however illustrate its layout (Plate 582.3)

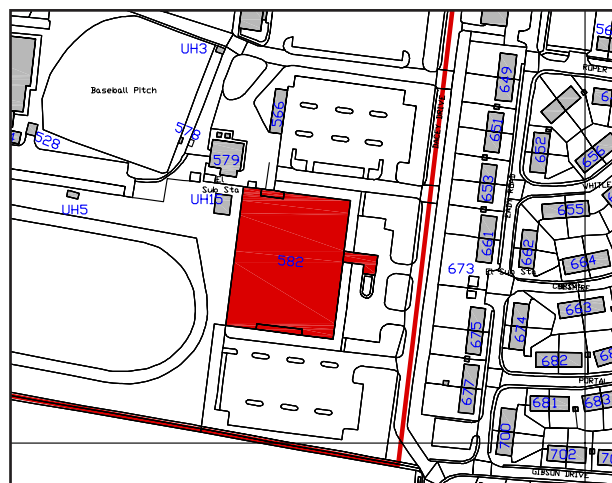




Plate 582.1 Front and west elevations



Plate 582.2 East elevation



Plate 582.3 Contemporary internal view (HE archive ref.-p_g25408_022a)

Building 584: Store/ Pre-match room

NGR: SP 50682 25670

Recording Level: 1

Location

This building is located within the sports area of OA10A, in close proximity to the baseball pitches.

History/ Function

This simple structure is currently used as a pre-match meeting room prior to baseball games. Constructed in 1982 it may formerly have served the same or similar function.

Description

The functional structure has little architectural embellishment, it is constructed in pebble dashed concrete panels set on a concrete base with a pitched possibly corrugated asbestos roof (Plate 584.1). It is single storey and rectangular in plan with roughly square timber framed windows.

The west (front) elevation provides the main point of access with a simple metal framed porch which has a plastic roof. There is a timber fascia below the roof level and metal grills over the timber window frames. These suggest that the building was once used as a store, however the porch is not typical of a storage structure although this may have been a later addition.

The south and north elevations have timber weather boarding to gable ends. The south elevation has a double timber door to the east end of the elevation. The rear elevation has a single timber door at the south end with railings and a concrete path to the rear.

Internally the space is divided into two rooms, which have recently been used as pre-match meeting/ changing room.

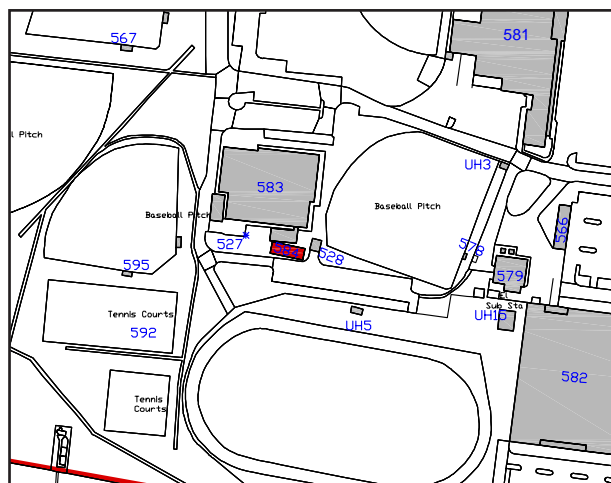


Plate 584.1 West elevation

Building 590: Waste Disposal

NGR: SP 50703 25849

Recording Level: 1

Location

This building is located within Area OA10A, it is situated at the edge of Camp Road within the area of the sports pitches.

History/ Function

Building 590 is a waste disposal pit, probably dating from the 1940s.

Description

The sewage pit is roughly rectangular in plan and surrounded by wood fence panels (1.8m high) (Plate 590.1). These are supported on concrete posts and panels at the base with barb wire running along the top of the timber panels. Access is via a single timber door in the east elevation which is padlocked. Internal views are limited, but through the panels it is possible to see the brickwork of the sewage pits which are sunk into the ground.

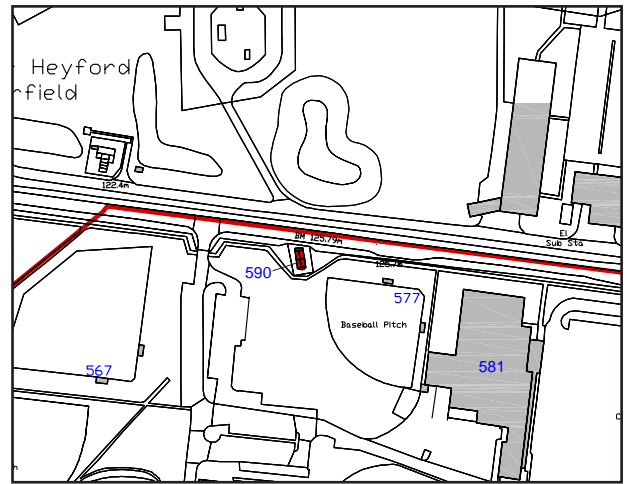


Plate 590.1 East elevation

Building 595: Baseball Dugout

NGR: SP 50590 25662

Recording Level: 1

Location

This building is located within the sports area of OA10A, it is situated directly at the edge of the Baseball Pitch.

History/ Function

Building 595 is a baseball dugout adjacent to the pitch constructed during the American occupation of the airbase in the 1970s.

Description

The baseball dugout is a rectangular in plan, constructed from breeze blocks which formerly had a metal monopitch roof but is no longer *in situ* (Plate 595.1). The simple structure would have had an internal bench for players which is also no longer extant. The north elevation faces onto the pitch and has a large opening to view the game, this formerly would have held a timber frame and mesh wiring over the opening (as evident on building 599). The rear elevation has no features of interest and the two side elevations have openings but without doors.

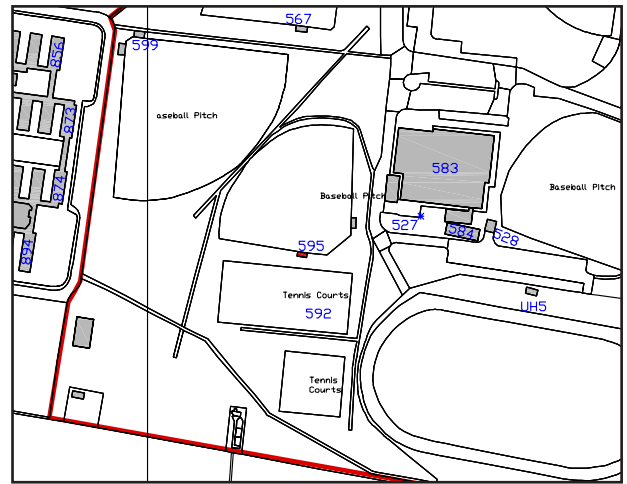


Plate 595.1 East elevation

Building 599: Baseball Dugout

NGR: SP 50496 25781

Recording Level: 1

Location

This building is located within the sports area of OA10A, situated at the edge of the western baseball pitch.

History/ Function

Building 599 is a baseball dugout adjacent to the pitch constructed during the American occupation of the airbase in the 1970s.

Description

The baseball dugout is a rectangular in plan, constructed from breeze blocks with a metal monopitch roof. The south elevation faces onto the pitch and has a large opening to view the game, this has a timber frame and mesh wiring over the opening to stop players being hit by the ball (Plate 599.1). The fence surrounding the pitch is attached to the south elevation at each side of the window. The west elevation has an opening in the block work (without a frame) to provide access, the north and east elevations have no features on interest consisting of blockwork only. The simple structure has an internal bench (painted cream) for players along the rear wall and a concrete floor.

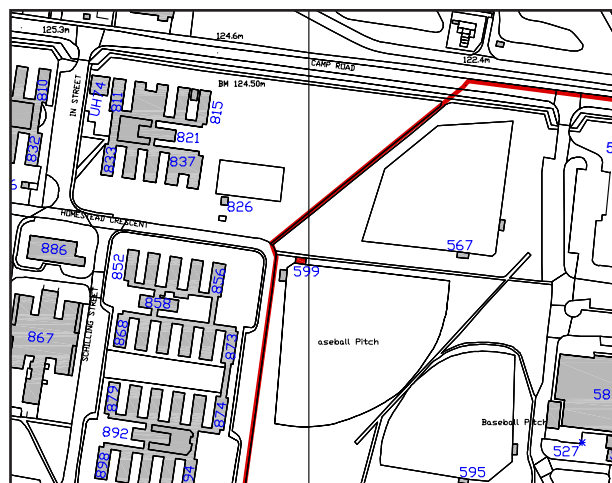


Plate 599.1 South elevation

Building UH3: Distribution Substation

NGR: SP 50799 25721

Recording Level: 1

Location

This building is located within the sport field area of OA10A, at the edge of the eastern baseball pitch and directly to the south of the supermarket.

History/ Function

Building UH3 is a substation probably dating from the 1970s extension of the former airbase.

Description

The substation is roughly rectangular in plan, surrounded by a timber fence (c. 1.8m high) which is supported on concrete posts and topped with a barbed wire fence (Plate UH3.1). A sign on the south elevation states '*Distribution Sub-substation*'.

The interior space is much overgrown with foliage, but it is possible to see metal equipment on a concrete platform. A sign states: '*Customers Intake Heyford*'.

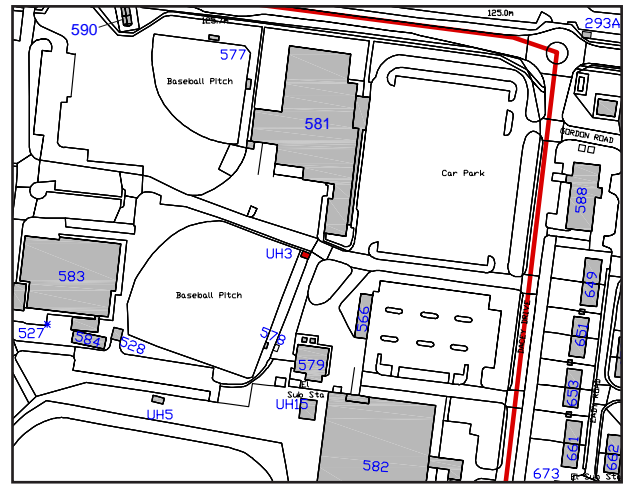


Plate UH3.1 East elevation

Building UH5: Viewing Tower

NGR: SP 50718 25641

Recording Level: 1

Location

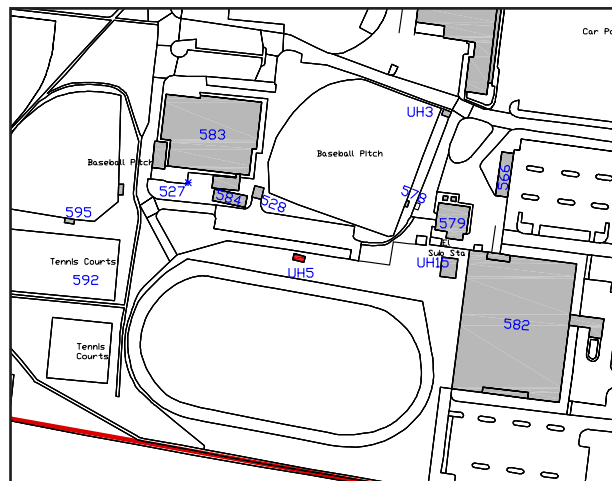
This building is located within the sports area of OA10A, overlooking the southern sports field.

History/ Function

The viewing tower was used to view sports, it is thought to date from the development of the sports area in the 1970s.

Description

The viewing platform is two storeys high (4.8m) with a flat asphalt roof that has a viewing gantry. It is constructed from blockwork with simple metal windows, and an external viewing platform at first floor level (Plate UH5.1)



The north elevation faces out to the pitch with viewing provided from the roof and first floor viewing platforms. It has two metal framed windows on the first floor although only one half of one window is extant. The viewing platform continues to the east elevation, and there is an opening at first floor level although the frame is no longer *in situ*. There is ladder access to the roof at the top of the elevation. At ground floor level is a window with a roller shutter, thought to be for serving drinks and snacks during the game.

The viewing platforms continue to the south elevation, where there are also metal stairs up to the first floor room and a viewing platform gate at the top of the stairs. The upper floor has metal windows and a modern timber door (in poor condition). The ground floor has an opening providing access to the internal space although this is no longer *in situ*. The west elevation has a roller shutter as evident on the east elevation, otherwise it has no features on interest.

The interior has a sink and food preparation area on the ground floor with counters by the shutters, presumably for distributing food and drinks. It has a painted block and concrete floor, and speakers on the walls. On the first floor there are counters along the elevation facing the pitch, the plaster ceiling has now largely fallen in.



Plate UH5.1 North-west elevation

Building UH15: Works/ Maintenance Building

NGR: SP 50801 25635

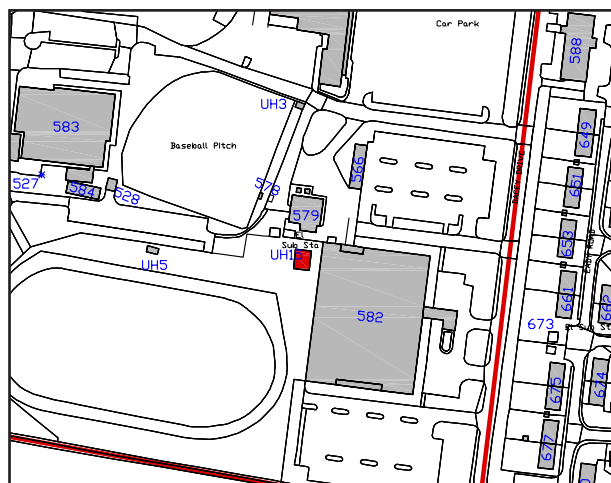
Recording Level: 1

Location

This building is located within Area OA10A, situated at the north-west edge of the Hospital (582).

History/ Function

Building UH15 dates from the 1970s development of this area. It is thought to have been a works/ maintenance building, sandwiched between the sports field and hospital.



Description

Building UH15 is a simple single structure with little architectural detail (Plate UH15.1). It is constructed in breeze blocks, and rectangular in plan with a gabled corrugated metal roof and cladding to the upper quarter.

The south elevation has one door, the east elevation has two windows, the west elevation has four windows with plastic sills (all windows are now boarded), and the north elevation has double doors.

Internally, there is one main space and a single room. The building has a central truss and a concrete floor, a small work bench remains *in situ* with sawdust on the floor suggesting this was a works room for the sports/ hospital area.



Plate UH15.1 West elevation

AREA OA11, SOUTH RESIDENTIAL



Building 291: Water Tower

NGR: SP 50961 25812

Recording Level: 2

Location

This building is located within Area OA11B, it sits at the south-west edge of the residential area to the south of Camp Road.

History/ Function

Building 291 is a Water Tower dating from 1972.

Description

The water tower is situated directly on Camp Road and has a very visible presence on the landscape, its functional design enhances the military character of the site (Plate 291.1 and Plate 291.2).

Building 291 is of the same construction as building UH74, which is also situated on Camp Road. The tower was constructed for the supply of water to the living accommodation on Camp Road. It is broadly of the 'Braithwaite' type of water tower.

The water tank is supported on a steel frame measuring c.25m in height, and surrounded by mesh security fence (Plate 291.3). It is painted olive-daub and roughly square in plan (Plate 291.4). The bolted frame is two bays by two bays, of five lifts with vertical and horizontal diagonal bracing (Plate 291.5).

A ladder extends the height of the tower providing access to the large square tank at the top (Plate 291.6). The steps run up the south elevation, meeting a platform just below the height of the tank, and then projecting to the east meeting a platform with railings situated at the base of the tank (Plate 291.7). From here, the steps extend up the east face of the tank providing access to the top, where there are further railings surrounding the top perimeter.

At the corner of the plot is a small blockwork shed with a monopitch, asphalt roof, this stands 2m high with double timber doors (painted brown) (Plate 291.8). This was constructed in 1989 to house the controls for thermal imaging equipment added to the top of the tower.

The tank, which was replaced in 1987 and is built from corrugated pressed steel, sits on a platform of metal trusses running east to west, which provide the basis of support for the metal frame below (see Plate 291.7). These in turn are supported on three north to south RSJs, with long vertical posts extending from this platform to the ground. The vertical posts are arranged in a grid of 3 rows of 3 posts, the posts are constructed from three upright sections bolted together with metal plates and 16 bolts (2 metal plates per post). The posts are given additional support by diagonal and horizontal metal bars providing greater rigidity in this 25m high structure. Each of the 9 verticals sit on a concrete square pad measuring 74cm.

There is a set of stairs running up the west face of the structure, which are enclosed by metal hoops, with additional wire around them at the base only (for safety) (see Plate 291.6). There are two platforms along the stairs before meeting a platform just below the tank. This extends from the west to the east face with metal railings running either side of it for safety. A short set of the same stairs runs between the platform just below the tank to the base of the tank. Various metal water pipes extend from the centre of the tank, with three extending down to the ground (Plate 291.9). One in the north-east corner has a section of pipe extending to the west, formerly there was further pipe extending from this which has since been removed. There are two water pipes which are in the north-west and north-east quarter of the supports, which have lagging on them and wire mesh around (Plate 291.10).

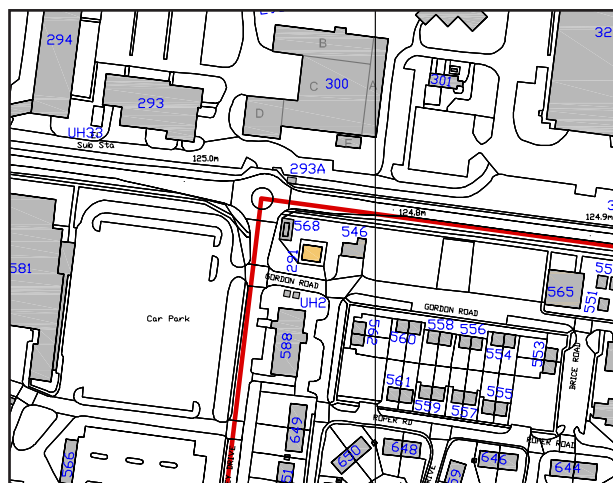




Plate 291.1 North-west elevation



Plate 291.2 Contemporary view from west (HE archive ref. p_g24693_003)



Plate 291.3 Metal frame supporting the water tank



Plate 291.4 Water tank



Plate 291.5 Bolted metal frame



Plate 291.6 Metal tower extending the height of the tower



Plate 291.7 Platforms and ladders leading up to the water tank



Plate 291.8 Blockwork shed associated with the tower



Plate 291.9 Pipes extending from the base of the tank



Plate 291.10 Water pipes with lagging

Building 546: Keesler Federal Credit Union

NGR: SP 50992 25806

Recording Level: 1

Location

This building is located within Area OA11B, directly facing Camp Road and situated at the north-west edge of the residential area. It is accessed from Gordon Road, which runs immediately to the south of the building.

History/ Function

Building 546 was constructed in 1977, as the Credit Union for use by the USAF servicemen at the airbase.

Description

Building 546 is a simple single phase building of simple blockwork (painted cream) with a flat asphalt roof. It is rectangular in plan with front and rear projections, and timber-framed windows which are now boarded up.

The north-west (front) elevation faces Gordon Road with parking to the front, to the rear is Camp Road (Plate 546.1). It has a timber fascia board below the flat roof and a timber sign states: *'Keeper Federal Credit Union'*. There are three square windows and a porch entrance via a single timber door (now boarded up).

The north-east elevation has a small rectangular window and a single door, both of which are now boarded up. The south-east elevation has three square windows. At the south-west end of the elevation the building projects toward Camp Road, this element of the building has three horizontal narrow windows. The narrow 'slit' windows are presumably for security, because it was in this rear projection that the cashiers would have been situated. A sign states: *'Kessler Union'*. The south-west elevation has two square boarded up windows and a door.

Internally, historic plans show that the main customer area of the bank is at the south-west end of the building. A desk, which would have been used by the cashiers, is situated at the point the building projects to the south-west. Seven offices are located at the north-east end of the building. Internally, the building is now in poor condition.

Archive

Floor plans and elevations of the proposed Credit Union service in the Upper Heyford archives.





Plate 546.1 Front (north-west) elevation

Building 547: Laundrette (former Grocery Store)

NGR: SP 51194 25772

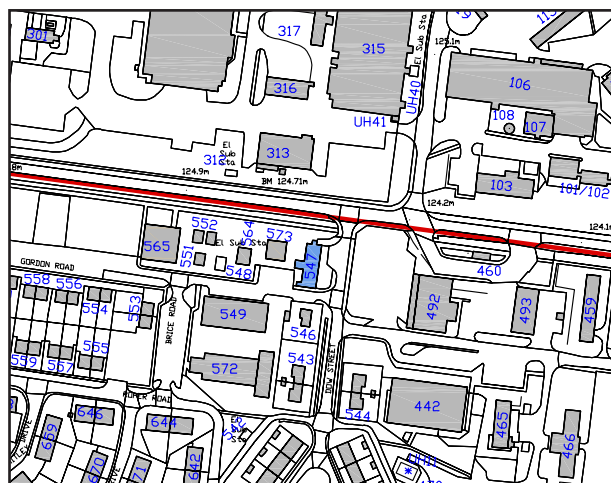
Recording Level: 2

Location

This building is located within the residential area of OA11B, and is situated at the edge of Camp Road.

History/ Function

Building 547 is a former Grocery Store, which was later converted to a Laundrette. The building is associated with the Married Quarters to which it served as the local supermarket. The building was constructed to plan number 14553/39 (Francis 1996).



A base map in the 'Welcome To Britain '82-'83, Your Unofficial Guide to RAF Upper Heyford' lists the building as 'British Canteen', a function confirmed by the room names on the only surviving plan of the building originally drawn in 1962 and updated in 1971 (Fig.547.1).

The area in which the former Grocery Store stood is identified as the 'site for' a 'church, cinema, lecture hall etc.' on the plans of 1926, 1937, 1938 and 1939. A building is shown as constructed on the plans of 1946 and 1947 but its function is not specified. Aerial photography shows a building in the location of building 547 in 1942, and in 1954. It is therefore thought that the former Grocery Store was constructed between 1940-42.

Description

External

The single-storey brick building has a plain-tiled hipped roof with bonnet hip tiles. The walls are in Flemish bond with adjustments such as closers and additional headers between windows where necessary (Plate 547.1).

The original building is 21.2m north–south and 8.2m east–west and 4.5m high at the eaves. A contemporary lobby, 1.9m deep by 2.7m wide, is to the centre of the north end of the building with the entrance door to the east (Plate 547.2).

A brick extension with a single pitched corrugated asbestos cement roof is across the width of the south end of the building; this structure has been extended to the west, indicated by the walls built in stretcher bond to the west of the door. A horizontal tile layer visible at eaves level on the eastern elevation, and partially visible to the western elevation, indicates that this structure may have been flat-roofed until its extension (Plate 547.3).

A flat roofed brick extension is linked to the centre of the west elevation by a short corridor and currently contains men's and women's WCs (Plate 547.4).

A free standing concrete panelled shed stands between the western extensions (Plate 547.5).

The original windows are twelve paned, double hung horned sashes with flat gauged arches above, those in the extensions have concrete lintels. The majority of the windows and doors have been boarded over. Little alteration to the openings has occurred to the north and west elevations or to the extensions, with the exception of the insertion of a window and door to the south end of the west elevation, largely obscured by the concrete shed, and the door in the original southern extension has been widened. The locations of two of the windows in the original south elevation prior to the extension can be seen in the 1971 plan, although the configuration was again changed later.

The openings in the eastern, the front, elevation have been substantially altered since the updated drawing of 1971 was produced. The second window from the southern end has been blocked and the door to the north of this has been created by extending a window and blocking the area above door-height. The third opening from the north is a blocked door, the height of the original opening is identical to the surrounding windows and so it can be assumed that the configuration of a door with a window above, as per that in the lobby, was previously in this location. The lower sashes of two of the windows have been replaced with louvres to provide ventilation and several phases of openings for mechanical vents are apparent. All of the windows are barred on the inside.

A chimney with soot door abuts the two southern extensions, which previously served the cooking range noted on the plan (Plate 547.6).

The woodwork is painted brown, the current estate colour, but as with many of the other buildings, the dark green of the

previous colour scheme can be seen where the paint has peeled.

Internal

The interior of the building has also been altered. The internal walls are largely the same as the plan of 1962/1971, although the doorways and counters have been altered to suit the conversion to a laundry.

The former dining room at the northern end of the building was most recently the self-service launderette; the pipework and platforms for the washing machines remain in the centre of the room and along the western external wall and the ducting for the tumble dryers remains along the eastern external wall (Plates 547.7&8). A partial plasterboard partition extends from the ceiling and hinged panels remain to some sides of these areas and would have created a boxed-in 'wall' of dryers.

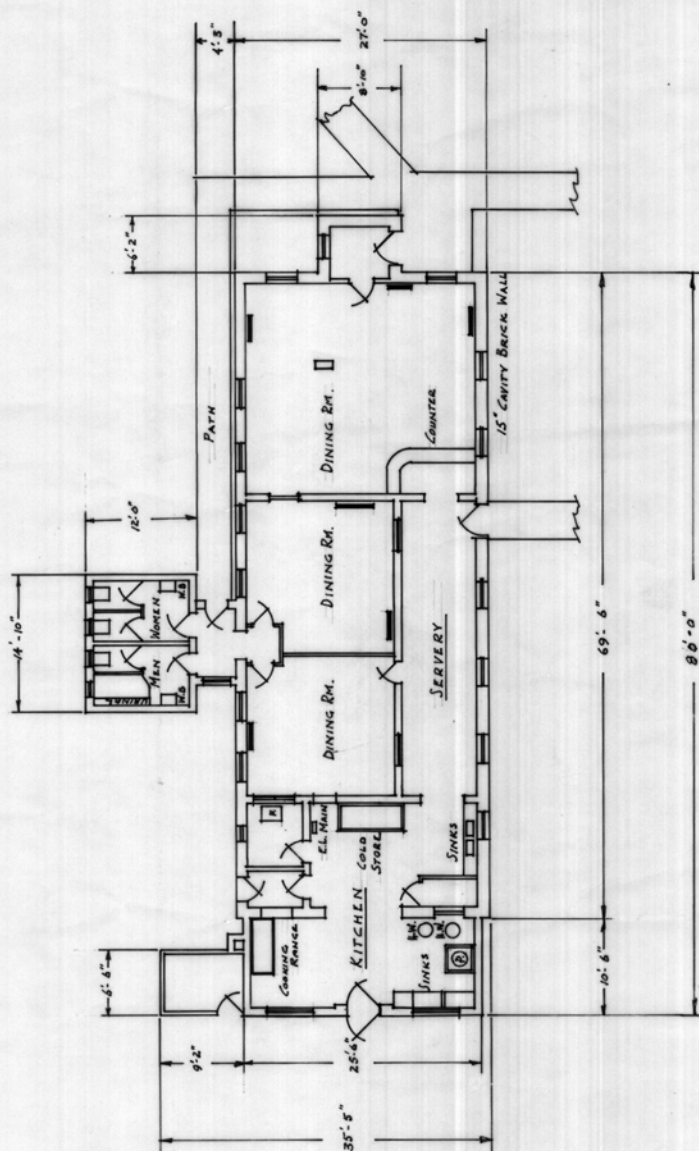
The former servery has effectively become a plant room with a boiler fitted alongside the eastern wall, the flue being evident in the roof at this location, and a partition has been added to the south of this to enclose the room (Plate 547.9). The white wall tiles to door height remain and the two doors to the former central dining rooms have been blocked with aerated concrete blocks, but not made good to this side, emphasising the functional nature of the space. A dry cleaning counter has been added to the southern end of this corridor and the area has been wallpapered indicating it was publicly accessible (Plate 547.10).

The northernmost former central dining room is now only accessible from the laundry room and contains fixed tables and chairs for waiting customers. The style and colour of the fixed furniture suggests that it was reused from the canteen phase (Plate 547.11). The southernmost dining room has electrical sockets at worktop height along two walls, and a changing cubicle has been constructed in one corner. A sign stating that shoes are required for hemming alterations indicating that this room was used for issuing and altering uniforms.

The former kitchen bridges the southern end of the original building and the southern extension area. It retains the quarry-tiled floor and white tiled walls, although there is little evidence of fixtures and fittings for the most recent function. It is probable that this space contained the dry cleaning equipment due to the adjacent dry cleaning counter and the advantageous reuse of the wall and floor finishes and ventilation system (Plate 547.12).

Archive

A 1962 plan of building 547 survives within the Upper Heyford archives.



0081270 B

R-1	16-971	UPDATED IAW Real Property Survey	CR.B.
20 th CMBT. SUPPORT GR.			
OXFORDSHIRE ENGLAND			
UPPER HEYFORD			
Bldg. No 547			
FLOOR PLAN			
SCALE: 1/8" EQUAL 1'-0"	PROJECT No.	DESIGNED: [Signature]	RECOMMENDED: [Signature]
DRAWN: BARNES	CHECKED: [Signature]	DATE: 3 Oct 62	COMMANDING OFFICER: [Signature]
DRAWING NUMBER: 547			DRAWING NUMBER: 547

Figure 547.1 Plan of former 'British Canteen' (1962)



Plate 547.1 East elevation



Plate 547.2 North elevation



Plate 547.3 South elevation



Plate 547.4 West elevation, northern end



Plate 547.5 West elevation, southern end



Plate 547.6 Former chimney serving the kitchen



Plate 547.7 Former laundry area, northern end



Plate 547.8 Former laundry area, southern end



Plate 547.9 Boiler room, looking south



Plate 547.10 Entrance to Dry Cleaning Service



Plate 547.11 Dining room fixed furniture



Plate 547.12 Former kitchen area, looking south west

Building 548: Electric substation

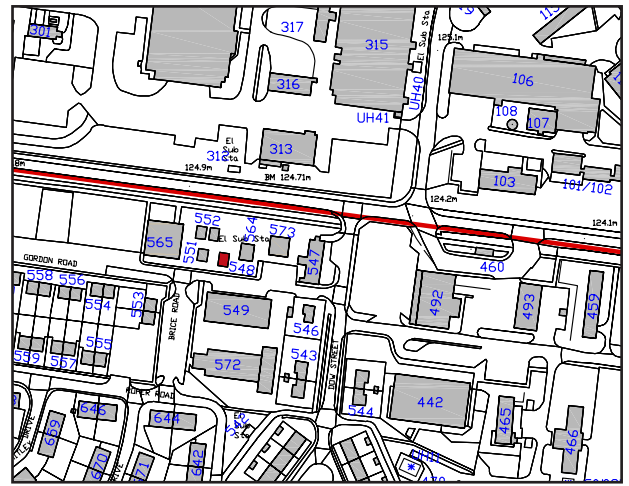
NGR: SP51140 25769

Recording Level: 1

Location

This structure is located within Area OA11 (South Residential) and it is immediately to the south of Camp Road.

There has been some confusion with the numbering of this building because there are two separate substations close to each other, each of which has the number 548 written on. One of these is at the south end of Building 564 and it is hand written on the fence whereas the one slightly to the west has an official number sign so in the current study this has been taken to be 548



History/ Function

This structure is an electric substation and the Upper Heyford condition survey states that it was constructed in 1940.

Description

This is a simple open enclosure for the substation formed from vertical timber fence panels supported by concrete fence posts at the corners and mid spaced within each wall. The panels also have a concrete plinth. The enclosure is c.2 m tall and there are double doors to one side.



Plate 548.1 General view of sub-station

Building 551: Water Pump

NGR: SP51129 25771

Recording Level: 1

Location

This structure is located within Area OA11 (South Residential) and it is immediately to the south of Camp Road.

History/ Function

This building was constructed as a water pump room in 1935. It is clearly associated with the adjacent water tanks (552).

Description

This is a single storey, rectangular plan building with a shallow, single-pitch roof clad in asphalt. The walls are constructed from orange/red brindle bricks. The north and south walls each have two metal windows with metal security bars while the east wall includes a door. The east wall is plain.

The interior has painted, unplastered walls and the pumping plant remains in-situ, driven by electric motors, set on concrete bases. The building appears to have remained in operation until recently.

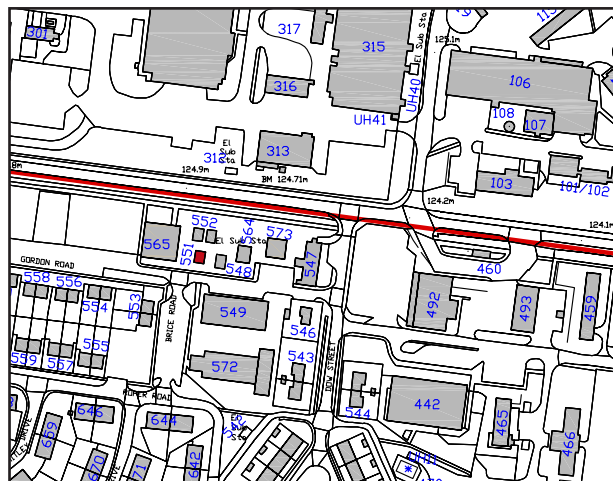


Plate 551.1 South side of Building 551

Building 552: Water tank

NGR: SP51132 25782

Recording Level: 1

Location

This structure is located within Area OA11 (South Residential) and it is immediately to the south of Camp Road.

History/ Function

This water tank was constructed in 1952.

Description

Two square-plan water tanks formed from embossed metal panels bolted together and painted brown. Each wall of each tank is five panels wide and three panels tall (c.3.5 m tall). Each tank is set on six rolled steel joists which themselves are set on brick sleeper walls. Each tank has a slightly arched roof and a simple timber gauge to the side showing how full the tank is. A secondary aluminium ladder has been added to the side.

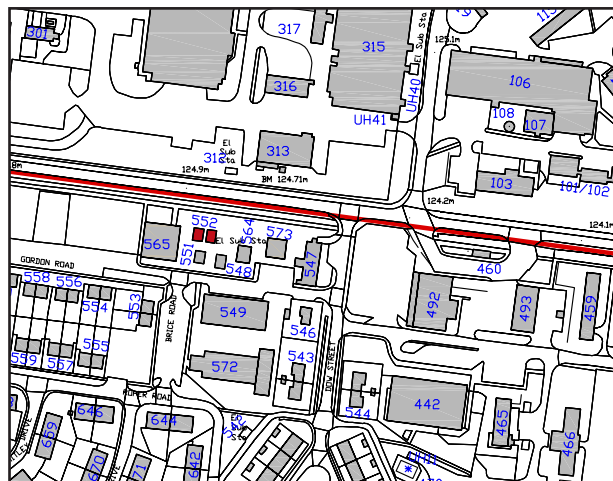


Plate 552.1 View of tank

Building 564: Pump House

NGR: SP51153 25772

Recording Level: 1

Location

This structure is located within Area OA11 (South Residential) and it is immediately to the south of Camp Road. It forms of group of similar utilitarian buildings including numbers 548, 551 and 552. There has some confusion because this building has two numbers marked on it: 564 and 548. It is believed that 564 is the main building and 548 is an adjoining enclosure at the south end for a substation. This enclosure has the number 548 written roughly on it. However, there is also a separate substation c.10-20 m to the west which also has the number 548 and this is the building shown as 548 in the Upper Heyford Condition Survey by Roger Evans.

History/ Function

The group of buildings in which this structure is located are not shown on the 1954 aerial photo. A number of buildings are shown on an aerial photograph from 1969, including one close to Building 564 but the footprint of the building does not quite match the current structure and is believed to have been a previous building. The pump house was probably constructed in the 1970s or early 1980s.

Description

The pump house is a rectangular plan single storey building with a gabled roof clad in ridged concrete tiles. The walls are formed from stretcher bond orange/red brick and they are set on a concrete plinth. There is a single set of plain double doors in the west wall but the other walls are all relatively featureless other than a vent in the south wall. At the south end of the building there is a separate open enclosure formed from horizontal boards and this is to house a substation. The interior of 564 is open plan and retains various pumps and machinery on concrete bases.

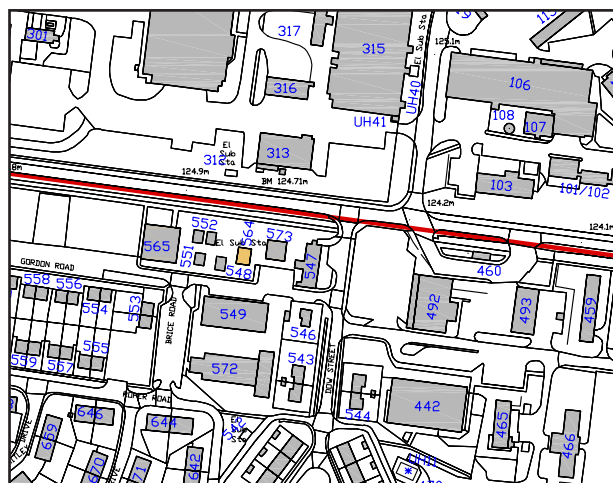


Plate 564.1 East elevation



Plate 564.2 West elevation



Plate 564.2 Interior

Building 565: Water Tank

NGR: SP 51111 25782

Recording Level: 1

Location

This building is located within the residential area of OA11B, at the southern edge of Camp Road.

History/ Function

Building 565 is a water tank dating from 1979.

Description

The water tank is c.3m in height, constructed from poured concrete with a flat concrete roof surrounded by metal railings (Plate 565.1). Some architectural detail has been afforded to the structure with projecting textured panels.

Situated at ground level the tank has two concrete platforms to the front of the building, and one to the rear. The north-east elevation has a pipe extending from just below roof level into the ground, a line of paving slabs to the front of the north-east elevation indicates the alignment of pipes below ground. There is a ladder on the east elevation providing access to the roof. Building 565 is identical to building 573, but with a ladder to the east face.

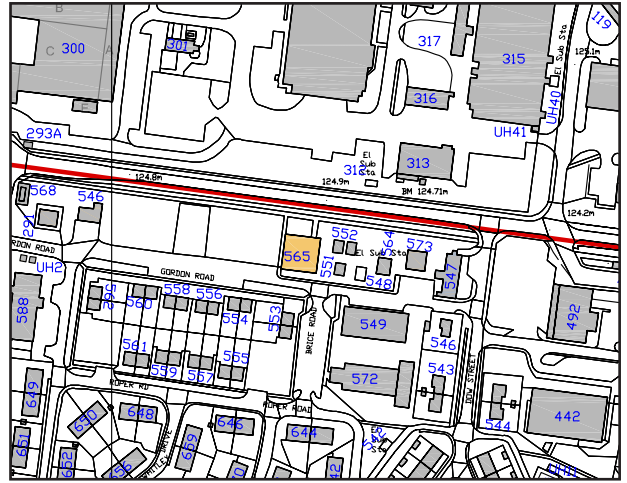


Plate 565.1 East elevation

Building 568: Waste Disposal

NGR: SP 50950 25820

Recording Level: 1

Location

This building is located within the residential area of OA11B, at the corner of Camp Road and Dacey Drive.

History/ Function

Building 568 is a waste disposal pit, thought to date from 1945.

Description

The waste disposal pit is surrounded by a timber fence (c.1.8m in height) and supported on concrete posts with barb wire around the top perimeter (Plate 568.1). Internally the space is now overgrown with trees.



Plate 568.1 East elevation

Building 573: Water Tank

NGR: SP 51175 25780

Recording Level: 1

Location

This building is located within the residential area of OA11B, next to the Laundrette (547) and at the southern edge of Camp Road.

History/ Function

Building 573 is a water tank, thought to date from 1987.

Description

The water tank is c.3m in height, constructed from poured concrete with a flat concrete roof surrounded by metal railings (Plate 573.1). Some architectural detail has been afforded to the structure with projecting textured panels.

The north and south elevations have pipes extending from just below the roof level into the ground. There is a ladder on the west elevation providing access to the roof.

Building 573 is identical to building 565, but with a ladder to the west face.

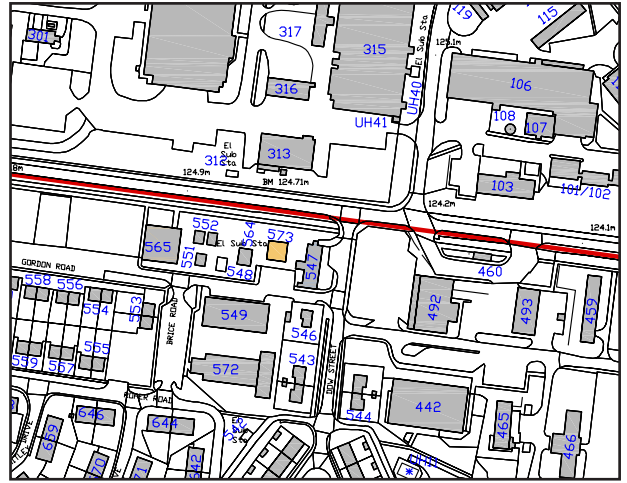


Plate 573.1 West elevation

Building 588: Store

NGR: SP 50955 25751

Recording Level: 1

Location

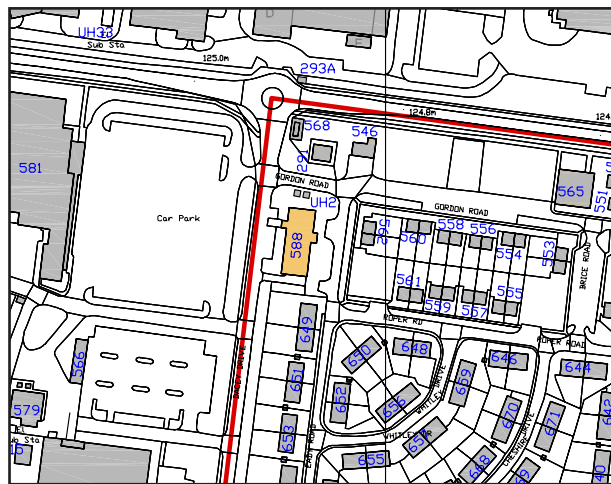
This building is located within the residential area of OA11B, at the edge of Dacey Drive.

History/ Function

Building 588 is thought to be a storage building dating from 1975.

Description

Building 588 is a simple single storey structure with little architectural embellishment and minimal openings. It is constructed from painted blockwork with a shallow pitched asbestos roof and timber fascia. The blockwork is painted cream but it is possible to see at the south end of the west elevation the stylised brown diagonal lines evident elsewhere on the flying field.



The west (front) elevation has a small porch extension to the north section of the building, with a flat roof and double entrance doors (Plate 588.1). A concrete ramp leading down to the door provides access. There are parking spaces immediately to the front of the elevation, otherwise there are no features on interest.

The north elevation was used for delivery, it has a large metal roller door with an integral small door which is accessed by a short concrete ramp from the road.

The east elevation faces Gordon Road, it has a small projection probably containing plant with windows and vents to the side walls, and double timber louvre doors as well as a single timber door to the south. The south elevation is a plain concrete block wall with no features of interest.



Plate 588.1 Front elevation

Building 712: Bungalow

NGR: SP 51110 25479

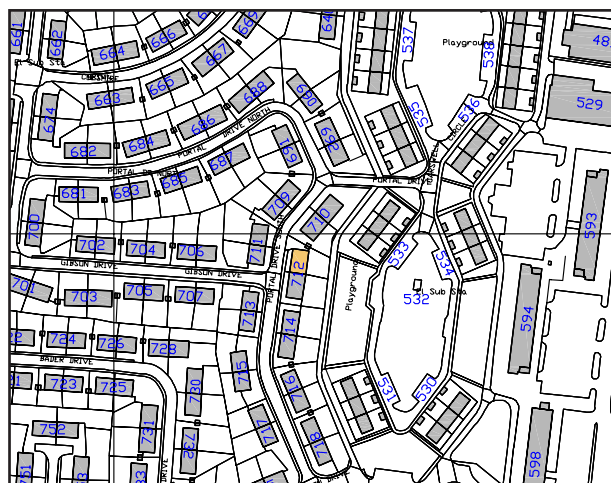
Recording Level: 1

Location

This bungalow is located within the residential area of OA11A, on Portal Drive South.

History/ Function

Building 712 is a bungalow which is not visible on the 1954 AP, but is evident on a 1980 map of the airbase. It is part of the USAF development of the airbase, to provide accommodation for the servicemen and probably dates from the 1970s.



Description

The bungalow is one of 44 of this type built as semi-detached pre-fabricated family homes with associated sheds (Plate 712.1). These were constructed for the USAF, built as spacious examples of bunaglows to American specifications. The bunaglows (of which there are 3 types in total), are built with uniformity including wall finish and colour creating an area of high density housing with few scrubs and trees. The bungalows have little architectural embellishment, with bland facades with no architectural detail of note.

The bungalow is rectangular in plan, constructed from pre-cast concrete panels with pebble dashing on a brick plinth. It has a pitched tiled roof, rectangular metal windows and a small flat roofed porch over the entrance door. There is a coloured timber infil panel and glazing adjacent to the front door.

The east (front) elevation has a metal and glass front door with windows to the north side. There are two large windows further to the north giving light to the living room, with a further two to the south side of the door providing light to a bedroom.

The north elevation has a vent in the gable but otherwise has no features of interest. There is parking for two cars and a gate in which to access the rear of the building.

The west (rear) elevation has a door to a gally kitchen with windows to each side. There are two further windows to each side of the door, as well as a small WC window. To the south is a timber door persuably to an external store. The bungalows have sizeable gardens separated by timber fencing.



Plate 712.1 Front elevation

Building UH2: Electricity Substation

NGR: SP 50952 25776

Recording Level: 1

Location

This building is located within the residential area of OA11B, on the corner of Dacey Drive and Gordon Road.

History/ Function

The two substations are thought to date from the 1970/80s expansion of the former airbase.

Description

The two almost identical substations are rectangular in plan, constructed in brick set on a concrete base with flat asphalt roofs (Plate UH2.1). The west substation is slightly larger. There are paving slabs in front of and leading off from the two substations.

The south elevations have double timber panelled doors with large hinges, otherwise the structures have no features of interest with the exception of low metal vents on the west and east elevations.

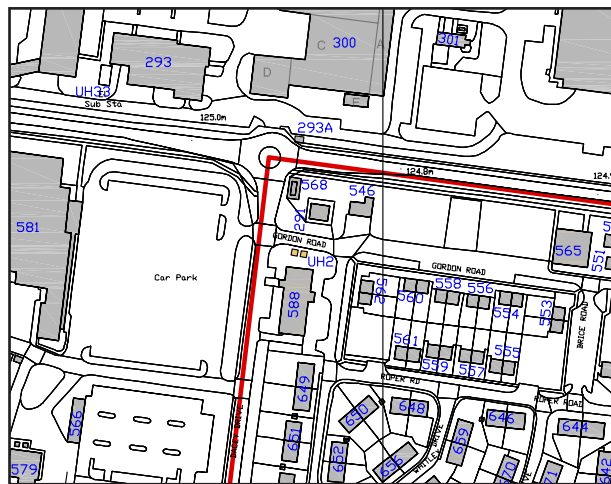
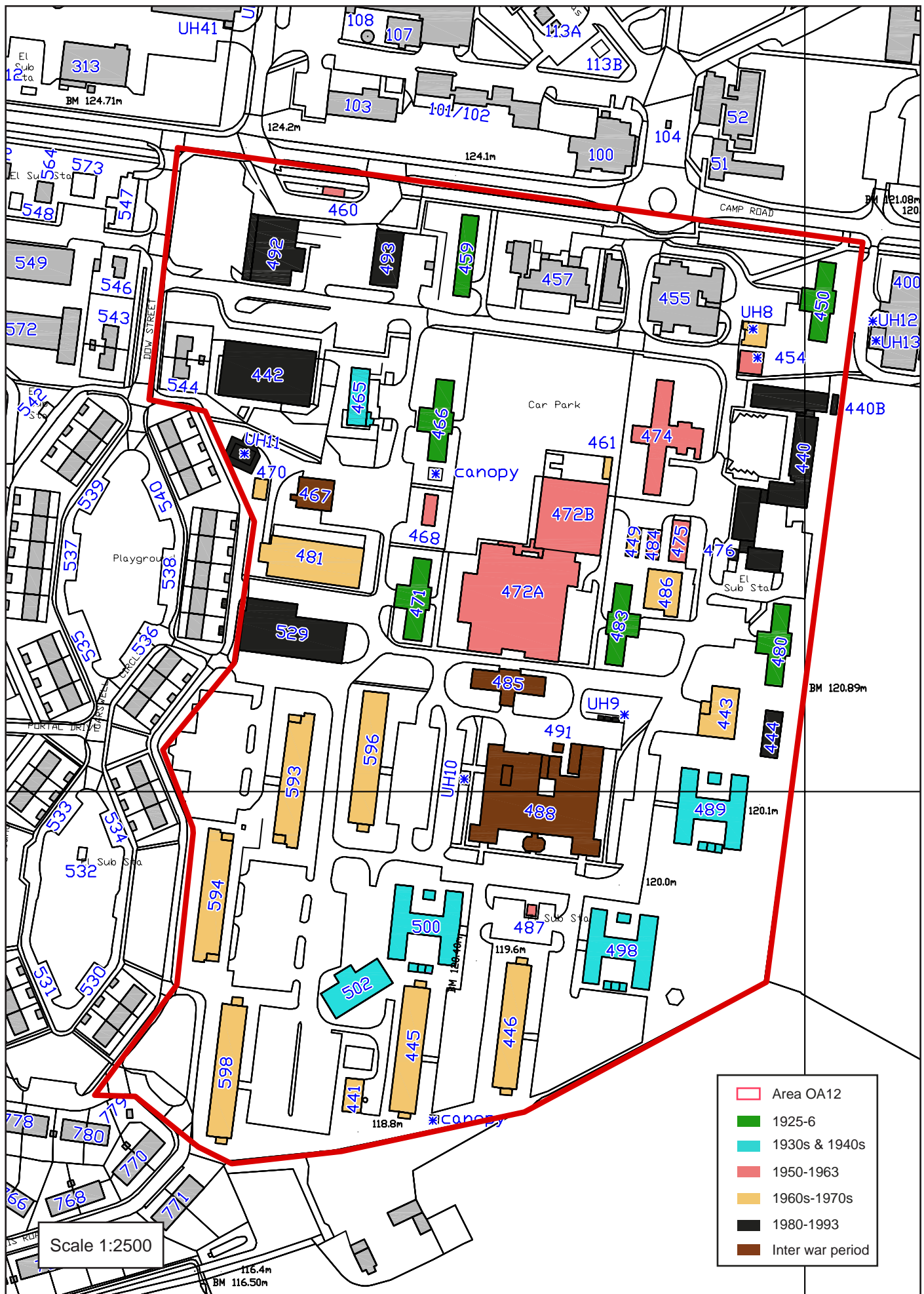


Plate UH2.1 West elevation

AREA OA12, BARRACKS AND INSTITUTIONS



Building 440: Barrack Block

NGR: SP 51502 25646

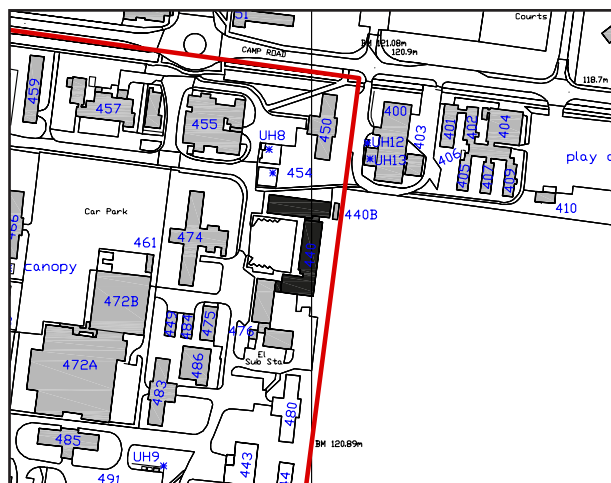
Recording Level: 2

Location

This building is located to the east of the Parade Ground and behind the main buildings fronting onto the Parade Ground.

History/ Function

This building was previously listed in the Environmental Statement as one of the Barrack Blocks (Type C) constructed in 1925 and then overhauled in the 1980s. However, the current investigation of the building and further study of historic maps has suggested that this building was entirely modern and was probably newly built in the 1980s, alongside the other older barracks which were being refurbished at this time.



A series of plans of the airfield have been studied and those from 1926, 1927, 1931, 1937 and 1939 all show the same arrangement with regard to the site of Building 440. These plans do show a building in the location of part of Building 440 (then numbered 52) but its plan form is significantly different to that of 440 and the plan key describes this building as a 'Sick Quarters'. This building would have been on a broadly similar footprint to Block 2 in the current Building 440.

Building 52 is shown on the early plans between two C-type barracks: Building 47 (now numbered 450) and 51 (now numbered 480).

The plan of 1931 shows that this building was drawn to the standardised RAF plan No.106/24 and it is interesting to note that another example of this type of building was constructed at RAF Bicester. A photograph of this building is included on page 193 of *British Military Airfield Architecture* and this shows that the building was single storied.

An aerial photograph from 1942 again shows the building but by this date minor alterations have been undertaken to its plan form and it is shown linked by a narrow corridor to a large new building immediately to the south-west. The two buildings together are shown on the plan with the number 79 and the key labels this as a 'Sick Quarters and Decontamination'. Clearly the new building was a decontamination block added to the existing sick quarters and the narrow linking corridor would presumably have controlled access between the two.

A PSA plan survives from 1983 showing Building 440 and this was clearly the same building that has been recorded in the current works (Fig.440.1). The 1983 plan is principally showing proposed landscaping/paving to be set out around the building but it is likely that the entire building was constructed at this time to replace the previous structure (the former buildings 25 and 79) on this site.

Description

Exterior

Building 440 is a large sprawling barrack block with an inverted S-shaped plan comprised of five main ranges as well as a detached sub-station at the south-western corner. The PSA plan from 1983 shows that the northernmost range (east-west) was Block 1; to the south of this was a north-to-south range called Block 2; at the south end of this was another east to west range which was block 3; at the west end of this was a north-to-south range called Block 4 and at the southern end was a shorter east-to-west building called Block 5. Each block is essentially detached from each other although there is a single roof which continues over all the ranges and shared galleries which also link the ranges (discussed further below).

To the front of the building there is a standard freestanding Upper Heyford brown sign which shows that Building 440 was by the 20th Security Police Squadron (Plate 440.1).

Each of the main ranges is three storeys tall and has a similar overall form with red brick walls (stretcher bond), bands of reinforced concrete at floor levels and a shallow, tile-covered hipped roof over the whole structure (Plate 440.2). There are external walkways or galleries at each of the upper two storeys which wrap around the five main ranges and the deep overhang to the hipped roof covers the upper walkway (Plate 440.3). As stated above these galleries link the separate ranges of the building. The concrete walkways are cantilevered out from the main concrete floor structure of the building and which also forms the lintels above each window and door opening (Plate 440.4).

At the outer edge of each gallery there is a series of vertical box-section posts which rise up to the roof eaves and which support the simple vertical metal railings (Plate 440.5). The third floor walkway is lit by electric lights in the underside of the

deep roof eaves, while the second floor walkway has lights fixed to the wall.

The walkways give the building a distinct American character, characteristic of a motel, and give the building a similar character to the other barrack blocks in this area which were older buildings remodelled in the 1980s.

The windows of the barrack ranges are of a standardised metal-framed sliding type with large panes (generally two panes) and sloped metal cills. The main doors are plain non-panelled timber painted brown, and other than the circular door handles and locks the only feature to each door is the room number plate with adjacent spy hole.

At the front of the building there are various raised brick planters and cobbled landscaping beneath the galleries (visible in Plate 440.1). The detached sub-station in the south-western corner is recorded separately as building no.476.

Interior

The interior of the building largely comprises small individual apartments on all three floors for the members of the squadron. The external galleries appear to have provided all the circulation space around the building and avoided the need for any internal corridors. Therefore the interiors of the buildings comprised self-contained rooms only accessible from the galleries (Plate 440.7 & .8). There does not appear to have been internal staircases with vertical circulation only possible by several covered external staircases between the blocks.

It was only possible to gain full access into a small number of the barrack rooms although it was possible to see through the windows of the rooms at the two upper floors and this confirmed that the rooms were of a standardised type with a bedroom and a small separate room with shower cubicle, cupboard and WC. The bedrooms have carpeted floor, plastered walls, plain curtains, low skirting and typical radiator. The main room that was inspected had blue walls, brown skirting and brown curtains. The curtains were made by Drapemasters of Chicago.

The Dormitory Managers Office was a larger room at first floor level on the south side of Block 1 and this had unplastered painted brick walls and a counter where bedlinen etc were presumably issued. Below this at ground floor level was a laundry which had a door with vertical wire-glass light and there was also a ground floor laundry on the north side of Block 5.

At the north-east corner of the complex was a detached boiler room and adjacent to this was a large chimney towards the east end of Block 1. Between Blocks 2 and 3 was a Games Room and a lounge (both at ground floor), and there was also a further first floor lounge and laundry in Block 5. Similarly to the Dormitory Managers Office the lounges also had unplastered painted brick walls.

The complex had an electrical intake room at each floor level at the west end of Block 3 with slat vent doors (again brown doors).

There were also at least two sets of store rooms on each level: one of these was in Block 5 and one was in Block 3 .

Conclusion

The current investigation has shown that Building 440 is a barrack block which was entirely constructed in the early 1980s. The building has previously been thought to have been a 1920s building which was heavily remodelled in the 1980s, similarly to a number of C-type barracks in this area. A close examination however has revealed the building has found no evidence of an earlier structure pre-dating the 1980s phase. This interpretation is supported by map evidence that shows that the previous building on this site was a sick quarters which would have been single storey and would have had a distinctly different plan form than the later building 440.

This misidentification was presumably due to the alterations to the other older C-type barracks in the 1980s which added walkways and new shallow pitch roofs to these structures, and this gave these buildings a superficially similar appearance to building 440.

Building 440 has a distinct American character, principally created through the long external balconies/ walkways but also through more subtle features such as the door handles and locks.

Archive

One plan of the building was identified in the Upper Heyford archive.

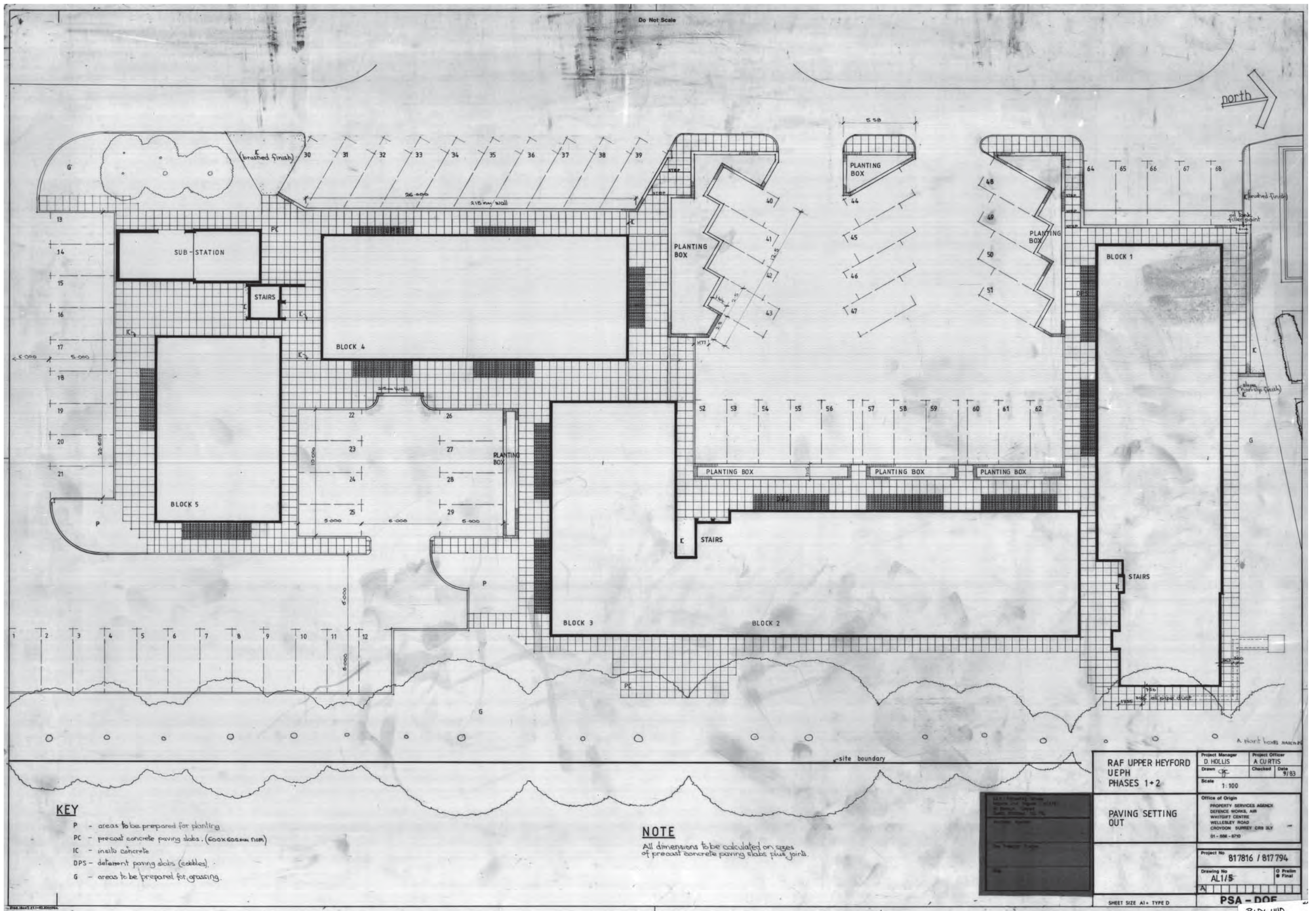


Figure 440.1: Floor plan (1983)



Plate 440.1 Sign and front elevation



Plate 440.2 South side of northern range



Plate 440.3 Smaller rear courtyard



Plate 440.4 South side main front courtyard



Plate 440.5 Rear (east) elevation



Plate 440.6 Southern end of complex



Plate 440.7 Typical internal room



Plate 440.8 Typical internal view

Building 440b: Boiler Room

NGR: SP 51517 25680

Recording Level: 1

Location

This building is located within Area OA12B, to the north-east edge of the barrack area, to the rear of building 440.

History/ Function

Building 440b is a boiler room, which was constructed to service Barrack block 440, it is contemporary with the construction of the barrack block in the 1980s.

Description

The building is a functional red brick boiler room, with a rectangular footprint and a flat ashfelt roof. To the front elevation, facing building 440, is a timber door and large rectangular openings which are boarded up in the lower half but have reinforced glass in the upper half. It is possible to see extant plant internally. The building has a metal fascia and is set on a concrete plinth.

Archive

Two plans of the building was identified in the Upper Heyford archive.



Plate 440b.1 Front elevation

Building 441: Boiler House

NGR: SP 51300 25365

Recording Level: 1

Location

This building is located within Area OA12C, at the southern edge of the Barracks Area, adjacent to barrack block 445.

History/ Function

The boiler house is thought to date from 1970, constructed as part of the USAF development of the site.

Description

The boiler house is rectangular in plan, constructed in brown brick with some metal cladding and a pitched, corrugated asbestos roof.

The north-east elevation has a large steel self-supporting chimney which is joined to the building via two pipes entering into the upper half of the elevation (Plate 441.1). Surrounding this the building is clad in brown corrugated metal that incorporates large vents, there are double doors at the north end of the building providing access. The upper half of the elevation is clad in light brown metal sheeting, as evident elsewhere on the building.

The south-east elevation is largely metal clad with a single door providing access, there are 3 metal pipes leading from the roof entering the building just below the apex of the roof.

The north-west elevation is metal clad in the upper half, with three short pipes leading from the internal space into the ground. The south-west elevation is also metal clad on the upper half and has two large square metal within the lower brick half (Plate 441.2).

Internal plans of the building dating from 1968 show that the building accommodated two boilers, water treatment plant and a pressurisation unit.

Archive

There are two surviving plans in the Upper Heyford archives.

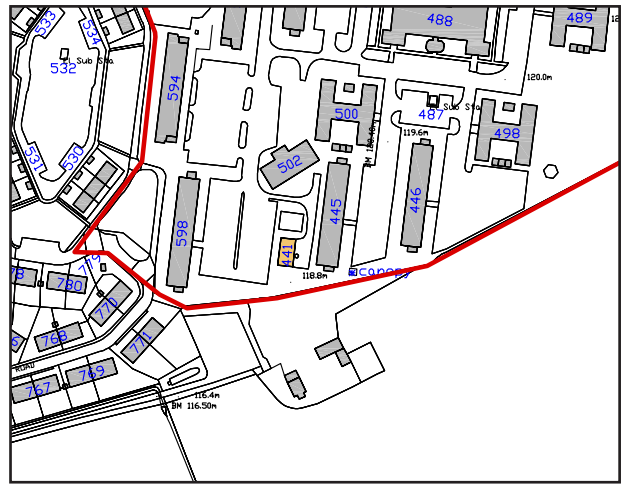




Plate 441.1 North-east elevation



Plate 441.2 Contemporary (1970-2) view looking east (HE archive ref.-p_g14942_01)

NGR: SP 51257 25694
Recording Level: 1

Recording Level: 1

This building is located within Area OA14B, it is situated at the east edge of Carswell Circle North, and immediately to the south of the Shopette (492).

The former Heyford Park Education Centre and Nursery dates from 1984, it is currently in use as a Nursery and by the Ambulance Service. The building is not shown on aerial photography or historic plans of the site from the 1940s and 1950s.

The building is a deep, rectangular plan red/orange brick construction with a multiple pitch timber roof. It has simple metal windows (painted brown) and roof lights in the valleys between pitches.

The north-east (front) elevation has double metal and glass doors which provide access to the eastern (Ambulance) division of the building. The western end has vents and double slated doors providing access to a boiler/ plant area which was maintained by the PSA during the airbase's operation. A military sign indicates this was a 'Fire Lane'. There is also a single glass and timber door situated to the south-east of the plant area. The elevation has several single windows, and a large window has dentil brickwork beneath providing some architectural embellishment.

The south-east elevation is fenced off by a wire fence demarking a green area to the side of the building. Within this is a tarmaced area with two circles at either end, and a path. The elevation has four single metal framed doors, and three large windows with the same dentil brickwork evident on the front elevation.

The south-west (rear) elevation is difficult to access because the rear of the building is a fenced off nursery play area (without access). At the south-east end it is possible to see three narrow rectangular windows just below the roof level and a single door providing access to the south-west end of the building.

The front of the north-west elevation has a single timber door and a wood framed window (painted brown), the rear is fenced off by the nursery and difficult to view.

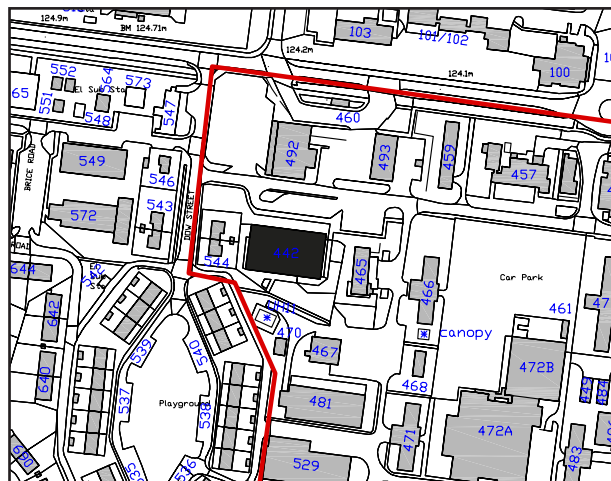




Plate 442.1 Front (north-east) elevation

Building 443: Cold Store

NGR: SP 51467 25537

Recording Level: 1

Location

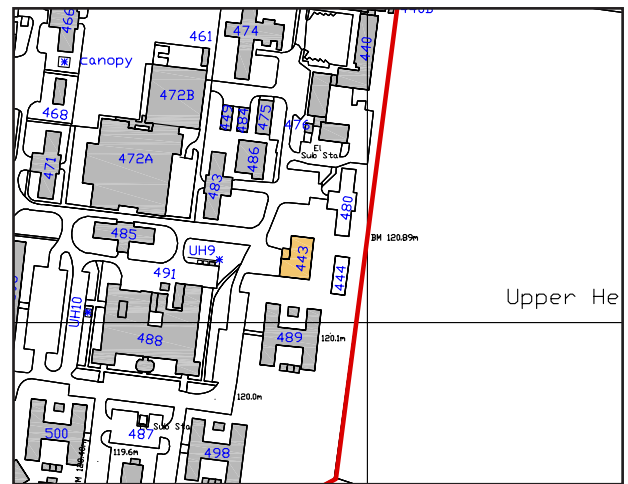
This building is located within Area OA12D, at the eastern edge of the Barracks Area between barrack blocks 489 and 480.

History/ Function

The Cold Store dates from 1971 during the USAF use and development of the site.

Description

The building is rectangular in plan constructed in brown brick with a flat concrete roof. It is a functional structure with no windows to the principal building.



The west (front) elevation has a brick built loading bay projecting to the front of the building, there is a gantry running along the platform roof into the store used to transport goods (Plate 443.1). There are brown painted metal railings surrounding the platform which is accessed by a set of steps. A substantial metal door provides access to the store. Two vents possibly windows have been boarded up. To the east of the platform is a small internal 'food service office' with water closet. Further to the east, and accessed not from the platform but via a door at ground level to the east of the building, is a plant room.

The south and north elevations have no features of interest. The east elevation has three drainpipes running the height of the elevation but otherwise it has no features of interest.

The store has a central spinal corridor providing access to three rectangular storage areas to the west, these are for 'chilled meat', 'vegetables' and 'diary produce'. The gantry leads west into the 'chilled meat' section from the external platform. The east half of the building is for 'frozen produce'. Internally, the walls and floor are concrete with strip lighting overhead, the walls have linear batons nailed to them which are painted white. Outside each room is a temperature control dial.

Archive:

There is one plan of the building within the Upper Heyford archives.



Plate 443.1 West elevation

Building 444: Office

NGR: SP 51488 25530

Recording Level: 1

Location

This building is located within Area OA12D, at the east edge of the barrack area overlooking fields to the rear.

History/ Function

This prefabricated structure dates from 1982, and may have functioned as an office or similar.

Description

The prefabricated timber unit is rectangular in plan with a flat asphalt roof and timber framed windows (Plate 444.1). There is timber cladding to the elevations surrounding the windows and doors, and to the two end elevations. The building is now in poor condition and partially collapsed.

The west (front) elevation has three large metal windows and a double timber door (all painted brown). There are three sets of two thin rectangular lights at the north end. The east (rear) elevation has six windows, some now collapsed in. The north and south elevations are timber clad, each with a single door but otherwise have no features of interest.

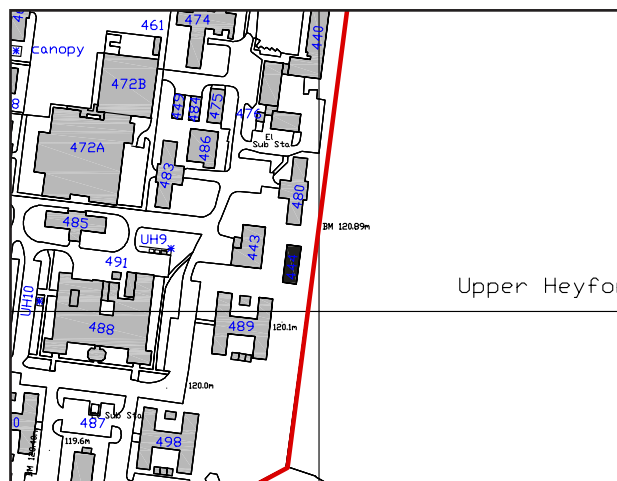


Plate 444.1 West elevation

Building 445: Barrack Block

NGR: SP 51326 25386

Recording Level: 1

Location

This building is located within Area OA12C, at the southern edge of the barrack area and situated between barrack blocks 598 and 446.

History/ Function

The former barrack building dates from 1970-1972, and is the same form as building 446.

Description

The three-storey barrack building is constructed in brown brick with sections of concrete pebbled dashed slabs and metal windows in various arrangements. The pitched roof is covered in asbestos tiles with a deep overhang. There are external stairs to either end of the building.



The front (east) elevation has three windows at three levels running the length of the building separated by horizontal lines of concrete slabs (Plate 445.1). The windows light each internal barrack room, with a central rectangular pane and two square windows to each side. Below this arrangement, are three sections that are the same size as the windows above, and hold orange coloured boarding, which offer some basic architectural embellishment to the building. These three sections are separated by the same metal framing as the windows.

There is a staircase approximately centrally with pebble dash infill panels and a glass door (partly boarded) and porch overhang. Within the pebble dashed area to the north of the door are four windows at each level held in metal frames which are used to light the internal stairwell (the windows consist of two long rectangular ones at the top, and two roughly square ones at the base).

The north and south elevations have open staircases running the height of the building with metal railings.

The west elevation is similar in construction to the front elevation, the windows are of the same form as the front elevation with orange boarding at the base. At ground floor level at the north end is a set of double metal doors presumably used to access a plant area, immediately to the south of this is a row of three small square windows at door height to light a sanitary area. There are two areas of pebble dash within the elevation, within which are two areas of roughly rectangular windows placed on top of each other in a column, again held in metal frames. Between the two sets of pebble dash are five windows at three levels, and to each side of the pebble dash are three windows at three levels (with the exception of the door and sanitary windows at the ground floor north end).

Internally, each level has three floors of individual bedrooms with communal sanitary areas, laundry room and a common room on each floor. The accommodation is fairly basic with brick painted walls (cream), strip lighting and carpeted rooms with timber skirting boards. There are few fixtures and fittings left in the carpeted rooms which are largely empty, with the exception of the considerable body of war art left by the Americans during the 1980s and 1990s. In total there are 15 examples mostly within communal areas such as common rooms, corridors, laundry room and the stairwells. This wall art is separately recorded in the war art report covering the site (OA forthcoming).

Archive

There is one plan of the building within the Upper Heyford archives.



Plate 445.1 East elevation

Building 446: Barrack Block

NGR: SP 51373 25398

Recording Level: 1

Location

This building is located within Area OA12C, at the southern edge of the barrack area and situated between barrack blocks 498 and 445.

History/ Function

The former Barrack Block dates from between 1970 and 1972, and is the same form as building 445.

Description

The three-storey barrack building is constructed in brown brick with sections of concrete pebbled dashed slabs and metal windows in various arrangements. The pitched roof is covered in asbestos tiles with a deep overhang. There are external stairs to either end of the building.



The east elevation has thirteen windows at three levels running the length of the building separated by horizontal lines of concrete slabs (Plate 446.1). The windows light each internal barrack room, with a central rectangular pane and two square windows to each side. Below this arrangement, are three sections that are the same size as the windows above, and hold orange coloured boarding, which offer some basic architectural embellishment to the building. These three sections are separated by the same metal framing as the windows.

There is a staircase approximately centrally with pebble dash infill panels and a glass door (partly boarded) and porch overhang. Within the pebble dashed area to the north of the door are four windows at each level held in metal frames which are used to light the internal stairwell (the windows consist of two long rectangular ones at the top, and two roughly square ones at the base)

The north and south elevations have open staircase running the height of the building with metal railings.

The west elevation is similar in build to the front elevation, the windows are of the same format as the front elevation with orange boarding at the base. At the north end at ground floor level is a set of double metal doors presumably used to access a plant area., and immediately to the south of this is a row of three small square windows at door height to light a sanitary area. There are two areas of pebble dash within the elevation, within which are two areas of roughly rectangular windows are placed on top of each other in a column, again held in metal frames.

Between the two sets of pebble dash are five windows at three levels, and to each side of the pebble dash, three windows at three levels (with the exception of the door and sanitary windows at the ground floor north end).

Internally, each level has three floors of individual bedrooms with communal sanitary areas, laundry room and a common room on each floor. The accommodation is fairly basic with brick painted walls (cream), strip lighting and carpeted rooms with timber skirting boards. There are few fixtures and fittings left in the carpeted rooms which are largely empty, with the exception of the considerable body of war art left by the Americans during the 1980s and 1990s. In total there are seven examples mostly within communal areas such as common room, corridors and entrance foyer. This wall art is separately recorded in the war art report covering the site (OA forthcoming).

Archive:

There is one plan of the building within the Upper Heyford archives.



Plate 446.1 East elevation

Building 449: Storage Unit

NGR: SP 51425 25617

Recording Level: 1

Location

This building is located within the barrack area of OA12B, between buildings 472 and 475.

History/ Function

Site records detail building 449 as dating from 1940, but the building does not appear on plans of the site of this period or in an AP of 1954. Architecturally the building is a very simple metal clad structure and difficult to date, although it seems most probable that it dates from the 1960s.

Description

Building 449 is clad in metal (painted brown with cream at the base), over a timber construction (Plate 449.1). It is rectangular in plan with a pitched corrugated roof. It has simple rectangular metal framed windows (painted brown) have timber sills and internal bars with reinforced glass.

The north (front) elevation has two rectangular windows and a vent above the timber door (which is painted brown).

The east and west elevations have thirteen windows. The rear elevation has a single timber door with a vent above and windows to each side.

Internally, the space is divided into two basic rooms with a carpeted floor and radiators to the smaller front room. The rear room has a bare concrete floor with four radiators and storm lamp lighting. It appears that the front room was used as a reception/ office area, and the rear room for storage as indicated by the secured windows.

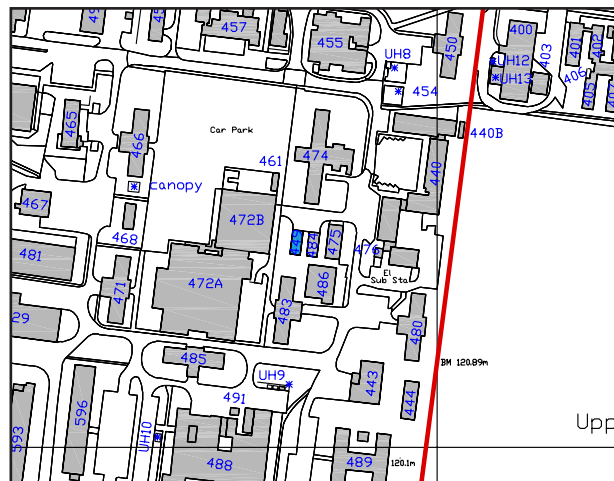


Plate 449.1 East elevation

Buildings 450, 466, 471, 480, 483: C-Type Barrack Blocks

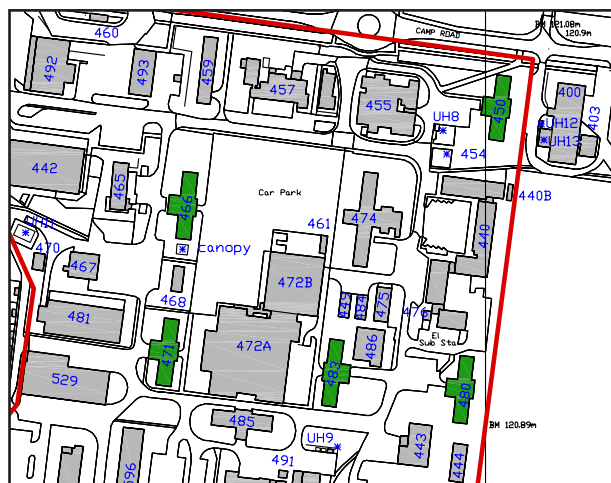
NGR: SP 51513 25724

Recording Level: 2

Location

On the south side of Camp Road, within Area OA12B, there is a group of five C-Type Barrack Blocks: Numbers 450, 466, 471, 480 and 483.

These are essentially identical buildings and it is most sensible for them to be covered by a single entry in the gazetteer. Separate sets of plates have been included in this gazetteer for each building but only one set of the historic figures, in the entry for Building 450. This is because the four figures are a single set of drawings from the 1980s which covered all five C-type barrack blocks. Fewer plate references have been provided in the text for the C-type barrack blocks because we are describing five separate buildings at the same time.



History/ Function

Map and Photographic evidence

The five C-Type Barrack Blocks (450, 466, 471, 480, 483) were constructed in the mid-1920s as part of the early development of Upper Heyford airfield. As detailed elsewhere the original establishment of the airfield took place in the latter phase of the First World War but it did not see significant action during this conflict and following the armistice it was largely abandoned. The airfield was identified in the 1924 Defence Review and work began on its re-commission, including the construction of the barrack blocks within the newly laid out domestic area.

A site plan from 1926 shows each of the barrack blocks within a carefully planned and spaciouly laid out domestic area which also contained a parade ground, an institute, dining area and Sergeant's Mess. The C-Type Barracks were generally located around the edge of this area and the plan shows that they then had different building numbers (47-51). Building 450 (then no. 47) was at the north-east corner of the area, Building 466 (then No.48) was on the west side of the parade ground, Building 471 (then No. 49) was at the south-west corner of the area, Building 483 (then No. 50) was to the south-east of the parade ground and Building 480 was at the south-east corner of the area.

The plan key shows that each of these buildings was labelled '*Barrack Block C Type (Civilian Quarters)*'. Further airfield plans from 1927, 1931 and 1937 all show the same basic arrangement in this area although one slight difference is that it appears that in 1931 and 1937 Building 450 was used for civilian quarters while the other blocks were airmen's quarters.

A plan from 1939 again shows the layout and numbering as before but this plan adds that each of the C-type barracks contained 3 NCO's (non-commissioned officers) as well as 64 airmen. It also shows the Air Ministry building reference number as 640/22.104/23. This reference number shows that the building was constructed to a standardised design from 1923 although the building could have been constructed some years after 1923.

An airfield plan from 1945 shows the layout of the barracks as broadly the same as before, but the building numbers have changed again. Building 450 was then No.69, Building 466 was then 70, Building 471 was then 71, Building 480 was then 73, Building 483 was then 74.

Another plan from 1947 again shows the barrack blocks the same as previously and containing three NCO's as well as 64 airmen. It is also interesting that there are two notes on this plan to show that the C-Type barracks were to be reused but without significant changes or refurbishment. One note says: '*Pupil O.R.s (Army) Quarters Blocks No.69 existing Type Barrack Blocks to be used without alteration*' while another note says: '*L/M's Quarters Building No.70, 71, 72 & 74 existing accommodation to be used without alteration*'.

Aerial photographs from 1942 and 1954 show the buildings in their original plan form, but with a camouflaged roof.

In c.1986 each of the C-type barracks (Buildings 450, 466, 471, 480 and 483) were comprehensively overhauled to provide modern accommodation for the American servicemen. These works included the addition of external walkways, external staircases and the subdivision of the formerly open-plan internal barrack ranges. Plans survive detailing the c.1986 works and it is useful to note that each building was treated as an identical structure. The same proposal drawings cover all five C-Type

blocks and each block underwent the same remodelling works.

Original form of C-Type Barrack Blocks

The C-type barracks were one of a series of standardised two-storey barrack blocks developed in the 1920s, each with a central architectural feature and unit consisting of the main entrance, hall and sanitary block at the rear. Differing lengths of barrack accommodation could then be added to each side. The central entrance was flanked to each side by a hip-roofed tower which projected above the central block and gave the building something of the appearance of a gatehouse. These ‘towers’ contained the bedrooms for the three NCOs while 16 airmen were housed in open-plan rooms to each side on each floor. The staircase was located in the rear part of the central block and there were ablution areas immediately either side of this. There was also a projecting block at the rear with boiler room, WCs, bathroom and showers.

The elevations of the blocks were articulated by a regular rhythm of fenestration with alternating bays of pairs of tall windows and single smaller windows just below the eaves.

Description

Introduction

As referred to above the five C-Type Barrack Blocks are essentially identical buildings and it therefore makes sense to describe them in a single group. There are however individual sets of plates covering each building.

Exterior

Each of the C-Type barracks is a two storey, rectangular plan building (c.38m by 8m) with brick walls (stretcher bond) and a hipped, slate covered roof. Each of the roofs incorporated slatted gablets at right angles to the main orientation of the roof, towards the central point. The buildings are all orientated north to south and their original front entrances were generally on the east side although following the c.1986 remodelling works the buildings no longer had a principal front (discussed further below).

The c.1986 refurbishment works radically altered the form of each building (internally and externally) to the extent that it would be easy to assume that they were entirely modern structures. It is now very difficult to gain any clear impression of the character or form of the historic 1920s buildings.

As referred to above one of the key alterations from the 1986 works was in the way that each building functions or the way that the buildings are accessed. In the 1920s barracks, access into the buildings would have been through the front door at the centre of the east elevation and then internal circulation would have been via the staircase immediately behind the entrance. However, the 1986 alterations made the building more like an American motel where there are no internal corridors or staircases or shared circulation spaces. Following the remodelling the circulation was on the outside of each building with doors to all the individual rooms within the external walls. The doors to the first floor rooms were accessed by galleries or balcony walkways which wrap around the building and by two staircases, one at each end of the building (the north-west and south-west corners).

The galleries and staircases are constructed from steel plates supported by a simple steel frame. The primary roofs of each building probably largely survive, but they have been entirely recovered with slates and extended down to sweep over the galleries and the staircases.

As mentioned above the primary elevations comprised alternating bays of tall ‘columns’ of glazing divided by single smaller windows located just beneath the eaves. The tall primary window openings have been largely retained and reused in the 1986 alterations, albeit entirely with modern metal-framed windows while most of the smaller windows have been converted to doorways to the first floor rooms. In addition entirely new doorways have been created to the ground floor rooms, directly beneath the first floor doors. Four of the smaller windows have been infilled; these are the two windows in each elevation central to either side of the central block. Where the smaller windows have been infilled the brickwork has been reformed carefully without straight joints and matching the original although the colour of the bricks are slightly different.

The new windows in Building 480 and 466 are a blue colour while those in 483 are brown (Pl. 483.4). The lower panels of 480, 483, 466 and 450 have frosted glass but not in 471. There are simple name tags to many of the doors although almost all of the names themselves have been lost.

There are many other similar areas of patching or minor rebuild in the walls where the new brickwork again closely matches the original and the fact that the whole building has been repointed also masks the differences.

It is interesting to note that although the windows are all clearly 1980s insertions their arrangement of lights and glazing bars

matches the windows shown on the 'as existing' elevation drawing from 1986. It may well be that similarly to the care taken to match the new brickwork to the old, care was also taken to use new windows which followed the primary arrangement of lights.

The main primary entrance at the centre of the 'gatehouse' structure of each building was replaced in the 1986 works by two standard doors to two rooms, and similarly the primary tri-partite window above this has also been replaced by two doors to the first floor rooms. The four windows in the two 'towers' have been replaced but the openings have been retained. The original roof hips above each tower were removed in the 1986 works. All these alterations have helped alter the character of the building so that this central area is no longer the key visual focus of the building.

The two end walls (north and south elevations) each originally had a pair of tall windows, one directly above the other, but these have been infilled and rendered over in the 1986 alterations.

The end wall of the rear, projecting bay has three windows at first floor, all inserted in the 1980s works although the central one replaced a previous window here, and an older double doorway at ground floor. These doors have slat vents and they originally led to a small boiler room although this was converted in the 1980s works to a cycle store.

In the remodelled 1986 building the boilers were relocated to one of a pair of new ground floor rooms on each side of this projecting rear block. These new rooms are constructed from stretcher bond brickwork, closely matching the original, and they also support part of the first floor walkway or gallery above.

A number of free-standing signs outside the buildings shows their final use:

Building 450 served as a 20th MWRS Squadron Dormitory. (understood to stand for 'Morale Welfare Recreation Services') while building 466 was the 20th Civil Engineering Squadron Dormitory.

Internal

As stated above the interior of the buildings have been radically altered in the 1986 alterations and each building, which originally housed 64 airmen in open-plan barracks and three NCO's, then provided accommodation for 20 men in private rooms.

Each of the former open-plan, 16-man ranges either side of the central block was converted to four individual apartments with a bedroom and off this a separate compartment with shower WC, basin and cupboard. The main central area was similarly divided into two apartments at each floor level and the rear projection provided space for various shared functions. The main ground floor part of the rear projection formed a laundry and adjacent to this was a store area which was located within the area that was originally the staircase and hall of the 1920s barracks. Either side of the laundry were new rooms added in the 1986 works including a store to one side and a calorifier (boiler) and vending area on the other. The original boiler room at the end of the projection was reused in the 1986 works as a small cycle store.

At first floor level the buildings had a lounge and TV room in the rear projection and a store area off this, again located in the area of the original staircase (Pl.s 480.9, 471.12-13).

Internal access into the individual rooms during the recording was difficult due to the fact that following the 1986 alterations every single room had a different key; it was not possible to explore the whole interior once access through the entrance had been achieved. However, it was possible to get into most of the rooms and this confirmed that apart from some differences with decoration the buildings and rooms were all very similar to each other. In most of the barracks (450, 466, 480, 483) the rooms are painted a plain cream colour and they have simple decoration including low skirting, a simple patterned carpet, simple curtains, spot lights, aluminium windows, ceiling tiles, cupboard, sink, WC and shower.

It appears that the occupants of Building 471 were allowed more freedom than those of the other C-Type barracks to paint their rooms with a degree of individuality. The inspection of this building found rooms painted a wide range of different colours, sometimes with stripes or decoration. In Building 471 there was one room (Room 1) where the rooms were painted a lilac colour below a layer of red paint, and with a dado bank and large triangular decoration. Another room (Room 12) had white and dark brown chequerboard decoration on one wall and isolated diamonds on another.

Internally there are very few clearly visible features pre-dating the c.1986 works although there are primary timber window sills and outer frames into which the modern metal windows were inserted.

The removal of some of the modern ceiling tiles in Building 466 has also exposed some limited evidence of earlier arrangements

of the building. We know from historical sources that C-Type barracks were originally largely open plan, but the evidence revealed in the current work includes imprints in the underside of the original concrete ceiling of former walls. This suggests that at one stage there was a central corridor along the spine of the building (Pl. 466.12).

The removal of these former walls (pre-dating 1986 work) has revealed patches of grey/green paint on the primary concrete ceiling along the line where the former partition would have abutted. It appears that the open-plan room was originally painted grey/green but that it was then subdivided with new partitions and painted white.

The removal of some ceiling tiles has also revealed an earlier chipboard ceiling pre-dating the 1986 ceiling.

Roof

Central area

Only relatively limited access to the roofs of the C-Type barrack buildings was possible although a good inspection of most of the loft of Building 480 was made (Pl. 480.12-22). Access was possible to the central part of this roof through a hatch in the shared first floor lounge (TV room) with a pull-down ladder. This central area has been much altered with the insertion of pipes, ducts, lagging and a cistern, all probably inserted in the 1980s work. Large loft boards also obscure most of the floor.

The roof structure in the central area is relatively simple with no full trusses but with common softwood rafters slightly notched as they pass over a single purlin on each slope. The rafters are nailed to the ridge piece and at their base they sit on a wall plate on top of a brick wall. However, rafter extensions (sprockets) have been fixed to the sides or base of the primary rafters, just above the wall plate to allow for the deeper 1980s roof.

It is clear that the large gablet in the roof with slat vents was a modern addition and there are also various raking struts also added to strengthen the structure.

Side wings

The roof structures above the side wings of Building 480 have been less altered than the central block and in these areas typical king-post trusses survive with relatively thin members. There are three full trusses to each wing plus a half-hipped 'truss' towards each end.

The trusses incorporate square-section king posts with a joggled head, shallow raking struts, and an arrow-shaped iron brace bolted to the head fixing the king-post to rafters. There are square section rafters (c.12 cm²), an iron stirrup and straps fixing the rafter feet to the tie-beam. There is also a sequence of letters roughly painted on many members (eg O, V, X Z) which appears to have been a form of carpenters marks. There is similar detailing in the truss at the hipped south end.

Conclusion

The Type C Barracks are among the oldest surviving buildings at the airbase, forming part of the original establishment and growth of the site in the mid-1920s, and they are clearly of historic interest. However, their primary form has been substantially disguised by a major overhaul in the 1980s which has transformed their character both internally and externally.

Archive

Four figures of 450, 465, 471, 480 & 483 were identified in the Upper Heyford archives.

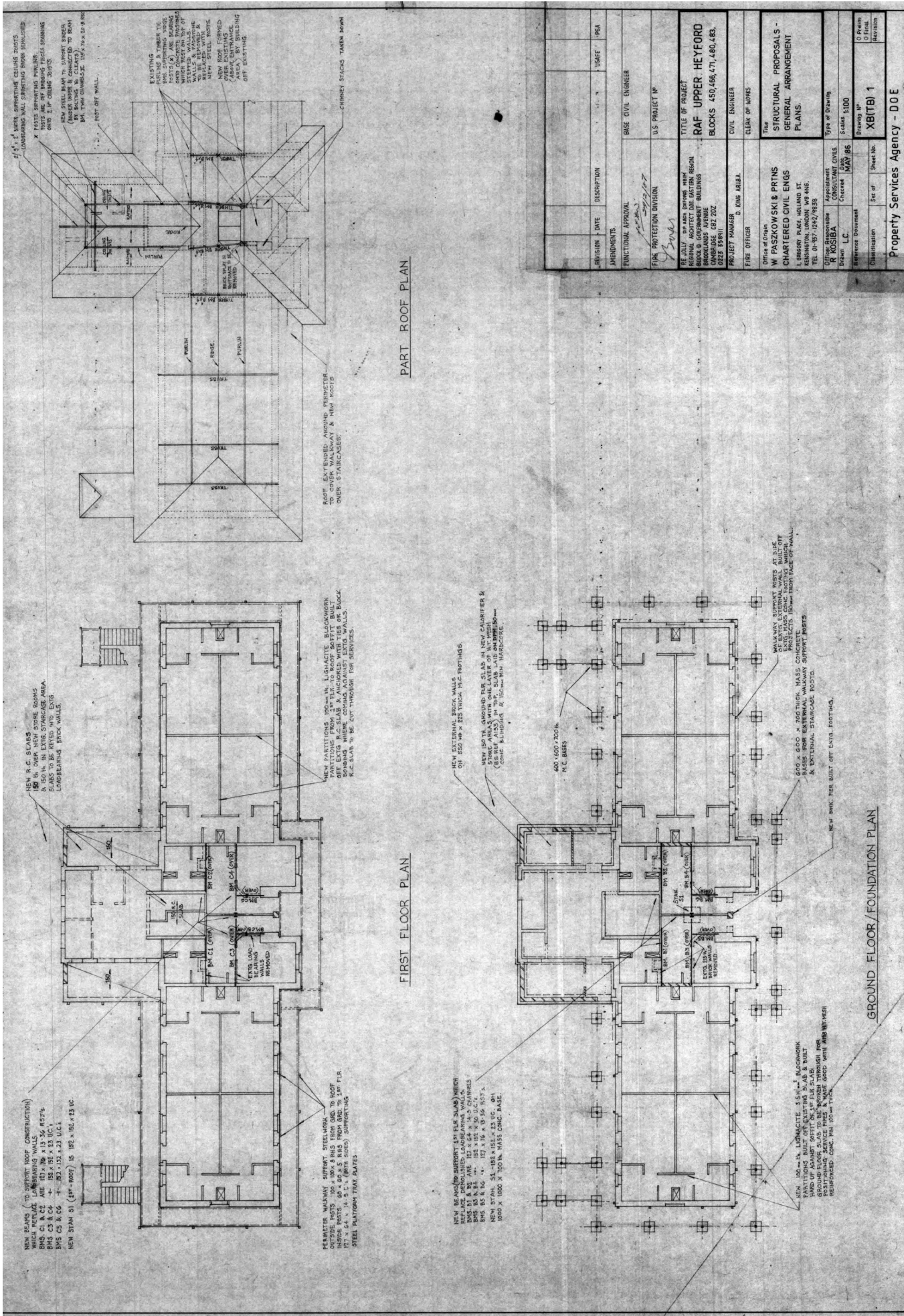


Figure 450, 466, 471, 480, 483.1 C Type Barracks general arrangement plans

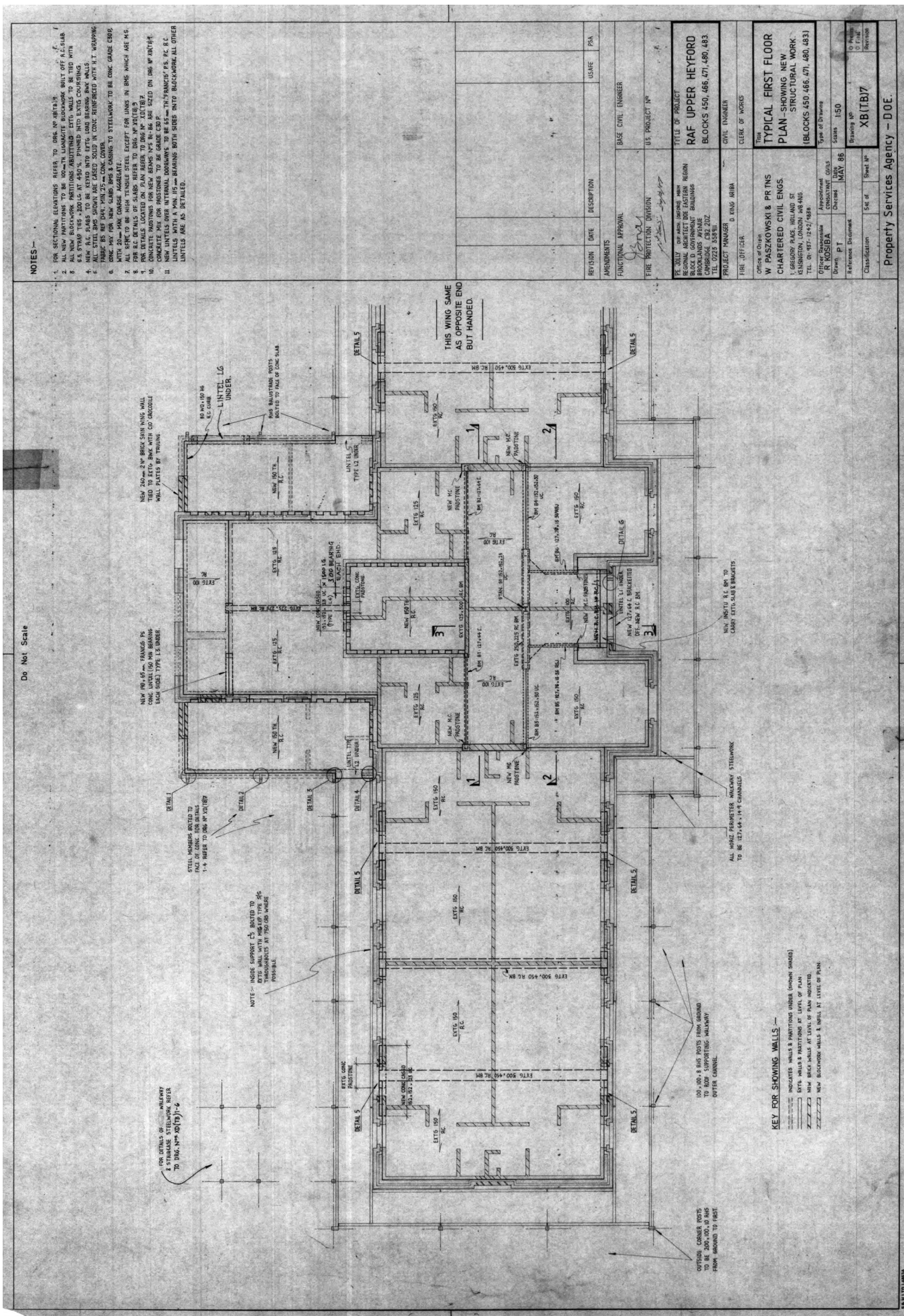


Figure 450, 466, 471, 480, 483.2 C Type Barracks first floor

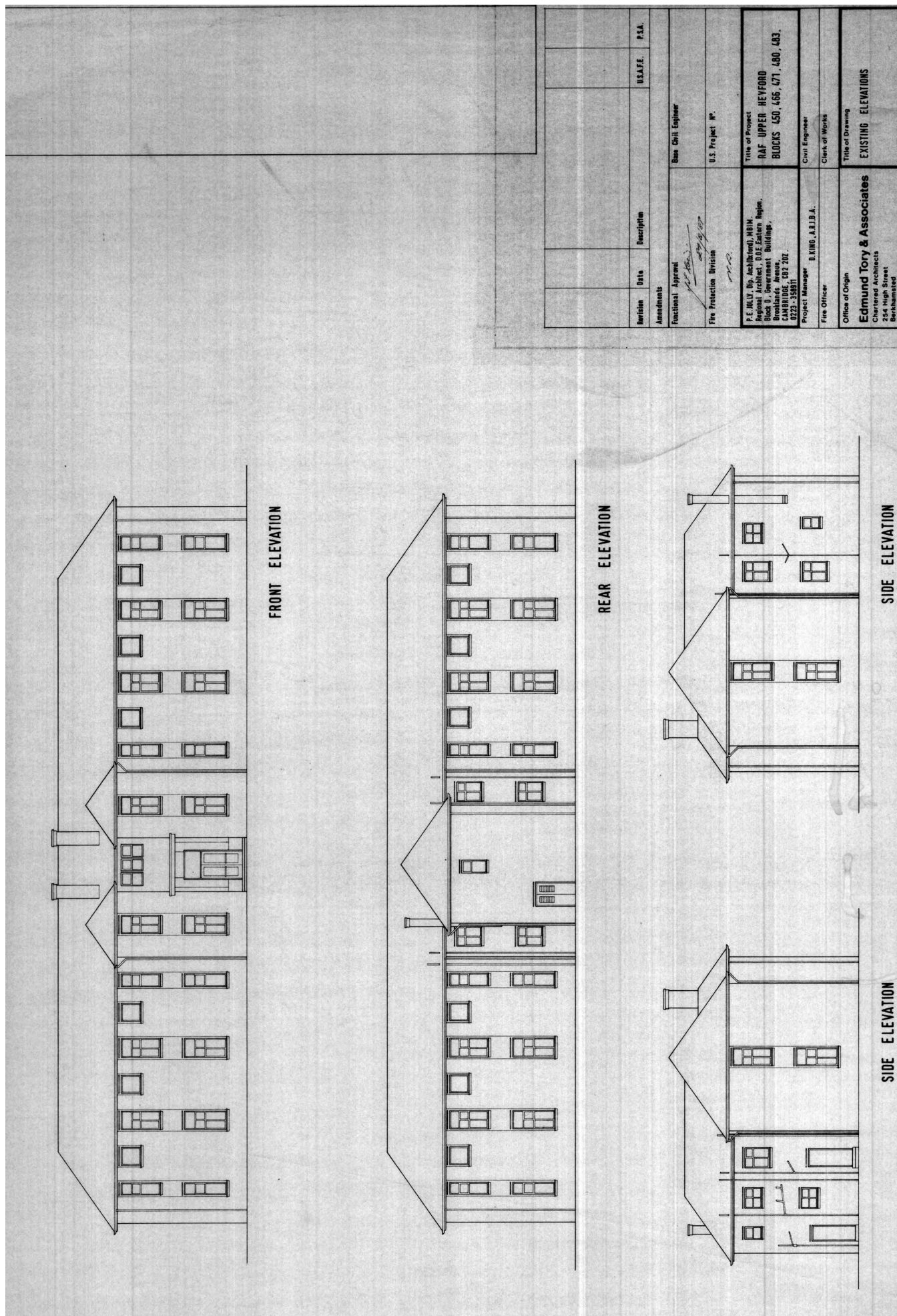


Figure 450, 466, 471, 480, 483.4 C Type Barracks historic elevations



Plate 450.1 South half of west elevation



Plate 450.2 South side of front (west) projection



Plate 450.3 North-eastern corner of building



Plate 450.4 General view of east elevation



Plate 450.5 Southern half of east elevation



Plate 450.6 Door to plant room



Plate 450.7 Typical secondary window



Plate 450.8 Typical window



Plate 450.9 Typical secondary door



Plate 450.10 First floor door to lounge



Plate 450.11 Hatch to roof above first floor doors



Plate 450.12 General view of west front



Plate 466.1 East elevation



Plate 466.2 North end



Plate 466.3 Typical balcony detail



Plate 466.4 Door to plant room



Plate 466.5 Gablet in roof added in 1980s alterations



Plate 466.6 Sign outside building



Plate 466.7 Pavilion outside building



Plate 466.8 Interior of shared utility area



Plate 466.9 Shared area at centre of building



Plate 466.10 Typical room refurbished in 1980s



Plate 466.11 Room with more individual decoration



Plate 466.12 Exposed concrete block above ceiling line



Plate 466.13 Internal room



Plate 466.14 Central shared room at first floor



Plate 466.15 Central shared room at first floor



Plate 466.16 View within roof apace



Plate 471.1 West elevation



Plate 471.2 Exterior from south-east



Plate 471.3 Stairs at south-east corner



Plate 471.4 South end of building



Plate 471.5 North end of building



Plate 471.6 South-west corner of building



Plate 471.7 Door to plant room



Plate 471.8 South side of west projection



Plate 471.9 Typical window



Plate 471.10 Typical view of first floor walkway



Plate 471.11 Typical interior of 1980s refurbished room



Plate 471.12 First floor shared area



Plate 471.13 First floor shared area



Plate 471.14 Typical room



Plate 471.15 Typical door to WC



Plate 471.16 Typical WC area in flat



Plate 480.1 South end of Building 480



Plate 480.2 Southern end of west elevation



Plate 480.3 General view of west elevation



Plate 480.4 Doors at centre of east elevation



Plate 480.5 Typical interior of flat



Plate 480.6 Central shared service block



Plate 480.7 Central shared service block



Plate 480.8 Typical interior of refurbished flat



Plate 480.9 Shared room at centre of first floor



Plate 480.10 Drinking fountain in Building 480



Plate 480.11 Store in shared area



Plate 480.12 Roof detail



Plate 480.13 General view of trusses



Plate 480.14 Roof ridge detail



Plate 480.15 Truss apex detail



Plate 480.16 Truss detail



Plate 480.17 Vent in roof



Plate 480.18 Corner detail in roof



Plate 480.19 Roof detail



Plate 480.20 Rafters detail



Plate 480.21 Roof detail



Plate 480.22 Roof partition



Plate 483.1 View from south-east



Plate 483.2 View of east projection looking north



Plate 483.3 General view of west elevation



Plate 483.4 Southern end of east wall



Plate 483.5 South end of Building 483



Plate 483.6 East wall of building



Plate 483.7 General view of west elevation



Plate 483.8 First floor walkway looking south



Plate 483.9 Typical doors to flats



Plate 483.10 Central shared service area



Plate 483.11 Central shared area



Plate 483.12 Typical interior of an apartment



Plate 483.13 First floor shared area



Plate 483.14 First floor shared area

Building 454: Water Tank

NGR: SP 51479 25701

Recording Level: 1

Location

This building is located within Area OA12B, at the north end of the barrack area between buildings 440 and 450.

History/ Function

The water tank is thought to date from 1950, as part of the 'EWS' (Emergency Water Supply).

Description

The tank is constructed from concrete and roughly square in plan, it is 1.8m high with barb wire at the top (Plate 454.1). It is surrounded by a timber fence, making assessment difficult but it is possible to see the water reserve extant within the fence.

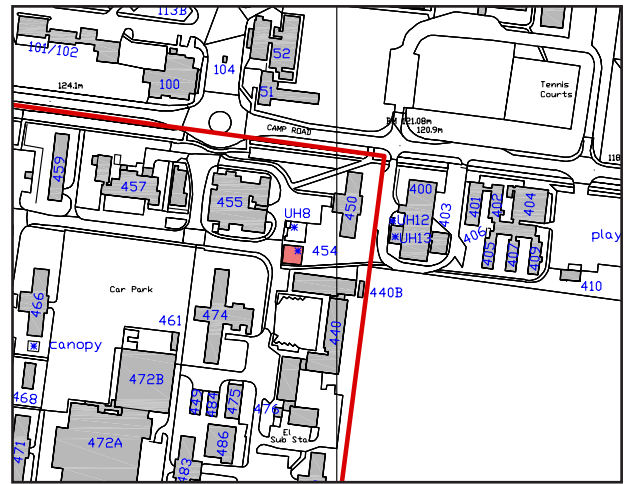


Plate 454.1 East elevation

Building 459: Barracks for Airmen

NGR: SP 51349 25747

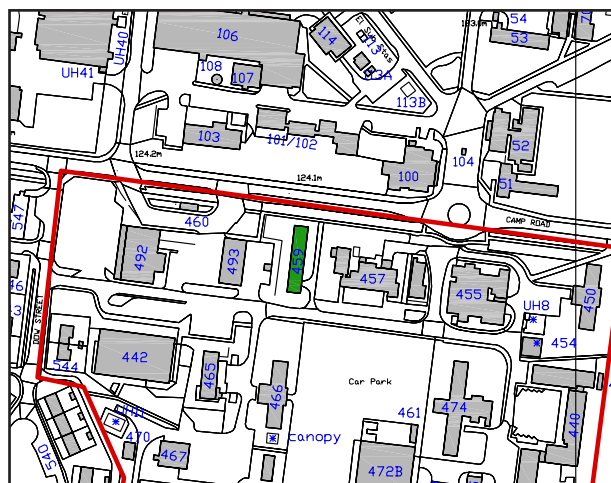
Recording Level: 2

Location

This building is located. It is at the north-western corner of the Parade Ground and its northern end faces onto Camp Road between buildings 459 and 455.

History/ Function

Building 459 was constructed in 1925 (date stone on gable) and it is shown clearly on the 1926 airfield plan and labelled then as Building 44 ('Barrack Block for airmen pilots'). A detailed plan of the building also survives from this period ('Barrack Block for 12 Airmen Pilots') which is principally intended to illustrate the electric lighting that was to be installed in the building but also demonstrating the internal layout and the use of different rooms. The building had a long corridor along the spine of the building with bedrooms to either side of this and lavatory, plant room, bathroom and shower facilities at the south end. The entrance and hallway were in the same location as today, towards the southern end of the east elevation. The building has the Air Ministry ref B221/25 and the plan appears to have been prepared in 1927. It is interesting to note that the building shown on this plan is longer than on the site plan and although the title states that the building is for 12 pilots the plan has 16 standard bedrooms. If the plan was prepared in 1927, two years after the building was constructed, it seems likely that the plan indicates the date of the extension. Although the plan is primarily related to the installation of electrical lighting it may be that the extension was part of this phase of works.



The longer building corresponds with the site plan from 1931 which shows that by this date the building (still No.44) had been extended to the north since the 1926 plan by c.6.5. This extension was clearly the extra four bedrooms shown on the electrical plan and it may be that the building was always intended to be extended in this way. The key of the 1931 plan shows that the building was constructed to plan numbers 1951/25 and 1259/27. Presumably the later number relates to the 1927 extension.

The same longer building is shown on the 1937 and 1939 plans and these show that the building (still No 44) was described as a 'Quarters for 66 airmen pilots'. It is shown on an RAF aerial photo from 1942 with camouflage to the roof (the northern end is an irregular dark colour). It is again shown on a plan of 1945 but it is now numbered 66. A plan from 1947 again shows it as Building 66 and here the key shows it as 'Sergeants Single Quarters (for 30)' The 1947 plan includes an interesting note stating 'Sergeant's Quarters for S/NCO's Building No 66 to be used without alterations' (S/NCO: Senior non-commissioned officer).

A plan of the building survives from April 1978 titled 'Alterations to Airmen's Dormitories' and showing a variety of refurbishment works to be undertaken at this time. The main works appears to have been the creation of new openings within the existing partitions to create apartments with pairs of linked rooms (bedroom and sitting room) rather than the previous arrangement with single rooms. The layout of the southern end and entrance was still broadly as in the 1920s plan although a former bathroom at the south-western corner was converted in 1978 to a laundry room. Various other works are detailed in the plan including moving radiators, blocking shower room windows, installing suspended ceilings and replacing sanitary ware.

Description

Exterior

Building 459 is a detached, single storey building with a rectangular plan (c.38 x 8 m) orientated north to south and adjacent to Camp Road. It is constructed with cavity wall stretcher bond brick (generally red but with occasional blacks mixed in) and has a slate covered gabled roof with large projecting barge boards at each end.

There is relatively little clear phasing in the building but the brickwork in the northernmost c.7.8 m has a slightly different character than in the rest of the building and this clearly relates to the map evidence which shows that the building was extended to the north between 1926 and 1931. The mortar in the northern section of brick is clearly lighter than the rest of the building and the coursing is of a slightly rougher quality although the brick type is the same (Plate 459.1). Other slight differences between the northern part and the rest include the fact that the roof ridge rises slightly at the junction and very subtle differences in the windows. The windows themselves are the same but there is a slight curved detail on the main windows that is missing from the northern two bays and the vent detail in the northern section is slightly different (simple grid rather than lattice)

The windows to the former bedrooms are generally original, metal-framed crittal-types with mullions and transoms painted a chocolate brown colour (Plate 459.9). Each main window has 4 casements (20-light) with two 4-light top-hung casements to the top and two 6-light side-hung casements to the bottom. The windows have concrete sills and they are beneath square-headed soldier course lintels although many of these are largely hidden by the boxed-in eaves. The boxed-in eaves has subtle

detailing that is indicative of the higher status of this building than some barrack blocks. Between most of the lintels there are lattice vents

At the south-eastern corner of the building is a free-standing brown sign of a similar design to many others at Upper Heyford showing that Building 459 was used for the 20 Services Squadron Human Resource Office' Below this 'Family Day Care' has also been added to the sign possibly showing a later use (Plate 459.5).

The *east elevation* is the main front of the building with the entrance towards the southern end, eight standard 20-light windows to the north of this and two smaller windows to the south. Historic plans suggest that the entrance into the building was always in its current location although the current aluminium framed double door is a modern replacement. To the south of this are two windows to the utility/WC block although they are again primary crittal types. One is a simple 6-light casement while the other is a 4-light casement over a 6-light casement. At the south end of the east elevation is a painted stencil sign with the old Air Ministry No (AM No.66) adjacent to a later brown sign fixed to the wall with 459 on.

The *south elevation* has two tall thin 6-light crittal casement windows which would have illuminated and helped vent the utility/WC block as well as a tall thin vent at the apex (Plate 459.7). The 1978 plan shows that an existing central window was bricked up at this time and the brick soldier course from this remains in-situ.

The *west elevation* has 8 typical crittal-type windows to the former bedrooms and an infilled patch at the south end which is shown on the 1978 plan. There is a plain brown door to the former plant room towards the south end which is likely to be primary with slat vent above and this aligns with a chimney inside the building close to the ridge.

The *north elevation* has a central secondary door and no windows (Plate 459.6). The airfield plan from 1947 shows a pathway leading to a doorway at this end of the building and it may be that there was always an entrance at this end. The most interesting feature in the north elevation is a stone showing the date 1925. This is partly interesting as it appears to confirm the date of construction of the building but also the fact that it is on the extension which we know from map evidence post-dates 1926. It may be that the date stone was removed from the original north end wall when the extension was built and added to the new gable.

Interior

The interior of the building closely matches that shown on the 1978 plan and comprises a utility block at the southern end and a central spine corridor from here to the northern end with regular sized rooms to each side. As detailed above these rooms are generally arranged in pairs with openings between to form a series of apartments with bedroom and sitting room.

The WC/showers block at the southern end has painted brick walls in contrast to the plastered walls elsewhere and the sign on the doors says Restrooms rather than WC, reflecting the American personnel who were based here. The sanitary ware is all modern (1978) and there is a very simple sliding sign on the door which could show if a man or woman was using the area. The wall tiles in the shower area are brown and the cubicle partitions are orange (Plate 459.13).

Although the basic internal layout of the building is similar to that from when it was first built the rooms were refurbished in 1978 and there are now modern carpets, doors, fluorescent lights and surfaces throughout. There are modern ceiling tiles in the corridor but the older lath and plaster ceilings remain in most of the rooms. The partition walls between rooms are primary.

There are no cornices and the architraves and frames were removed in the 1978 works. The rooms do not have a genuine skirting boards fixed to the wall but there is a simple, low half-circle roll moulding which continues around the room in place of a skirting. This follows around the partition walls that have been partly removed in the 1978 works.

The main alteration that was clearly undertaken to the building after the 1978 phase was that in the wall to the sitting room of flat 1 there was a receptionist type hatch (1.6 m wide) facing the corridor (Plate 459.11). This is the room on the west side at the southern end of the corridor and adjacent to the entrance hall. It is likely that the final use of the building was as offices (Family Day Care on sign outside) and this room was for the receptionist.

The 1978 plan shows that the room to the east side of the corridor at its southern end was a cleaners room although at the time of the current recording it contained plant (switch gear?). Immediately to the north of the former cleaners room was a lounge. The wall at the original north end of the building, before the construction of the two pairs of rooms at the north end, is identifiable by being thick and solid brickwork in contrast to the light-weight partitions that divide the rest of the rooms.

Conclusion

Building 459 is a prominent structure, being located close to Camp Road, and although it has a simple design it adds to the historic 1920s character of this area.

The building is relatively well preserved and its external form hasn't changed greatly since the 1920s although the northern two bays are an early, secondary addition. It retains its primary crittal type windows although the main entrance door has been

replaced and a small number of other changes have been made to other openings. The interior also remains relatively close to its original form and it is easy to trace the primary plan with ablutions block at one end and standard individual barrack rooms to the rest of the building either side of a spine corridor.

The history of the building is well understood with the original construction in 1925 followed by the addition of an extension at the north end, probably in around 1927. The building was originally a barracks for 12 airmen pilots but by (or in) 1947 it was being used as the Single Sergeants Quarters. Plans from 1978 show that the building was refurbished at this date and the fact that the plan is titled 'Alterations to Airmen's Dormitories' suggests that the use of the building had reverted from the Single Sergeants Quarters to its original function.

The condition of the building was relatively good, other than superficial decay and it is likely that it continued in use until the closure of the base.

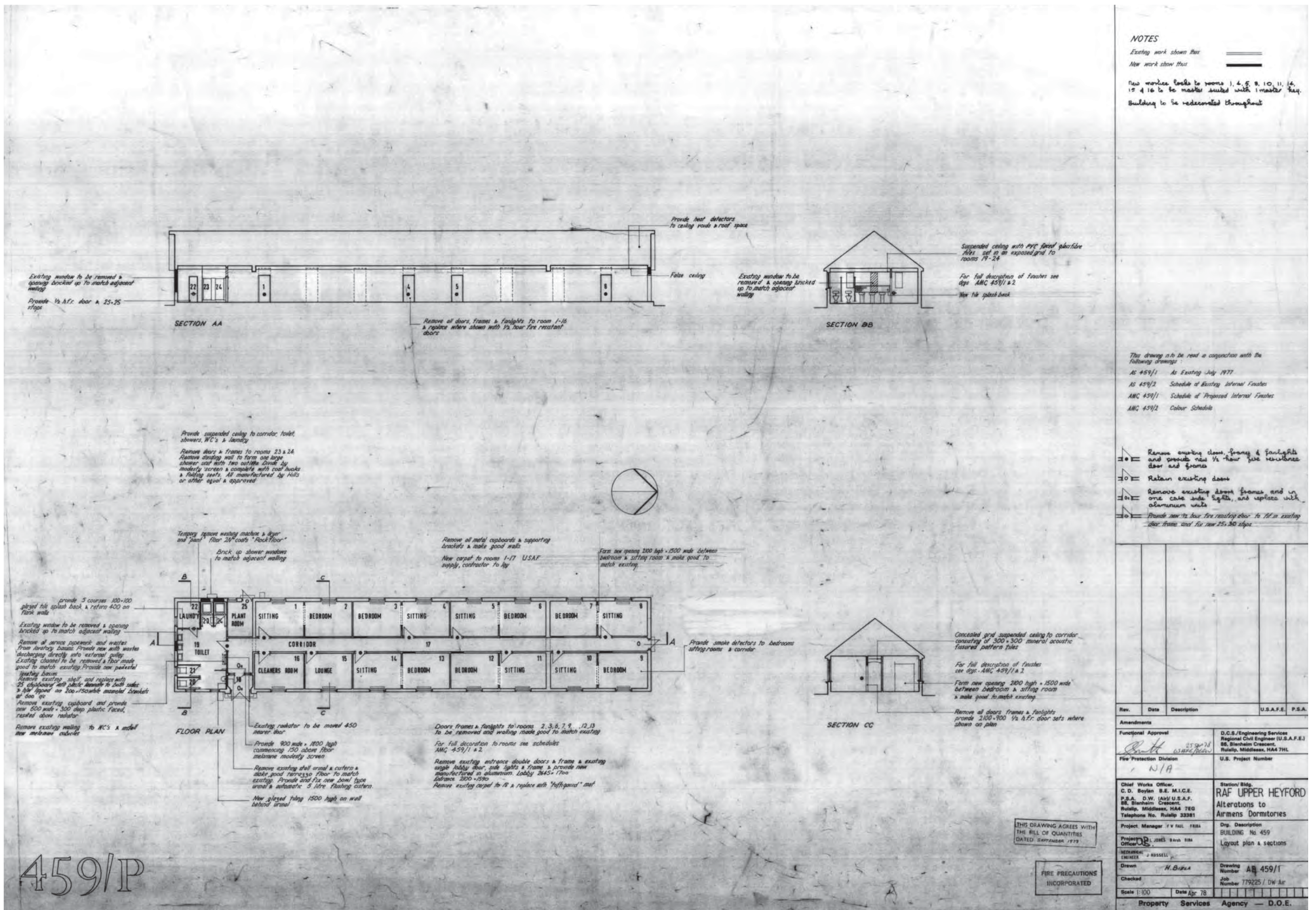


Figure 459.1: Floor plan (1978)



Plate 459.1 Main part of east elevation



Plate 459.2 Southern end of east elevation



Plate 459.3 General view of east elevation



Plate 459.4 Northern end of west elevation



Plate 459.5 View from south-east



Plate 459.6 View from north-east



Plate 459.7 View from south-west



Plate 459.8 Building number sign



Plate 459.9 Typical primary window



Plate 459.10 Typical room



Plate 459.11 Corridor looking north



Plate 459.12 Reception room on west side of building



Plate 459.13 Showers etc at south end of building



Plate 459.14 Typical primary crittall type window



Plate 459.15 Typical rooms

Building 460: Bus Shelter

NGR: SP 51289 25777

Recording Level: 1

Location

This building is located within Area OA12A, and is directly accessed directly off Camp Road, with beings 492 and 493 to the rear.

History/ Function

The bus shelter is stated in records to date from 1939, however this date is not consistent with evidence from historic mapping and aerial photography. A 1939 plan details the area as 'A Quarry' which is consistent with a 1942 AP. A 1954 AP appears to show a much longer building in the location of the bus shelter, surrounded on one side by a road accessed off Camp Road. A 1947 plan shows the area as a series of huts for the provision of pupils. It seems likely therefore that the bus shelter is later in date, the brickwork suggests that it is more likely to date from the 1950/60s.

Description

The red brick bus shelter is rectangular in plan with a pitched tiled roof, timber fascia and simple brick openings instead of windows (Plate 460.1). A sign to the front elevation states 'AMNo.116A'.

The south-east (front) elevation has an open front with a roof supported on two brick pillars. An area to the front of the elevation allows buses to pull up and passengers to embark, the road loops round in front of the shelter entering and exiting from Camp Road to the rear. The north-west and south-east elevations have single rectangular openings within the brickwork, and the north-east (rear) elevation has three such openings. There are benches internally running along each elevation.

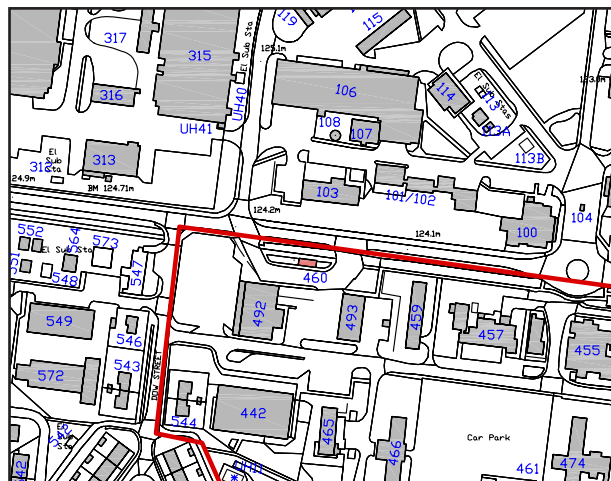


Plate 460.1 South-east elevation

Building 461: Storage Unit

NGR: SP 51414 25649

Recording Level: 1

Location

This building is located within Area OA12B, it is situated to the rear (north) of building 472 within the former Parade Ground.

History/ Function

Building 461 is a utilitarian structure associated with building 472 and was probably used to house the electrical/ refrigeration equipment for Building 472.

The Upper Heyford Archives hold various plans of Building 472A (the southern part of 472B) and some of these imply that the northern part of this building (now known as 472B and immediately adjacent to 471) was formerly known as 473. There is a plan from 1978 detailing the relocation of a refrigerator room from West Ruislip to B473 at Upper Heyford and the refrigerator building appears to be the structure now numbered 461. It is shown as a free-standing structure at the north end of 473.

Description

Building 461 is constructed on a concrete plinth with metal clad walls (painted cream) and no windows. The roof is corrugated asbestos, the building is surrounded by a 1.8m timber fence on concrete and metal support posts. The building is part-collapsed and in very poor condition.

The west elevation has a metal door providing the only point of access but otherwise there are no features of interest. The south and east (rear) elevations have no features of interest. The north elevation has no features of interest with the exception of a small timber boarded (white) lean-to against the main structure which contains electrical equipment (a condenser and refrigeration buttons), which are probably linked to the rear refrigeration equipment.

Archive

There are no specific plans of building 461, but as described above plans of other immediate structures appear to reference building 461.

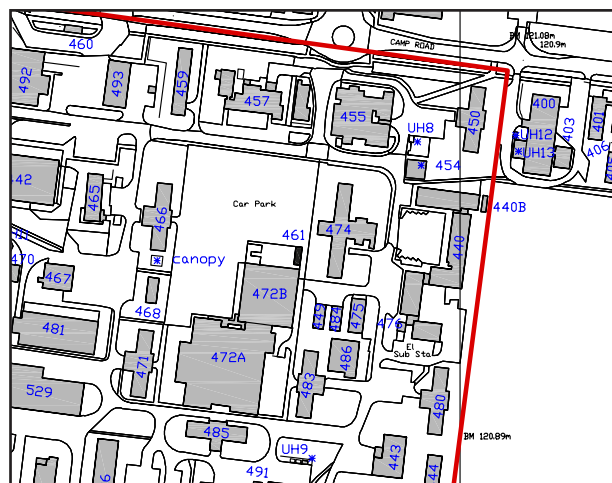




Plate 461.1 North elevation

Building 465: Decontamination Centre

NGR: SP 51299 25683

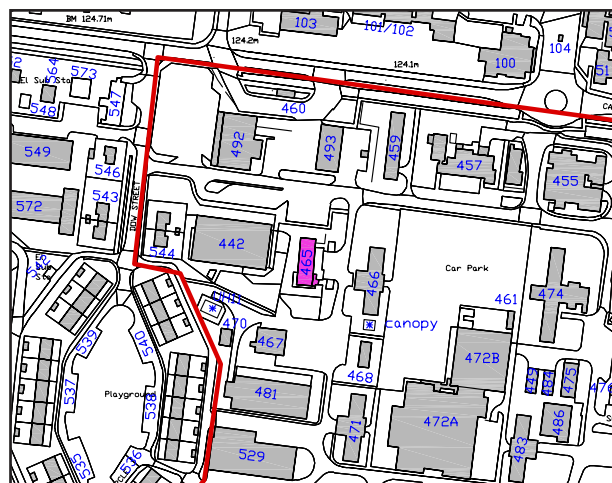
Recording Level: 2

Location

This building is located within Area OA12B, it is situated to the west of the former Parade Ground, between buildings 442 and 466.

History/ Function¹

The Decontamination Centre dates from 1935 designed by J.Binge of the Air Ministry's Directorate of Works and Buildings according to drawing no. 6224/37. The building is not shown on a 1935 plan of the site, but is visible on a 1945 plan, and described on a 1947 plan as building no.93 'Decontamination Block'.



It was designed to deal with personnel who became gas casualties so they could be decontaminated and receive first-aid treatment. If attacked by gas it was important to get out of all contaminated clothing, dispose of it, wash thoroughly, and change into fresh clothing as soon as possible. If this could be achieved within 20 minutes of initial contamination, serious injury could be avoided.

Fortunately, decontamination buildings were never used for the purpose to which they were designed but some were used for decontamination of another kind; infestation by lice and other parasitic insects. A few were used for storage of respirators and gas capes, while others were just kept in immaculate condition in the event of attack. Postwar, some were used for gas defence training because the nature of their construction made them ideal for this purpose. At Upper Heyford the Decontamination Centre was used during the Cold War as a Command Post for co-ordinating of base ops and assessment of damage to station's buildings and structures. A plan survives of the building from 1985 (Fig.465.1) Externally, the building has been little altered and reflect its primary function as a Decontamination Centre, internally the building has been reconfigured and the configuration, fixtures and fittings reflect this later use.

Description

External

The decontamination building resembles an operations block rather than a building to be used for cleansing, its design was the result of extensive experiments on the effects of bomb blasts on different types of wall section.

The Decontamination Centre is a windowless single-storey structure with 18-inch (0.45m) thick brick walls protected by earth banks (Plate 465.1). It is constructed in flemish bond with red brick which probably faces reinforced concrete walls beneath. The roof consists of a thick-section reinforced concrete lower sub-roof and a thin-section reinforced concrete upper roof, separated by a composite wall made of an inner skin of concrete and faced on the outside with 4.5-inch (0.11m) brick. In the centre of the lower sub-roof was a hipped-roof water tank house with thick-section reinforced-concrete walls that were cast as part of the lower roof. The protected tank house contained 4 500-gallon water tanks for the water closets and showers and was centrally located above the bleaching room. The cavity between the upper and lower roof sections was filled first with sand, then a layer of shingle so that the tank house had enough protection from the sand and shingle, the centre of the upper roof section was also hipped. This centre section can be seen prominently above a brick-parapet wall that hides the remaining flat concrete roof (Plate 465.2). The whole external surface of the upper roof was covered with asphalt for weather protection. A tall aerial extending from the roof indicates its secondary Cold War use as a Command Post.

The north-east (front) elevation has two metal doors (painted brown) providing access to the bunker (Plate 465.3). The south-east door is accessed via a protected gap in the earth bank which surrounds the front elevation. The passage way (detailed as passage 1 on the 1985 plan, Fig.465.1) has tall brick walls (3.5m in height) to each side, and to the front (north-east) is a revetment which consists of brick walls surrounding an earth bank which provides additional protection (Plate 4). The north-west passage (passage 2 in Fig.465.1) is of a similar design with a revetment bank. The brick walls are 0.23m thick with reinforced concrete lining the inside, the red brick has a white stripe running roughly centrally along the brick blast walls. Closer inspection suggests that the brick has been painted red above and below the white stripe to enhance the external appearance of the building. The area between the two entrances is protected by an earth bank built between the two internal brick walls of the passage ways, with reinforced concrete lining the inner wall.

¹ Much of the information within this description is based on Paul Francis's work in 'British Military Airfield Architecture' (1996).

The passage way extends around the south-east elevation to the rear of the building, again this is constructed in reinforced concrete (Plate 465.5). The south-east, south-west (rear) and north-west elevations have earth embankments built up against the blast walls (3.5 m in height), it is possible to see the top of the passage wall and the roof's parapet roof extending above the earth embankment. Otherwise the elevations have no features of interest (Plate 465.6). The north-west elevation has a vent and brick chimney built into the brick wall above the earth bank.

Internal

The former Decontamination Centre is in fairly poor condition. Due to lack of ventilation the fixtures and fittings have suffered, and due to health and safety risks a rapid survey only was completed. No fixtures and fittings relating to the building's use as a Decontamination Centre were identified, those *in situ* relate to the building's use as a Command Post. Historical evidence shows that during its use as a Decontamination Centre the building would have had: a reception area and undressing-room, a store room (for individual's valuables), an airlock leading to a bleaching room which contained showers, bleach store, sinks, WCs and towel store. After a thorough wash, treatment of affected areas could begin (which for mustard gas this was bleach). There were also dressing and waiting areas. The concrete floor and internal rendered walls would have been treated with sodium silicate solution, and the floor had a drainage system to allow decontamination to be easily carried out by hosing down.

Today, the layout of the building is similar to that of the 1985 plan (Fig.465.1) although there are some differences. A corridor runs along the north-east length of the building from which the rooms lying to the south-west can be accessed (Plate 465.7). A piece of war art survives along the (dark) corridor which has been separately recorded (OA forthcoming) which is the 620th Security Police Squadron with the motto: '*Si Vis Pacem Parabellem*' ('If you want peace prepare for war'). In general, the building has carpeted floors and rendered (painted) walls (Plate 465.8).

At the main entrance (to the north-west) is a plant room immediately to the north-west and to the rear of this the plan shows a further plant room although there is no evidence of plant. The remaining fixtures and fittings suggest it was used as an office or similar. Immediately to the south-east of these rooms is a long, narrow room with built in cupboards along the south-east wall which also appears to have been used as an office area or similar (Plate 465.9).

One of the largest room in the building is a Command Room which is entered via a corridor (orientated north-east to south-west) which leads off from the main main corridor (immediately to the south-east of the war art). Within the room desks run along the walls and a planning board on the internal corridor wall with a timber platform below, there is a further set of desks in front of the platform (Plate 465.10). The desks are separated by timber partitions creating individual workspaces. The north-east/ south-west corridor is a later addition evidently constructed from breeze block. A further room to the south-east is also accessed from this corridor, which has wood panelling and numerous sockets suggesting it once held banks of computers. Immediately to the north-east of this room and accessed from the main corridor, is a room with a bank of desks *in situ* along the south-west wall which appear to have held control panels (Plate 465.11). There is also a board (possibly a map board) along the south-east wall.

The south-east room which is accessed from the main corridor is largely empty albeit a map board along the south-east wall (possibly a map board) (Plate 465.12). The 1985 plan (Fig.465.1) shows a kitchen to the south-west of this room which does not appear to have been constructed. A further corridor runs along the south-west end of the building with a WC situated at the south-west end.

Archive

One plan was identified of building 465 which dates from 1985 and is included within the report.



Plate 465.1 North-west (front) elevation



Plate 465.2 Brick parapet wall to front elevations



Plate 465.3 Metal door to front elevation



Plate 465.4 Front elevation revetment walls



Plate 465.5 Passage way to south-east elevation and rear elevations



Plate 465.6 South-east elevations



Plate 465.7 Internal passage running along the north-east elevation



Plate 465.8 Internal war art



Plate 465.9 Internal view of south-east room



Plate 465.10 Internal view of command room



Plate 465.11 Bank of desks along south-west wall



Plate 465.12 Internal view of south-east room

Building 466: Barrack Block - Type C

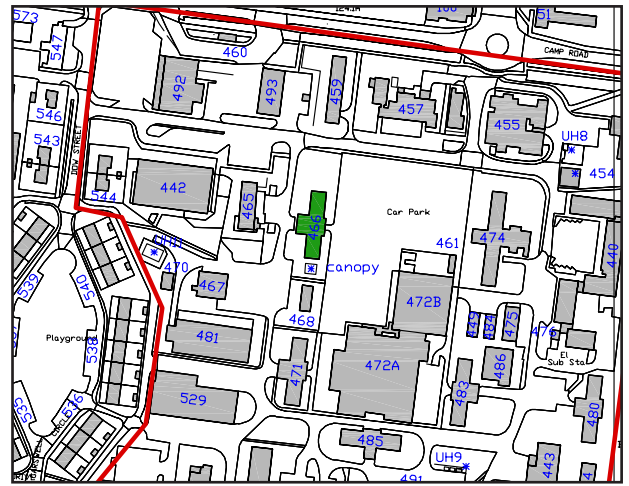
NGR: SP 51333 25662

Recording Level: 2

The five C-type barrack blocks (450, 466, 471, 480, 483) are identical buildings and have been included in this gazetteer under a single entry (see Building 450). Separate sets of plates have been included for each building but only one set of the historic figures, in the entry for Building 450. This is because the four figures are a single set of drawings from the 1980s which covered all five C-type barrack blocks.

Archive

Four figures of buildings 450, 465, 471, 480 & 483 from the 1984 and 1985 were identified in the Upper Heyford archives.



Building 467: Central Heating Station

NGR: SP 51280 25639

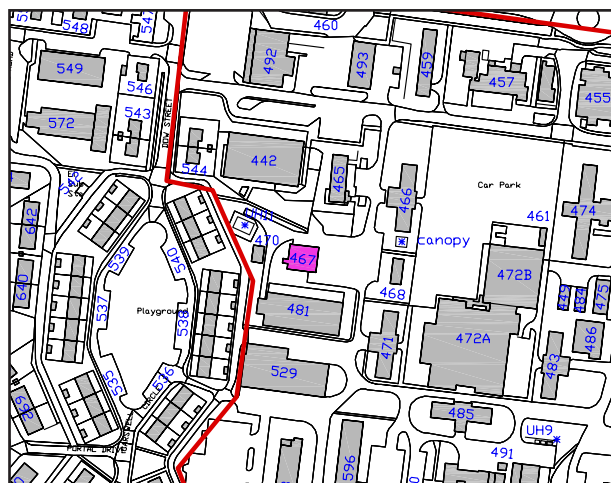
Recording Level: 2

Location

This building is located within Area OA12B, to the west of the former Parade Ground and situated between building 442 and 481.

History/ Function²

The former Central Heating Station is thought to date from 1925, however it is not shown on the 1930s plan of the site. It is shown on a plan of 1945 as building no.122, although its description is illegible.



Its function was to supply high pressure steam service (district heating scheme), whereby certain buildings were heated by an independent central heating station rather than from individual boiler rooms attached to each building. At Upper Heyford, the introduction of the Dining Room and 'H' type barrack blocks under the RAF expansion period 'L' necessitated a Central Heating Station to supply hot water to feed the wall mounted radiators fitted inside the new buildings. Building 467 (formerly Am No 122) was constructed by the Air Ministry's Directorate of Works and Buildings, to drawing no. 6217/39. The building is single phase but has areas of infill within the brickwork, particularly to the front elevation.

Typically, the central heating building had three coal-fired boilers and associated automatic stokers and pumps to supply hot water (or steam) via underground pipes laid in ducts connecting with buildings erected under Scheme 'L'. The building consists of a boiler room with three boilers and in front of these are counter-balanced hatches through which coal could be shovelled from an adjacent fuel store. Behind the boilers was a horizontal flue that connected with the exhaust stack. The stack is built as part of the water tower that served the boilers (to create steam). Another room housed one pump for each boiler. The fuel store essentially consisted of a 6ft (1.83m) high walled enclosure arranged as several bays and included a clinker bunker.

Description

External

The boiler house is a distinctive feature within the Barrack Area, it is a stark cube of brickwork housing the main plant out of which rises a slightly stepped brick shaft (Plate 467.1). It is constructed from red brick in Flemish bond, with a flat concrete roof built for protection against incendiary devices. It has large four light crittal windows set high with georgian wired glass. The building is single-storey to the front that is thought to be a later addition, and double height to the main structure which dates from 1925.

To the front (south-east) elevation of the building is a large concrete area below which are fuel holding tanks (see Plate 467.1). A large notice to the front elevation reads: *'Danger Fuel Tanks Underground, No Parking At Anytime'*. There are three manhole covers used to access below-ground and areas of concrete slabs. To the south-west a reinforced concrete wall runs from the front of the concrete area (adjacent to the road) alongside the south-west elevation of the building to the point the structure becomes double height, at which point it turns in to adjoin the building. This wall is reinforced concrete to the front face and 1930s red brick to the rear face (Plate 467.2).

The later extension to the front elevation has three windows centrally with concrete lintels, wood frames (painted brown with green paint visible beneath). Each window has six rectangular lights and georgian wired glass to act as reinforcement against a blast. Below the sills of the two south-west windows are four terracotta vents with a row of replacement brickwork beneath suggesting these are later additions. Centrally in the elevation are three pipes that extend from below-ground to above the height of the single storey front elevation bending down at the top. At the north-east edge of the elevation, the building number is on a brown metal plate with 'Am No 122' painted in white on green below this.

Surrounding the three windows is a large area of replacement brickwork, and to the south-west of the windows are two further areas of infill (one larger one to ground level and roughly door sized, and a smaller one above which is roughly 10 courses of brickwork in height). At the very south-west of the elevation (at the corner) is a further area of infill which is roughly 20 courses in height and two bricks deep (see Plate 467.2). The infill around the existing windows is evident below the windows to ground level, and surrounding the windows to the height of the lintels. The bricks above the existing windows appear to have been cut to facilitate the insertion of the window (Plate 467.3). Above the north-east window (which is boarded up) is a further area of infill which is level with (and just below roof height) to the area of infill described to the south-west of the building. It is possible that the two existing windows are later insertions, and that to either side of these two windows doors

² Much of the information within this description is based on Paul Francis's work in 'British Military Airfield Architecture' (1996).

were extant. This reorganisation of the front elevation may have been to allow for the installation of internal plant against the elevation (as described below) (see Plate 467.1).

The taller (earlier) element of the front elevation has four critical windows with rectangular lights, each window has metal lintels and concrete sills. This element of the front elevation has no areas of infill. A brick chimney extends to the rear from the height of the elevation, which is further described below.

The extended element of the south-west elevation has an infilled door of the same phase as the infilled brickwork of the front elevation (see Plate 467.2). A drainpipe and hopper are evident on the front elevation. The blast wall surrounding the front of the building meets the front of the primary phase of the elevation showing that it is contemporary with this earlier phase. The rear element of the elevation (to the north-west of the blast wall) is 1930s in date with three windows (of the same type as described on the 1925 element of the front elevation) (Plate 467.4). To either side of the windows are drainpipes and hoppers, which reach to roof height, showing that this front elevation has a parapet roof extending nineteen courses from above the height of the hoppers. Further features of interest are three small vents above the three windows, and the 1930s building number towards ground floor level at roughly head height ('467' 'Am No 122').

The brick shaft at the rear of the elevation has a central panel of metal sheeting, several panels of which are now missing (also evident on the north-west and north-east elevations described below) (Plate 467.5). This is held in place by a timber frame on the internal edge of the brickwork, onto which the sheets are attached. The brickwork is slightly recessed at two points towards the height of the chimney typical of Art Deco fashion, with concrete capping above. There is an area of repair on the south-west face, clearly delineated by the light coloured mortar at the top of the chimney.

The key feature of the north-west (rear) elevation is a tall flue which extends from the face of the rear elevation. A timber door (painted brown) provides access to the flue which has stepped headers to either side of the door providing some architectural embellishment typical of the Art Deco period. Above the entrance is a flat concrete roof (Plate 467.6). As described for the south-west elevation, the flue has a central panel of metal sheeting, some of which are missing at the base, and a canopy at the survives at the height of the flue.

To the south-west of the flue is a single timber panelled door (painted brown) providing access to the 'Flow Pump' room (internally this is labelled as a 'Fire Exit' door). To the north-east of the flue is a large area of corrugated sheeting with louver vents (timber) above, and above this a substantial concrete lintel. Internally behind the sheeting are two 'Powermaster' boilers. To the north-west of the door, a brown metal pipe extends down into the ground.

The north-east elevation has a metal roller door at the south-east end providing access to the later extension to the front elevation (Plates 467.7 & .8). This door is probably a later addition, evident by the concrete surrounding the opening in which the door is recessed, where bolts are visible surviving from an earlier door. The main body of the elevation has a double timber door in a timber sub-frame (painted brown with earlier green paint visible) with a concrete lintel above at the south-east end, which provides access to the main internal room. Above this, three large windows are as previously described. At either end of the elevation are drainpipes and hoppers which are modern plastic replacements. There is also a modern drainpipe and hopper immediately to the north-west of the roller doors which connects to the main drainpipe on the primary elevation. To the south-east of the door is a black-out switch and wiring is evident extending from this to the north-west.

Internal

The space is divided into three areas as shown on the 1971 plan (Fig.467.1). The largest central room holds the two boilers, within the later extension to the front of the building is plant equipment including a 'Pressuring Unit' as well as electrical units, and to the south-west is a smaller narrow room with 'Flow Pumps' (Plates 467.9, .10 & .11). The brick walls are painted white (now peeling) with grey paint visible beneath. Internally, the windows (1.3 m in width) are recessed into the walls (0.36m in thickness) with string pulleys *in situ* to open the windows. The height and size of the windows creates a light, open space. The floor is concrete (painted red) with recessed channels (0.45m in depth and width), which hold pipes covered over with metal sheets. The plant and electrical equipment has been updated as technology allowed, an extant log book shows it continued in use until 1994 when the airbase closed.

The main boiler room contains two boilers as indicated on the 1962 plan, these are '*B&E Boilers Ltd. European (Bracknell)*' (Plate 467.12). Both boilers are pressure boilers used for hot water dating from 1981, and have steps leading to the top of the north-east side to operate the large cylindrical boilers (4.3m in length, 2.08m in width). There are two dials to the front of each boiler, one measuring degrees in centigrade and one measuring pounds and squared inches. To the front of each boiler are large handles and hinged openings to provide access to the boilers, but these are bolted shut. To the front of the boiler is machinery with lights and dials labelled '*Oil/ Off/ Gas*' and '*Lockout/ Excess temp*' or '*Pressure/ High-Low/ Oil/ Gas*' etc. To the rear of the boilers, two large metal pipes extend from the flue to the rear of the two boilers. There are also yellow pipes running around the base of the two boilers which exit in the north corner of the room. In the west corner of the room is an opening within the brick flue which has a metal hinged door, it is possible to see that the flue is now infilled with brick and has been out of use for some time (Plate 467.13).

There are three openings leading into the later extension from the main boiler room, allowing light to penetrate into this front space (Plate 467.14). Above, and in alignment with the openings below are three primary windows in two sections with four lights in total as previously described. The south-east extension is shown in the 1971 plan showing that it was built by this time. Attached to the wall adjoining the main boiler room is various electrical equipment including boxes for: *Isolator No.1 & No.2/ Summer Pump/ Winter Pump/ Water Purification/ Pressure Units/ Fuel Oil Pumps/ Busbar Chamber No.2/ Welding Socket*. Other items of plant in the room include a large tank and Elga water purification equipment. Above are five metal beams (orientated south-east to north-west) supporting the flat roof constructed from concrete panels (Plate 467.15).

The 'Flow Pump Room' to the south-west has glazed brick tiles around the lower third of the walls. This room was also used as an office area with an extant desk and cupboard (see Plate 467.11). There are three pumps sitting on concrete bases entitled: '*Summer Pump*' and '*Winter Pump No.1*' and '*Winter Pump No.2*' (Plate 467.16) (these also have controls within the front extension as described above). There is large and extensive modern insulated piping extending from the pumps along the external walls which exit in two places into the ground in the south corner of the external wall. Several large metal dials are visible which were used to operate the pumps situated along the piping. There are also two plastic liquid tanks situated on the external wall with: *Back End Protection Pump Control Relays* written above.

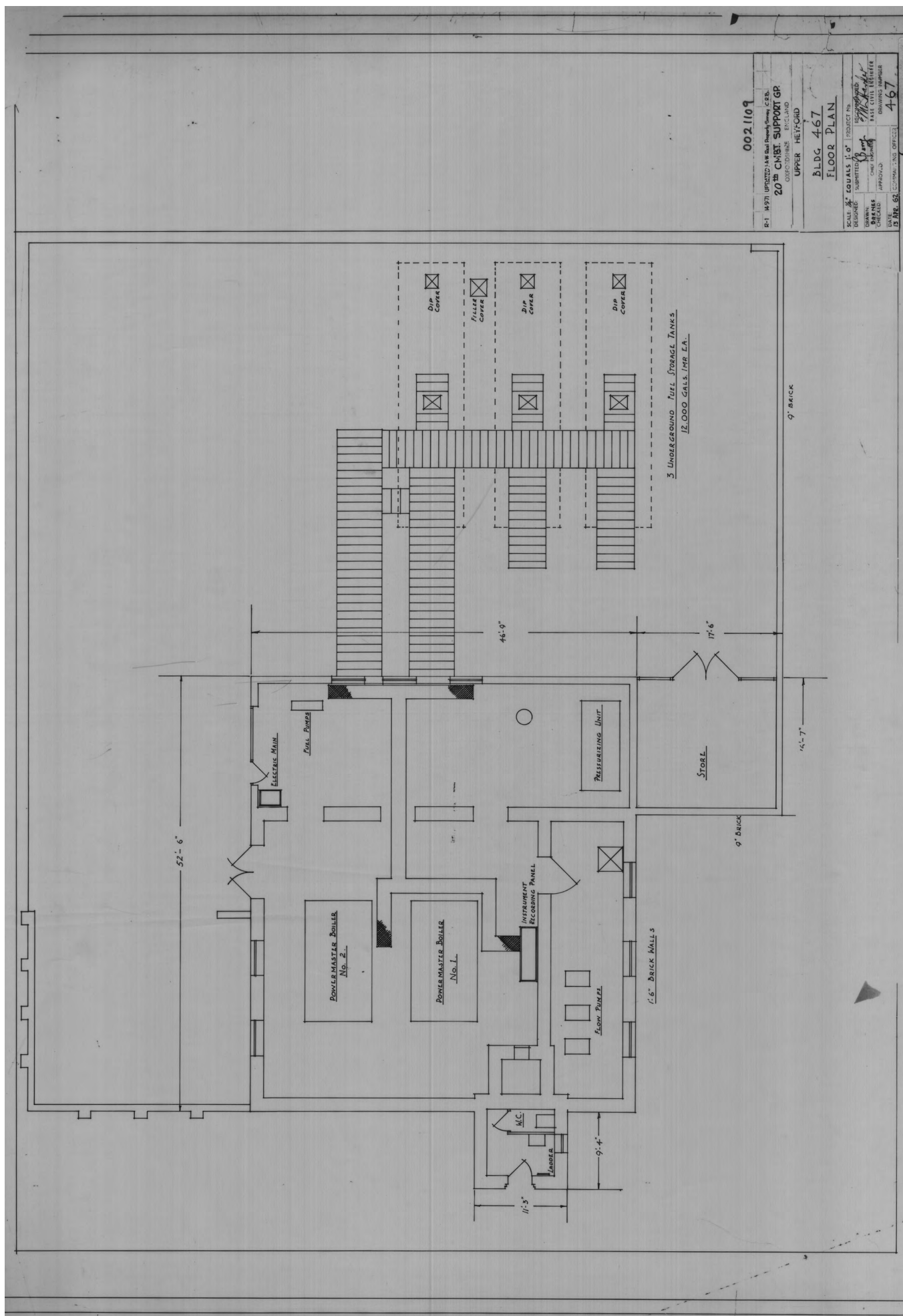


Figure 467.1 Floor plan (1971)



Plate 467.1 Front (south-east) elevation



Plate 467.2 Front elevation and concrete wall



Plate 467.3 Front elevation, window and surrounding infill



Plate 467.4 Rear (south-west) elevation



Plate 467.5 Rear elevation and brick shaft



Plate 467.6 Rear elevation access doors



Plate 467.7 North-east elevation



Plate 467.8 North-east elevation, showing roller door



Plate 467.9 Internal central space (boiler room)



Plate 467.10 Internal area to front (south-east extension)



Plate 467.11 Internal south-west area ('Flow Pump' room)



Plate 467.12 Internal view of main boiler room



Plate 467.13 Internal view of flue, at west corner of boiler room



Plate 467.14 Three primary opening in (now) internal wall between boiler room and south-east extension



Plate 467.15 Internal area to front (south-east)



Plate 467.16 Internal view of south-west 'Flow Pump' room

Building 468: Hut

NGR: SP 51333 25634

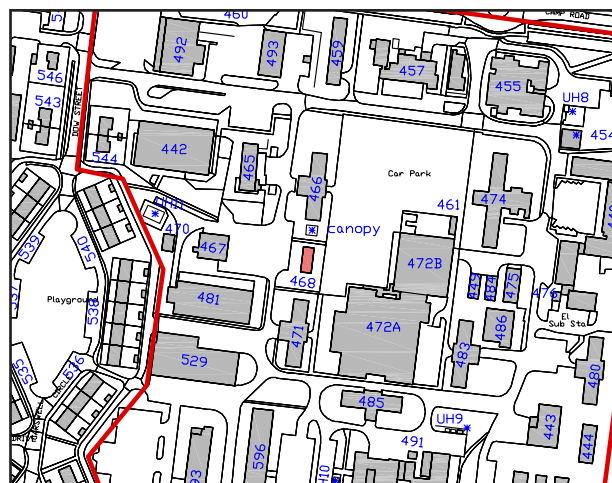
Recording Level: 2

Location

This building is located within Area OA12B, it lies at the west edge of the former Parade Ground between buildings 466 and 471.

History/ Function

This simple hut is thought to date from the mid-20th Century, its function is not known however it may have served as a small office. A plan from 1946 shows that there was a building in the same location as building 468, which is numbered 156 and described as an 'Instruction Hut', but this is detailed as being a Nissen Hut.



Description

This small rectangular hut (14.6m by 6.12m) is constructed from metal panels (painted white with earlier green paint visible beneath) on a concrete base (Plate 468.1). The gabled roof is made from inter-locking metal panels. The north and south elevations have central timber doors with single-light timber framed windows to each side, situated below the roof's apex are three vents. The east and west elevations have twelve single-light windows, although two are blocked up at the north end of the west elevation.

Internally, the hut is roughly divided into two areas by a partition wall, with the south end further divided in the west half into a bathroom and store-room. The main entrance is at the south end where there remains a minimalist decor consisting of a lino floor, white walls and strip lighting. There is an opening (no door) connecting the north end of the building to the south which has the same decor albeit blue walls and frames (Plate 468.2).



Plate 468.1 Front (south) elevation



Plate 468.2 Internal view of north room

Building 470: Shed/ Store

NGR: SP 51254 25640

Recording Level: 1

Location

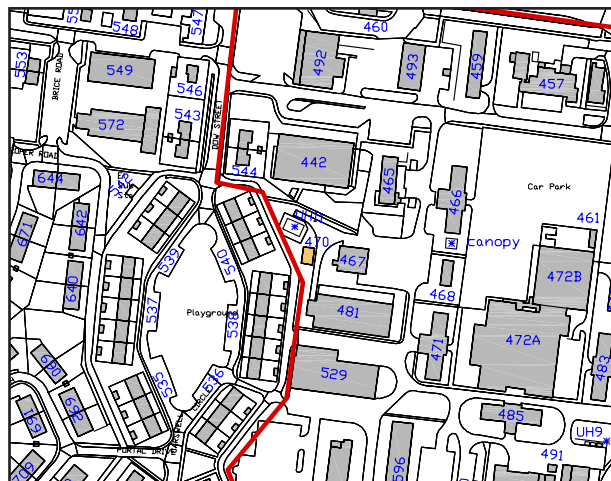
This building is located within Area OA12B, it sits within the barracks area, directly to the east of Carswell North.

History/ Function

The simple structure dating from 1970 is thought to have functioned as a shed or store.

Description

The building is rectangular in plan, constructed from pre-cast concrete panels with a shallow pitched roof. It has simple metal framed windows.



The north-west elevation has no features of interest, the north-east elevation has two windows and a single door providing access to the north-west end (Plate 470.1). The south-west elevation has two windows. The rear (south-east) elevation appears to have been rebuilt in breeze blocks, although it too has been pebble-dashed.

Internally the space is empty.



Plate 470.1 North-east elevation

Building 471: Barrack Block - Type C

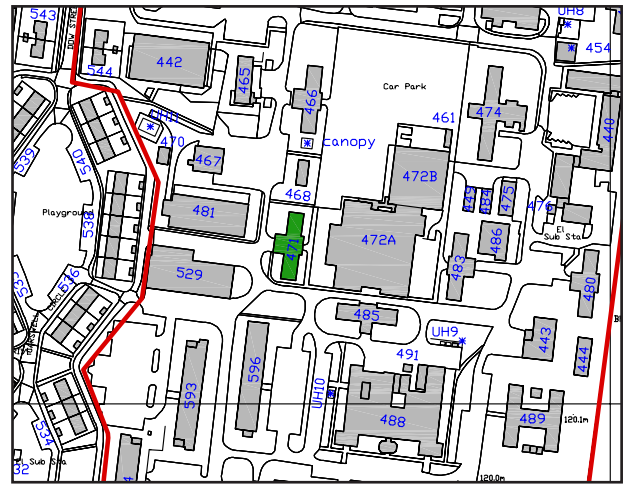
NGR: SP 51321 25576

Recording Level: 2

The five C-type barrack blocks (450, 466, 471, 480, 483) are identical buildings and have been included in this gazetteer under a single entry (see Building 450). Separate sets of plates have been included for each building but only one set of the historic figures, in the entry for Building 450. This is because the four figures are a single set of drawings from the 1980s which covered all five C-type barrack blocks.

Archive

Four figures of buildings 450, 465, 471, 480 & 483 from the 1984 and 1985 were identified in the Upper Heyford archives.



Building 472A & 472B: Mess Complex

NGR: SP 51374 25583

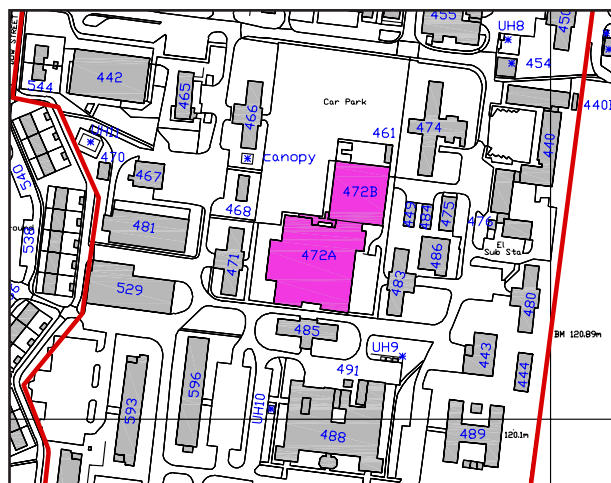
Recording Level: 2

Location

This large building is located within the Barracks Area (OA12B), set to the south of a large tarmac car park (formerly the Parade Ground) and sitting directly to the north of a minor road. To the east and west are buildings 471 and 483 while to the south, on the opposite side of the minor road, is the B Type Barrack Block (Building 485).

The building divides into two elements: 472A is the larger block to the south while 472B is a less substantial structure which extends to the north and covers part of the former Parade Ground.

These were originally separate structures which have been connected by secondary extensions.



History/ Function

A plan of the site dating from 1926 shows a tennis court in the area where the Mess Complex (472) was later constructed, on the south side of the Parade Ground. A plan of 1939 again shows the court and numbers it as 102 'Tennis Court 2 (Airmens) Hard'. A plan of 1947 numbers it as no.83, and describes it as 'Tennis Courts' while an aerial photograph of 1942 once again clearly shows the area covered by tennis courts.

An aerial photograph from 1954 is the first to show buildings on this site as there are two distinct buildings which replaced the tennis court although they differ in plan to the surviving Mess Complex. The two buildings shown in the photograph are almost certainly the same structures which form the core of buildings 472A and 472B but their footprints have each been extended since their original construction, particularly that of 472A. The function of these buildings at this time is not detailed. The footprint of building 472B in the photograph is similar to the footprint of the surviving building, but 472A is shown with an irregular H-plan.

Several drawings survive from refurbishment works in the 1980s. These include a proposal for alterations and repairs to Building 472A from 1984, and also a separate set of drawings for what appears to have been renewing the services in 1987. As the 1980s refurbishment focussed on 472A the various plans from this date don't show 472B, but some imply that 472B may have been called 473 rather than 472B. There are still almost no drawings of Building 473 in the Upper Heyford archives but there is a plan from 1978 detailing the relocation of a refrigerator room from West Ruislip to Upper Heyford. The building appears to be a free-standing structure at the north end of 473, which is likely to be the structure which is now numbered building 461. This might imply that there was a wider phase of works at this building in 1978.

Description

Summary

Building 472 is a large, single storey complex with a sprawling plan. The roof of block 472B has four north-to-south gables and secondary corrugated cladding, while the roof of 472A is more complex. The core of this area also has a series of north-to-south pitched roof bays but the central bay has been rebuilt and a secondary projection has also been added to the west side. Between 472A and 472B is an east-to-west range with a flat roof.

The walls of the original (c.1950) elements of the building are generally constructed from concrete panels, with the later 1970s/80s elements built from breeze blocks. There are metal framed red windows. The colour scheme for the building is cream with brown at the base.

The north facing elevation of building 472 is split into two sections: the projecting east half is the north wall of 472B (Plate 472.10) dates from c.1950 while the west half forms a secondary (1980s) element of 472A (Plate 472.2).

The north elevation of 472B has four shallow-pitched gables, three of which are constructed from vertical pre-cast concrete panels typical of this period, and evident in other buildings at Upper Heyford. Each bay is c.7.5m in width and is painted cream, although the paint now is peeling. The two east bays have four small (1m by 0.6m) windows in a row below the apex of the roof which have been infilled. The bay to the west of the centre is constructed from brick (also painted cream) and within this is a large infilled former entrance with a concrete lintel (3.4m in height). Within this are smaller, double timber brown entrance doors (2m in height and 1.55m in width), and a vent in the top east corner. The west bay of this range is again constructed from precast concrete panels with a vent below the apex of the roof, a 1970/80s brown metal sign reads: '472B Skyline Recreation Center Entrance' with an arrow pointing to the main entrance within 472A. To the front of this range is a small walled compound with various delapidated structures including Building 461, which related to the servicing of the

Recreational Center such as refrigeration units.

The *north facing* elevation of 472A is set well back from the north wall of 472B and provides the main entrance to the Mess Complex with the car parking area to the front (Plate 472.3). The entrance is within the later flat-roofed central range which connects 472A and 472B and which was built during the remodelling of the base for the USAF during the 1970/80s. The canopy entrance is very much of the period with a pitched timber roof supporting glass roof lights supported on timber posts, with a sign 'Open Mess Complex' just below the apex of the canopy roof (Plate 472.2). The entrance leads into an internal foyer area via red metal framed glass doors, within this foyer area is an example of war art (OA 2013). There is a single large rectangular window to the east of the entrance door, and to the west the building steps out to the north with a single red metal framed glass door. In front of the elevation the covered entrance extends to the east and west, in front of which are car parking spaces for military personnel ('CMSGT', '20FW/SEA' and '20FW/CC'). Extending from this to the east and west is a covered area, also constructed on timber posts with a flat roof held on timber rafters. The remaining east element of the north elevation is of breeze block construction with a flat roof of little architectural merit, it has three box shaped vents and a metal and glass door providing another point of access.

The *east elevation* is also divided into two sections: 472B to the north and 472A to the south. The elevation of 472B survives from the original (c.1950) construction of the building and is constructed from precast concrete panels (0.61m in width) with nine pairs of high, rectangular (c. 1m by 0.5m) metal-framed windows just beneath the eaves (Plate 472.7). These are the same type as the infilled windows of the north elevation. The north section (472B) has double timber brown doors with a canopy over entitled '*Rec Center*' and there is also a further single door in this section, (towards the south) which must be a fire exit as there is no external door handle.

The main part of the east elevation of 472A is also formed from primary (c.1950) vertical concrete panels and this is the only substantially surviving primary external wall from 472A (Plate 472.11). The panels are painted cream and this section has seven critical windows (1.5m by 1.2m), each with three large rectangular and one small light, and timber sills. With the exception of the north window these are now boarded up. A double timber door is situated within the row of windows at the south end, which has four glass lights and a timber sill with a light overhead. The roof is pitched with later metal corrugated sheeting, this appears to be a later replacement and it is possible that this was once higher in profile. The east end of the flat roofed range between 472A and 472B is formed from concrete block, possibly dating from the 1970s while at the southern end of this elevation is a further section of concrete block which probably dates from the c.1984 alterations.

There are two vents extending from the end of the flat roofed structure to above roof level and there is a south facing timber door to this projection, which has a glass window above. Immediately to the front is an area that has been fenced off and presumably formerly contained plant equipment which has subsequently been removed. Within this area there are two timber doors providing access to this element of the elevation. Immediately to the south of this is a refrigeration unit surrounded by a breeze block wall. To the north of the small projecting element of the elevation and built up against the rear face of the 472B is metal plant equipment with ventilation vents extending into the building. There is also a spiral staircase providing access to roof level. This area of the east elevation is a plant/ service area and was not built to be aesthetically pleasing but to serve a function.

The *south (rear) elevation* is predominantly within building 472A and is constructed from blockwork (painted cream), probably dating from the 1984 works (Plate 472.12). There is a small section of the rear of Building 472B visible which is described below. At the very west of the south elevation a small section of the building projects to the west, which is part of the large ballroom. It has five large rectangular modern red framed which are in keeping with the building as described below. The large proportion of the rear elevation sits directly on the road, opposite building 485. At the west end are four rectangular windows (0.84 by 1.3m) and a set of double doors, all of which are red plastic framed with darkened glass in keeping with the remaining building. There is a single timber fire door immediately to the east of this, which provides access to the service area at the rear of the bar (see internal description). This rear element of the building has a double-pitched corrugated metal roof. Set back from the main rear elevation by 2.5m is a plant area also constructed from breeze blocks with a large area of vents above, metal cladding and a flat metal roof. The top metal clad section can be accessed by a door at the top of a metal spiral staircase. To the east of this and set directly on the road the remaining elevation of the 472A is blockwork and contains no features of interest (15m in width). It is possible to see a small section of the rear elevation of 472B with the upright concrete panels supporting the pitched roof, although the majority of the elevation is hidden behind plant.

The *west elevation* is constructed from precast concrete panels to the north (ie 472B [Plate 472.4]) and blockwork to the south (472B [Plate 472.8]). The north section faces the parking area and is part of the c.1950 construction of Building 472B. There are three sets of two small rectangular windows, within one of the panes of the north set of windows is a metal vent. Below the central set of windows is breeze block infill which has a single timber door (painted brown) within the blockwork but with no handles. Presumably there was previously a much larger entrance here. At the south end of the elevation is a porch entrance (of the same style as the north elevation). The concrete blockwork used at the west end of the flat-roofed link structure appears to be different to the rest of the concrete blockwork to the west elevation and may be from a slightly earlier phase of alterations (1970s).

Internal

Summary

As outlined above Building 472 comprises the remains of two single storey buildings (472A & 472B) constructed in c.1950 which have been connected and expanded by various secondary phases, including in the 1980s. The main refurbishment in the 1980s focussed on 472A and therefore 472B survives closer to its original form.

472A

The interior of Building 472A was comprehensively remodelled in the last quarter of the 20th century and its layout remains essentially the same as that shown on the proposal plan from 1984. Indeed, on first examination the building appears to be an entirely later 20th-century construction and it is only after closer analysis that fragments of the older structure become apparent.

The plan of the building divides into two main blocks of rooms, to east and west, either side of a north-to-south service/circulation 'spine'. The 'spine' includes the main entrance lobby at the north end, WCs at the south end and a concourse to the centre (Plate 472.15) which includes cashiers/managers office. The 1954 aerial photograph shows a small link structure at the central part of this 'spine', connecting the two blocks to each side, but it appears that this structure was entirely replaced in the later 20th-century works. This area is still of some interest due to its characterful period decoration, American features and examples of wall art. The wall art in this area includes three carved-brick reliefs. In the lobby at the north end there is a relief/panel illustrating an eagle (Pl. 18) while towards the centre of the east wall there are two much larger and impressive reliefs illustrating Uncle Sam and John Bull (Pl. 19-20). These life size reliefs clearly symbolise the unity of America and England at this site. This wall art will be reported on separately in a further document covering all the similar wall art at Upper Heyford.

The central spine also has three-quarter circle phone booths (Plate 472.21) and circular cashiers booths as well as a slot machine room with lots of discarded fragments of paper from rolls of nickels. There is also a very large strong room (a walk-in safe) made by Chubb and another safe in the general area (Plate 472.22).

The block of rooms to the west of the spine comprises three main open-plan rooms as well as various utility spaces off these areas. The largest room is the ballroom, to the centre (Plate 472.17), while either side of this are the cocktail lounge (to south) and private party room (to north). The visible features and décor throughout this area entirely dates from the 1980s works.

The private party room at the north end is within the flat-roofed structure which appears to have been entirely constructed in the 1980s and similarly the western third of the ballroom is also a later 20th-century extension, as is the southern bay of the cocktail lounge. However the main part of this range retains much of its primary (c.1950) structure, in particular nine pairs of east-to-west concrete portal frames which form a double-gable, M-profile roof. These trusses are similar in character to some other mid 20th buildings at Upper Heyford. The original external walls from this building have been entirely removed due to the various later extensions.

The concrete portal frames are generally painted but those at each end of the primary building are not. The upper parts of the frames are largely obscured by 1980s ceiling panels but some panels have been removed and this has confirmed that the upper parts (above the later ceiling) are painted, largely an ochre colour. The end trusses are slightly different to the other seven as they incorporate a simple tie-beam and are therefore technically not portal frames. They have a cast-iron shoe bolted the rafter and tie and the tie is half lapped over the side of the rafter. It is interesting to note a groove in the underside of the tie-beams, presumably for former concrete panels, and there are three concrete purlins bolted to each slope and with fixed blocks/chocks on the backs of the purlins. There are also simple rails fixed to the underside of the purlins which would have held ceiling panels. The purlins would have been above the ceiling and thus they are not painted. The tops of the principal rafters of all the frames are joined together with simple metal plates.

The 1980s southern bay of the cocktail lounge comprises a steel portal frame while the private party room at the north end has a steel trusses and aluminium-clad roof. The ballroom is a very large open-plan space with coffered ceiling, a wood-block dance floor and a stage.

The block of rooms to the east of the spine divides into a larger number of spaces: at the southern end is a small bar area (darts & video games) while to the north of this is a larger interconnected casual bar. To the north of this, and divided by a solid wall, is a dining room with a removable dancefloor. At the northern end of this area is a large kitchen with various rooms such as stores, kitchen manager, take away prep/cook area.

This side of the building also retains parts of the concrete portal frame from the original building although it is partly obscured by the modern décor. The southern bay has not been painted and there is no evidence of a sloped ceiling here but there is evidence of a former lime-green ceiling in the other bays. In the casual bar the décor is once again of 1980s date but the section above the bar has been covered with stickers from the different squadrons or groups stationed at Upper Heyford.

The Dining Room again retains an old portal frame but this has all been painted black (probably in the 1980s).

472B

The interior of Building 472B is essentially a single, large open-plan space with some smaller rooms off this hall. This area was not refurbished in the 1980s and the pairs of concrete portal frames are visible from the ground. There are ten sets of portal frames and the posts from these taper towards the floor. The ground is a concrete slab and the walls are painted black towards their base and white above this. The room is illuminated by suspended hood lamps.

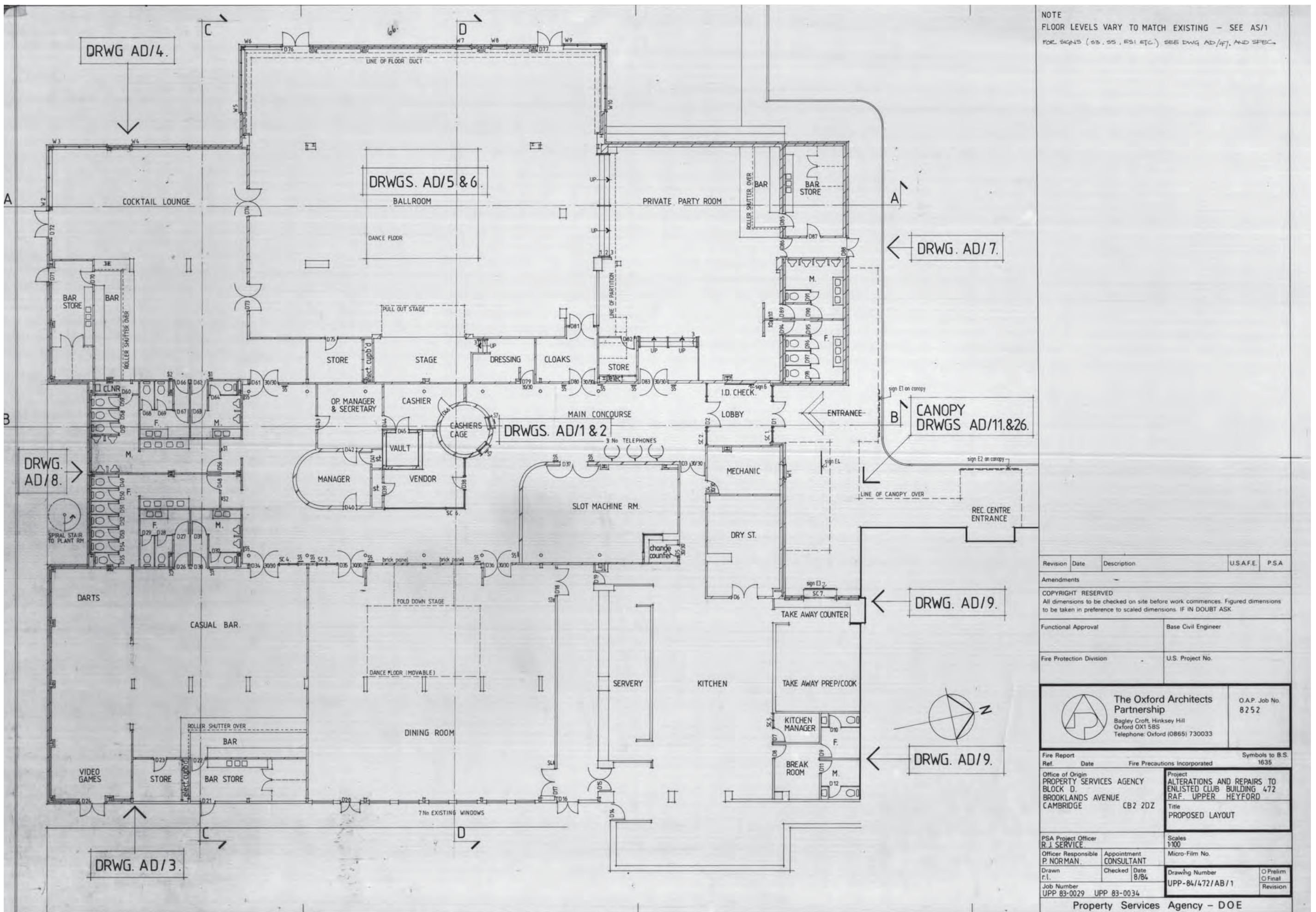


Figure 472.1: Floor plan of 472A (proposed 1984)



Plate 472.1 North side of building from Parade Ground



Plate 472.2 Entrance on north side of building



Plate 472.3 Entrance on north side of building



Plate 472.4 West side of northern range



Plate 472.5 Northern end of west elevation



Plate 472.6 South-west corner of building



Plate 472.7 East side of building



Plate 472.8 West side of building



Plate 472.9 South-west corner of building



Plate 472.10 North end of building



Plate 472.11 South-eastern corner of building



Plate 472.12 South-eastern corner of building



Plate 472.13 Projection on west side of building



Plate 472.14 Detail of entrance on north side



Plate 472.15 Entrance Hall (EH photo)



Plate 472.16 Entrance lobby (EH photo)



Plate 472.17 Main room on east side (EH photo)



Plate 472.18 Carved brick artwork in hall



Plate 472.19 John Bull brick relief in hall



Plate 472.20 Uncle Sam brick relief in hall



Plate 472.21 Telephone booths in hall



Plate 472.22 Safe



Plate 472.23 Bar towards south-east corner



Plate 472.24 Stickers above bar



Plate 472.25 Open-plan room



Plate 472.26 Ballroom at time of recording



Plate 472.27 Booths



Plate 472.28 Northern part of building

Building 474: Dining Room & Cookhouse

NGR: SP 51438 25666

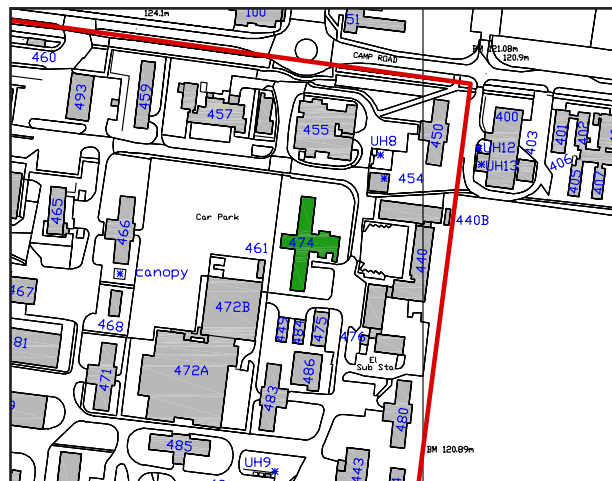
Recording Level: 3

Location

This building is located within Area OA12B, at the north-east corner of the former Parade Ground, and directly to the south of building 455.

History/ Function

Building 474 is a Dining Room & Cookhouse thought to date from 1925, and underwent a series of modifications until the late 1980s (Fig.474.1) . It is numbered in the 1926 plan of the site as 54 'Dining Room & Cookhouse'. A plan of 1937 shows it was built to plan number 609/25. It is visible on aerial photography of the site from 1937.



During the expansion period, the building's function was succeeded by the new Combined Dining Room and Institute (building 488) and so was extended and converted to a barrack block, to drawing number 1161/37 (Francis 1996).

Plans survive of the 1978 alterations, principally to the ablutions area and dormitories, as do drawings of an unimplemented scheme, drawn in 1987, to convert the ablutions area to eight self-contained shower and WC rooms.

The most recent function was as offices, resulting in the bed-sit partition walls being altered and a dividing partition erected in the ablutions area to create a women's WC. No plans of this conversion survive.

Description

External

The cross-shaped building is aligned roughly north – south with the principal façade to the west elevation facing the former Parade Ground; the rear of the building is facing the access road and contains the service rooms including the ablutions which were formerly the kitchens (Plate 474.1) (Fig.474.2). The window frames and panels, doors, rainwater goods and other woodwork are painted in the standard brown colour evident throughout the airfield; the former dark green scheme can be seen in most elements where the paint has peeled.

The north-south and the western ranges have slate-covered pitched gabled roofs; the extensions to the rear, eastern, range have flat or catslide roofs, with a hipped roof to the eastern end and also the south-easternmost extension. The walls of the original parts of the building and the extensions are of brick, laid in English Bond with roughly weatherstruck pointing. A significant amount of repointing has been carried out at different times with no effort to match the colour of the existing mortar which, depending upon the area, has either enhanced or disguised the phases of alteration.

The north and south wings were doubled in length at the time of the building's conversion from a dining room to a barrack block, shown clearly in the east and west elevations of the wings via the join in the brickwork between the two central windows and a very slight undulation in the roofline (Plate 474.2). The roof and brickwork are in keeping with the original as are the window openings with their brick flat-arches above and concrete sills, however, all of the window frames have since been replaced. The door in the gable wall of the western range appears to have been the original main entrance and a date stone of 1925 is set in the gable above the brick relieving arch of the doorway (Plate 474.3). The door is a fairly modern replacement set between brick pilasters with a small porch set on brackets over. The fanlight above the porch was probably boarded over at the same time as the upper light on the surrounding windows when the suspended ceiling was installed c1978 or when the current window frames were installed at a later date. The 1977/8 elevation drawings suggest the windows at that time were of 15 panes, set out in a row of three panes at the top with two sets of two rows below giving the impression of a sash window with a light above.

The north and south elevations of this original entrance way are unaltered other than the replacement window frames (Plate 474.4). The brickwork around the westernmost window on each elevation has been replaced and pointed in a contrasting mortar; these could potentially be a later opening, however, the window frames have since been replaced and the surviving plans all show these openings, and so it may be that these are simply heavily repaired jambs, especially as this treatment was also necessary in the east elevation of the ablutions block.

The north and south elevations of the north-south range are identical and remain unaltered other than the replacement doors (Plate 474.5). Each gable contains a vent near to the apex and the door is set in a brick archway with the keystone formed from brick, all set on two concrete steps.

The east elevation of the north-south range is largely as per the west elevation, although the later extensions either side of the adjoining eastern range, with catslide roofs, have caused the adjacent windows to be moved and each now has a jamb formed from the extension wall (Plate 474.6).

To the south eastern corner of the eastern ablutions range, two small externally accessed rooms form what was presumably a boiler room and a store room; these rooms could not be accessed, although a chimney extending from the northernmost room through the eaves of the WC block, hints at the former use (Plate 7). The brickwork to the eastern elevation of this indicates that it is contemporary with the original construction, or at least contemporary with the easternmost wall, as subsequent extensions and alterations have obscured any evidence of alteration to this end of the range (Plate 8). No roofs could be accessed for examination of the roof structure for indication of extension.

The windows in the eastern elevation of the ablutions building have obviously been inserted later to suit the layout of the WCs. It is not possible to detect the layout for the original kitchen windows, although some alteration is apparent between the right hand window and the join to the flat roofed extension to the northern end of the elevation; this may extend to the brickwork between the two adjacent windows, although most of the windows to this area have undergone repair and repointing which has all but obscured this. Four small areas of repointing in a much lighter coloured mortar are visible on this elevation and probably represents blocking of vents, overflows or waste outlets. The WC windows do not have the infill panel to the upper pane seen in the other windows to obscure the suspended ceiling, which is visible through the obscure glass.

The flat roofed extensions to the east of the north elevation of the ablutions block are probably contemporary with each other (Plate 474.9). The remains of the flue, ceiling beam and pillars are visible in what was most recently the supply storeroom, indicating the line of the original external wall (Plate 474.10). Although the window frames have since been replaced, it is obvious that the windows of the extensions were in keeping with the windows in the original ranges as they display the same brick flat arch and concrete sills and are roughly proportional, albeit with the window at the far left hand side of this elevation being narrower.

The short length of the south elevation to the west of the aforementioned projecting former boiler room and store and up to the catslide-roofed plant room is the original elevation of the kitchen block (Plate 474.11). A blocked doorway adjacent to the former boiler room is evident; the elevation drawings of the existing building dated 1977 show a doorway with concrete steps which was blocked in the 1978 alteration works. Two original window openings are to the west of this, albeit with replacement frames.

The projecting catslide-roofed structure which forms the plant room may be original to the building, as the brickwork appears contemporary with that of the adjacent original wall. The small window at the east of its south elevation appears to be an original metal-framed window, similar to those found on other buildings of this period on the estate. Some alteration is evident: the removal of the chimney detailed in the 1977/8 specifications is visible in the colour of the roof slates and a doorway has been blocked at the western end with what appears to be a blocking of double-doors in the centre of the elevation with a window inserted as replacement. The sequence of the alteration of the openings is not clear, although the brickwork blocking the westernmost doorway appears more weathered than that for the central double doors; the current layout existed before the 1977 elevation drawings.

The elevation between the current valve/box storage room and the north-south range has also undergone alteration. Internally symmetrical to the identical extension on the opposite side of the western range, the doorway to the east of the two windows is contemporary to the extension and contained under the catslide roof. Originally, the western end of this elevation contained a door abutting the north-south range, causing the window to be moved and reduced in width as per the window on the opposite side of the building. This has since been blocked and a window installed in its place. This occurred before the 1977 elevations were drawn and new window frames have since been fitted.

Internal

Internally, the north-south range began as the Airmen's dining rooms and overlooked the parade ground; no plans are available, but the later plans indicate the original external walls, now acting as a structural partition wall located centrally in the north and south wings. The current layout as offices and the former layout as bedrooms both had a corridor running centrally along the range and these original end walls now have a doorway inserted into the centre of each to accommodate this corridor (Plate 474.12). The bedroom layout also included two doors either side of this allowing access between the bedroom and sitting rooms, all of which were blocked following the conversion to offices. The extension of the wings which is evident in the change of brickwork to the outside is not particularly evident internally other than the former external wall being of a greater thickness than the partitions. The modern plaster and textured coating ceilings obscure any structural evidence which may have been seen in the original ceilings or roof structure.

In the 1977 plans of the existing building, the bedrooms consisted of two or three interconnecting rooms with an additional door to the corridor in each. Following the 1978 alterations, the rooms were grouped into sets of two, the door between the newly created bedroom has the doorway to the corridor blocked and the adjoining sitting room contains the only door to the

corridor. The interconnecting doors were removed and the opening made good, new doors were added where necessary and any interconnecting doors not required were blocked (Plate 474.13).

The westernmost former entrance wing also contained bedrooms, with cleaners' cupboards to each side of the central hall, although these too were converted to additional bedrooms during the 1978 alterations.

Also during the 1978 works, a suspended ceiling was installed to the ablutions area (Plate 474.14), adjacent corridor and the then-lounge, (most recently the supply storeroom) at some distance below the existing ceiling. Some of the central public areas were formerly open to the roof; where the suspended ceiling tiles are missing, the timber trusses with metal straps can be seen, as can the lath and plaster to the underside of the slopes, which would have formed the original ceiling (Plate 474.15). Where visible, this original ceiling plaster is painted white; some of the trusses are also painted according to the room's décor.

The current building layout is as per the surviving undated plan titled '620th SPS', (being the offices of the Security Police Squadron), this layout may date to the late 1980s, taking into account the electrical fittings, surviving fixtures and curtains and colour scheme.

The lobby at the crossing of the building now leads to the former Orderly Room to the north and the Operations Staff office to the south, both were previously the bedroom wings and the partitions in the offices are all created by the removal of some of the bedroom partitions (Plates 474.16 & .17). The 1978 plans show two tiled vending machine areas to the east of the bedroom corridors. Arches would have led north and south from this hallway into the dining rooms to the side, but they are shown as blocked and replaced by a doorway in the 1977 plans of the existing building. There is a smaller blocked arched window adjacent to these which may have been windows to the dining rooms. The window arch to the north of the hall has had the moulded dado removed, although the same feature in the southern wall retains the dado (Plate 474.18). The dado appears in several areas of the original 1925 building, albeit with many areas having been removed. The arches are truncated by the addition of the suspended ceiling in 1978, confirming the area was originally open to the roof.

To the eastern area of the lobby are doors to the north and south that lead to offices created from the extensions under the cat-slide roof and were previously larger bedrooms (Plate 474.19). At the far eastern end of the lobby is a brick wall which replaced a timber wall in the refit of 1978, the doorway in this wall leads to the corridor to the ablutions area. Currently, block partition walls to either side of this central corridor create a store room to the north and a plant room and a cleaner's cupboard to the south. Prior to the office phase, the entire area was a television lounge created in the 1978 alterations, and prior to this the 1977 plans of the existing layout show it to be a shower and locker room with the calorifier apparently open to the room.

As part of the 1978 alterations, the calorifier was enclosed within a small plant room (Plate 474.20) and a cleaner's cupboard with sluice sink, worktop and unit and a broom cupboard was constructed (Plate 474.21). The plant room located in the cat-slide-roofed room to the south, now accessed from the small lobby adjacent to the external door, was previously accessed via a door to the east of the calorifier, now visible as a blocked doorway in the cleaner's cupboard. A corridor was also created by enclosing the television lounge (created by removing the additional showers), later used as a supply store during the office phase. The supply store room retains the 5mm teak veneer fitted in 1978 as décor for the television lounge (Plate 474.22). The chimney atop the flue which remains in the supply store was removed in 1978, but any remaining evidence cannot be seen from the ground as it is located behind the parapet of the flat-roofed extension. This flue and the beam visible above the suspended ceiling in places marks the location of the original external wall.

The easternmost end of the building is the WC and shower area; originally the kitchen area, no plans or physical indication of this earlier phase survive. The area was converted to ablutions when the building was converted to barracks in the 1930s. In 1977, the showers, WCs and urinals were arranged as they are currently, albeit without the partition wall erected to create a separate women's facility at the time the building was converted to offices (Plate 474.23). Two further WCs were at the south west corner of the space which were removed in 1978 and replaced with wash hand basins. The bath was removed from the westernmost of the two partitioned rooms along the north wall and the door widened to provide a new switchgear room (Plate 474.24); the room to the east of this had the laundry facilities renewed. The 1978 work also included new melamine cubicles to the WCs and a new non-slip tiled floor with matching tiled skirting.

Summary

The original building was constructed as the Airmen's Dining Room in 1925, overlooking the parade ground. The kitchens were located at the rear of the building.

In the 1930s it was converted to barracks for 48 airmen and two NCOs (Francis 1996) and the north and south wings extended to create dormitories. The kitchens were converted to ablutions. The north and south extensions to the east wing were probably constructed at around this point.

By 1977, the building consisted of about 14 dormitories in the north, south and west wings, with showers, WCs, urinals, a bath and a calorifier to the east wing.

In 1978, the dormitories were converted to bed-sits and the excess showers and lockers were removed to create a teak-veneered television lounge. Excess toilets were removed and replaced with wash hand basins and the facility renovated and the external door blocked. The windows and doors to the whole building were replaced at some point after this.

In 1987, plans were drawn up to convert the ablutions to eight self-contained shower and WC rooms, however, this did not go ahead and the building was converted to offices soon after this date. A partition was erected in the ablutions area to create separate women's WCs and several of the bed-sit partitions were removed to create both open-plan and enclosed offices.

Archive

Sixteen plans were identified within the Upper Heyford archives.

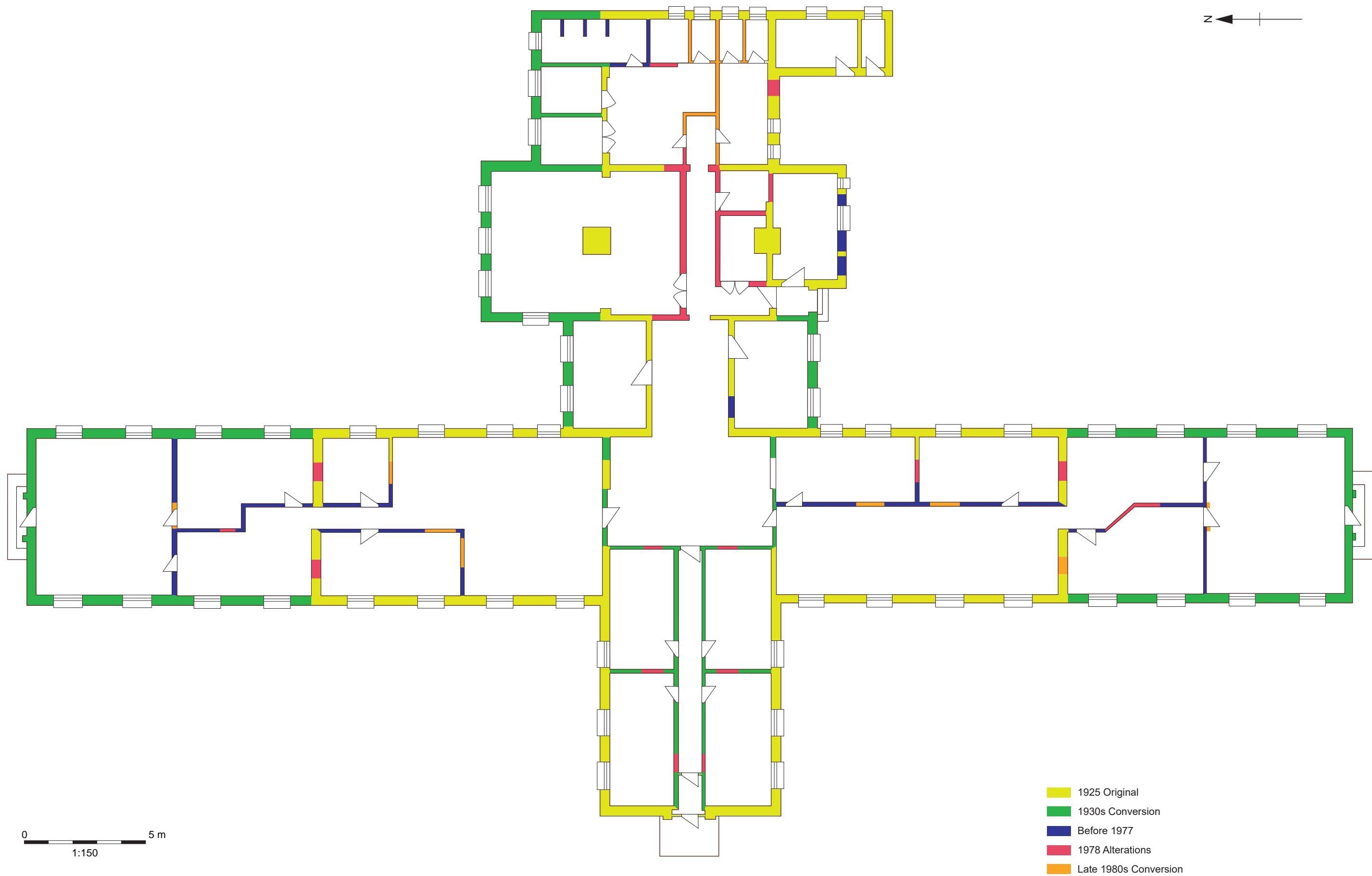


Figure 474.1: Floor plan with phasing

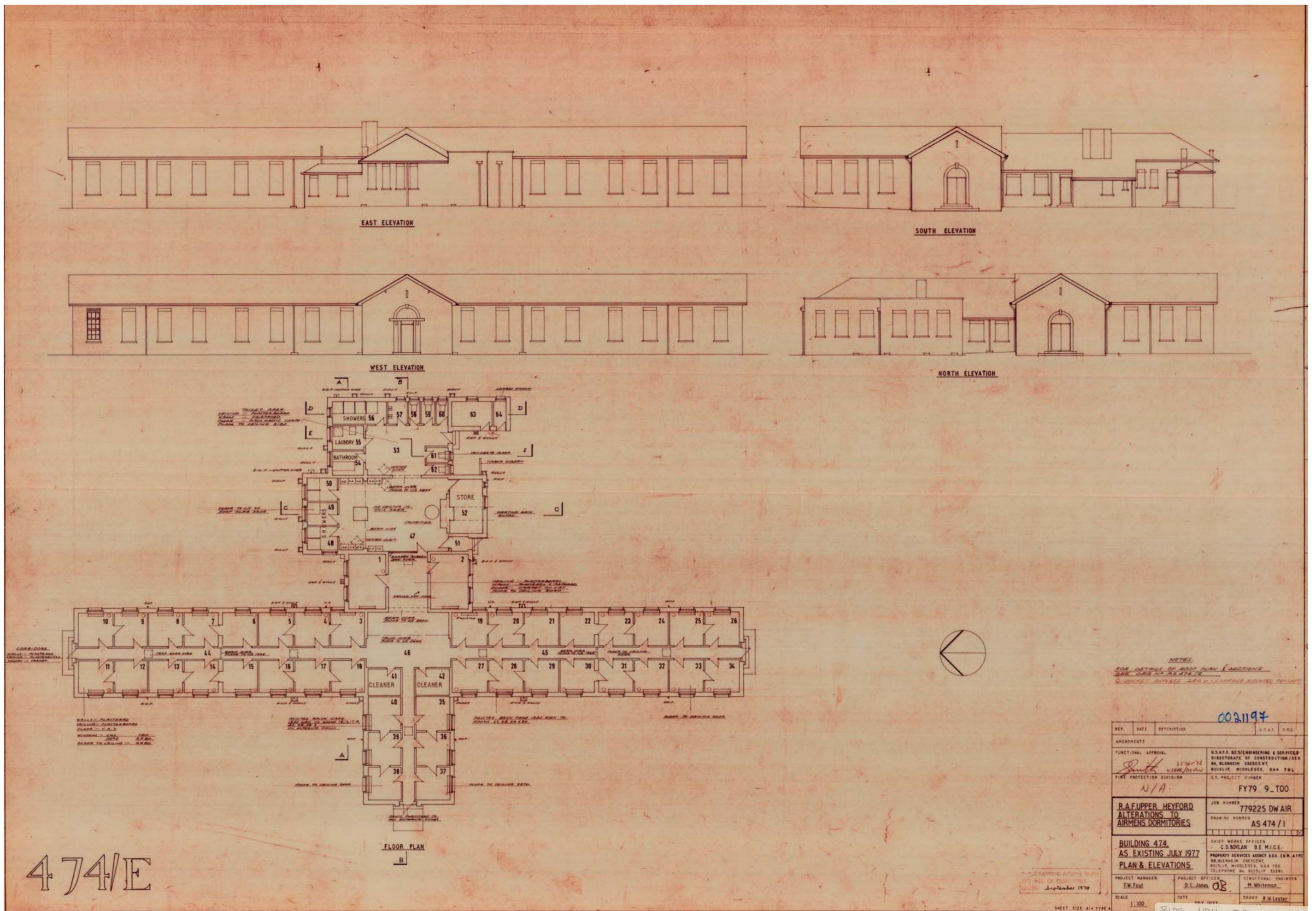


Figure 474.2: Floor plan and elevations (1977)



Plate 474.1 General view, looking south west



Plate 474.2 East elevation, southern end



Plate 474.3 West elevation of the west wing



Plate 474.4 North elevation of the west wing



Plate 474.5 South elevation of the south wing



Plate 474.6 East and north elevations of the north wing



Plate 474.7 South elevation of the east wing



Plate 474.8 East elevation of the east wing



Plate 474.9 North elevation of the east wing



Plate 474.10 Supply storeroom, looking south



Plate 474.11 Eastern end of the south elevation of the east wing



Plate 474.12 Remains of a central corridor of the dormitory wings



Plate 474.13 An example of a blocked door between bed-sits



Plate 474.14 The original ceiling above the ablutions area



Plate 474.15 The roof truss and original ceiling above the calorifier and supply store



Plate 474.16 An example of a removed partition in the offices



Plate 474.17 Examples of the offices created from the bed-sits



Plate 474.18 The door and window arches to the south wall of the lobby



Plate 474.19 The office within the north east extension of the east wing



Plate 474.20 The calorifier room



Plate 474.21 The cleaner's cupboard



Plate 474.22 The teak veneer in the former television lounge



Plate 474.23 The partitioned women's WCs



Plate 474.24 The switchgear room within the WC area

Building 475: Ration Store & Shop

NGR: SP 51447 25617

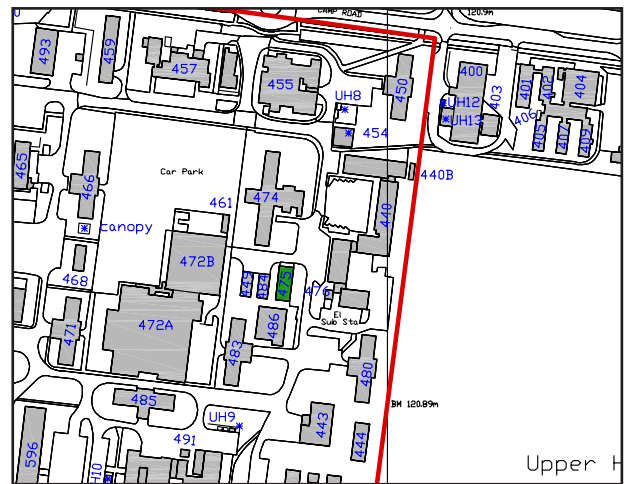
Recording Level: 2

Location

This building is located within Area OA12B, situated on the east edge of the former Parade Ground and between buildings 483 to 474.

History/ Function

This Ration Store is located close to the Airmen's Dining Room and dates from 1925 (a stone date plaque is visible below the roof's apex) (Plate 475.1). It is numbered on a 1926 plan of the site as 55 'Shops and Stores (Adjutants)'. A plan of 1946 numbers the building as 80 and describes it as '? & Shops'. It is also visible in aerial photography of the site.



The building remains largely in its original form but has been modified following its secondary use as an office/ station for the USAF Office of Special Investigations (AFOSI) (Fig.475.1). This provided professional investigative services to commanders throughout the United States Air Force, it identified, investigated and neutralised criminal, terrorist, and espionage threats to personnel and resources of the Air Force and Department of Defence. A sign to the front of the building states: 'Best Small Detachment in Europe – 1992'. Formerly, the Ration Store would have contained a series of rooms accessed separately by external doors including shops for: bakery and meat, hairdressing, groceries, shoemaking and tailors. This arrangement has since been modified and the internal space is used as offices, interrogation rooms and sanitary areas.

Description

External

The Ration Store and Shops is a single storey building constructed by the Air Ministry's Directorate of Works and Buildings to drawing number 2151/25. The rectangular block is built in dark red brindled brick in stretcher bond with ash pointing and cream bedding mortar. It has a pitched slate roof.

The shop has an attractive open veranda to the front (north) elevation with an interesting gabled-shaped roof incorporating a covered entrance (Plate 475.2). It has exposed rafters which formerly sat on 3 slender timber posts supported on concrete pads on a slightly raised concrete apron (one post is no longer extant). The front entrance provides the main points of access via a (slightly recessed) single timber door to the west and substantial double timber doors to the east (both are painted brown with green paint visible beneath). Above the east door is a row of three small square lights with a row of red footers with a modern electric light situated centrally along these. The double doors have a concrete lintel above, also holding a modern electric light placed centrally which is connected to an electric switch situated to the west of the door.

There are several vents within the elevation, four at roughly the height of the lintels and four at the base (some original and some modern). There is a metal hoop to the west of the west door used for scraping shoes which are built into the fabric of the wall, these boot scrapers indicate the position of primary doors (Plate 475.3). To the front of the elevation are several car parking spaces for use by the military police, for example: 'AFOSI Visitor'.

The **east elevation** has modern blue metal-framed windows each with four lights, the windows have concrete sills and brick footers form the lintels (see Plate 475.1). Across the windows are primary metal bars providing security, these are a later addition relating to the buildings use by the police. The east elevation has several areas of brick repair/ infill particularly surrounding the windows. There are two windows at the north of the elevation, and immediately to the south of this are two small rectangular windows, these have concrete lintels and brick headers above forming the lintels (Plate 475.4). Internally these two windows (which have frosted glass) light a sanitary area, and the brick infill probably relates to the later reconfiguration of the building for use by the police.

There is some brick repair/ cement surrounding the area where the bars have been inserted. The window to the south of this has brick repair surrounding the window (roughly one brick width), and then extending to the ground level suggesting the position of a former door. There is minor brick repair surrounding the two south windows, the south window has brick repair in the area of the later bars only but the window to the north of this has repair surrounding the window approximately one brick deep. To the front of the elevation are car parking spaces with dedicated names, such as 'Reserved AFOSI'. There are two primary metal drainpipes (painted brown) extending down from the gutter and a metal pipe extending from the ground at the south end of the ventilation.

The south elevation has double timber modern doors painted grey, surrounded to each side by lots of later replacement

brickwork extending to roughly window height (Plate 475.5). The east area of infill is one phase and indicates the position of a former door, which was subsequently infilled probably to facilitate the secondary use of the building. There are foot scrapers to either side of the infill (as seen on the front elevation) confirming this analysis. Above the existing door and surrounding the door (roughly one brick deep) is brick infill. To the west of the door is a large area of brick infill (of the same date as that surrounding and to the east of the door), within this is a secondary area of infill which is roughly the size of the window. It is possible that a former door was infilled and a window inserted, then following this the window was removed and the area infilled. To the east of the door is electric lighting from a former light and there are two hooks below the apex of the roof.

The west elevation also has significant areas of infill resulting from the secondary use of the building (Plate 475.6). At the north end is an original window opening with areas of repair following the insertion of bars to the windows as described for the east elevation. Two further windows have been bricked up to the south of this, and two smaller windows inserted following the later use of the internal space as a sanitary area (Plate 475.7). Immediately to the south of these smaller windows is a large area of infill following the removal of a former window. At the south end of the building are two primary window openings with two smaller replacement windows immediately to the north of these, areas of infill below the windows show that the openings were formerly larger and smaller windows were subsequently inserted. Primary drainpipes and vents are evident within the elevation. At ground level immediately to the west of the building (between 475 and 484) are concrete slabs which are thought to overlay heating pipes, pipes lead into the building at the north end.

Internal

Internally, the space retains much of the primary layout of the Ration Store with some primary fixtures and fittings including some doors and radiators. The space has been adapted and modernised for use by the AFOSI including carpeting, suspended ceilings and security features such as a holding cell.

There is a reception area at the north end that is accessed from the front elevation, this provides access to a central spinal corridor from which rooms are accessed (five to the east, and five to the west). The north end reception area of the building is divided roughly centrally into two areas, entrance is via the west door of the front elevation which provides entrance into the reception room. Internally this door has been painted cream, and the three window lights above have been painted over. There is a counter/ reception window along the west dividing wall, this wall is of primary construction although the sliding reception window is of later date (Plate 475.8). This window was presumably for the processing of persons entering the buildings for interviewing etc. A door within this dividing wall provides entrance to the west room, whilst a door immediately to the south of the counter provides access to the spinal corridor. This door has a dial lock to create a secure space within the remaining building for use by the AFOSI (see Plate 475.8). Within the west room which is accessed via a door to the north of the counter there are no features of interest, although it is possible to see the substantial timber doors of the front elevation which are bolted shut internally.

In general, the plastered walls of each room are painted with a panel of painted timber panelling surrounding each room below the height of the windows. There are modern suspended ceilings, carpeted floors and recent storage heaters. The rooms are generally empty with little fixtures and fittings although some rooms have been converted as holding areas or sanitary facilities. On the west side of the building at the north end next to the reception area is a sanitary room with a modern shower, toilet and basin which is now in reasonably poor condition. It has a terracotta tiled floor and modern tiling to the walls.

Immediately to the south of this is a holding area installed by the AFOSI to facilitate their use of the building. It is a substantial metal entrance door and the room has a metal grill across the width creating a separate holding area, accessed by a grilled door (Plate 475.9). Within this room (and within the sanitary area opposite) the primary radiators survive and the primary ceilings are visible. Externally the windows have been infilled (described above) to create a windowless space. The room opposite the holding area, on the east side of the corridor, was used as a sanitary area for those being detained (Plate 475.10). This room is basic compared to the other rooms with a terracotta tiled floor, primary high ceilings and radiators. There are two small windows within the rear wall, which are later additions in creating the sanitary space, at this time larger earlier windows were infilled. At the west side of the building, between the two south rooms is a timber hatch containing a one way mirror. The south room is thought to have been used for interviewing those being held by the AFOSI, it has styrofoam tiles on the walls. The mirror allowed viewing from the room immediately to the north.

The central corridor is decorated as elsewhere, with a suspended ceiling. Within the ceiling is a hatch accessed by a ladder through which it is possible to access the roof space. Boardings has been laid along the timber joists and a dividing wall has been plastered in places creating an additional space. Shelving suggests this area may have been used for storage (Plate 475.11).

Archive

One plan was identified within the Upper Heyford archives.

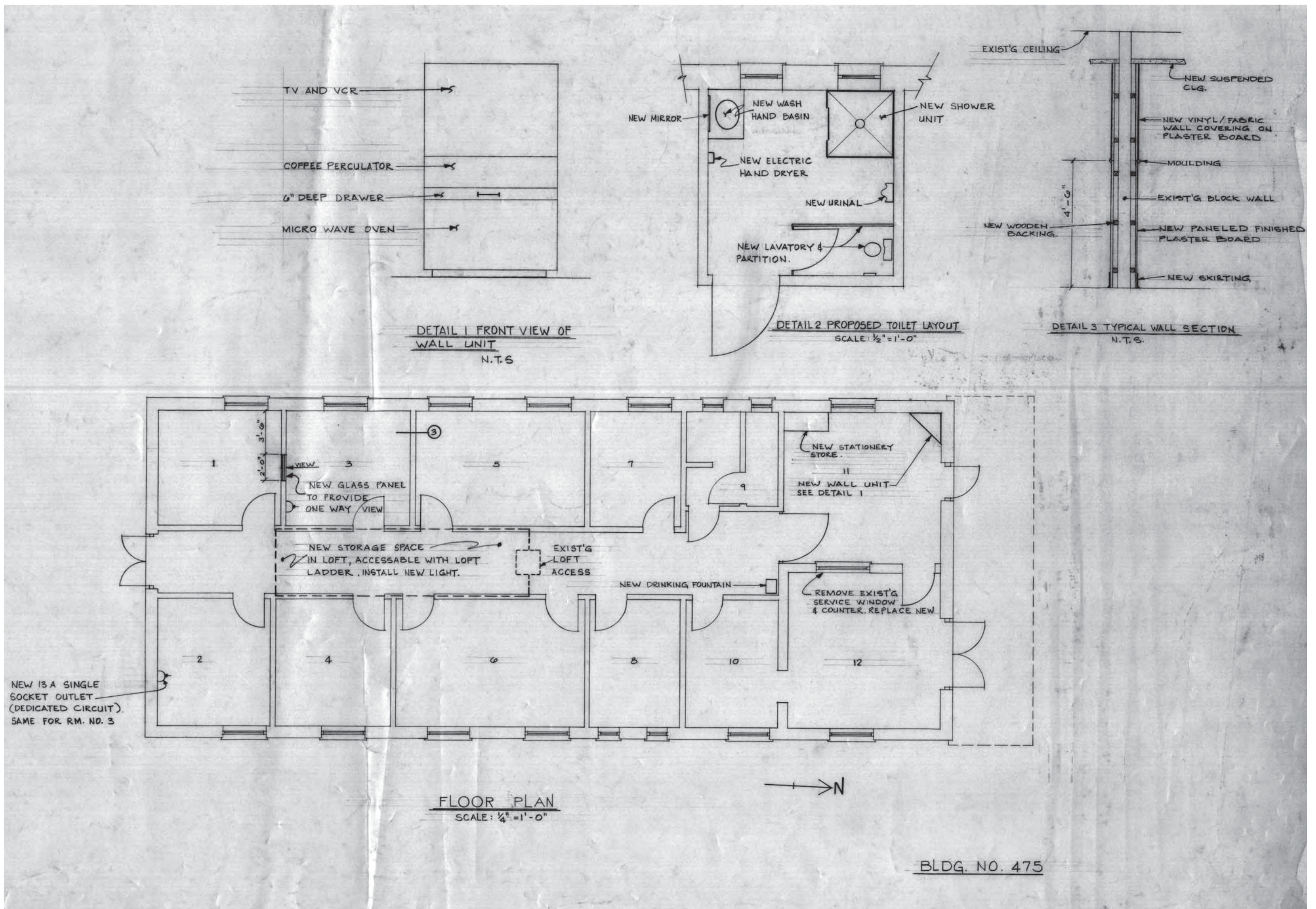


Figure 475.1: Floor plan (undated)



Plate 475.1 North and east elevations



Plate 475.2 Front (north) elevation



Plate 475.3 East elevation



Plate 475.4 East elevation, replacement windows for internal sanitary area



Plate 475.5 Rear (south) elevation



Plate 475.6 West elevation



Plate 475.7 West elevation, replacement windows for internal sanitary area and holding room



Plate 475.8 Internal, north end reception area



Plate 475.9 Internal, 'holding' cell



Plate 475.10 Internal, former sanitary area



Plate 475.11 Internal roof space (looking south)

Building 476: Electric Substation

NGR: SP 51471 25609

Recording Level: 2

Location

This building is located within Area OA12B, at the east edge of the barrack area and at the southern end of building 440.

History/ Function

The electric substation is thought to be contemporary with the construction of barrack block 440 in the 1980s.

Description

The sub-station is 2.4m in height and consists of a red brick enclosure surrounding the substation (Plate 476.1).

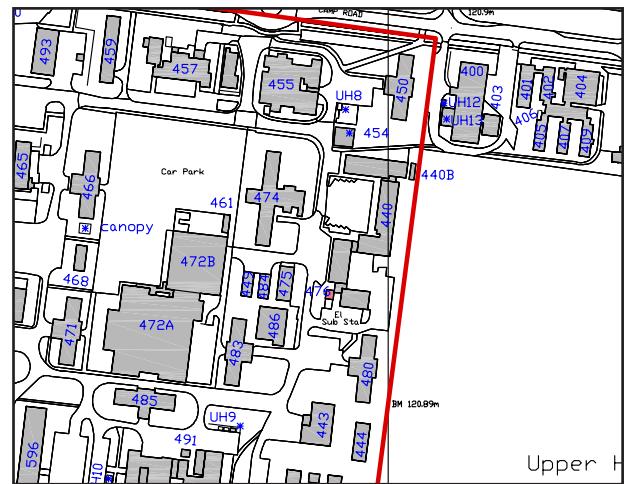


Plate 476.1 South and west elevations

Building 480: Barrack Block - Type C

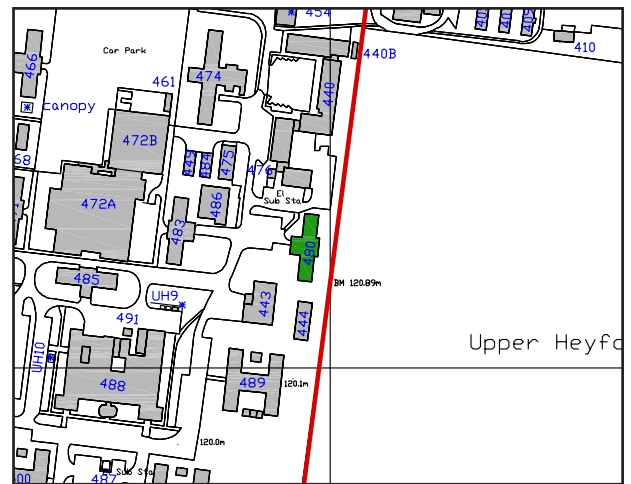
NGR: SP 51494 25568

Recording Level: 2

The five C-type barrack blocks (450, 466, 471, 480, 483) are identical buildings and have been included in this gazetteer under a single entry (see Building 450). Separate sets of plates (Plates 480.1 - .22) have been included for each building but only one set of the historic figures, in the entry for Building 450. This is because the four figures are a single set of drawings from the 1980s which covered all five C-type barrack blocks.

Archive

Four figures of buildings 450, 465, 471, 480 & 483 from the 1984 and 1985 were identified in the Upper Heyford archives.



Building 481: Thrift Shop

NGR: SP 51282 25604

Recording Level: 2

Location

This building is located within Area OA12B, at the west edge of the barracks area and directly to the east of Carswell Circle North.

History/ Function

The Thrift Shop sold goods to the American families living on site, and is thought to date from 1973.

Description

The Thrift Shop is a single-storey structure built from timber-cladding panels, with a brick base and brown boarding below the roof level. It is a fairly crudely built with economy rather than longevity in mind. It is rectangular in plan, with largely no windows with the exception of some narrow windows to the rear of the building. The north-east (front) elevation provides access through double metal and glass doors, a sign above states '481 Thrift Shop' in white lettering on a brown board. The south-east elevation has steps with metal rails to the rear providing access to double timber doors. The south-west (rear) elevation has two small lights below the roof level at both ends and a metal clad extension built on a brick plinth. The north-west elevation has two small lights below the roof level at the north-east end. There are steps to timber doors roughly mid-distance along the elevation, and a ramp at the south-west end which provides access to the rear.

Internally, the structure is in poor condition and full access was not possible. Initial inspection shows that it was built largely according to the plan (dated March 1982), which show large 'Stock and Receiving' rooms at the rear end of the building and stores to the front of the building. There are also smaller rooms at the entrance of the building including an office, sanitary area, plant room and 'breakroom'.

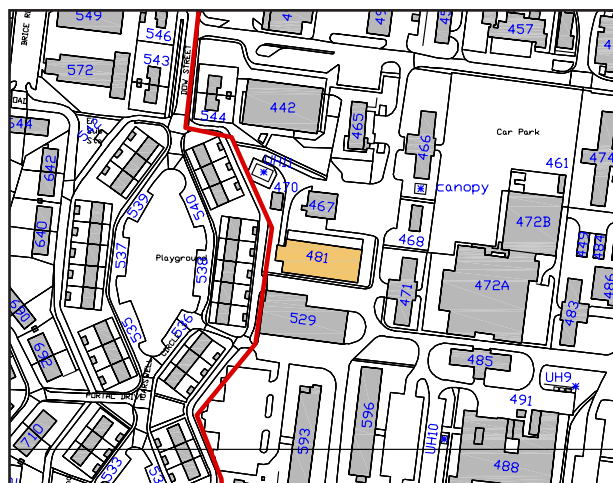


Plate 481.1 North-east (front) elevation

Building 483: Barrack Block - Type C

NGR: SP 51419 25578

Recording Level: 2

The five C-type barrack blocks (450, 466, 471, 480, 483) are identical buildings and have been included in this gazetteer under a single entry (see Building 450). Separate sets of plates (Plates 483.1 - .14) have been included for each building but only one set of the historic figures, in the entry for Building 450. This is because the four figures are a single set of drawings from the 1980s which covered all five C-type barrack blocks.

Archive

Four figures of buildings 450, 465, 471, 480 & 483 from the 1984 and 1985 were identified in the Upper Heyford archives.



Building 484: Nursery

NGR: SP 51436 25616

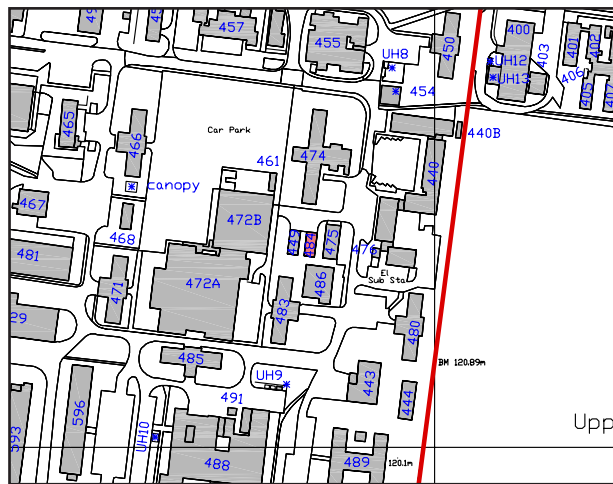
Recording Level: 1

Location

This building is located within Area OA12B, at the east edge of the former Parade Ground, sitting closely between buildings 449 and 475.

History/ Function

The earlier building is thought to date from 1940, but is not shown on site plans or aerial photography of the period. The 1954 aerial photography potentially shows a small hut/ structure in the location of the nursery, but it is not possible to confirm this with accuracy. It seems more likely given this evidence and the architecture of the building that it dates from the 1950/60s.



Description

Building 484 is a simple single-storey structure, with a rectangular footprint and a pitched roof with corrugated metal clad roof. The red-brick front elevation and porch is probably a later addition or modification in the adaptation of the building to a nursery. It is built on a concrete plinth and has crittal windows (painted brown) and timber sills. The front (north) elevation is constructed in red-brick, with a front porch supported on metal posts providing a sheltered entrance area. It has double timber and glass doors which provide the main point of access, and windows to either side. There is a single access door to the rear, with metal vents above. The side and rear elevations are metal clad (painted white), also with several small and large brown crittal windows.

Internally, it is possible to see children's wall paper and it appears that the building was later used as a nursery. A plan of the building dating from 1989 appears to be largely correct, which shows the space divided up to into several inter-connecting smaller rooms and a sanitary area to the rear of the building.

Archive

One plan was identified within the Upper Heyford archives.



Plate 484.1 Front (north) elevation

Building 485: Type 'C' Barrack Block

NGR: SP 51371 25551

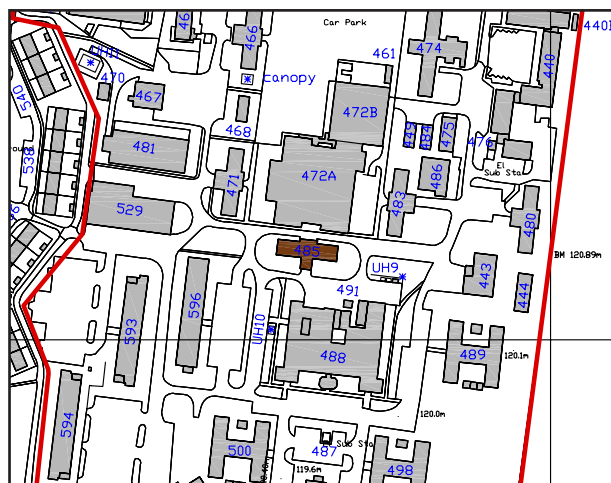
Recording Level: 3

Location

This building is located within Area OA12B, to the south of the former Parade Ground, and between buildings 472A, the Mess Complex, and building 488, the Combined Dining Room and Institute.

History/ Function

Although the design for the Type C Barrack Block dates to the 1920s, the initial drawing number is 104/23, this building is not visible on the aerial photograph of 1937, although it has been constructed by the time of the 1942 AP and displays the same footprint as present.



The 'T'-shaped barrack was used until 1938 when 'H'-shaped barrack blocks were introduced (Francis 1996), and so the block may have been constructed soon after the aerial photograph was taken. It was previously numbered 'AM No. 74'.

Description

The building is a short 'T' shape in plan, with the dormitory wings to the east and west and the rear ablution unit branching off to the south (Figures 485.1 & 2). Two false towers are formed in a central entrance feature of the front elevation to the north, with the entranceway in the centre (Plate 485.1).

The walls are of dark red brindled brick in stretcher bond with a cream-coloured mortar. The window sills are tiled (Plate 485.2).

It has a slate covered hipped roof. Two redundant chimneys are within the slope of the roof between the two 'towers' and one chimney is to the rear of the ablutions block, over the current boiler room. A vent is in the slope of each hip of the main roof. Blocked windows are to the first floor on the north and south elevations and a blocked window is to the east of the boiler room door. The ablutions block shows signs of repair and alteration of plumbing where pointing and patching is visible (Plate 485.3).

The later aluminium window frames are coloured brown externally and white internally. The windows in the 'towers' and the central window in each wing are double lights; the windows at either end of the wings are singles, with a similar arrangement to the east and west elevations (Plate 485.4). The existing windows are all set within a recess in the brickwork which runs from the ground to the eaves, whereas the now-blocked windows were flush with the outer profile of the brickwork.

A concrete porch with pilasters is to the entrance door and a similar detail is around the window above.

The woodwork, rainwater goods and external plumbing are painted in the standard brown colour as seen elsewhere on the estate. The building numbers are painted in white letters on a black background on the north, south and west elevations with a brown and white plaque to the east elevation; the former number is painted in white on a light green background (Plate 485.5).

The central unit contains the entrance hall with an NCO's bedroom to either side, set within the false towers on both floors. The stairwell is opposite the entrance and is flanked on both floors by doorways with arched lights over to the ablution areas (Plate 485.6). A recess is adjacent to each doorway to the ablutions (Plate 485.7), but there is no indication of the function of these on either side of the wall, nor is there any indication in the visible areas of the roof structure of their purpose. The farthest-south rooms consist of externally accessed store and plant rooms to the ground floor and a laundry/sluice room and a store to the first floor.

The staircase is concrete with metal balusters and handrail and wooden newel posts. All are painted black with the former brown and white colour schemes visible in where the paint is damaged (Plate 485.8).

Electrical consumer unit/control cupboards are on both floors to the west of the staircase.

The walls of the ablutions areas are faced in glazed brick which has been painted below the height of the suspended ceiling; the original face is visible above the ceiling (Plate 485.9). The sanitary ware mostly predates the 1978 works, which included adding melamine privacy panels between the showers. There are modern white ceramic tile splashbacks behind the sinks and urinals; the showers have been tiled in the same. The floors are of cream non-slip tiles. The woodwork and metalwork is painted in the same shade of brown as the external features (Plate 485.10).

The internal partitions between the bedroom and corridors are made of panels of cellular cardboard between sheets of plaster (Plate 485.11). Where exposed, the joists between the first floor and the roof space show signs of the former lath and plaster ceilings.

Conversion

At some date between construction and the alterations of 1978, the open-plan dormitory wings were converted to individual bed-sitting rooms utilising the afore-described cellular cardboard and plasterboard partitions. There is no indication of the date of this phase of work.

Logically, the smaller windows to the first floor were blocked at this time, as each bed-sit would have required only one window. No signs of a removed partition between the windows is visible on the wall or ceiling above the suspended ceilings, and so there is no suggestion that these windows formerly served separate rooms.

The blocked windows to the front elevation use dark red-brown bricks, whereas the windows at the rear of the building use orange-red; logically, the windows were blocked at the same time, despite the difference in the colours of the materials. The mortars appear identical.

There is no mention of these windows on the plans of the 1978 works and so it can be concluded that they had been blocked by that time.

1978 Alterations

The only surviving plans of the building relate to relatively minor works carried out in 1978. These works consist mainly of the replacement of most of the internal doors with half-hour fire doors, minor alteration of access between the landing and corridors and the installation of a suspended ceiling.

During these works, the lights between the first floor ablutions and the landing, presumably previously intended to provide light for the stairwell, were blocked, just visible in the painted brickwork inside the toilet area (Plate 485.12) and visible in pattern staining on the landing walls (see Plate 485.8).

A handwritten note on the plan states '*mineral fibre acoustic suspended ceiling*' which matches the current materials, as does the position of the ceiling frame.

A note refers to the windows being repaired or replaced as necessary, however, the current windows are all of an identical type and so would have been replaced in their entirety, either at a later date or as an amendment to the works. There is also a note regarding the two central windows in the first floor recess above the entrance in the north elevation. It states '*Remove glazing and bars from centre windows and replace with side hung casements to match adjacent windows*'. The current windows are all contemporary and top-hung, but this does indicate that the originals may have been sash windows as seen in the same building on other airfields and more fitting to the classical architectural style (Francis 1996).

A note refers to the whole building being redecorated. The current decorative scheme to the communal areas consists of pale blue walls and mid-blue woodwork. The bedrooms are individually decorated with the majority having cream, blue or white walls and grey, blue, black, brown or burgundy woodwork. Previous colour schemes can be seen above any missing ceiling tiles; the rooms are painted with different colours, confirming that the partitions were in place and individual rooms were in use well before the suspended ceiling was installed during the 1978 works (Plate 485.13).

The suspended ceiling cuts across the top of the window openings of the ground floor, leaving just the ends of the wooden pelmet exposed (Plate 485.14); the first floor pelmets are abutted by the suspended ceiling (Plate 485.15).

The rooms contain glass or metal light fittings, although where the ceiling tiles are missing it can be seen that prior to the suspended ceiling the rooms were lit by fluorescent tubes (Plate 485.16). Both British and American power sockets are provided in each room, the power cable runs in surface mounted metal tube conduit. New door handles were fitted to any doors which were not renewed. Room numbers, which differ to those on the 1978 plan, are painted on the corridor wall outside each room (Plate 485.17). There are radiators to each bedroom and the public areas, which may date to after the 1978 works as they do not appear on the plans.

Artwork

The individual artworks are recorded and detailed within the specific artwork recording project, but, in brief, the artwork dates to the 1980s and refers mainly to the squadron and to contemporary comic book or film characters (OA forthcoming).

In the day room at the eastern end of the ground floor, the emblem of the 20th Component Repair Squadron, consisting of a shuttle surrounded by orbiting engineering components and the slogan 'many tasks one mission' (sic) is painted on the eastern wall (Plate 485.18).

The bed-sit to the west of the ground floor toilets contains simply the word 'underground' stencilled in black capital letters

adjacent to the door (Plate 485.19).

On the first floor, the corridor contains a full height Judge Dredd (Plate 485.20) and a large bird of prey carrying a snake in its beak (Plate 485.21). Several artworks had already been removed by the time of recording (Plate 485.22), including a full height Invisible Man painting, stored on the ground floor, which may be inspired by a c1949 American edition of the book by HG Wells (Plate 485.23).

An un-numbered first floor bedroom, the central southern room in the west wing, contains a crow with the text: 'Always on frequency, never a random jam' (Plate 485.24). This room is painted in the colours used in the public areas and so may have not been a bed-sit when the artwork was created.

Summary

1937-1942: The footprint of the building is as-built as are, ostensibly, the elevations, albeit with replacement window frames and the loss of the small first floor windows.

Mid-20th century: The internal partitions converted the open-plan dormitories to bed-sits of a similar size to those of the NCOs which were located in the false towers of the north elevation. The rooms were individually decorated. The redundant small windows to the first floor north and south elevations were blocked. A doorway to the east wall of the ground floor ablutions block was added or altered.

1978: Fire doors replaced most of the internal doors and the doorways between the landing and corridors were altered to provide better fire protection.

Additional privacy was provided in the shower areas.

A suspended ceiling was installed and the building redecorated.

Post 1978-closure: The bed-sits were decorated individually and artworks were created in the communal areas, and to a lesser extent in the private areas. The window frames were replaced. Central heating was installed and the boiler room altered accordingly, including the blocking-up of a small window adjacent to the boiler room door. The redundant chimneys to the front of the building were retained.

Archive

Three plans were identified within the Upper Heyford archives.

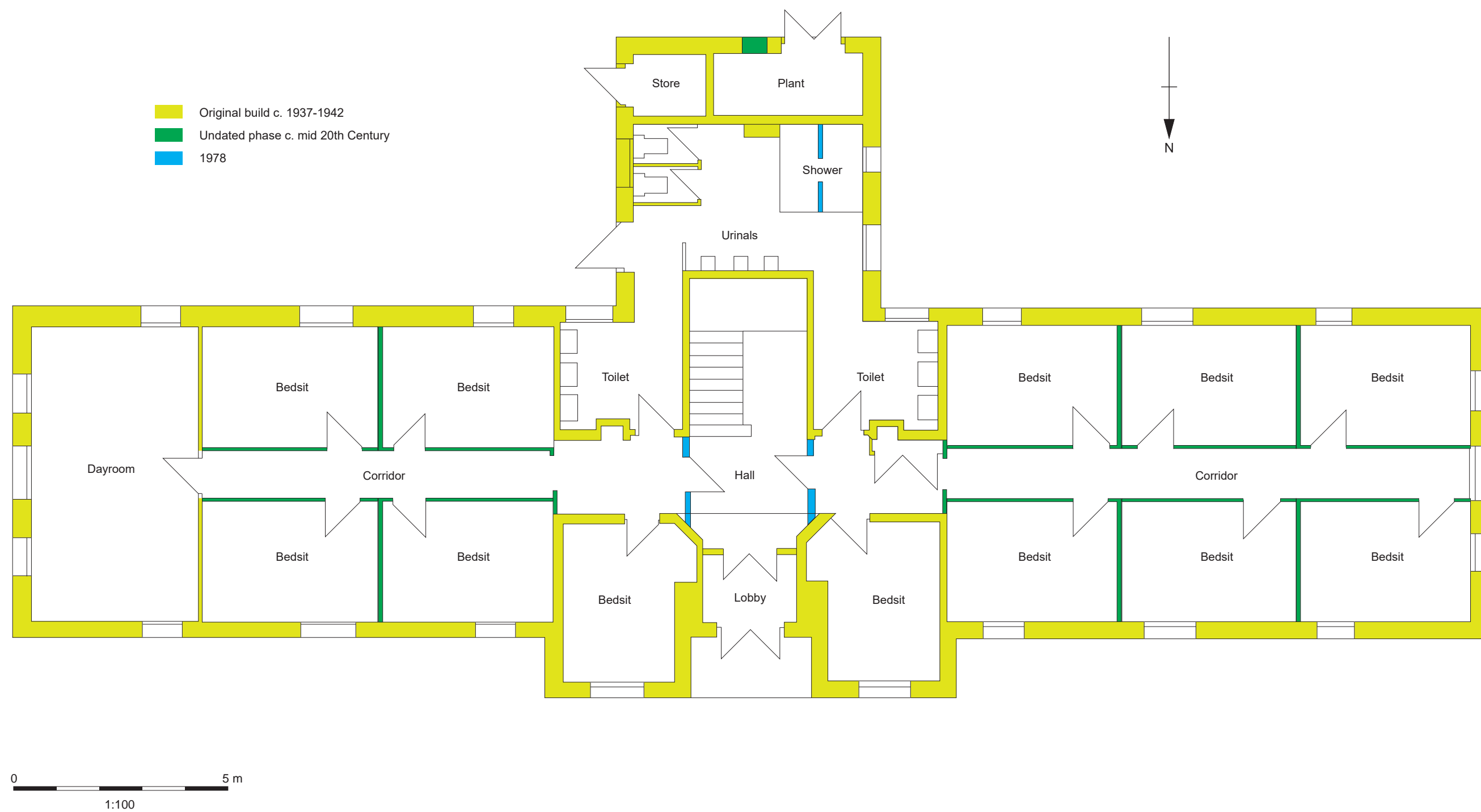


Figure 485.1: Ground floor plan

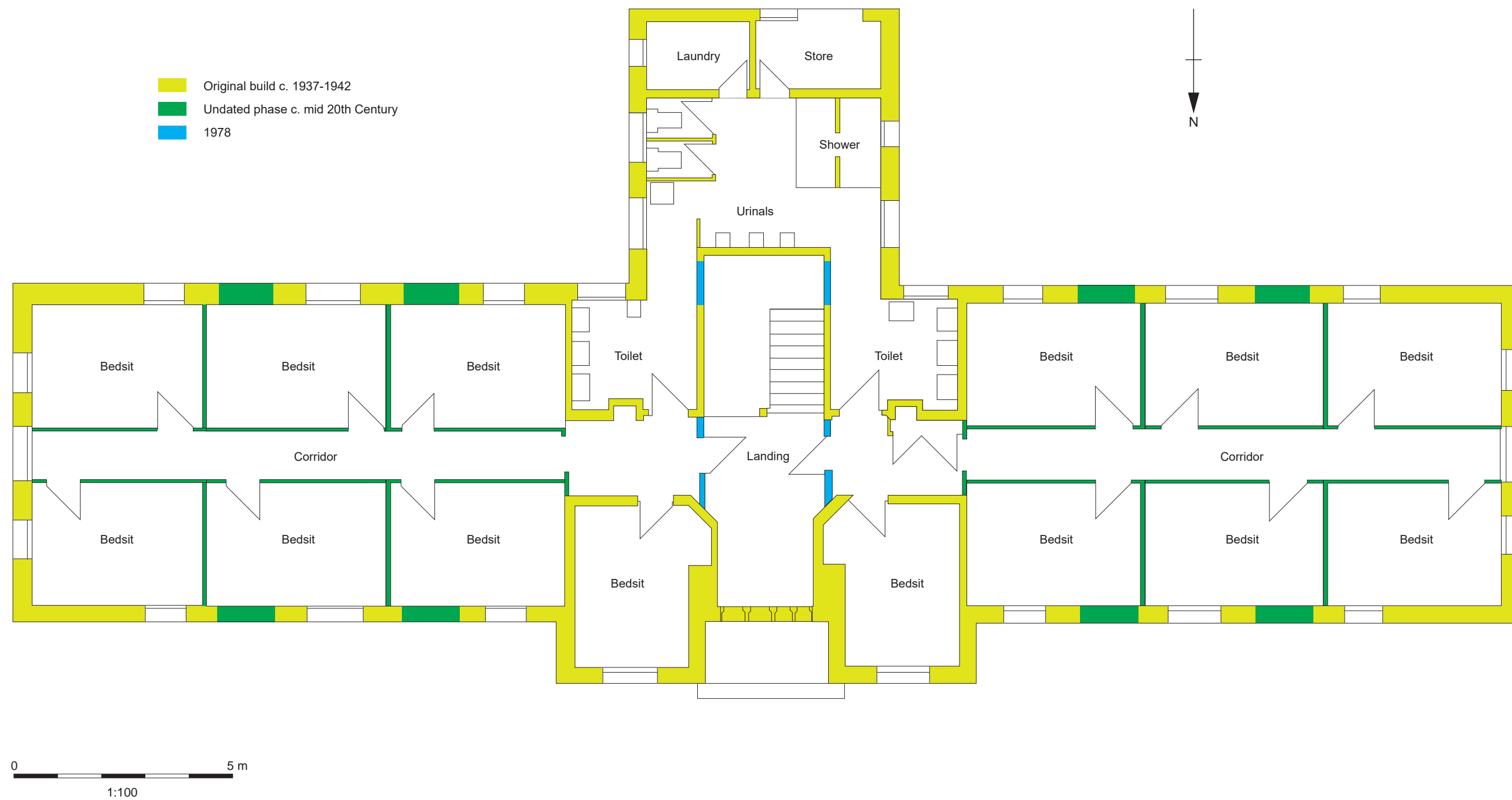


Figure 485.2: First floor plan



Plate 485.1 North, front, elevation



Plate 485.2 Single window in a side elevation



Plate 485.3 Rear, south, elevation: east end and ablutions block



Plate 485.4 East elevation



Plate 485.5 New and old building numbers



Plate 485.6 Example of a doorway between the ablutions and the corridor



Plate 485.7 Example of a recess beside the ablutions doorway



Plate 485.8 The stairwell, also showing the location of blocked lights to ablutions



Plate 485.9 The glazed brickwork in the ablutions, visible above suspended ceiling



Plate 485.10 The range of finishes in the ablutions block



Plate 485.11 The partition panel construction



Plate 485.12 The blocked lights visible in the ablutions brickwork



Plate 485.13 An example of a former decorative scheme



Plate 485.14 The suspended ceiling obscuring a ground floor window pelmet



Plate 485.15 The suspended ceiling abutting a first floor window pelmet



Plate 485.16 Ceiling staining showing the previous light fitting



Plate 485.17 Current numbering system, stencilled outside the rooms



Plate 485.18 The eastern wall of the day room and squadron emblem



Plate 485.19 'Underground' stencil in a ground floor room



Plate 485. 20 'Judge Dredd' artwork, first floor corridor



Plate 485.21 Bird and snake artwork, first floor corridor



Plate 485.22 Western end of first floor landing following artwork removal



Plate 485.23 The 'Invisible Man' artwork, removed and stored in the day room



Plate 485.24 Crow artwork in a first floor room

Building 486: Bio-environmental Engineering

NGR: SP 51440 25596

Recording Level: 1

Location

This building is located within Area OA12B, at the east edge of the Parade Ground between buildings 486 and 475.

History/ Function

Building 486 is thought to date from 1976, a sign to the front shows that it functioned as the: 'Bioenvironmental Engineering, Environmental Health Services'. A plan dated 1974 identifies the use of the building as for 'Proposed Dental Care', it is therefore possible that the building was later converted for its secondary bio-environmental use.

Description

Building 486 survives in very poor condition, with collapsing elevations and vegetation growing internally (Plate 486.1). The building, which has a rectangular footprint on a concrete plinth, is constructed in pre-fabricated timber panels painted blue and cream. It has a flat asphalt roof surrounded by a deep timber fascia, and numerous blue painted square metal windows with rectangular lights above. There is a single door to the rear (west) elevation at the north-west end. The south elevation steps out, and contains an area of plant which is not shown on the 1974 plan, it is therefore possible that this is a later addition in the conversion of the building for its secondary bio-environmental use. The plan shows two-double doors in this area, which would have provided the main point of access to the dental surgery.

Internally, it is possible to see that the building was divided up into several small rooms separated by pre-fabricated panels.

Archive

One plan was identified within the Upper Heyford archives.

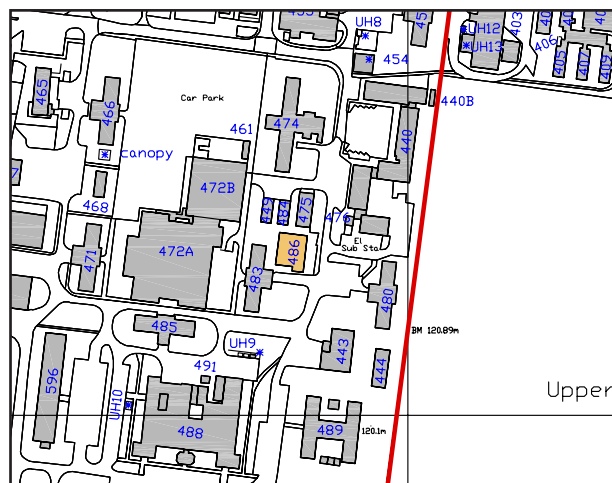




Plate 486.1 North and west elevations

Building 487: Electric Substation

NGR: SP 51379 25449

Recording Level: 1

Location

This building is located within Area OA12B, between buildings 488 and 446.

History/ Function

The electric substation is understood from site records to date from 1940, although it is not possible to confirm this with accuracy.

Description

The substation is a roughly square metal fenced enclosure (c1.5 m in height) (Plate 487.1). Internally are three sets of electric equipment (EMU1 and EMU2) and an electricity pole.



Plate 487.1 North-west view

Building 488: Combined Dining Room and Institute

NGR: SP 51385 25498

Recording Level: 3

Location

This building is located within Area OA12D, south of the parade ground and to the south of Barrack Block 485.

History/ Function

The building had not been constructed when the 1937 aerial photograph was taken, but appears with a camouflaged roof on the aerial photograph of 1942, close to the newly constructed 'H' plan barrack blocks.



Designed in the Art Deco style by the Air Ministry's Directorate of Works and Buildings' architect, JH Binge, the building was constructed to the drawing number 8055/38.

The building was designed to accommodate 750-800 corporals and airmen. Planned across two floors with a vertical division in the centre between the dining area and institute, there were two dining rooms, one on the ground and one on the first floor. The institute was also on both floors with a supper room on the ground floor and games, reading and writing rooms on the floor above. The ground floor division could be removed when needed to create a space for functions. A stage was at the left-hand side of the ground floor supper room with dressing rooms to either side. The kitchens and food storage and preparation areas were to the rear of the dining rooms, and were single storey with the exception of the first floor service rooms to the rear of the upper dining room (Francis 1996).

The Institute was latterly known as 'The Lamplighter', the sign having been removed from the left of the central entrance door several years before the building was recorded. On the 'Welcome to Britain...' site plan of 1982, it is listed simply as the 'Dining Hall / Rec Center'(sic). The *website raf-upper-heyford.org* often refers to the building as the 'Chow Hall', reflecting its function as a dining room.

The building may not have strictly adhered to the standard plan, which is discussed in the following paragraphs.

Some drawings survive which refer to previous work carried out: a 1981 first floor plan relating to the office partitions which were extant at the time of recording (albeit in a partially collapsed state), with a set of elevations which include only the first floor windows. In 1986, a plan was drawn relating to an overhaul of the catering and dining facilities on the ground floor, although these were only partially carried out.

Description

A two storey Art Deco building with wings to either side and a small single storey central entrance block form the dominant front elevation (Plate 488.1); a range of single storey connected units form the rear service buildings, with the exception of a small range of rooms bridging the central yard entrance (Plate 488.2) (Fig.488.1).

The protected flat roof, constructed from reinforced concrete, overhangs the dark reddish brown permanent brick walls. The concrete first floor pad extends to the elevations and forms a continuous lintel for the windows. It stops short of the front elevation of the wings which are of uninterrupted brickwork other than the apertures. Vents are built into the walls and are created from pieces of ceramic tile mortared together to form an open vent (Plate 488.3).

The footprint of the main structure of the building is as-built, with the exception of the front entrance block, extended from the central doorway, and the two open porches added to the front entrances of the wings at either side of the front elevation. These three original white art deco doorways are obscured by the later additions and brown paintwork (Plate 488.4). The original narrow, shallow white-painted concrete canopy survives over the central doorway, although it is almost completely obscured by the later entrance block extension (Plate 488.5).

The later entrance extension is an elongated octagon in plan and has a central walkway roofed in curved plastic. According to photographs posted on the *website raf-upper-heyford.org* (not reproduced here), the porches on the wings were in existence by the late 1970s, predating the entranceway extension, which may have been constructed as part of the 1986 catering and dining alterations.

A tank room to the same design and proportions as the rest of the building is above the bathroom of the former NAAFI dormitories, and a similar tank room and lift room are above the first floor service rooms of the upper dining area; these are only accessible via ladders to the roof and so were inaccessible at the time of recording (Plate 488.6).

The fire escapes do not appear on the original architect's plans, but do appear on the 1981 plans as existing features.

The original windows were 14-pane ground floor and 12-pane first floor metal-framed windows, with the uppermost four panes forming a horizontally pivoting casement; the windows to other elevations are variations on this style. The first floor windows of the front elevations of the wings consisted of three circular lights with a central vertical glazing bar. These windows appear on the 1981 elevation, but a reference to general repairs to double glazed units on the 1986 plan indicate that the current plastic-framed units had been installed at some point between.

The round windows on the first floor have the original lead flashing above, intended to deflect rainwater from the glass and frames. The replacement frames are wooden and form an octagon (Plate 488.7).

There is much evidence of the alteration of the apertures in the external walls, mainly to the rear service rooms (Plate 488.8), some of which do not appear on the surviving drawings and so pre-date those alterations indicated in 1981 and 1986. The ground floor windows to the wings which face towards the entrance have been only partially blocked using brickwork, however, the remainder of the windows to the two-storey block were blanked-off at the top of the existing frames with the installation of the suspended ceiling (Plate 488.9). To the upper floor they are black, to maintain the appearance of a window, whilst the ground floor panels have been painted in brown to match the ground floor woodwork. The first floor window to the north end of the east elevation of the former dining area was bricked-up completely with the addition of the Server Room (Plate 488.10).

The majority of the external paintwork is of the mid-brown shade used across the airbase, but the first floor window frames and particularly items which are concealed in the yards are painted in the former dark-green colour scheme of the airbase which is also visible where the brown paintwork has flaked away. The building numbers are painted in white letters on a black background on all elevations with a brown and white plaque to either face of the south-east corner; the former number (AM 95) is painted in white on a light green background.

The open yard to the north-east, at the rear of the building has a later open timber, steel and corrugated asbestos structure forming a covered area along the eastern edge of the yard (Plate 488.11). Art Deco style metal gates secure the central yard; although these are likely to be a later replacement, they are in keeping with the style of the architecture.

A cellar is located below the western wing and is accessed via a door below the staircase to the first floor. The original design included another cellar beneath the east wing, possibly intended as bomb shelters or refuges as with many RAF buildings, particularly barracks, but this does not appear to have been constructed at Upper Heyford.

A shallow recessed dado signifies the primary walls in much of the interior of the building with the exception of the external walls of the wings (Plate 488.12).

All of the office areas have American power sockets in addition to the British sockets (Plate 488.13).

Alterations

The aforementioned plans dated October 1981 comprise two plans of the western and eastern ends respectively of the first floor of the main building and one set of elevations showing only the first floor windows with selected other apertures. The surviving plans detail the required layout of the electrical services relating to power provision to the new rooms, although they do indicate the intended locations of the new modular office partitions.

The surviving plan dated Sept 1986 and amended in November 1987 covered work to be carried out to mainly catering and dining areas of the building. This scheme may also have involved constructing the entrance extension, although it is unclear from the drawing.

Smaller phases of alteration are apparent, although some may be deviations from the original design and therefore from the primary phase of the building, for instance, the recreation area at the north west of the building differs from the standard plan, but it is not apparent whether it had originally been constructed according to the original design as later decoration has obscured the details.

Current Form

The Entrance Building

The late 1980s octagonal entrance building contains a male and a female WC to either side of the corridor (Fig.488.1). This corridor with an arched plastic roof leads from the modern metal doors to the original door opening, although this is evident only when exiting the corridor into the lobby which has a tiled floor and exposed brick walls (Plate 488.14).

Dining rooms

The dining rooms are to either side of the entrance, via a corridor with the serveries to the north (Plate 488.15). They are

decorated in 1980s style, but not in accordance with the 1986 drawing; as the drawn scheme was not fully executed. Rather than the planned 'Olde England' theme to the east and 'The Future' to the west, the Olde England theme was used in both rooms. The wood and leather effect booths (Plate 488.16) are installed around the edges of the room and similar tables would probably have been placed around the dining room (Plate 488.17). Brick arches and planters and exposed brick walls between the dining room and the servery complete the style. A wood dado rail has been fitted the dining rooms and the hallway between.

There is a suspended ceiling contemporary with the 1986 refitting of the room which conceals the beams of the concrete ceilings and areas of the former decorative scheme. This décor was trying to emulate a traditional style building with stonework-effect and brickwork-effect wall papers with wood-effect wallpaper to the concrete beams (Plate 488.18).

A tiled walkway runs between the external doors and the serveries, and carpet tiles are to the remainder of the floors.

The serveries are not as the 1986 drawing, with references on the drawing to temporary works superseding the planned work. The fronts of the stainless steel serving line counters are covered with red leather effect plastic, and the walls are covered with wood effect plastic to dado height to match the style of the dining room booths (Plate 488.19). The block wall separating the serveries from the kitchen area can be seen above the suspended ceiling, indicating that the ceiling is contemporary with the wall and décor. The buff and orange-brown bricks used to construct the east and west walls of the servery are only used to the height of the suspended ceiling; above this, cheaper commons are used (Plate 488.20).

The original plan for the building included a stage and dressing rooms at the western end of the dining room, but no evidence of this is visible.

To either side of the servery, doors lead from the dining room to the kitchen area.

The western dining room has had some fire damage from recent vandalism (Plate 488.21) which has also melted the entrance way plastic roof.

The Linen Exchange and Games Room

The original design of the building intended the rear buildings along the left hand side to make up a separate Corporal's Supper Room and Games Room with their own external entrance and a WC and Lavy (a room containing wash hand basins) between the two rooms.

The layout which was actually constructed is not known and later décor obscures any features, however, in the room immediately to the north of the western dining room, titled 'Linen Exchange' on the 1986 drawing, an original Art Dec fireplace survives to the south wall of the possible Corporal's Supper Room (Plate 488.22).

This room was not fitted with a suspended ceiling and many layers of decorative schemes, including greens, cream and yellow are visible where the modern cream-painted wallpaper has peeled away. A 1960s orange, yellow and black geometric pattern carpet survives in the room (Plate 488.23).

Beyond the entrance hall, no access remains to the Corporal's Games Room, which now has its own external access and may have continued in use as a games room as wire covers to protect smoke detectors and light fittings are present.

The Kitchens and Food Preparation and Storage Areas

The 1986 works included a complete refurbishment of the kitchens, food storage and food preparation areas. The walls have been uniformly tiled in pastel blue to the platewash, kitchen and corridors and in pastel pink to the food preparation, food storage and the area behind the servery. A pink and blue tiled strip runs at head-height and a black rubber protective bumper at mid-height protects the walls from trolleys. Corners are finished with white plastic protective strips.

The floors are tiled with cream non-slip tiles which rise to form the skirting. Drainage channels are in the floor of the kitchen area and some of the preparation areas. The concrete slab forms the ceiling in most areas with suspended ceilings in the corridors and kitchen which conceals services, including the ducting serving the large stainless steel extractors in the kitchen ceiling (Plate 488.24).

The salad preparation area is set within the original service rooms to the immediate north of the dining room and was formerly the washing up area. It retains the clerestory windows to the north and the upper portion of the walls, above the tiles, is painted brick. The room is entered via a square room which formerly housed the lifts to the upper dining room, although no features related to this are visible (Plate 488.25).

Some stainless steel sinks and extractors remain, but the majority of the fixtures had been stripped out at the time of recording. A large walk-in refrigerator remained in the Dry Food Store which also retains bars over the windows (Plate 488.26).

The platewash room retains the industrial dishwashing machinery. It has a wooden structure above the southernmost area of the room, providing clerestory windows (Plate 488.27).

The swing doors are painted light blue with metal panels and windows, but most doorways are open, particularly to the food preparation and storage areas along the eastern wall.

Where the suspended ceiling has missing tiles, the painted plaster walls are visible, painted in a yellow ocre colour (Plate 488.28).

The corridor between the platewash and the kitchen houses the electrical control panels; to the east of this is a blocked-in area and cupboard concealing an original staircase which formerly lead to the upper dining room. This was photographed via a small hole in the aerated concrete block partition which covers it (Plate 488.29). No evidence of the staircase is visible on either floor.

The plate wash area appears as a kitchen on the original drawings, indicating that two separate kitchens were provided either side of the covered yard. The current plate wash room has been completely tiled and so it is not possible to establish if the kitchen at the west of the building was ever equipped as intended.

A Calorifier Room is now located in the room originally designed as a scullery. The room retains the original cream tiles. A blocked doorway, originally leading to the now-platewash room, is visible which was blocked during the 1986 works (Plate 488.30). The service corridor from which this room is accessed contains an original door which leads out into the smallest, and enclosed, courtyard which is also accessed from the lobby beside the Recreation Room (Plate 488.31).

Service Yard and Buildings

To the west of the food storage areas is the rear service yard. The covered area at the east may have contained industrial refrigeration and freezer units, according to the 1986 plans, although the area is now empty.

To the south of the service yard is the below-ground Plant/Boiler Room and the adjacent Valve Room. Now containing modern plant, the Boiler Room does retain trenches and brick bays for former equipment (Plates 488.32 & 33).

The eastern ground floor section of the block creating the covered way is accessible both from the west of the yard area and the covered way. Originally designed to form storage for kitchen equipment, it is now empty; it retains the original doors, but the window frames are from the later phase of replacement.

The majority of the alterations to door and window openings is in this courtyard area, although the removal of equipment signifying any reason for the alterations has since been removed.

A small bin store, building 491, is adjacent to the yard and described elsewhere.

Recreation Room

The original standard design for the Combined Dining Room and Institute buildings included an area for civilian dining with a Reading and Writing Room and a WC. The area was located to the rear of the building, behind the kitchen equipment store and adjacent to the Corporal's Games Room. It is not apparent whether this was instigated in this building as the partitions do not appear to have all been constructed as necessary for that layout. Most recently, the rooms intended as the civilian area served as the Recreation Room for the catering staff.

The former Kitchen Equipment Store was indicated on the 1986 drawings as a shower and WC room for women, with the same for men to the west of the Recreation Room and the Recreation Room was intended for lockers. At the time of recording, the women's shower and WC area was empty and did not show any evidence of having contained those facilities, although the floor was tiled; a door to the platewash area had been blocked, indicating that it had previously been the kitchen equipment store (Plate 488.34).

The men's shower and WC area was not as per the 1986 drawing at the time of recording. There was no evidence of the shower or WCs having been installed and the westernmost partition of the intended Locker Room had been constructed farther east to create a large Recreation Room and a lobby with doors to both the enclosed courtyard and to the rear of the building. A hatch has been knocked though the wall between the lobby and the Corporal's Games Room: replastering around this indicates that it is a later alteration.

The Recreation Room contains the only artworks found in this building; these have been recorded fully as part of the artwork project. Briefly, the artwork consists of a sticker on the entrance door and identical painted logo on the south wall of a snorting bull dressed in a camouflage shirt and a chef's hat, holding pots and pans whilst driving a Jeep. 'Prime Ribs' is in red capital letters beneath this (Plate 488.35). On the east wall is a closed field kitchen trailer next to a tree; adjacent to this, an open similar trailer displays cooking equipment and water containers (Plate 488.36).

Office

Across the hallway to the east of the Recreation Room is an office; now empty and with no indication of its former use. The

original building design shows the room as a NAAFI (Navy, Army and Air Force Institutes) Common Room with the doorway in the southern wall leading to the hall and stairway to the NAAFI dormitories above, however, there is no evidence in the room to indicate that the door was every anywhere other than in the current location in the western wall.

Learning Centre

The 1986 drawing labels the room containing the staircase to the former NAAFI Dormitories above as 'Learning Centre'. No equipment or signage confirms this and the rooms appear to have latterly been in use as accommodation.

The ground floor space contains a doorway to the Covered Way which leads to the central courtyard. It also includes a WC.

An original Art Deco staircase (Plate 488.37) in an identical style to the others in the building leads up to a corridor with five bedrooms, a bathroom and a WC leading off (Plate 488.38). All of the walls are primary and it appears that there has been little alteration other than the conversion of the cupboard in the former lavy, now the south west bedroom, into an electrical cupboard and the later window replacement work. A small hatch has been cut through the partition between the two easternmost rooms, formerly the two dormitories, although it is not clear if this is original or later, although the current hatch door is modern.

The West Wing

The ground floor of the western wing appears on the original design as a hallway with WC and lavy to either side of the external door with the staircase to the first floor at the north west corner, and the door to the stairs to the basement beneath. Both staircases are still extant as are the WCs. The WCs are currently tiled in blue tiles up to the level of the suspended ceiling, but these have been added on top of beige tiles (Plate 488.39). The lavy and the majority of the hall have been replaced by an office, requiring an additional door to the Dining Room to be knocked through. The office is plainly fitted-out, but the imprint of the lavy tiles are visible beneath the wallpaper.

The two sets of double doors to the external entrance are both modern metal-framed doors.

One of the original staircases leads to the first floor; typical Art Deco metal balustrades with a wooden handrail are continuous from the stairs to the landing above (Plate 488.40). The bottom of the staircase is squared, rather than rounded, as is seen in the east wing.

The Basement

The basement is accessed via the doorway beneath the staircase in the west wing. Insufficient light and structural problems prevented recording, but rooms leading off the main room were evident. The poured concrete structure can be clearly seen in the ceiling (Plate 488.41).

The East Wing

The original design shows an open hall and cloakroom with the entrance door to the front elevation. A second external doorway is located to the rear, north elevation. This does not appear on the original standard drawings, but the style is contemporary to the building, albeit in a plainer form (Plate 488.42). It appears on the drawings of 1981.

During one of the phases of alteration, the cloak room area was partitioned to create an office and, as has happened with the office created in the west wing, the upper portions of the windows were bricked up, rather than blanked-off with a board as has happened with the other windows of the building.

The style of the staircase is identical to the west wing, although the base of the staircase is rounded, rather than square (Plates 488.43 & .44).

First Floor Offices

The first floor now consists entirely of offices; the partitions are all contemporary with the alterations of 1981, with very few minor alterations to the planned layout (Fig.488.2 and 488.3). The original walls remain between each wing and the main unit and the former service rooms to the rear of the eastern end of the main unit.

Little remains which predates the 1981 conversion to offices. The floor was open plan dining to the east, with the service rooms along the north east edge and a games room to the west of the central dividing wall; this dividing wall has been replaced, albeit in the same location, by the modular office walling (Plate 488.45). There is no evidence of the original construction.

The former scheme of decoration is visible where the suspended ceiling is missing, and includes yellows, pinks, pale green and bright orange.

The current decoration is neutral, with cream walls, grey carpet tiles and white wood and metal work. The inside of the window frames is white. The modular partitions are cream with aluminium edges and black skirting. Doors are brown wood veneer. The suspended ceilings have considerably reduced the height of the rooms and cut across the windows; black panels are visible on the external elevations blocking the upper portion of the window.

The open plan area in the centre of the western end of the first floor was the former games room, now with offices to the north, east and south. No evidence of the former use is visible, although the function may not have called for fixtures, however, the original cupboards are at the western end of the room (Plate 488.46), the northernmost cupboard now within room F8.

A server room towards the north east corner in F31 has caused a computer floor to be installed, and a ramp has been installed to allow access from F30. The window in the east wall has been blocked at an unknown date, although it was still open in 1981 when the floor was divided up into offices; presumably the window was blocked specifically to allow for the change of use. The walls of this room are clad in plastic tiles to help prevent dust. The suspended ceiling has recently been removed, showing the extractor fans required to cool the room (Plate 488.47).

The few remaining primary walls are distinguished by the recessed dado. These are the walls of the Reading Room and Writing Room at the western end of the floor and the structural wall between the former Dining Room and service rooms. There is no remaining evidence of the service room lifts or staircase or other fixtures (Plate 488.48).

West Wing first floor

The layout of the area is much as it was before the office conversion, with the exception of a narrow office being partitioned along the northern edge of the landing and the store being converted to a WC (Fig.488.2).

According to the original design, the current office was a barber's shop; although there are no remaining fixtures to confirm this. The recessed dado which is present along the other primary walls is not visible, but it does appear as if the lower portion of the wall has been replastered and so this may indicate that tiling and plumbing has been removed.

The tall windows in the stairwell have decorative pelmets over the top of the windows; they may be original, or possibly a later replacement in an Art Deco Style. The upper portions of these windows are also fitted with panels to obscure the upper panes, although there is no suspended ceiling to necessitate this as is the case in the offices.

East Wing first floor

The original design plans show this area as an open plan landing and cloak room, much the same as the ground floor below (Fig.488.3). The most recent phase sectioned-off the cloak room and installed male and female WCs. The external walls of the landing and stairwell do not have the recessed dado, although a dark blue painted line runs around the landing and down the stairs, including across the later partition.

The tall windows in the stairwell have the wooden pelmets and blanking-off panels as described in the West Wing (Plate 488.49).

The ladies WC has been redecorated in stippled orange with the former blue décor visible above the suspended ceiling, the men's is the same blue, which extends above the suspended ceiling, suggesting that the WC additions probably occurred before the 1981 works (Plate 488.50).

Summary

An Art Deco protected permanent brick building built to the layout of the standard drawing 8055/38 in most areas, with some probable alterations to the design to suit the needs of the Base.

Minor alterations occurred during the lifetime of the building when necessary to ensure it met the requirements of the period. In 1981, the first floor dining and recreation facilities were converted into offices. It was at this time that the original metal windows were replaced with modern plastic-framed double glazed windows.

In 1986 the catering and dining facilities, now confined to the ground floor, were overhauled, however, not all of the planned alterations were carried out and some temporary measures were taken in the construction of the serveries. A new entrance block was added to the front of the building which provided extra WC facilities.

Few primary features were extant in the building by the time the Base closed. The notable survivals were the staircases in each wing, with a smaller staircase in the NAAFI block, or Learning Centre, and a disused staircase, since blocked-in, which formerly linked the floors in the Service Rooms to the rear of the dining areas.

Archive

Three plans were identified within the Upper Heyford archives.

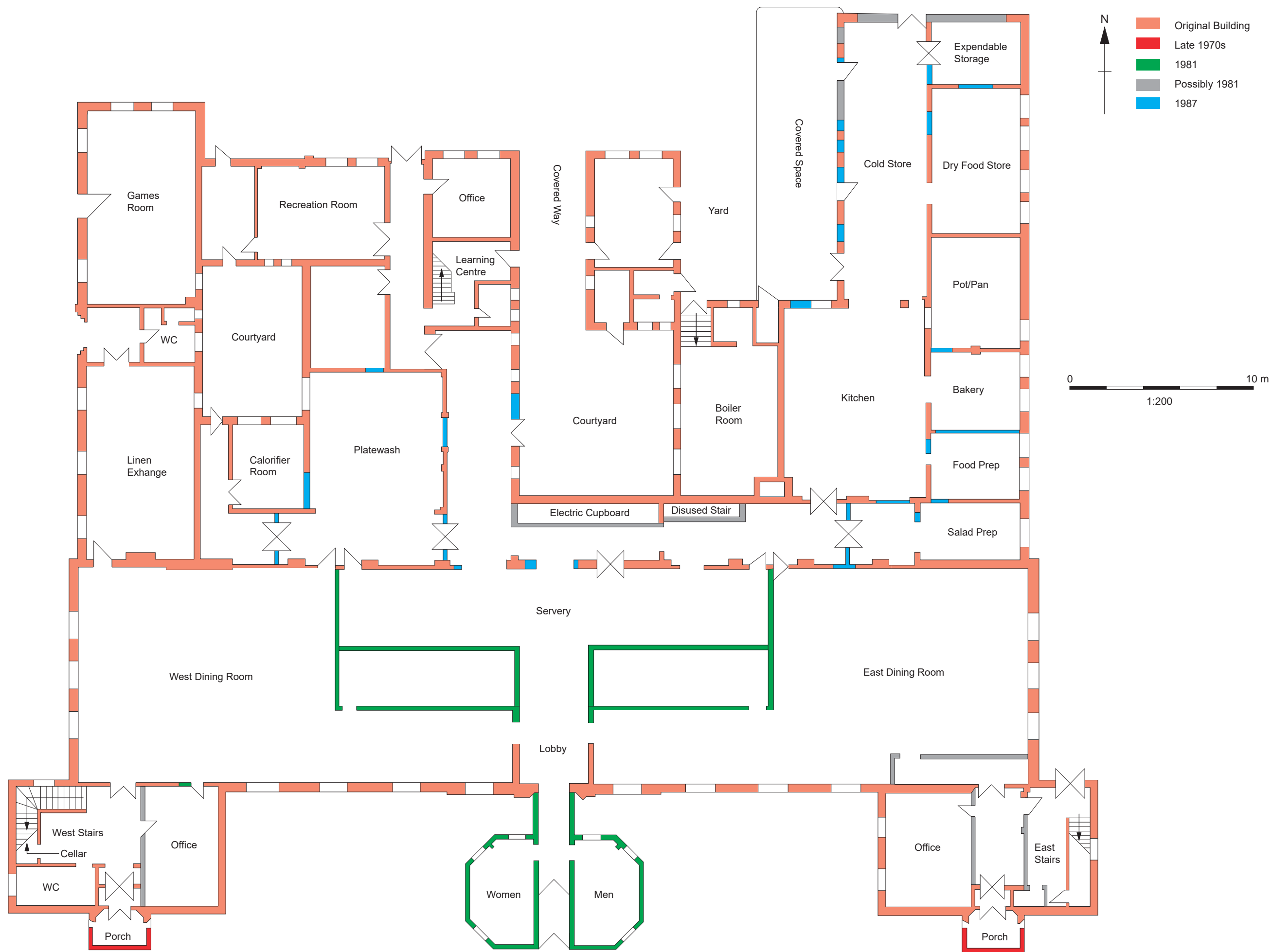


Figure 488.1: Ground floor plan

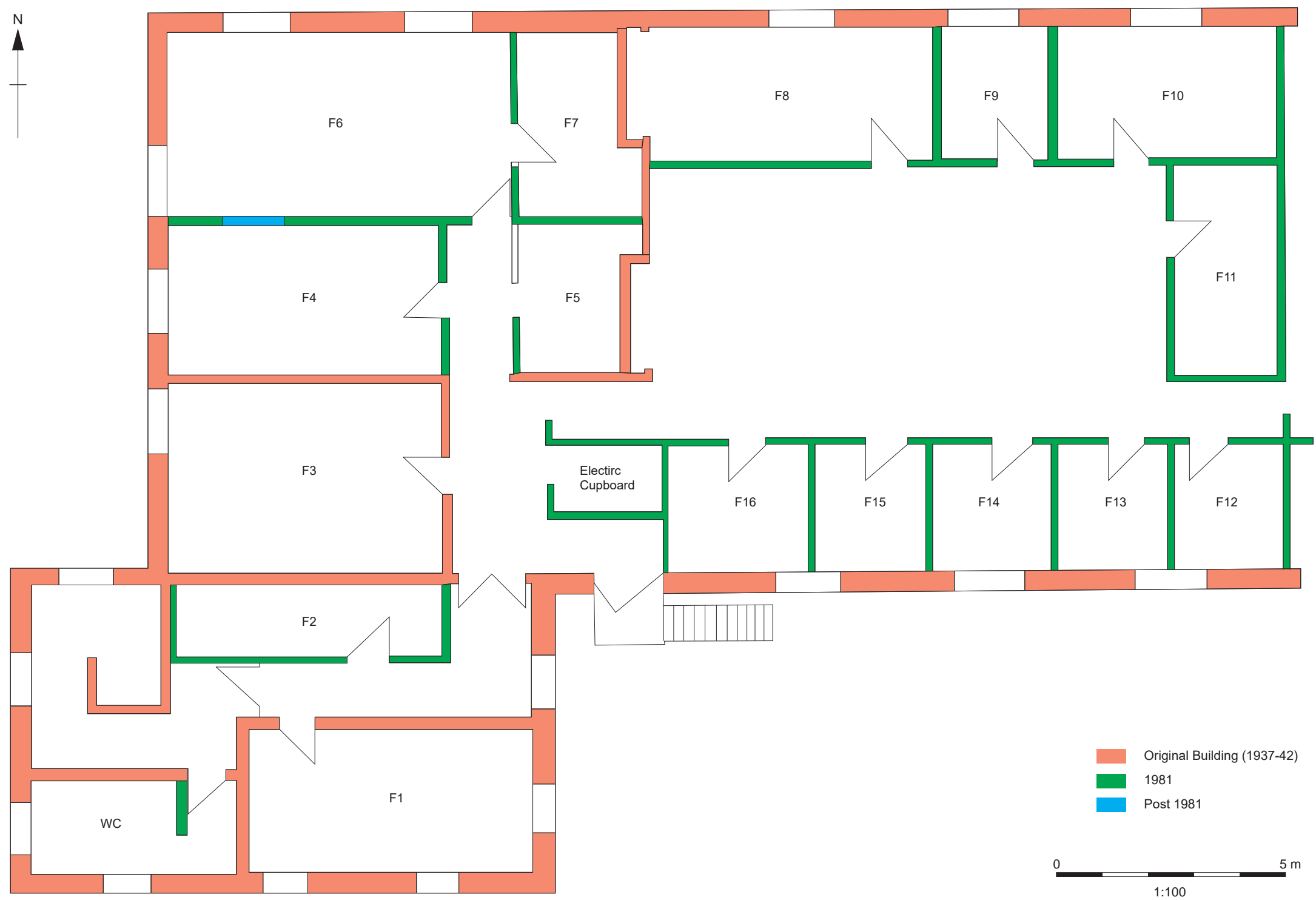


Figure 488.2: First floor plan, west wing

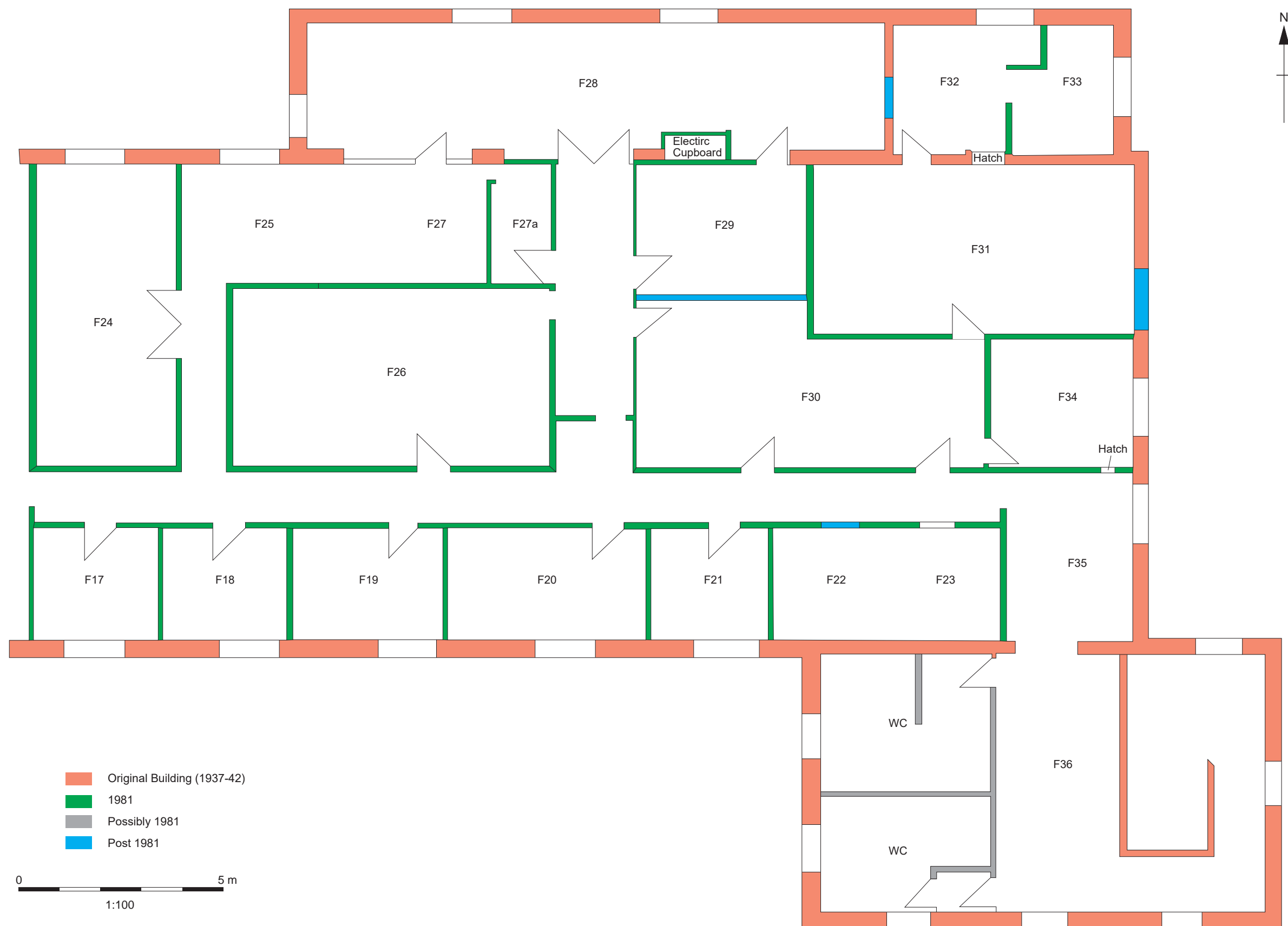


Figure 488.3: First floor plan, east wing

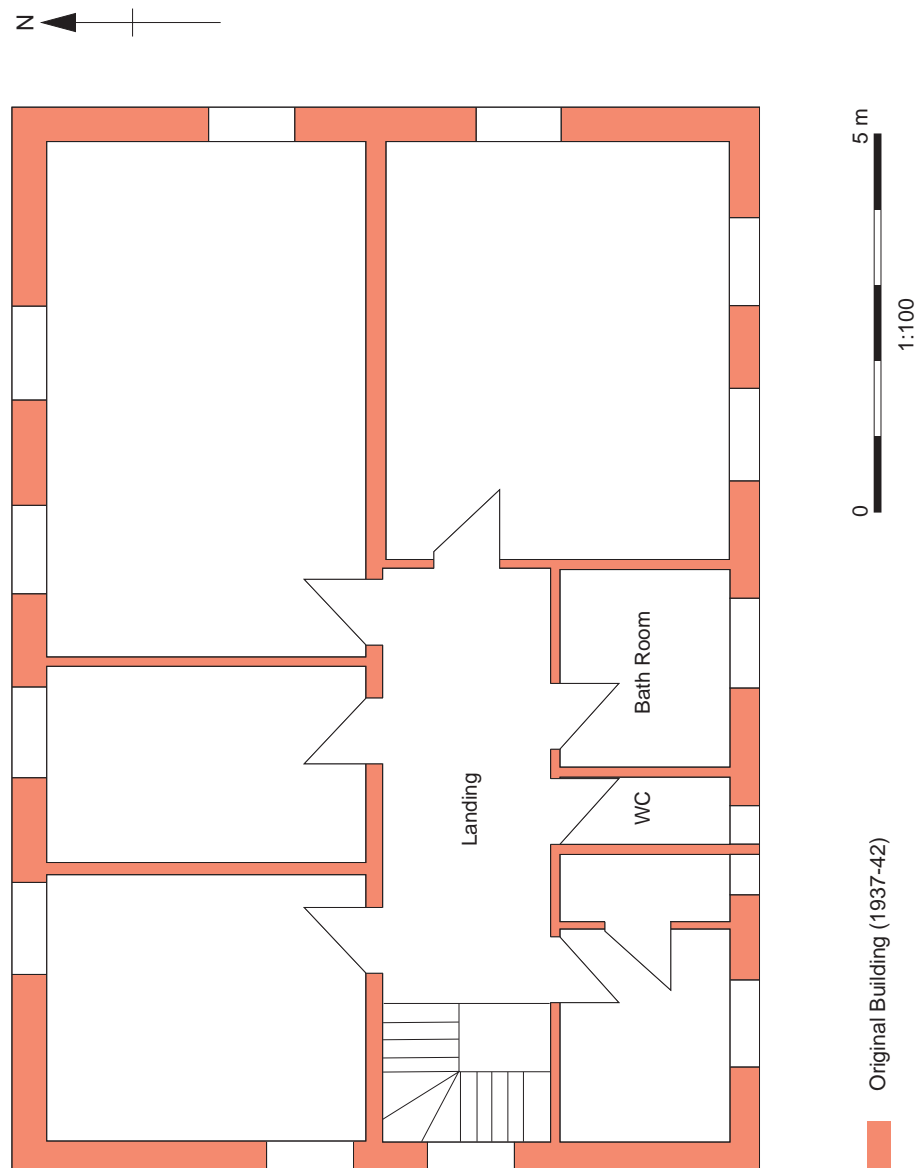


Figure 488.4 Second floor plan



Plate 488.1 South (front) and east elevations



Plate 488.2 North (rear) elevation



Plate 488.3 Example of a vent



Plate 488.4 Example of an Art Deco wing entrance doorway and porch



Plate 488.5 The entrance block extension



Plate 488.6 The two second storey tank rooms visible in the roofline



Plate 488.7 The west wing south elevation



Plate 488.8 An example of alterations to the apertures in the rear range



Plate 488.9 The east elevation of the west wing



Plate 488.10 East elevation



Plate 488.11 The covered area of the service yard



Plate 488.12 An example of the recessed dado



Plate 488.13 An example of the American and British power sockets



Plate 488.14 The entrance extension looking from the servery



Plate 488.15 The corridor alongside the servery, looking towards the dining room



Plate 488.16 An example of a dining room booth



Plate 488.17 The east dining room



Plate 488.18 The former décor scheme in the dining room



Plate 488.19 The servery décor



Plate 488.20 The types of brick used in the servery wall



Plate 488.21 The west dining room



Plate 488.22 The Art Deco fireplace in the linen exchange



Plate 488.23 The linen exchange



Plate 488.24 The kitchen



Plate 488.25 The salad preparation area



Plate 488.26 A walk-in refrigerator in the food storage area



Plate 488.27 The platewash area



Plate 488.28 The former décor in the corridor and blocked-in staircase



Plate 488.29 The blocked in staircase



Plate 488.30 The calorifier room



Plate 488.31 The corridor to the enclosed courtyard



Plate 488.32 The boiler room



Plate 488.33 The steps from the boiler room to the yard



Plate 488.34 The former kitchen equipment store



Plate 488.35 The logo for the catering staff's sports team



Plate 488.36 The east wall of the recreation room with field kitchen artwork



Plate 488.37 The staircase to the NAAFI dormitories



Plate 488.38 The landing of the NAAFI dormitories



Plate 488.39 The WC in the west wing



Plate 488.40 The staircase in the west wing



Plate 488.41 The basement



Plate 488.42 The doorway to the north of the east wing



Plate 488.43 The staircase in the east wing



Plate 488.44 The staircase in the east wing



Plate 488.45 The open plan area of the first floor offices



Plate 488.46 The original cupboards at the west end of the open plan area



Plate 488.47 The server room



Plate 488.48 The former service rooms on the first floor



Plate 488.49 The landing in the east wing



Plate 488.50 The ladies WC in the east wing

Building 489, 498 & 500: Barrack Block - Type H

NGR: SP 51331 25442

Recording Level: 2

Location

Buildings 489 (AM No 96), Building 498 (AmNo97) and Building 500 (AmNo 98) are located within Area OA12D. They are a group of three buildings situated around building 488 to the east and south sides.

These three barrack blocks are of the same type and date, and therefore are described as a group below.



History/ Function

The Barrack blocks are not visible in aerial photography from 1937, but are clearly visible in aerial photography from 1942 with a camouflaged roof. They are first illustrated on plans from 1945, a plan of 1945 numbers the building as 96 and describes it as 'Barrack Block' on the 1947 plan. There are surviving plans of the Upper Heyford H-type barrack blocks, illustrating the ground floor and first floor layout which date from the 1978 (Fig.489,498 & 500.1&.2)

The H type barrack blocks are believed to date from 1939, which is shown by the presence of a basement refuge, typical of H Type Barrack Blocks of this date. The original architectural drawings, which are dated 1938, show a store in-lieu of a stairway down to the shelter.

A number of improvements came about for barrack blocks in 1938 under Scheme 'L' of the expansion period when it was decided that the floor area per man in barrack rooms should be increased from 60sq ft to 67sq ft. A reduction in ceiling height was also recommended from 10ft to 9ft and the number of men in each room should be reduced to a maximum of twelve. Further improvements were the provision of a sitting room for entertainment, and a general increase in sanitary scales and provision of utility rooms. All of these changes led to the final expansion period design with their characteristic 'H' shaped plan-form which is essentially two 'T'-shaped barrack blocks joined together by their ablutions (Francis 2009). At Upper Heyford three of the larger flat-roof type of H-barrack blocks were constructed to accommodate 84 airmen and 8 NCOs.

H-type barrack blocks with protected flat roofs were erected from 1938 at the majority of the expansion period stations as well as at a number of the traditional stations. Where expansion allowed, barracks of this type were grouped together within a symmetrical planning arrangement but they still enjoyed plenty of separation between adjacent blocks, often with a new Dining Hall in a central position as evident at Upper Heyford. At the outbreak of war, the sitting room became an extra barrack room and the temporary luxury of 67sq ft floor area was greatly reduced to accommodate an increase in station establishment. This grouping was self-sufficient and did not rely on the existing domestic facilities of the station. Another important aspect of this self sufficiency is the dedicated Central Heating Station as this provided a steam heating service (see Building 467) (Francis 2009).

Buildings of this type represented the ultimate in internal dispersal, whereby small numbers of airmen were concentrated within small wings rather than grouped together in larger rooms. Another important feature of the barracks as well as the Dining Hall, was an underground Basement Refuge (2230/39) located directly below the hall and an NCO's bedroom. The refuge shows that the barrack block was built during 1939, and post dates the original architects plan which is dated 1938, which does not show a basement shelter.

Description

The H-type barrack blocks are substantial red brick structures (flemish bond) with architectural presence enhanced by the entrance canopies on the front and rear elevations (Plate 489,498 & 500.1 & .2). The windows are later green plastic replacements (probably dating from the 1980s), each with four lights (two small rectangular ones at the top, and two larger rectangular ones below) sitting in timber sub-frames. The windows have concrete sills and lintels, some of which run continuously along the elevation. The buildings would have originally had a flat roof, but this has subsequently been replaced with a pitched tiled roof, there is a timber fascia below. The buildings have various patches of infill, which are described below, and are thought to relate to changes in floor levels.

External

The front and rear elevations have a formal fenestration, using a standard size of window frame, which are fixed behind a half-brick return.

The front (Building 489 and 498 - west, Building 500 - east) facing elevations have columns that support the weather canopy

over the entrance providing grandeur to the building, these are rounded in section (whereas those on the rear facing elevations are square) (Plate 489, 498 & 500.3). The columns and canopy are constructed from concrete blocks that are painted white, with blue paint visible beneath. Three concrete steps lead up double glass doors that are a later replacement (probably dating from the 1980s). There are four windows at ground-floor level to each side of the entrance, and nine at first floor level. In the central area to each side of the door (with five windows above, and two to each side of the door), there is a concrete band above and below the windows at cill and window height (Plate 489, 498 & 500.4). At first floor level above the lintels this band continues the full width of the front elevation, and continues round the entirety of the building. To each side of the central area are modern plastic drainpipes, leading up to a timber fascia below roof level. The brickwork is also single phase with the exception of some brick infill centrally between ground and first floor windows (but not between the entrance and first floor window), and below the ground floor windows (Plates 489, 498 & 500.5). These probably represent the locations of former vents, which have subsequently been infilled with brick (usually four bricks over two courses). Just below the height of the timber fascia and above the concrete band are 12 areas of brick infill (c. 6 bricks over 2 courses). These are thought to reflect the former location of trusses, following the replacement of the roof from flat to pitched.

The side elevations (Building 498 - north, Building 489 and 500 - south) have the plan form of the top or bottom of an 'H' with a central flank and two projecting ranges at either end. The north and south facing elements of these two projecting flanks have metal spiral staircases (probably 1980s) built on a concrete platform, (these are not shown on the primary construction plans of the building and are later additions) (Plate 489, 498 & 500.6). Entrance is provided at ground and first floor levels via a single (brown painted) timber door, which are probably later insertions or at have been modified, as shown by the replacement brickwork surrounding the doors. On the west flank (and the east flank of building 489), there is clearly later brickwork surrounding the door at both levels, and the brickwork appears to have been infilled between the two doors. On the east flank of building 500, the brickwork appears to have been cut back and to the west the brickwork surrounding the door has been repointed. The staircases and doors are later insertions not shown on the construction plans, but have possibly been further modified since their insertion. The west and east facing elements of these two projections have six windows (three windows at each level) (Plates 489, 498 & 500.7). Below the level of the timber fascia is a concrete band (as seen on the front elevation), with five areas of brick infill (as evident on other elevations). There are also three areas of infill between the two levels of windows, one centrally between each set of windows and one below each of the ground floor windows.

Between the two projecting flanks, the central range has been subject to infill to facilitate the addition of the sanitary area (the primary fenestration of this area is shown in Fig. 489, 498 & 500.2) (Plate 489, 498 & 500.8). The later phase of brickwork is clearly visible with dark red bricks and lighter coloured mortar. This infill is evident below each of the later windows, which are smaller, roughly square and at a higher level. There is a central band of infill with two sets of three windows in a row at ground and first floor levels. At the very east and west edge of the central elevation are two small square windows, which are separated by brickwork rather than in a row.

The rear elevation is the same fenestration and arrangement as described for the front elevation, although the entrance canopy is constructed from brick (painted cream, with blue paint visible beneath) with a flat concrete roof (Plate 489, 498 & 500.9). It has square profile columns (in contrast to the round columns of the front elevation) with a double glass entrance door. There are also the same areas of infill between the ground and first floor windows (again not between the entrance door and first floor window), below each of the ground floor windows and below the timber fascia (12 in total) (Plate 489, 498 & 500.10).

The north (buildings 489 and 500) and south (Building 498) side elevations are the same arrangement as described for the opposite side elevations, with later spiral staircases on the two projecting flanks and doors at ground and first floor levels (Plates 489, 498 & 500.11). The concrete surround of earlier doors can be seen surrounding the doors at ground and first floor levels, also between the two sets of two doors is an area of infill. Below the timber fascia to the west are two patches of infill on building 489 and 498, and three patches of infill on Building 500, with only two visible on the east elevation (the infill is four/ five bricks over two courses) (Plates 489, 498 & 500.12). The east and west facing elements of these two flanks are of the same arrangement as described for the north and south elevations. In Building 500 there are areas of infill in the same locations and six areas of infill below roof level, with only five visible below roof level on building 498.

The main body of the central facing elevation between the two projecting flanks is true to its original construction, the fenestration remains the same although the windows have been replaced with the same green plastic type as evident elsewhere (Plate 489, 498 & 500.13 and .14). Running above the windows at ground and first floor level is a band of concrete, at each end of the range between the bands of concrete are long rectangular windows with eight lights (two rows of four lights). At ground floor level are two timber doors (painted brown) with lights above, the single door (to the east on building 498, and to the west on building 500) has a rectangular glass panel, the double door provides access to the 'Calorifier' area maintained by the PSA (Plates 489, 498 & 500.15). At ground floor level between the two doors are three windows with six panes in three rows, directly above at first floor level are three further windows of the same type. At the east and west of these and directly above the doors are windows of the same type, but smaller with two rows of two windows. Various patches of infill are evident on the elevation, at ground floor level below each of the three windows are patches of infill and to the east (Building 498) and west (Building 500) of each window directly below the concrete band is a patch of infill. Also on Building 500 directly below the concrete band to the east of the east plant doors is a patch of infill, and between each of the ground floor windows or doors and the first floor windows are patches of infill. On Building 498 there are only patches of infill between each of the three

larger ground and first floor windows, and one between the single door and first floor window.

There are two additional detached structures to the east and west of the building between the two projecting ranges. These are thought to date from the 1970/80s and are simple brick built structures with a timber fascia and a pitched tiled roof, the one in front of the south elevation of Building 498 and 500 is for storage with two square storage areas at each end (east and west) and a central open area. The west structure is a 1980s brick built canopied barbeque area, it has a pitched tiled roof with a timber fascia and four metal posts at each corner which support the roof. Centrally below the canopy is a brick built barbeque which is rectangular in plan.

Internal

The internal space of the barrack blocks was updated in the 1970/80s and many of the fixtures and fittings date from this period, there are however surviving elements of the earlier building, particularly the art-deco staircase (Plate 489, 498 & 500.16). Some internal areas were inaccessible due to vandalism, with large areas of smashed glass on the floor. Generally, much of the internal spaces of the H-type barrack blocks are in relatively poor condition.

The entrances from the front and rear elevations lead into hallways which have two modern telephone booths and a drinking fountain set into the wall (Plate 489, 498 & 500.17). There is a modern suspended ceiling, which is collapsing in places throughout the building. The floor is carpeted, and the doors have been replaced by modern fire resistance doors of the period. The sweeping art-deco style staircase remains, with a timber handrail and decorative metal posts reflective of the period. The concrete steps are painted brown with a central carpeted area. A dado rail survives in building 489, which has roll moulding within a rebate, running around the entrance foyer and hall and up to first floor level, which in places is painted red with blue paint at the lower level and white above. It also extends along the central spine corridor, except in areas where the alterations have resulted in plain rendered walls and a red stripe has been painted to match the dado rail (Plate 489, 498 & 500.18). In building 500 the interior is painted cream with dark timber doors and skirting boards. The skirting boards in the entrance halls and stairs are painted dark brown directly onto the plaster. In general, building 500 survives in poor condition with damp conditions resulting in ceiling collapse in many areas, and it has most recently been used for police training which has impacted the building (for example fake blood splattered throughout, bullet holes etc.)

The ground floor bedroom corridors are formed of painted concrete block, with a painted red stripe as described above in building 489. There are 36 bedrooms on the ground floor, which are all of a standard type with a wardrobe and window, some have retained the shelf unit in situ beside the wardrobe (Plate 489, 498 & 500.19). Within the central spinal corridor to the south is a former lounge area which has been divided via a partition wall to create a laundry room and plant/ electric room. The latter has a blocked door, the blocking for which has the dado rail *in situ* suggesting this was an early alteration. In building 500 the lounge is divided into a laundry and vending room. Sanitary facilities are provided on the opposite side of the corridor, with W.Cs and shower/ bath rooms which have modern fixtures and fittings.

The first floor is generally of the same decorative order as described for the ground floor, including the earlier dado rail and later fixtures and fittings. There are later timber doors and timber framed glass panels at the top of the stairwell, which lead onto the corridor, and an area of timber framing with reinforced glass sections overlooking the stairwell (Plate 489, 498 & 500.20). The bedrooms are identical to the lower floor with concrete block walls, the central spinal corridor has sanitary facilities to the north side with the former lounge opposite (Plate 489, 498 & 500.21). This has been modified to provide a small room with plastic wood effect panelling to the lower walls, beside which is a large, narrow T.V watching room which is decorated in blacks and greys. In building 500 the lounge area is divided into a T.V room and small kitchen. The storage rooms at each end have been altered as with the ground floor, except one has been split to accommodate female W.Cs (presumably for visitors). As with the ground floor, there is a suspended ceiling throughout, in building 489 where this has collapsed it is possible to see the earlier concrete ceiling (Plate 489, 498 & 500.22). Timber battens can be seen fixed to this, with small patches of plaster also visible.

Basement Refuge

The presence of a basement refuge is a good indicator that the building was built during 1939, as the original architectural drawings, which are dated 1938, show a store in-lieu of a stairway down to the shelter. The basement refuges were built at a standard size of 11ft (3.35m) wide and 20ft (6.06m) in length, seating was provided for 40 airmen. Only one shelter was provided for each block and it would either be at the front or rear of the building (Francis 1997) (Plate 489, 498 & 500.23). The entrance to the basement refuge is beneath the main stairs, the entrance walls are brick (english bond), with rough concrete steps leading down to the basement. There is a thick metal door (painted brown) at the lower entrance to the shelter, which opens into an empty room with a poured concrete ceiling, rendered walls and a red carpeted floor. There are four metal pillars to support the roof. Directly under the stairs is a small W.C, and at the opposite end of the room are steps leading down to an airlock outside the building, this however was inaccessible due to water ingress to the height of the steps. This narrow escape passage, at least 25ft long, and normally built of Stent precast concrete blocks, led to a vertical ladder to exit the shelter, well clear of the building (Francis 1997).

Archive

Within the Upper Heyford archives five plans were identified.

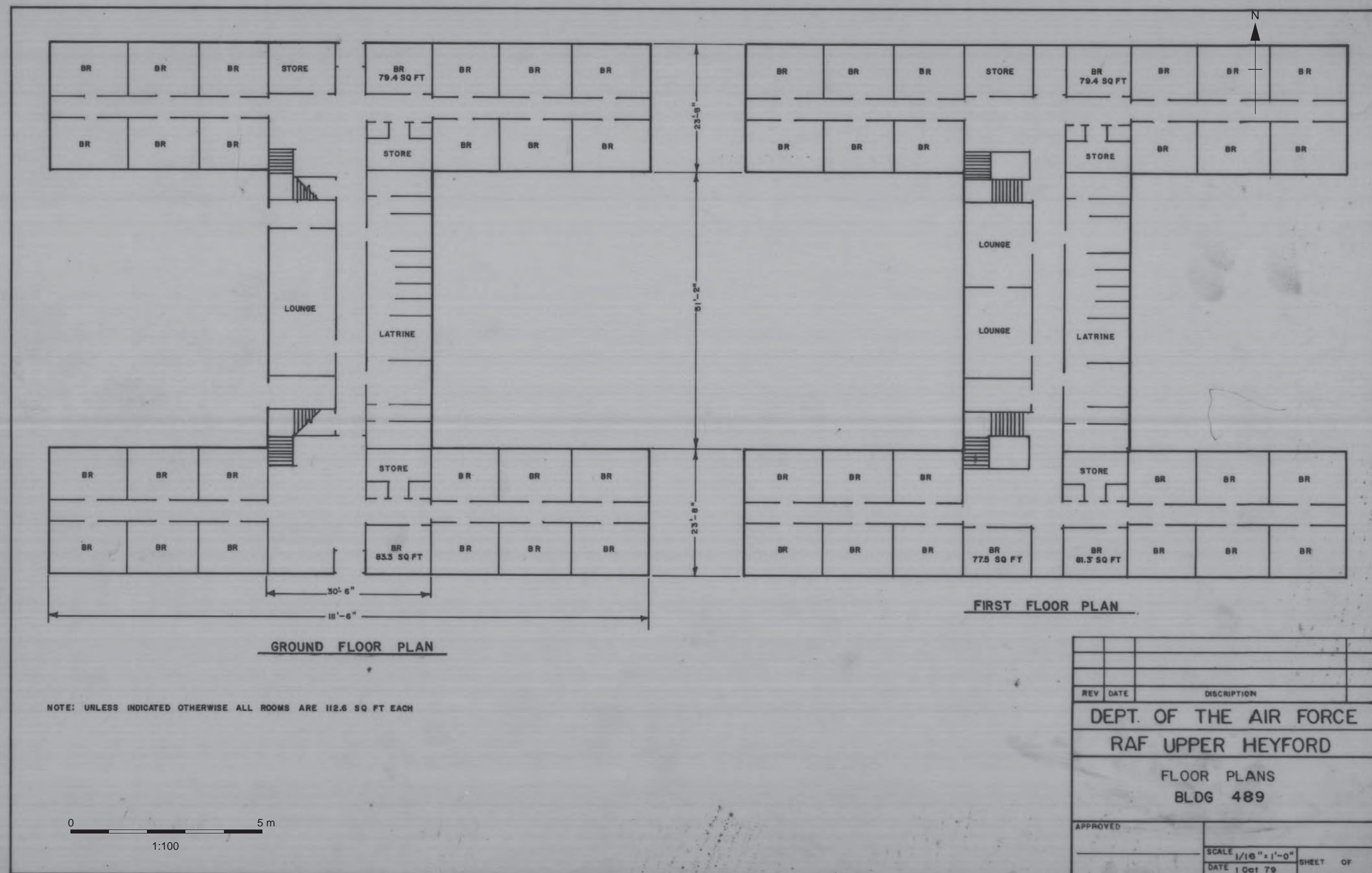


Figure 489, 498 & 500.1 Building 489 Ground and First Floor plans (1979)



Plate 489, 498 & 500.1 Building 489 front (west) elevation



Plate 489, 498 & 500.2 Building 498 rear elevation



Plate 489, 498 & 500.3 Building 500, rear elevation entrance



Plate 489, 498 & 500.4 Building 498, rear elevations



Plate 489, 498 & 500.5 Building 500, south elevation



Plate 489, 498 & 500.6 Building 500, south elevation



Plate 489, 498 & 500.7 Building 489, west facing element of rear elevation



Plate 489, 498 & 500.8 Building 498, rear elevation



Plate 489, 498 & 500.9 Building 500, rear elevation



Plate 489, 498 & 500.10 Building 498, rear elevation infill



Plate 489, 498 & 500.11 Building 498, south elevation



Plate 489, 498 & 500.12 Building 500, east elevation infill



Plate 489, 498 & 500.13 Building 500, rear elevation



Plate 489, 498 & 500.14 Building 500, rear elevation



*Plate 489, 498 & 500.15 Building 500, rear elevation
'Calorfier'*



Plate 489, 498 & 500.16 Building 498, internal entrance



Plate 489, 498 & 500.17 Building 498, internal entrance



Plate 489, 498 & 500.18 Building 489, first floor corridor



Plate 489, 498 & 500.19 Building 500, bedroom



Plate 489, 498 & 500.20 Building 500, first floor entrance



Plate 489, 498 & 500.21 Building 500, first floor sanitary area



Plate 489, 498 & 500.22 Building 489, ceiling



Plate 489, 498 & 500.23 Building 489, basement

Building 491: Store

NGR: SP 51392 25524

Recording Level: 1

Location

This building is located within Area OA12B, directly to the rear of the Institute (488), situated between buildings 596 and 489.

History/ Function

Site records show that the store dates from 1935, however it is not shown on plans or aerial photography of the site. It seems probable that the building is contemporary with the Institute (488), and was used as a store. It is currently used to store wooden pallets

Description

This simple store is roughly rectangular in plan, with a pitched roof and constructed in red brick (Plate 491.1)

The east (front) elevation has double timber doors with openings to either side, which are the full height of the elevation immediately next to the door. A further set of windows adjacent to these are situated in the upper half of the elevation only, and further sets of windows are situated in the upper half of each of the remaining elevations. The windows are timber framed with wire meshing covering the windows and door. The roof is covered in corrugated asbestos, with timber boarding below the pitch of the roof.

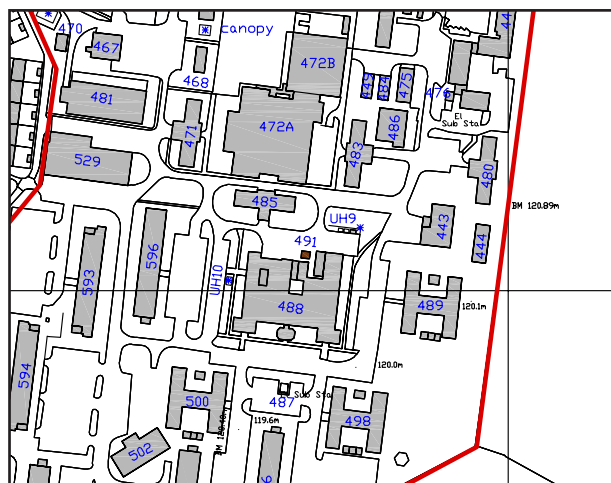


Plate 491.1 Front (east) and south elevation

Building 492: ‘Shopette’

NGR: SP 51261 25748

Recording Level: 1

Location

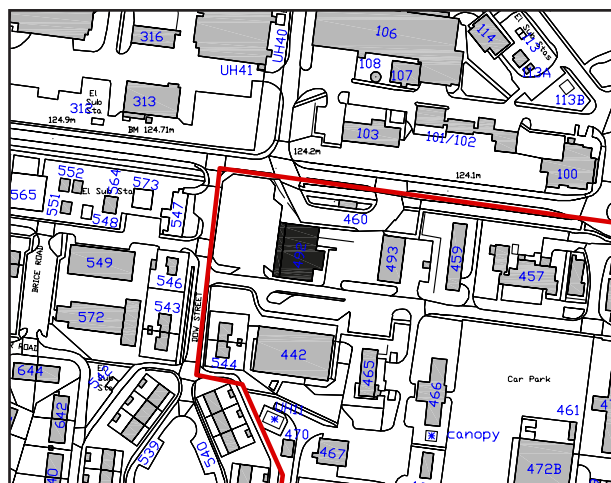
This building is located within Area OA12A, just to the south of Camp Road from which it is accessible via Dow Street.

History/ Function

The store dates from 1985, and was built to meet the needs of the growing American habitation of the former airbase.

Description

The shop is rectangular in plan, constructed in brown brick with a flat metal roof and a deep angled fascia (Plate 492.1). The metal framed windows have dark glass. The building has been afforded some architectural details with a band of darker bricks directly below the roof level. There is a shop car park to the front of the elevation.



The south (front) elevation has a single glass entrance door in a metal frame with glass panels to each side and three rectangular glass windows above. There is an internal lobby area before entering the shop through further glass doors. A sign states ‘Your Friendly Shopette Local Store’. in bright green and yellow on a white background. To the north-east of the door are six tall rectangular glass windows, and there are a further four small rectangular windows to the north-east end of the store. Five drainpipes are enclosed in brick pillars, which are also evident on the end elevations.

The north-west and south-east elevations have no features of interest except two drainpipes enclosed in brick pillars, which also add support to the roof. A short wall runs in front of the south-east elevation separating it from the road.

The north-east (rear) elevation has a plant area at the south-east end which is surrounded by a tall timber fence accessed by a gate. There is a boiler area accessed by double wood slated doors situated roughly centrally in the elevation, this element of the building projects to the north-east. At the south-west end of the elevation are metal roller doors providing entrance for goods via a ramp, which slopes down towards the shop and has concrete walls to each side. There is a set of double doors, and one single timber door providing further points of access between the boiler and goods entrance areas. The elevation has four drainpipes enclosed in brick pillars as seen elsewhere in the elevation.

At the time of recording the shop remained in use, with a cash desk at the south-west end of the internal space. The shop was formerly filled with American produce which can be seen on historic images of the shop.



Plate 492.1 South (front) elevation

Building 493: Petrol Station

NGR: SP 51314 25745

Recording Level: 1

Location

This building is located within Area OA12A, at the southern edge of Camp Road from which it is accessible via Dow Street.

History/ Function

The former petrol station dates from 1985.

Description

The petrol station consists of a canopy over the petrol pumps and a payment kiosk.

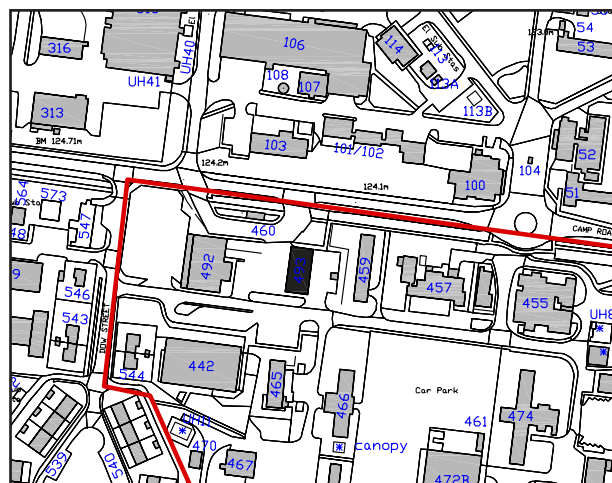




Plate 493.1 South elevation

Building 498: Barrack Blocks – Type H

NGR: SP 51423 25431

Recording Level: 2

Location

This building is located within Area OA12D, at the southern end of the barracks area between barrack blocks 489 and 500. This is a group of three barracks of the same build which are described in the entry for 489.

Archive

One plan was identified within the Upper Heyford archives.



Building 500: Barrack Block – Type H

NGR: SP 51423 25431

Recording Level: 2

Location

This building is located within Area OA12D, at the southern end of the barracks area between barrack blocks 489 and 500. This is a group of three barracks of the same build which are described in the entry for 489.



Building 502: USAF Security Police

NGR: SP 51302 25412

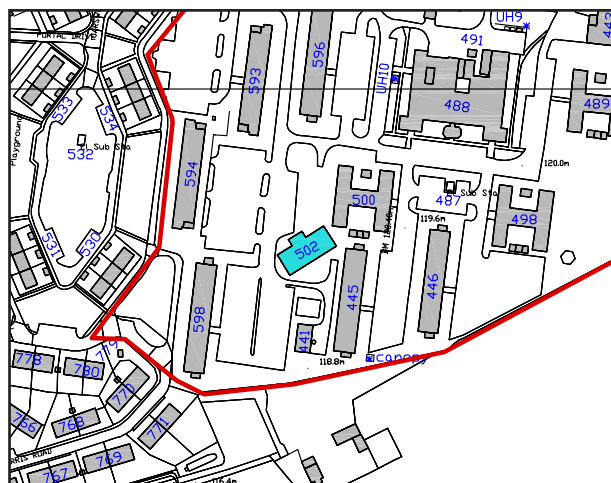
Recording Level: 2

Location

This building is located within Area OA12C, at the southern end of the barracks area, adjacent to buildings 445 and 500.

History/ Function

The building dates from 1939, although it was significantly remodelled in the 1980s in a neo-art deco style. The south-west area of the building was significantly remodelled and extended in the 1980s. Most recently, it has been used by the Security Police/ Department of the Air Force/ United States of America as training offices and investigation offices.



Aerial photography of 1939 shows a building in the location of building 502, although it appears smaller than the extant building and with a square plan. An AP of 1954 shows it as the same size, plan form and orientation as building 502. Plans of the area from the 1930s and 1940s show a wireless mast in the area of the building, which is probably the small structure shown on the 1942 AP, although the mast is not visible. Elements of the building date from 1939, although it has been extended and remodelled in the 1950s and 1980s.

Description

Stylistically the building is reminiscent of the 1930s art deco style, with pebble dashed external elevations painted cream (Plate 502.1). It is rectangular in plan, single storey with interlocking concrete tiles and modern UPVC windows. Elements of the building to the south-west date from 1939, but the building has had a complete overall in the 1980s (Fig.502.1). There is a moulded plastic fascia running around the front and rear elevations, which ends at the side elevations where it meets plastic drainpipes at the edge of each elevation. A straight plastic fascia extends at roof level along the two side elevations, and along the alignment of the projecting porch roof. Further decorative detail is added to the building by a concrete band extending above and between the doors and windows. The windows and doors are modern plastic UPVC, also with UPVC sills.

Internally, the space is also stylistically neo art-deco particularly the main spinal corridor which runs the width of the building between the two entrance doors of the front and rear elevations. The internal walls are plastered and painted cream with timber battons used to decorate above and around the doors. The main corridors and access areas have lino floors, individual offices have red carpeted floors and sanitary areas have tiled floors. The decor is stylistically 1980s with suspended ceilings, timber skirting boards, doors and door surrounds. There are several examples of war art within the building undertaken by the USAF police forces, the locations for which are detailed on the internal plan of the building. Full descriptions of the war art are given in a separate War Art report (OA forthcoming).

External

The north-west (front) elevation is accessed by metal framed double doors (1.75 by 2.25m) which are glass in rectangular panels (Plate 502.2). These doors are recessed within a projecting entrance porch, that provides a separate internal foyer on entrance. Architecturally the porch is art-deco in style with a half-circular arch over which extends to the ground at a width of 3.20m, directly above this is a flat roof with a decorative angled roof above. This roof has a recessed sky-light centrally which provides light to the internal entrance corridor, the window has four rectangular windows at the base and two trapezoid shaped windows at the top. From either side of this central window, the roof slopes down creating two triangular sections of roof. The porch is decorated with a concrete band (painted beige) which runs above the entrance door, and above the windows on the south-west and north-east side elevations of the porch.

There north-west elevation, which extends to either side of the porch, has two windows to each side, which are rectangular windows with six lights (see Plate 502.1). The decorative concrete band extends above and between the windows, extending on a level situated at roughly one third the height of the elevation. At the height of the elevation is a rounded plastic fascia with flat plastic fascia running along the sloping edges of the roof to either side of the recessed porch window.

The north-east elevation has a single central UPVC door with six rectangular sections and plastic (yellow) running vertically to each side (Plate 502.3). To each side of the door is a set of windows, with three large rectangular sections at the base and smaller rectangular sections above (each area of window measures 0.82m by 2.35m). This area provides light to the large central room, as do the glass windows and doors of the rear elevation. Above the windows and door the concrete band continues extending down to roughly half the height of the windows, from here it continues along the elevation to the north-west and south-east in the same alignment as the remaining elevations. The moulded plastic fascia extends to c.1m at either end of the elevation where it meets a plastic drainpipe extending down to the ground.

The rear (south-east) elevation has a entrance door situated directly opposite the main entrance door of the same type as described for the front elevation (1.7 m by 2.25m) (Plate 502.4). The entrance is similar in style to the front elevation, although it does not have an entrance porch and therefore lacks the grandeur of the main front entrance. In alignment with the front elevation a semi-circular band extends over the doors, there is a dormer window of the same style as the front elevation over the door (also with a straight plastic fascia), that provides light to the internal spinal corridor. To the south-west of the door are five windows, and there are three windows to the north-east. Further to the north-east of the windows is a single central door with windows to either side, that are the same type and layout as described for the north-east elevation also providing internal light. There is a central door (0.82 by 2.35m), and to each side of this are small windows with larger windows to the base. The decorative concrete band extends in a semi-circular arch over the main door, and along the elevation extending up and down over the windows and doors.

The south-west elevation has a single UPVC door (yellow) (2.3m by 0.5m) set in a timber frame at the north-west end of the elevation, and a slated metal (white) door for a plant/ boiler room which is maintained by the PSA (Plate 502.5). Three windows (0.90m by 1.42m) are the same type as the front elevation with six lights, in alignment with the north-east elevation the moulded plastic fascia extends to either end of the elevation (c.1m), where it meets a plastic drainpipe. The decorative band extends above and between the doors and windows, levelling out at each edge of the elevation to meet the band extending from the front and rear elevations.

Internal

Double doors of the same type as described for the entrance doors of the front elevation provide access from the foyer to the central spinal corridor. This is a naturally well-lit space with sky lights at either end of the corridor (as described above) (Plate 502.6). The corridor's ceiling is open to roof height and follows the alignment of the shallowed pitched sky-lights which is enhanced using timber batons laid out in a rectangular pattern along the ceiling and to either side. Hanging from the apex of the corridor are large globe lights, the timber batons described also decorate above and around the internal doors. This decoration continues the neo-art deco style of the external elevation, providing an oriental feel to the internal space, which is common stylistically of the art-deco period. The corridor walls are plastered and painted cream, with several examples of war art visible on each side of the corridor walls. These date from the American use of the building by the police and include elbelms and a painting of a tank.

At the entrance to the corridor are male W.Cs to the north-east and 'Found Property' to the south-west. The W.Cs are basic rooms typical of their function with white tiled walls and timber doors to individual cubicals (Plate 502.7). Adjacent to these are female W.Cs with the same fittings, and there is a small cleaning cupboard at the south-east end of the north-east rooms accessed from the spinal corridor. The cleaning cupboard is a small area with a sink and immersion heater. At the south-east end of the corridor is an open break area which has upright timber posts (1.7m high) around its north-west and south-west faces, supported on a short concrete wall (0.73m high). Internally, there are cushioned benches running along the walls and a window within the rear elevation providing light.

A short corridor runs between the 'Break Area' and cleaning cupboard provides access to a central 'Crush Hall' and the north-east division of the building (Plate 502.8). The Crush Hall is roughly square in plan with display cabinets running along the south-east and south-west walls, which are accessed by timber glass fronted doors (Plate 502.8). The hall has a suspended ceiling, plain timber doors or timber and glass doors and a lino floor. Along the wall dividing the Crush Hall with the large 'Class 2/ Test' room to the north-east are two access doors separated by an area of timber panelling. Above this a sign states: *'The 20th Security Police Training Section/ The Best Start Right Here'*.

At the four corners of the hall are doors providing access to four training rooms, two situated along the north-east elevation and two along the south-east elevation. These rooms are small rectangular carpeted rooms, with cream walls and timber skirting board. The rooms functioned as Training Rooms 1- 4, with examples of war art visible within training rooms 3 and 4 to the north-east (Plate 502.9). Between the two sets of adjacent Training Rooms are timber framed openings (1.07 by 0.94m) within the walls which have sliding timber doors. The 'Class 2/ Test' room is a large room extending the full depth of the building, it is a large light room with a lino floor and suspended ceiling which also contains overhead lights (Plate 502.10). The room can be divided roughly centrally by a floor to ceiling cantilever partition, to the front of the windows and doors are heaters. At the south-east end of the room are impressive examples of war art completed by the Police Section (Plate 502.11). At the north-east end of the room is an area which has been sectioned off with panelling but includes a large rectangular opening which is thought to have formerly contained a screen for watching training videos. To the north-east of the opening is a door providing access to the narrow cupboard/ room running along the north-west end of the room.

The south-west area of the building is divided into two areas, which largely consists of empty carpeted rooms with cream painted walls and suspended ceilings with incorporate square lights (P502.12). This area of the building functioned as offices and investigation areas. The larger area to the south-west is accessed from a door off the main central corridor, and is 1939 in date with some modifications and extensions. Those walls which date from 1939 are indicated on the floor plan as well as evidence and the alignment of former walls. The remaining building has been extended, probably in the 1980s.

A door off the central corridor area provides immediate access to a 'Waiting' room, which leads through to a larger 'Investigations/ Reception' area with offices, interview rooms and evidence rooms surrounding this (Plate 502.12). Between the 'Interview' room and 'Office 4' is a two way mirror surrounded by a timber frame. This allowed officers within 'Office 4' to view an interview unseen. The external windows of Offices 2,3 and 4 have internal (white) metal painted bars, demonstrating an area of higher security used for interviewing detainees.

The south-east area of the building is accessed from the main central corridor, which leads through to a spinal corridor running north/east to south-west from which the three rooms can be accessed (Plate 502.13). 'Office 1' is located at the south-west end of the room, with a 'Test Room' and 'Quality Control' room along the south-east edge of the space. The rooms are now empty with the same 1980s decor seen throughout the building. At the entrance to rooms functions are written above: 'NOIC training' (above the door to 'Office 1', 'Standardization Evaluation' (above the room for Quality Control) and 'Superintendent' (above the door to the 'Test' room). Also within this Quality Control room is an example of war art undertaken by the Security Police (recorded in OA forthcoming).

Archive

One plan was identified within the Upper Heyford archives.

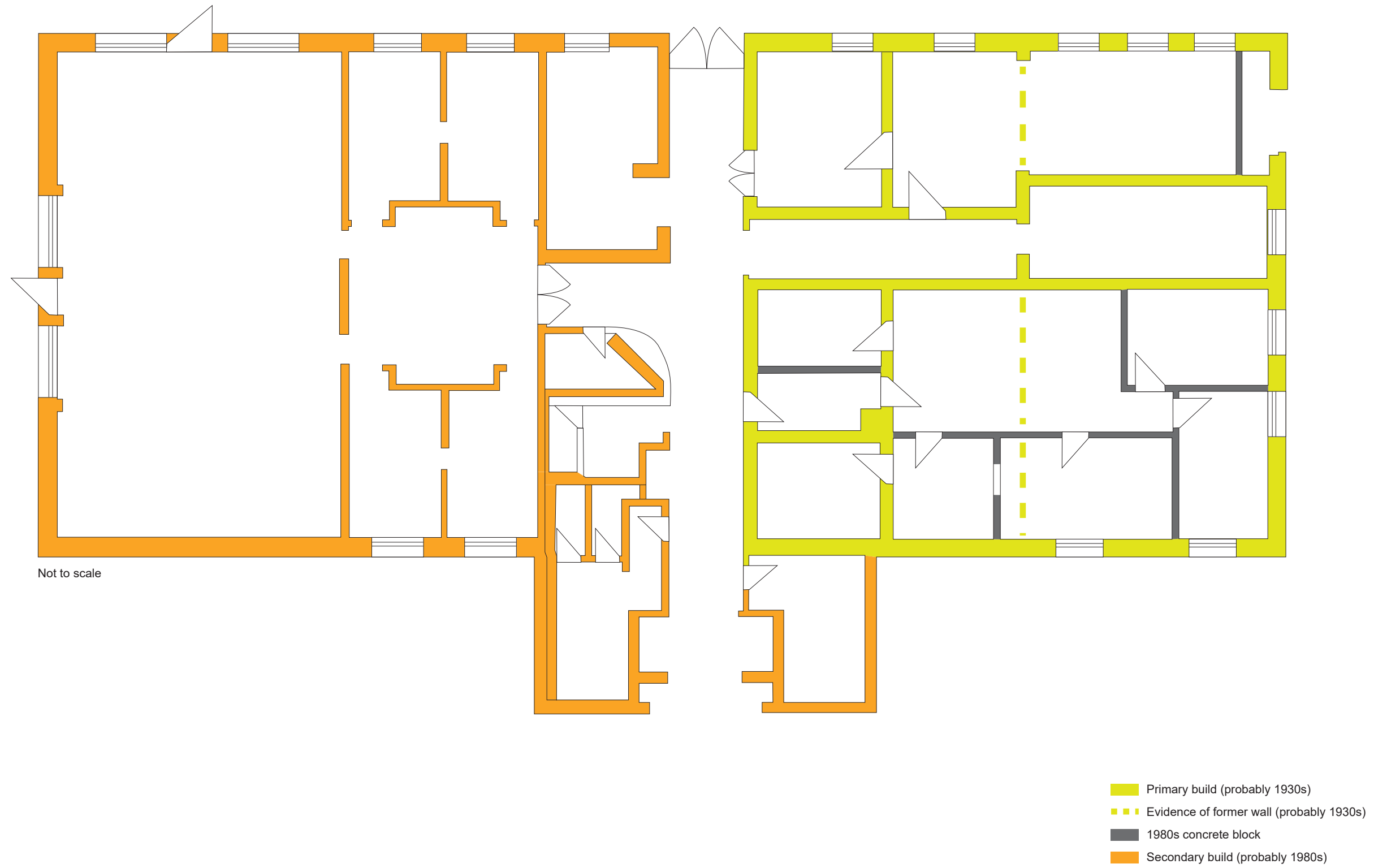


Figure 502.1: Phased floor plan



Plate 502.1 General view, front elevation



Plate 502.2 North-west (front) elevation



Plate 502.3 North-east elevation



Plate 502.4 South-east (rear) elevation



Plate 502.5 South-west elevation



Plate 502.6 Internal (south-east) view of main spinal corridor



Plate 502.7 Internal view of male W.Cs



Plate 502.8 Internal (north-east) view of crush hall



Plate 502.9 Internal (north-west) view of Training Room 4



Plate 502.10 Internal (north-west) view of 'Class 2/ Test' room



Plate 502.11 Internal (south-east) view of 'Class 2/ Test' room



Plate 502.12 Internal view of south-west area



Plate 502.13 Internal view of south-east area

Building 529: Field Force Motor Transport Shed

NGR: SP 51267 25574

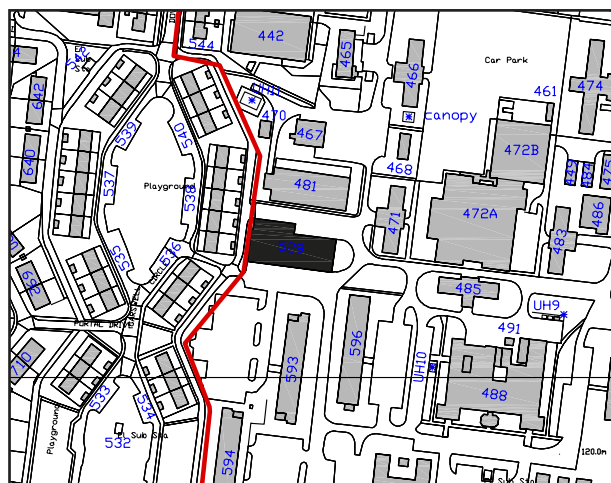
Recording Level: 2

Location

This building is at the south-western corner of Character Area OA12B: Barracks and Institutions (Parade Ground Buildings). It is at the west edge of the barrack area and immediately to the east of Carswell Circle North.

History/ Function

This building is not shown on any of the early airfield plans (1926, 1927, 1931, 1937, 1939) or on an aerial photograph from 1937 but it is shown on an RAF aerial photograph from April 1942 with camouflage paint (or possibly netting?) to the roof.



It is also shown on the 1947 airfield plan with a plain rectangular footprint and the Air Ministry building number 92. The plan key shows this as the FFMT Shed which stands for 'Field Force Motor Transport' Shed. This building would have been constructed to house a squadron's motor transport fleet, ready for despatch to France with the British Expeditionary Force. The plan shows two Air Ministry building reference numbers in relation to this building: one number is just legible (2803/38) but with the other one only the last two numbers are visible (39). Presumably the building was constructed from a combination of two designs for this type of structure: one from 1938 and one from 1939. The building is again shown on an aerial photograph from 1954 but without the camouflage to the roof.

There are two useful PSA photographs which were taken during the construction of the barrack blocks to the south (594 etc) in 1970-72, which show the south elevation of Building 529 in the background before the later conversion of the building (discussed below) (Plates 529.1 & .2). The photographs show that at this time the south elevation was painted white and incorporated two rows of regular, horizontal 9-light metal-framed windows (Plates 529.1 and 2). The lower row continues across the elevation with c.19 (or 18) windows, punctuated by at least one doorway while the upper row had only six windows.

An airfield site plan from February 1980 shows the building with a simple rectangular plan the same as on earlier plans, whereas a more detailed floor plan of the building from 1982 shows the building at this date as a 'Recreation Library'. Differences in the floor plan on the 1982 plan from that shown on the 1980 plan confirm that the major conversion of the building was undertaken around this time. The 1982 plan merely details external landscaping works rather than the interior of the building but it shows a large projection on the north side of the building, and porch at the east end, neither of which are shown on the 1982 plan.

During the recording a sign, which would have formerly been fixed outside the building, was found inside the building which identified building 529 as an 'Audio/Photo Retail Outlet', presumably this was the final use of at least part of the building.

Description

Exterior

The external form of building 529 has been radically altered by conversion works, almost certainly in 1982, and from the outside the building could very easily be mistaken for an entirely modern structure. The 1980s conversion works included covering the exterior in light-weight, lime-green vertical cladding which extends from the ground up to a projecting concrete lip at roof level. This horizontal lip forms part of the primary flat reinforced concrete roof which also incorporates a vertical parapet. The visible primary parapet is painted a chocolate brown colour although much of the paint is peeling off the concrete (Plates 529.3).

The visible windows are all 1980s insertions: they are rectangular with rounded corners and have green metal frames, and a horizontal pivot. In the south elevation there are fifteen windows and two doors, while the east elevation has a small central projecting boiler room with an entrance door immediately to the north of this. The west wall is entirely plain with no windows or doors in the standard lime-green vertical cladding.

The north elevation incorporates a large projecting extension to the western half of the building which is clad in the lime-green panels and which has a lean-to roof extending down from just beneath the concrete roof of the primary building (Plates 529.8). This c.23 m extension, which is not shown on historic airfield plans and was clearly entirely added in the 1980s works, obscures the western half of the original building while the eastern half includes two 1980s windows towards the east end and two doorways.

There is almost nothing visible of the original external shell of the building but at the north eastern corner of the building one of the modern panels was removed during the recording, which revealed the side of a large metal panel continuing between the 1980s external cladding and internal skin (Plates 529.10). This panel clearly survived from the original c.1939 building and it was of sheet metal, bolted to a metal frame. It was not possible to positively confirm whether it was fixed or whether it was a sliding door hung from a top rail. The sheet metal is painted a moss green colour, similar to that used in the 1980s cladding and it has both a '529' stencilled on as well as a 'AM No.92' adjacent to it.

It is interesting to note that there is a photograph of the FFMT Shed at RAF Scampton published in the book *British Airfield Buildings* by Graham Buchan Innes (2000), and this is also shown to have been type 2803/38. The building shown appears to be of similar proportions to building 529 at Upper Heyford and the main elevation comprised sliding panels again similar to the one partly exposed at Upper Heyford. The panels along the wall would be slightly staggered to allow one to be slid behind another to allow vehicles into the building.

Interior

The interior has also been much altered since the original construction of the building in c.1939 but there are various visible fragments from the original building. The 1980s conversion appears to have divided the interior into two halves. The western half, which is accessible from the doorway towards the north-west, was a library but the eastern half, which is accessible from a doorway in the east wall, did not form part of this and it clearly had another function. The sign referred to above showing that building 529 was an audio/photo retail outlet was found in the east half and presumably this was the function of this area.

No internal access between the two halves is possible although there are blocked doorways showing that interconnection was formerly possible. Both halves of the building divide into a combination of large open-plan areas with smaller rooms off these.

The steel framework that forms the main structure of the external shell of the building is simple comprising vertical I-posts with horizontal members bolted to these. The members are all the same size (8 cm tall and wide) and each panel is c.1.25 m tall. Between the steel frame is hardboard infill.

West half (former Library)¹

Area 1 is a large central open-plan library space with carpets, ceiling tiles and generally painted (not plastered) walls, some of which are brick and some of concrete block. Above the ceiling tiles there is a deep, reinforced concrete ceiling with integral concrete beams (Plates 529.11-13).

Rooms 2 and 3 are reading rooms along the west side of the building, accessed off *Area 1*, and interconnected with each other by a doorway in the shared wall. The rooms are carpeted and have painted walls and modern ceilings but no windows. They retain radiators which appear to pre-date the 1980s works.

Room 4 is a small office at the south-west corner of the building and it is separated from *Room 3* by a concrete block wall so presumably it was a single space prior to the early 1980s conversion.

Area 5 is a sunken area on the southern side of the building which is shown to have been an area for periodicals in the 1980s library conversion (Plates 529.14 & .15). The walls of this area are formed from primary brick with regular projecting piers. It seems likely that the wall and piers on the north side of this area would formerly have continued up to the ceiling to divide the room from the area to the north. This floor of this area is sixteen brick courses (c.1.2 m) below the main ground floor level in the rest of the building, and it is accessed by a set of stairs from the north.

It is difficult to be confident about what form this area would originally have taken and what its use would have been but it may be that it housed some plant or large tanks/boilers.

Room 6 is a small, basic office between the sunken periodicals area (*Room 5*) and the other office at the south-western corner. This has unplastered walls and an exposed steel frame from the secondary doors in the southern wall.

Area 7 is a set of WCs on the northern side of *Area 1* but it is noticeable that the walls are largely formed from brickwork pre-dating the 1980s so these facilities may have been incorporated into the library from the previous building. The outer wall is concrete block so this was clearly added in the 1980s work.

Room 8 was a Children's Reading Room in the east half of the building.

Area 9 is a large open-plan room within the extension that was added in the 1980s on the north side of the building. The radiators here are different to those throughout the rest of the building (confirming that the others pre-date the 1980s work). At the west end there is a small room with 'Base Librarian' written on the door.

¹ The numbers below refer to Fig.529.1 and have been used for ease of description

East half (audio/photo retail outlet)

Room 11 is a tall, double height space (without the 1980s ceiling panels) and it appears to have served as a store area (Plates 529.23 & .25). It is accessed from the south (with stores type liftable counter) and there is also an internal roller shutter door to make the room secure. The underside of the flat concrete ceiling is visible, with white paint peeling from it, and the structural frame is visible in the north wall.

Among the interesting features in the room are two surviving primary nine-light, metal-framed windows in the north wall and there is also another window in the same wall which straddles between rooms 11 and 14. A secondary fire door has also been inserted into this wall.

Area 12 is the principal, largest room in the east half of the building and most of the other rooms in this area open off it (Plates 529.19 & .20). The area is carpeted and has a suspended 1980s ceiling but some of the ceiling panels have been dislodged and it is possible to see that although the lower part of the walls (beneath the ceiling) are painted white, the area above the ceiling is painted black. It is also possible to see a deep concrete beam in the roof, spanning above this area east to west.

The south wall has a primary steel frame but this appears to be essentially a curtain wall and the roof slab is supported by a separate concrete frame.

Room 15 has a safe (mid-20th century?) and a sliding hatch at the west end within the wall with room 11.

Room 16 appears to have been a small social room with a fridge, pink walls and spotlights (Plates 529.26 & .27).

Room 17 comprises a WC to the north and a smaller room to the south.

Room 18 is at the north-eastern corner of the building and it is interesting to note that there is a primary metal framed window in the east wall, within the void above the current ceiling. This is clearly now blocked and hidden behind the 1980s external cladding, but it appears to have been in a row of similar windows.

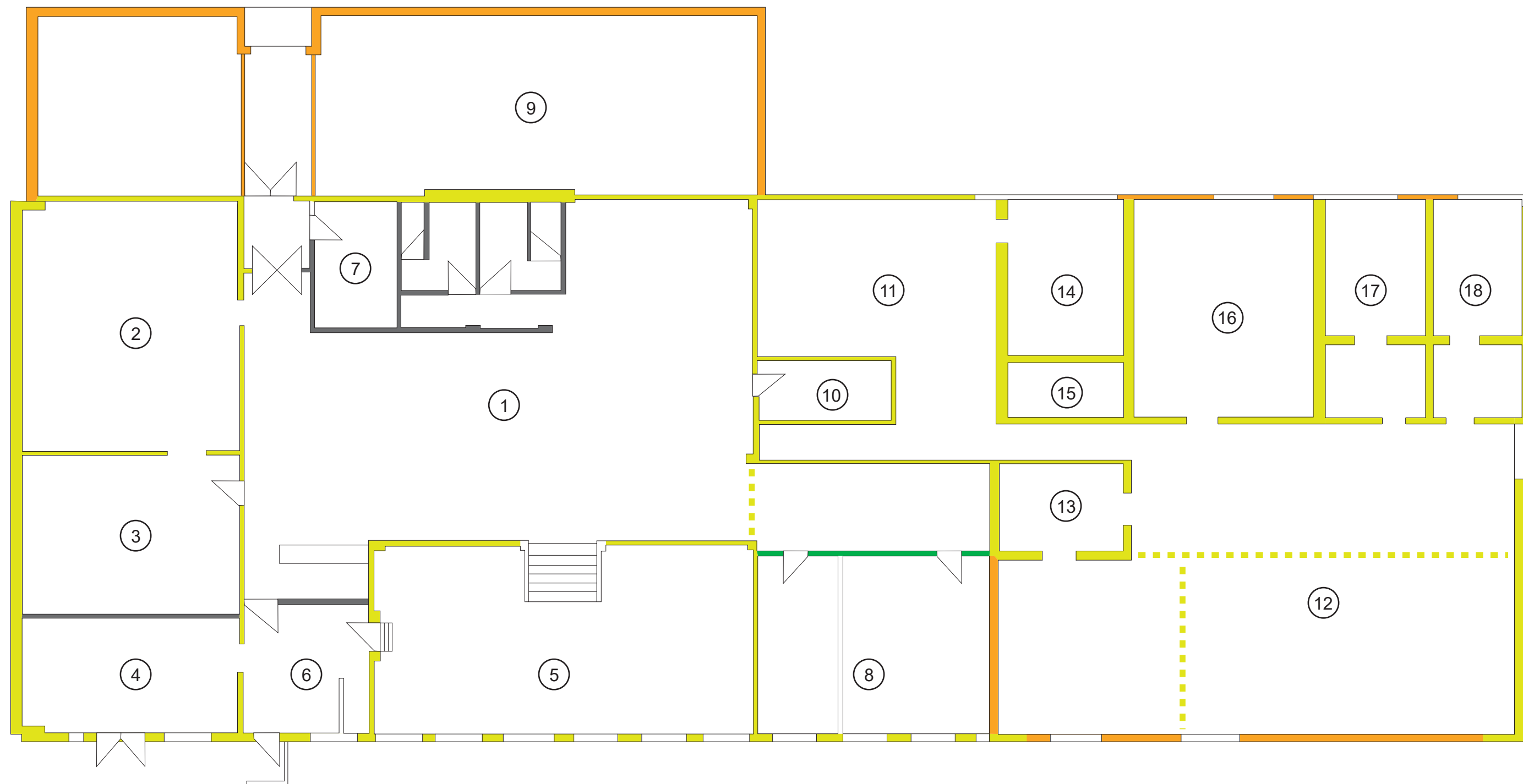
Conclusion

Building 529 is an interesting example of a building apparently constructed in the early stages of the Second World War (probably between 1939 and 1942) whose form has been radically altered by a later 20th-century conversion. From the outside it is easy to mistakenly assume that this was entirely constructed in the 1980s but the building was originally a Motor Transport Shed, constructed to house vehicles which would be used to help support the British Expeditionary Force in France.

We have a reasonable understanding of the original external form of the building from photographs of a building at RAF Scampton and from 1970s photos of Upper Heyford but it is harder to know the internal layout prior to the 1980s conversions.

Archive

One plan was identified within the Upper Heyford archives.



- Primary build (probably 1930s)
- Evidence of former wall (probably 1930s)
- 1980s concrete block
- 1980s
- Wall no longer extant
- 12 Number referenced to text

Figure 529.1: Phased and annotated floor plan



Plate 529.1 Historic north-west view of south elevation (1970-2) (EH archive ref.-p_g18127_014)



Plate 529.2 Historic north-west view of south elevation (1970-2) (EH archive ref.-p_g171324_006)



Plate 529.3 General view from south-east



Plate 529.4 South elevation



Plate 529.5 North-east corner



Plate 529.6 South elevation



Plate 529.7 East end



Plate 529.8 Extension on north side of building



Plate 529.9 North-east corner of building



Plate 529.10 Primary metal cladding encased behind 1980s panels



Plate 529.11 Western part of interior looking south-east



Plate 529.12 West part of interior looking west



Plate 529.13 West part of interior looking south



Plate 529.14 Sunken area at south end of west half



Plate 529.15 Sunken area at south end of west half



Plate 529.16 Typical area



Plate 529.17 Western area



Plate 529.18 Sliding partition



Plate 529.19 Open plan room



Plate 529.20 Room in east half

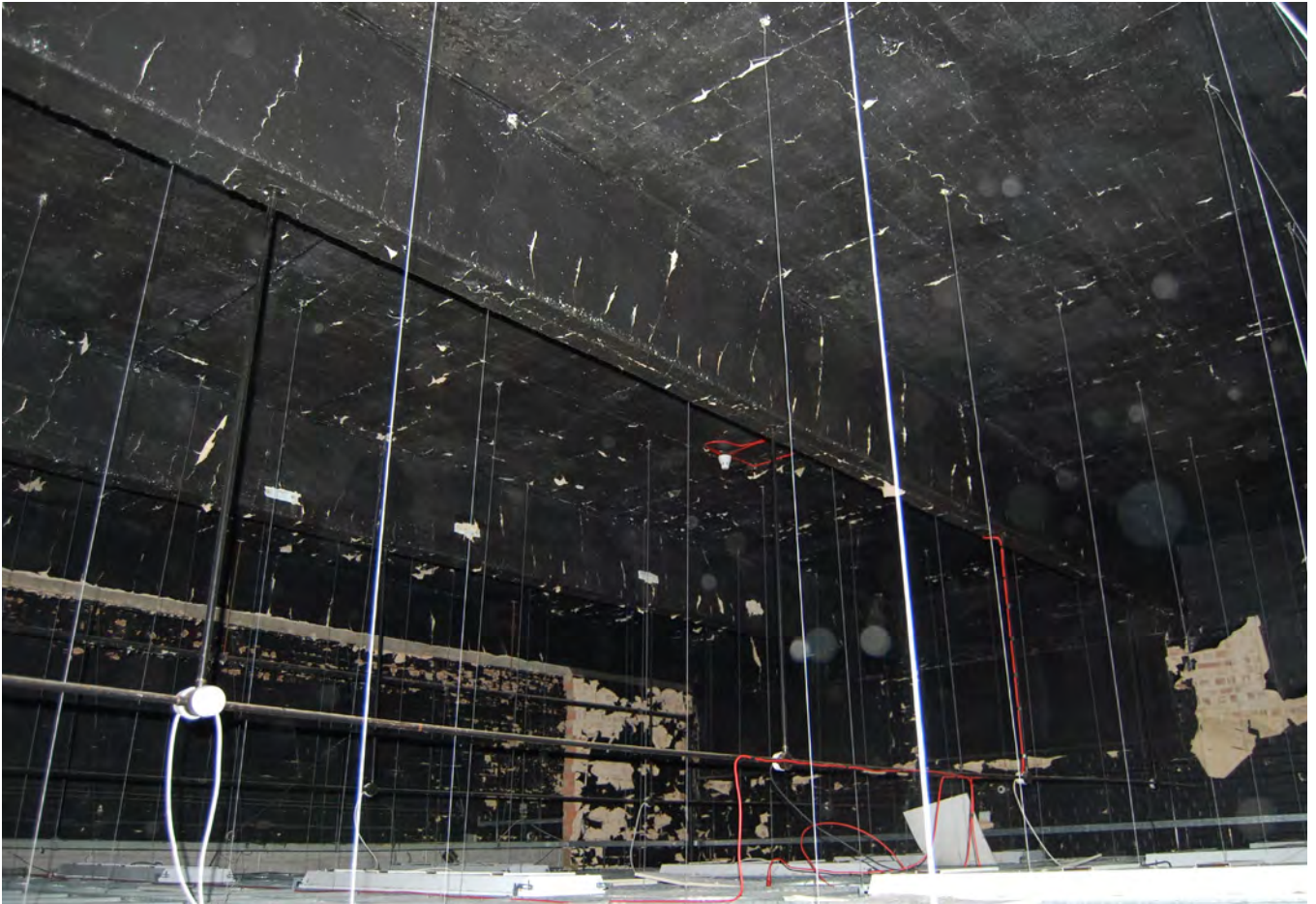


Plate 529.21 Space above suspended ceiling



Plate 529.22 Corridor in east half



Plate 529.23 Room in east half



Plate 529.24 Tall room in east half



Plate 529.25 Room in east half



Plate 529.26 Room in east half



Plate 529.27 Room in east half



Plate 529.27 WC in east half



Plate 529.29 Room in east half



Plate 529.30 Corridor in east half

Building 593: Barrack Block

NGR: SP 51272 25497

Recording Level: 1

Location

This building is located within Area OA12C, at the west edge of the barracks area.

History/ Function

This barrack block dates from 1970-2, constructed for use by the USAF servicemen.

Description

This three-storey large barrack block is constructed in red brick, with panels of reconstituted stone and concrete blocks on the north-east elevation (Plate 593.1). It has a rectangular footprint with a flat asphalt roof. There are large floor to ceiling metal windows lighting each room, which have infill material to the lower panel. A concrete band runs above the windows at each level which wraps around the building at each elevation.

The north-west (front) elevation has a roughly central staircase, and there are external stairwells at each end of the building providing access via an internal corridor to each level of rooms. The central staircase has glass entrance doors at ground floor level, and metal windows lighting the staircase to the south-west. Further to the south-west are six sets of windows at ground, first and second floor levels. To the north-east of the staircase are a further set of six windows at first and second floor levels, with four windows only at ground floor level due to a plant area at the south-east end of the building.

The north-east stairwell runs the height of the building to the front elevation, but the building is stepped in to the rear elevation and there is a single room only at the north-east end of the elevation. The rear elevation has 14 windows at three levels, with a further single room at ground level at each end of the elevation. There is no access from the rear elevation. The south-east elevation is of the same construction as the north-east stairwell, with a single storey accommodation room at ground-floor level to the rear elevation.

Internally the barrack block is divided into single rooms.





Plate 593.1 Front (north-west) elevation



Plate 594.1 Southern view of building 594 shortly after construction (ref no.- p_g171324_002)



Plate 594.2 Front (north-east) elevation



Plate 596.1 Front (north-east) elevation



Plate 598.1 Front (north-east) elevation

Building UH8: Oil Storage

NGR: SP 51481 25711

Recording Level: 1

Location

This building is located within Area OA12B, at the north end of the barrack area between buildings 455 and 450.

History/ Function

A brick enclosure containing oil storage tanks, it is difficult to accurately date the structure but it is probable that it is contemporary with the 1980s expansion of the barrack area (Plate UH8.1).

Description

This brick built enclosure is roughly square in plan, with an open roof and an entrance in the west elevation. Internally, an oil tank is extant with 'Drained May 1984' stamped on it. Gauges for oil are extant on the west elevation. The brick elevations are of varied heights (between 1.8m and 3m), and contain areas of replacement brickwork. There are concrete lintels and posts to the opening, in addition to concrete posts around the internal enclosure.

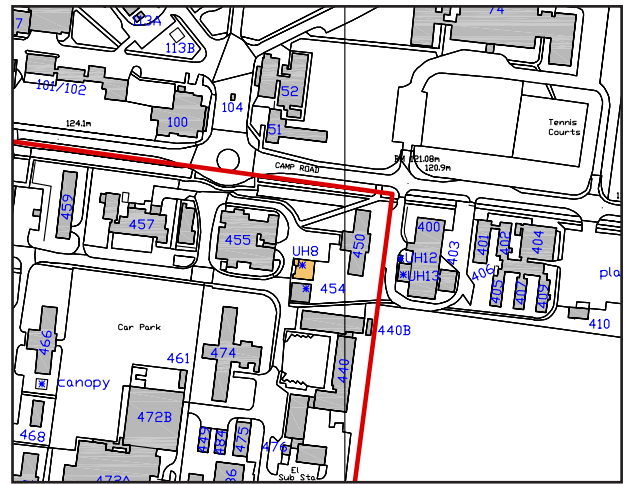


Plate UH8.1 South and west elevation

Building UH9: Generator

NGR: SP 51412 25534

Recording Level: 1

Location

This building is located within Area OA12D, between buildings 488 and 472.

History/ Function

This small structure contains a generator built to serve building 488, and is located to the rear of the building (UH9.1). The date of construction is unknown, but it is probably contemporary with the 1970s expansion of the area.

Description

This simple brick built structure is rectangular in plan, with a flat ashfelt roof. The building has double timber louver doors to the front (east) elevation, and a concrete floor. It is possible to see extant electrical equipment internally.



Plate UH9.1 Front (east) elevation

Building UH10: Electrical Substation

NGR: SP 51349 25505

Recording Level: 1

Location

This building is located within Area OA12C, at the west edge of building 488.

History/ Function

This electrical substation is of unknown date, but it likely to date from the 1980s expansion of the barracks area.

Description

The electrical substation is surrounded by a 1.8m timber fence supported on concrete posts, topped with barb wire (UH10.1).

Two pieces of plant are extant (painted brown), but the earth surrounding this has been excavated at the time of recording.

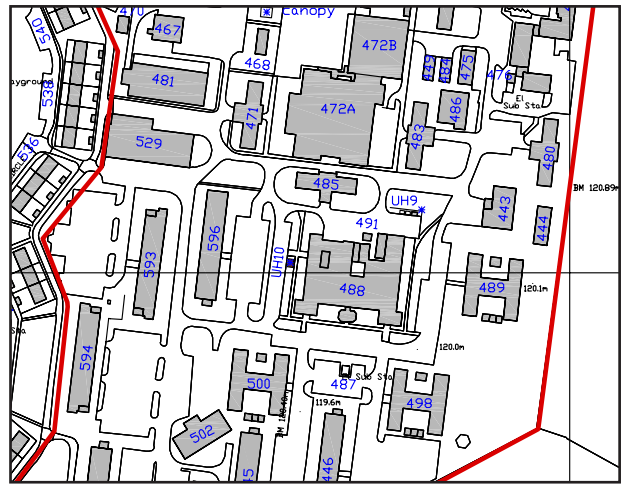


Plate UH10.1 East view of substation

Building UH11: Portacabin

NGR: SP 51246 25656

Recording Level: 1

Location

This building is located within Area OA12C, at the west edge of the barracks area between buildings 442 and 481.

History/ Function

This portacabin is thought to have been used for offices or similar, dating from the 1980s (Plate UH11.1).

Description

This simple portacabin is rectangular in plan and now in very poor condition. It is painted white with simple metal windows and timber doors, and a flat ashfelt roof. The building is surrounded by a metal fence, the reason for this is unknown.

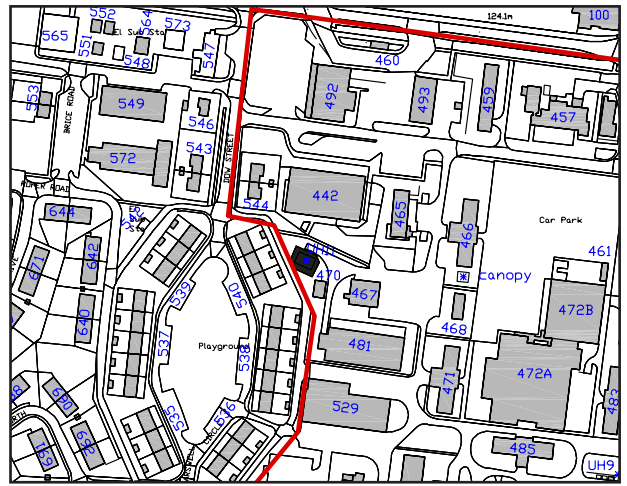
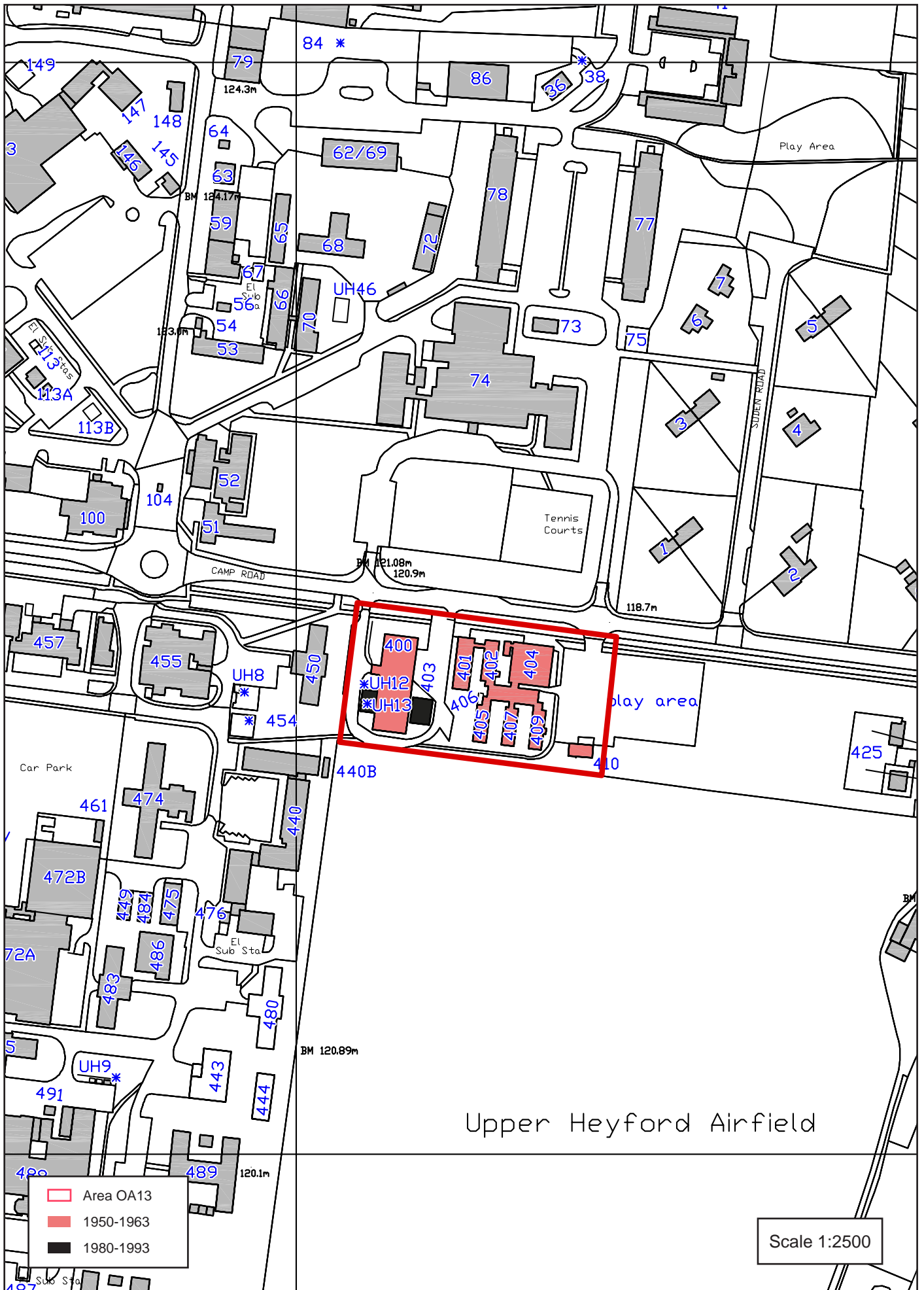


Plate UH11.1 Front (north) elevation

AREA OA13, HUTS



Building 400: Huts: Finance Office

NGR: SP 51550 25736

Recording Level: 1

Location

Buildings 400 to 410 form a distinct group of structures within Area OA13, located immediately to the south of Camp Road and to the east of the barrack area.

History/ Function

The buildings are not shown on aerial photography of 1942 nor on site plans of 1945 or 1947. These site plans do show a set of buildings in this general area but their layout is very different to the extant buildings and have been demolished. Among this former group are three air raid shelters towards the western end of the group.



The extant buildings in the current project (Nos 400-410) are shown on an aerial photograph of 1954 so clearly they were constructed as a group at some point between 1947 and 1954.

The 1954 photo shows that this group of buildings was on the west side of a courtyard or Parade Ground and there were two further groups of similar buildings on the east side of it. These further huts are all believed to have been lost before the end of the 20th century.

Description

Building 400 is the largest structure within this group and detached from the collection of huts slightly to the east.

It is a single storey, rectangular plan with a twin-gabled roof (orientated north-to-south) and clad in corrugated sheeting. The main structure of the building is a concrete frame with vertical concrete infill panels between the posts painted white. Much of the white paint is peeling off and some older green paint is visible beneath (although possibly just to the lower parts of the walls).

The primary metal framed windows largely survive (both four lights and two lights), and a free-standing sign at the north end suggests that the building was an office prior to the closure of the base. This sign shows that it was latterly the Accounting and Finance Office and an additional plaque also shows that this was the USAFE Outstanding Accounting and Finance Office 1990.

The building is arranged with enclosed office rooms in the northern third and a large open-plan area to the southern third (detailed further below).

The *north elevation* facing Camp Road is largely as first built, incorporating the original doorway in the east half and three low windows in the west half to light the offices (Plate 400.15).

The *southern wall* has four primary 2-light windows high in the western gable of the wall, beneath a long lintel (Plate 400.7). In the eastern gable there's a panel/section with secondary brick infill (1960s/70s) with two windows above a door. Presumably this infilled section would originally have been a vehicular entrance and there is a shallow concrete ramp adjacent to it.

The *west elevation* (Plate 400.1) divides into three sections: the longest section is to the south (over half the total length of the building) and comprises twelve 2-light metal framed windows high up the wall towards the eaves. To the north of this section is a secondary brick entrance block which projects from the main wall of the building and it is believed that this section was originally an open vehicular entrance into the building. The northern part of the elevation has an entrance to a plant room and four primary crittal type windows towards the north. These windows are larger and lower than those in the southern half of the elevation and illuminate the offices. Each pair of windows in the southern section is beneath a single concrete sill.

The division of the *east elevation* (Plate 400.6) broadly follows that of the west elevation with five primary 4-light windows in the northernmost third and a bricked-up section immediately south of this which is believed to have originally been an open-faced vehicular entrance. There are two phases of brick infill here and the remains of what appears to have been a sliding door. Most of the southernmost section of the elevation is obscured by a modern projection but there are two high windows visible to the north of this.

It has only been possible to inspect the interior through windows but this appears to show that the roof is supported by 13 pairs

of concrete portal frame trusses similar to those noted elsewhere (eg. Building 472).

As referred to above the interior is arranged with small offices and enclosed rooms in the northern third while the southern two-thirds is largely open plan. The open plan area also has carpets and ceiling panels so presumably it was an open-plan office, at least in its latter arrangement. The rooms at the north end have mid 20th-century radiators, painted brick walls and carpets.

There appears to have formerly been vehicular entrances in the east and west elevations, immediately to the south of the enclosed office rooms and it may be that the open plan area to the south was originally a workshop or garage, illuminated by the high windows referred to above in the southern half of the building. The 1954 aerial photograph supports this by appearing to show funnel shaped areas of tarmac or hardstanding entering either side of the building at this point.



Plate 400.1 West elevation



Plate 400.2 Northern part of west elevation



Plate 400.3 UH 13 adjacent to building 400



Plate 400.4 Southern end of west elevation



Plate 400.5 North elevation facing Camp Road



Plate 400.6 East elevation



Plate 400.7 South elevation



Plate 400.8 Extension on east side

Building 401: Huts - Housing Office

NGR: SP 51581 25728

Recording Level: 1

Location

Buildings 400 to 410 form a distinct group of structures within Area OA13, located immediately to the south of Camp Road and to the east of the barrack area.

History/ Function

The buildings are not shown on aerial photography of 1942 or on site plans of 1945 or 1947. These site plans do show a set of buildings in this general area but their layout is very different to the extant buildings and they are clearly a previous group of structures. Among this previous group shown on the plans are three air raid shelters towards the western end of the group.



The extant buildings in the current project (Nos 400-410) are shown on an aerial photograph of 1954 so clearly they were constructed as a group at some point between 1947 and 1954.

The 1954 photo shows that this group of buildings was on the west side of a courtyard or parade ground and that there were two further groups of similar buildings on the east side of it. These further huts are all believed to have been lost before the end of the 20th century.

A plan survives from July 1978 which details the conversion of the building to a housing office. The former function of the building is uncertain.

Description

Building 401 forms the north-westernmost block of the complex of huts connected to each other. It is linked by a short corridor to 402 on its east side although this is constructed from secondary concrete blockwork and this corridor is not shown on the 1954 aerial photograph. It may have been added as late as the 1980s (Plate 401.4). The building was originally linked by a corridor at the southern end to the rest of the complex.

It is a single storied rectangular plan range with secondary timber windows and gabled, corrugated panel covered roof. The building has a concrete frame and the walls are formed from vertical concrete panels. In areas the concrete slab floor is visible beneath the wall panels. The walls are painted white and the base is painted brown but in patches the paint is coming away to reveal a former green paint beneath.

The *west elevation* has four secondary timber windows with timber sill but at the southern end there is a small primary metal framed window (for WC [Plate 400.1]).

The *north elevation* includes the main entrance to the building with a short set of steps up to it and a secondary canopy/ pentice over which extends across almost the whole wall (Plate 400.3). This canopy covers the central door as well as a large window to each side. Over the canopy the gable is clad in primary corrugated sheeting similar to that on the roof. A sign at the north end says 'RAF Upper Heyford Base Housing Office'. One of the windows at this end has large lettering: 'Military Family Housing Management Branch. Equal Opportunities in Housing'.

The *south elevation* also has a primary corrugated panel covering the gable fixed by bolts and square washers. There is a central doorway with brick infill around indicating that the doorway was originally larger (Plate 400.6).

The *east wall* has three main timber windows and a secondary door towards the south end adjacent to an infilled patch which was clearly formerly a window (Plate 400.5).

The interior comprises one large room in the north half and several smaller offices in the south half with modern fittings (radiators, carpets etc).

The structure is a concrete portal frame (14 frames) similar to that in building 400 but smaller. There is a bolt visible to the underside of the lower part of the angled frame and the trusses are painted black above the ceiling. The purlins and rafters are softwood. It is worth noting that the use of the concrete portal frame in buildings 400 and 401 is different to the various ranges in the 'spider-plan' group (402-409), which have brick walls and conventional steel trusses.



Plate 401.1 West elevation



Plate 401.2 North end of west elevation



Plate 401.3 North end facing Camp Road



Plate 401.4 Concrete block connecting structure



Plate 401.5 East elevation



Plate 401.6 South elevation

Building 402: Huts - Offices

NGR: SP 51592 25731

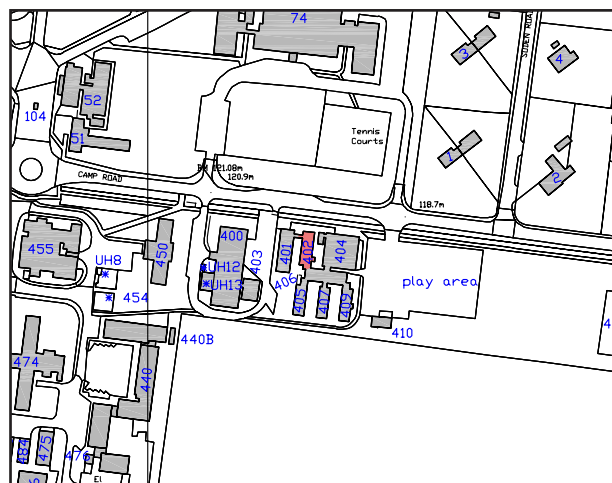
Recording Level: 1

Location

Buildings 400 to 410 form a distinct group of structures located within Area OA13, located immediately to the south of Camp Road and to the east of the barrack area.

History/ Function

The buildings are not shown on aerial photography of 1942 nor on site plans of 1945 or 1947. These site plans do show a set of buildings in this general area but their layout is very different to the extant buildings and they are clearly a previous group of structures. Among this previous group shown on the plans are three air raid shelters towards the western end of the group. The extant buildings in the current project (buildings 400-410) are shown on an aerial photograph of 1954 so clearly they were constructed as a group at some point between 1947 and 1954.



The 1954 photo shows that this group of buildings was on the west side of a courtyard or parade ground and that there were two further groups of similar buildings on the east side of it. These further huts are all believed to have been lost before the end of the 20th century.

Description

Building 402 is located at the north-western corner of the spider-plan complex of structures within the group of post-war eastern huts. It is a standard north-to-south range connected at its south end to the central east-to-west ablution block. It is also connected at its northwestern corner to the adjacent building 401 by a secondary concrete block corridor.

It is a single storey, rectangular plan range with a gabled roof covered in corrugated panels and the windows are largely secondary double-glazed. The walls are rendered brick (painted cream), with a brown base.

The *north elevation* (Plate 400.1) has a central single door but marks in the render suggest that this opening was formerly wider (as with other ranges in this group). There is almost no access to the *south elevation* due to thick vegetation. The *east elevation* has five windows (all modern double glazed) and the *west elevation* has four similar windows to the south of the modern concrete block connecting link.

The interior has been heavily refurbished in the late 20th century with modern carpet, radiators, ceiling panels. The only area which has not been significantly altered is a narrow bay at the southern end which has older, rougher plaster and chipboard cladding sloping with the roof. The main refurbished area has one large room towards the north and three smaller rooms towards the south (one of which hasn't been converted). On the east side there is a WC in a small secondary projection. At the north end of the building there is the same logo as in building 401 (Military Family Housing) but much smaller. Presumably this was also an office.

Several ceiling panels have been removed to reveal four primary steel trusses similar to those elsewhere in this complex, but none in the end walls. The trusses are formed from typical flat section and L-section members riveted together and with a small connecting plate at the apex. There was formerly a chipboard ceiling which sloped with the roof and this partly survives above the current modern ceiling panels. Evidence is also visible of former suspended light fittings.



Plate 402.1 North end of building 400



Plate 402.2 Building 400 viewed from south-west



Plate 402.3 East side of building



Plate 402.4 South end of building 400

Building 403: Huts - Offices

NGR: SP 51560 25707

Recording Level: 1

Location

Buildings 400 to 410 are located within Area OA13, located at the edge of Camp Road and to the east of the barrack area. Building 403 is a modern addition to the east side of the older Building 400.

History/ Function

The buildings are not shown on aerial photography of 1942, but the main complex of structures are shown on an AP of 1954. Building 403 however is a later addition, probably dating from the 1980s.

Description

Building 403 is a single storied, square-plan building with metal panels to the walls and flat roof. The windows have modern aluminium frames. There are three windows to the north wall, four windows to the east wall (with entrance door), and two boarded windows to the south wall. The west wall is connected to building 400. The interior was not fully accessed but it appears to be standard modern offices.

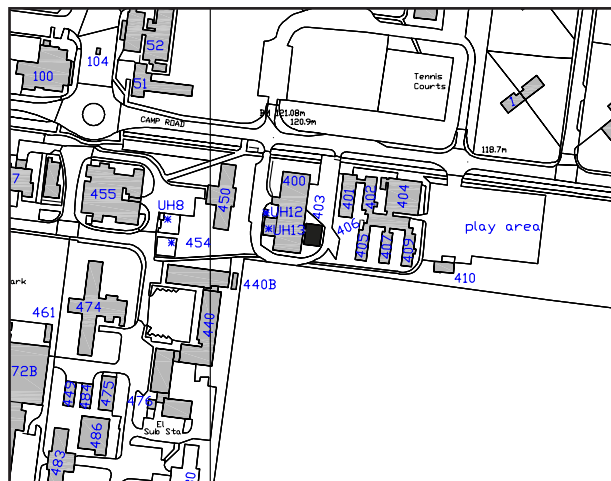


Plate 403.1 General view of 403 from south

Building 404: Huts - Community Bank

NGR: SP 51611 25723

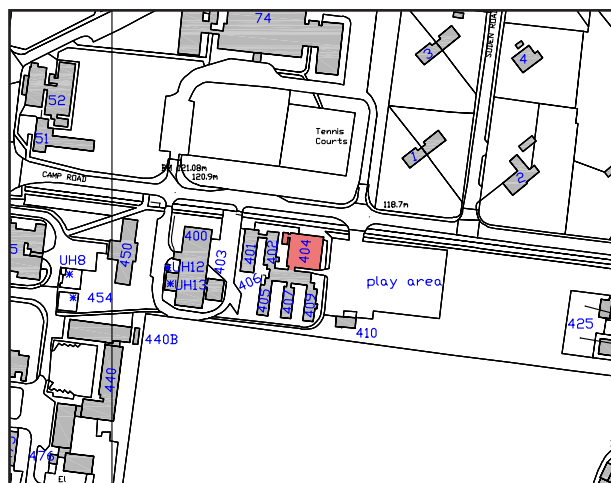
Recording Level: 1

Location

Buildings 400 to 410 are located within Area OA13, located at the edge of Camp Road and to the east of the barrack area.

History/ Function

The buildings are not shown on aerial photography of 1942 or on site plans of 1945 or 1947. These site plans do show a set of buildings in this general area but their layout is very different to the extant buildings and these earlier structures have subsequently been demolished. Among this previous group shown on the plans are three air raid shelters towards the western end of the group.



The extant buildings in the current project (buildings 400-410) are shown on an aerial photograph of 1954, so clearly they were constructed as a group at some point between 1947 and 1954.

The 1954 plan shows building 404 with a distinctly different footprint to that which survives today. Rather than the current large square plan it then comprised two separate, detached rectangular plan, north-to-south ranges. The photograph strongly implies that the central north-to-south bay of the building is a secondary addition although the current examination of the building suggests that it was probably a relatively early addition.

The 1954 photo shows that this group of buildings was on the west side of a courtyard or Parade Ground and that there were two further groups of similar buildings on the east side of it. These further huts are all believed to have been lost before the end of the 20th century.

Evidence shows that the final function of the building was a community bank. A plan from 1992 shows that the building was in use at this date, and features surviving in the building confirm this function.

Description

Building 404 is located at the north-eastern corner of the complex of eastern huts (400-410). It is a triple bay building with bays running north-to-south, but as outlined above the central bay is not shown on an aerial photograph from 1954 and it must therefore be a secondary addition. The construction of this central bay is broadly similar to the rest of the building and it would appear that it was a relatively early addition (possibly late 1950s or 1960s).

The building is single storied and the roof has a saw-tooth profile, reflecting the triple-bay nature of the building, and it is covered in corrugated panels. The walls are generally of rendered brick but in some patches the render has come away to reveal apparent traces of concrete posts and reinforcing bars. It appears that the structure incorporates a pair of concrete posts towards the centre of each main elevation, but these are not present in every bay.

The *south elevation* has a blocked doorway in the east gable (rendered over), and an existing secondary double doorway in the central gable. The western gable is largely overlain by a lobby structure (Plate 404.4).

The *west elevation* would have had five eight-light metal framed windows but the southern one has been blocked and rendered. The northern one has been replaced by a doorway to the modern extension.

The *north elevation* has a single doorway beneath a boarded panel in the eastern bay, a secondary roofed lobby in the western bay (with several patches from former signs) while the central bay is featureless (Plate 404.1).

The *east elevation* has five windows but an entrance porch has been constructed over the central one (Plate 404.2).

At the north-west corner of the building is a secondary extension (a safe room), which probably dating from the 1980s.

The interior of the building includes offices, open-plan areas, cubicles, a safe room and other areas related to the building's use as a community bank. In general the offices and smaller rooms are located along the northern and southern edges of the plan while there is a much larger open-plan area (east-to-west) across the main central part of the building. The open-plan nature of the building is created by the virtually complete removal of the original external walls from the side bays which were enclosed by the construction of the central bay (ie. the removal of the eastern wall of the west bay and the western wall of the east bay). The ends of the roof trusses are now supported on large secondary brick piers.

The open-plan public area (Plate 404.9-12) is contained within the central and eastern bays, accessed from the double doors in the east elevation, while the open-plan area in the western bay is the bank's administrative area (Plate 404.5-8). This administrative area is behind a row of seven bank counters along the eastern side of the western bay, with private lockable booths for the cashiers. The booths are constructed with concrete blockwork.

A plan from 1992 confirms that along the southern edge of Building 404 there was a store, staff room, WCs, loans office and managers office, while along the northern edge there was a records room, a customer service room, and an assistant managers office. At the north-western edge of the building is a separate secondary strong room (safe) probably constructed in the 1980s. The safe room is accessed by a partly glazed enclosure within the main building.

As referred to above there is an aerial photograph from 1954 which shows that the central bay is a secondary addition to the older flanking bays and although the construction is broadly similar there are some clues to the later date of this area. The main difference is the nature of the roof trusses in the secondary, central bay from those in the primary eastern and western bays. The trusses are all metal, largely constructed from L-section members, and typical for the mid 20th-century, but the primary trusses are slightly simpler. They have two raking struts to each side whereas the later trusses in the central bay also have a vertical strut as well as the two raking members. The secondary trusses in the central bay also have connecting plates at each junction between members which the primary trusses do not have. Another distinction between the bays is the fact that the end rooms in the eastern and western bays are constructed from stud partitions (potentially primary), whereas those in the central bay are constructed from concrete block.



Plate 404.1 North end of building 404



Plate 404.2 East side of building 404



Plate 404.3 South-east corner of building 404



Plate 404.4 South end of building 404



Plate 404.5 Western part of interior of 404



Plate 404.6 Typical roof truss



Plate 404.7 Western part of interior



Plate 404.8 Western part of interior



Plate 404.9 Central part of interior



Plate 404.10 Towards eastern part of interior



Plate 404.11 Central part of interior



Plate 404.12 Eastern part of interior

Building 405: Huts - Offices

NGR: SP 51588 25700

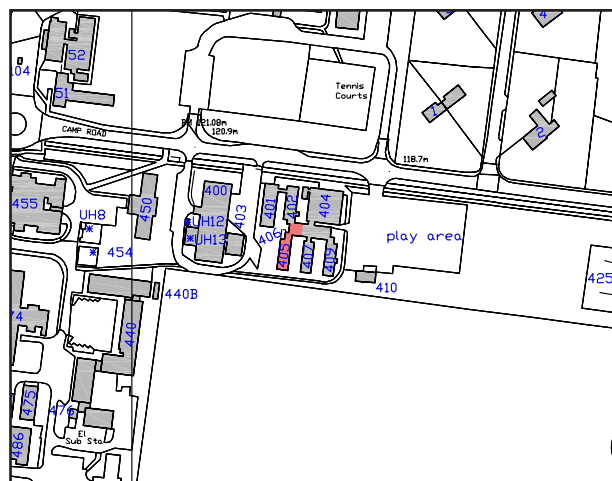
Recording Level: 1

Location

Buildings 400 to 410 are situated within Area OA13, located at the edge of Camp Road and to the east of the barrack area.

History/ Function

The buildings are not shown on aerial photography of 1942 or on site plans of 1945 or 1947. These site plans do show a set of buildings in this general area but their layout is very different to the extant buildings and they were clearly a previous group of structures. Among this previous group shown on the plans are three air raid shelters towards the western end of the group.



The extant buildings in the current project (buildings 400-410) are shown on an aerial photograph of 1954, so clearly they were constructed as a group at some point between 1947 and 1954.

The 1954 aerial photograph shows that this group of buildings was on the west side of a courtyard or Parade Ground and that there were two further groups of similar buildings on the east side of it. These further huts are all believed to have been lost before the end of the 20th century.

Description:

Building 405 is located towards the south-western corner of the group of post-war eastern huts and it appears to remain broadly similar to its primary layout and form. It is a single storey rectangular plan building, orientated north-to-south, which is connected to the central east-to-west range (408) via a small corridor at the north end. The building has a gabled roof, clad in corrugated sheeting and the walls are rendered a cream colour. The primary metal framed, crittal-type windows largely survive, painted brown to match the widely used colour scheme at Upper Heyford, and the sills are tiled. The east and west elevations each have five windows although some are boarded externally. There is a single doorway at the centre of the south elevation, which appears to have been created within a formerly wider double doorway. One of the dominant features of the building are the very large letters: CFMO painted in brown between the windows in the west wall. At the north end of the building is the low corridor with single pitch roof providing access to building 408.

The interior has not been fully accessed but an inspection through the windows appears to show that there is a relatively large open-plan area to the centre and smaller rooms at each end. There is a carpet, ceiling panels and plastered walls.



Plate 405.1 Exterior from north-west



Plate 405.2 West side of building



Plate 405.3 South end of building



Plate 405.4 South-eastern corner of building

Building 406: Huts - Incinerator

NGR: SP 51588 25700

Recording Level: 1

Location

Buildings 400 to 410 are situated within Area OA13, located at the edge of Camp Road and to the east of the barrack area.

History/ Function

The buildings are not shown on aerial photography of 1942 or on site plans of 1945 or 1947. These site plans do show a set of buildings in this general area but their layout is very different to the extant buildings and they were clearly a previous group of structures. Among this previous group shown on the plans are three air raid shelters towards the western end of the group.



The extant buildings in the current project (buildings 400-410) are shown on an aerial photograph of 1954, showing they were constructed as a group at some point between 1947 and 1954.

The 1954 photo shows that this group of buildings was on the west side of a courtyard or parade ground and that there were two further groups of similar buildings on the east side of it. These further huts are all believed to have been lost before the end of the 20th century.

Description:

Adjacent to this corridor at the north-west corner is a set of low brick walls (English bond) with 406 painted on it. It appears that this was a small roofless enclosure which contained some form of plant. This small enclosure is c.4 m x 2.5 m in plan and the walls are 1.4 m tall. The enclosure has a concrete floor but there is no clear evidence of the plant that was contained here.



Plate 406.1 Exterior view

Building 407: Huts - Exchange Retail Warehouse

NGR: SP 51602 25696

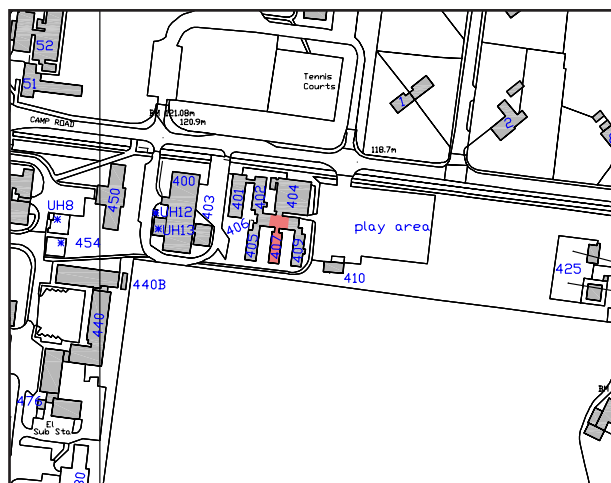
Recording Level: 1

Location

Buildings 400 to 410 are located within Area OA13, located at the edge of Camp Road and to the east of the barrack area.

History/ Function

The buildings are not shown on aerial photography of 1942 or on site plans of 1945 or 1947. These site plans do show a set of buildings in this general area but their layout is very different to the extant buildings, and they were clearly a previous group of structures. Among this previous group shown on the plans are three air raid shelters towards the western end of the group.



The extant buildings in the current project (Nos 400-410) are shown on an aerial photograph of 1954 so clearly they were constructed as a group at some point between 1947 and 1954.

The 1954 photo shows that this group of buildings was on the west side of a courtyard or parade ground and that there were two further groups of similar buildings on the east side of it. These further huts are all believed to have been lost before the end of the 20th century.

A plan from 1960 survives detailing some proposed works to this building and showing that at this time building 407 was the Exchange Retail Warehouse. These works appear to principally have been the insertion of radiators and fluorescent lights.

Description

Building 407 is the central range on the southern side of the group of buildings which together form the 'spider-plan' post-war eastern huts. It is a rectangular plan, single storey range with a gabled roof and it is very similar to the other corresponding ranges in this group (405, 407, 409, 402 etc).

The walls are rendered, almost certainly on load-bearing brick, and the lowest 3-4 courses is visible on each wall below the render. The walls are painted a cream colour but it appears that it was formerly painted green. There are five windows in the side walls (east and west) and although most of these are boarded they are all primary and metal framed.

In the south elevation there is a central double doorway with a primary opening but a later 20th-century door (Plate 404.4). There is a concrete lintel and a blocked window/vent above it.

The plan from 1960 shows that at this date the building, which was then a warehouse, was open plan in four of the five bays with a separate area in the northernmost bay.

The interior has been inspected and it has been less modernised than some of the other ranges. It retains primary lino floor tiles, sloped chipboard ceiling, radiators probably installed in the 1960s works and primary metal trusses (the same as 402). At the north end there is a primary vertical panel door into the lobby between buildings 407 and 408. This was painted green but it is now brown.



Plate 407.1 South-west corner of building



Plate 407.2 South end of building



Plate 407.3 East side of building



Plate 407.4 South side of building

Building 408: Huts - Ablution Block

NGR: SP 51598 25711

Recording Level: 1

Location

Buildings 400 to 410 are located within Area OA13, located at the edge of Camp Road and to the east of the barrack area. Building 408 is the linking block at the centre of the main 'spider-plan' complex of buildings in this area.

History/ Function

The buildings are not shown on aerial photography of 1942 or on site plans of 1945 or 1947. These site plans do show a set of buildings in this general area but their layout is very different to the extant buildings and they were clearly a previous group of structures. Among this previous group shown on the plans are three air raid shelters towards the western end of the group.

The extant buildings in the current project (Nos 400-410) are shown on an aerial photograph of 1954 so clearly they were constructed as a group at some point between 1947 and 1954.

The 1954 photo shows that this group of buildings was on the west side of a courtyard or parade ground and that there were two further groups of similar buildings on the east side of it. These further huts are all believed to have been lost before the end of the 20th century.

A plan from 1960 survives which principally details Building 407 but it also shows a small section of building 408 and labels it as the Ablution Block. It also shows the area of B408 immediately adjacent to B407 as including WCs, showers, changing room and calorifier (boiler).

Description

Building 408 is the central east-to-west ablutions block which connects together the north-to-south ranges in the spider-plan complex of buildings. It is a single storied, rectangular plan building and has a gabled roof covered in asbestos sheets. There are a series of low and narrow connecting corridors which link building 408 to the adjacent north-to-south ranges (402, 404, 405, 407, 409).

Unlike most of the other huts this building has regularly spaced piers to the external walls and in several areas substantial sections of the render have come away to reveal stretcher bond brickwork.

The primary metal-framed windows largely survive including some six-lights and some three-lights, but many are obscured by boarding or vegetation.

There is a substantial boiler house on the north side of the building (towards the centre) that has a small external projection that also continues into the building.

The interior has a series of power points and pipes along both the north and south walls which suggest, together with the regular duct vents in the south wall that this area may have been a laundry. The regular points are suggestive of rows of washing machines and tumble dryers. This area has a quarry tile floor.

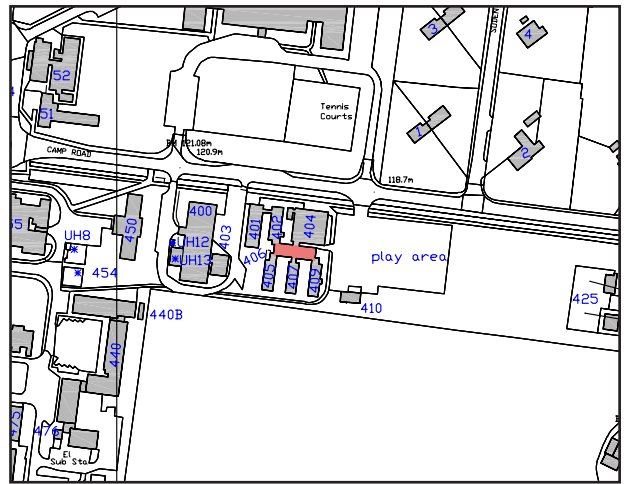




Plate 408.1 West end of building 408



Plate 408.2 East end of building 408

Building 409: Huts - Offices

NGR: SP 51615 25699

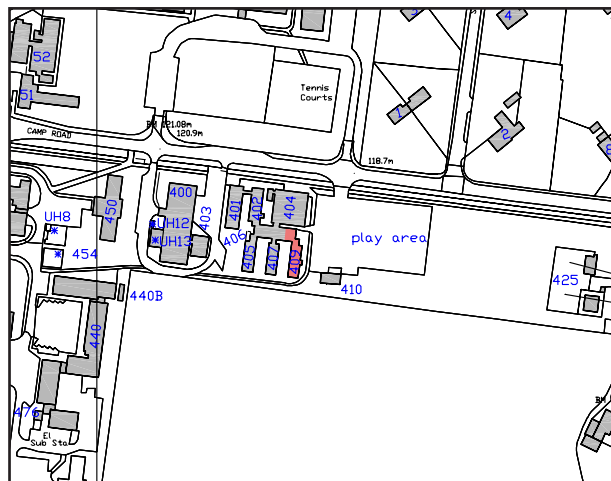
Recording Level: 1

Location

Buildings 400 to 410 are situated within Area OA13, located at the edge of Camp Road and to the east of the barrack area.

History/ Function

The buildings are not shown on aerial photography of 1942 or on site plans of 1945 or 1947. These site plans do show a set of buildings in this general area, but their layout is very different to the extant buildings and they were clearly a previous group of structures. Among this previous group shown on the plans are three air raid shelters towards the western end of the group.



The extant buildings in the current project (Nos 400-410) are shown on an aerial photograph of 1954 so clearly they were constructed as a group at some point between 1947 and 1954.

The 1954 photo shows that this group of buildings was on the west side of a courtyard or parade ground and that there were two further groups of similar buildings on the east side of it. These further huts are all believed to have been lost before the end of the 20th century.

Description:

Building 409 is the standard north-to-south range at the south-eastern corner of the 'spider-plan' complex in this area. Similarly to the other ranges it is a single storey, rectangular plan building with a gabled roof covered in corrugated panels.

The west and east walls each had five windows although most are boarded and the central one in the west wall has been blocked and rendered over. At the centre of the east wall there is a projecting brick lobby (Plate 409.1) which is shown on a plan of the overall complex from 1971.

At the centre of the south elevation is a small rendered brick lean-to extension (Plate 409.4) which could be original. The 1954 aerial photograph appears to show a small projection at the south end of each of the three corresponding ranges here. Above the projection is the same infilled panel (vent/ window?) found in the other huts.

Similarly to the other ranges in this complex the rendered walls are painted a cream colour but in places this has come away to reveal an earlier dark green colour. A chocolate brown band has been painted around the base of the building.

Full access into the building was not possible but it was possible to look through the window at the centre of the west wall. This confirms that the building was carpeted, it had ceiling panels and it appears to be one large room with a separate full room at the south end, a further room at the north end and along the east wall. This broadly corresponds with the layout shown on a plan of the wider complex from 1971.



Plate 409.1 East side of building



Plate 409.2 North end of east side



Plate 409.3 North end of building



Plate 409.4 South end of building

Building 410: Huts - Plant/Boiler House

NGR: SP 51637 25688

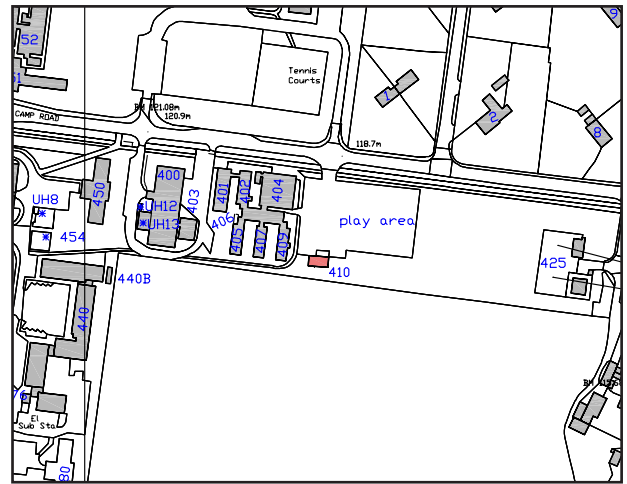
Recording Level: 1

Location

Buildings 400 to 410 are situated within Area OA13, located at the edge of Camp Road and to the east of the barrack area.

History/ Function

Building 410 forms part of a complex of buildings which are largely post-war huts constructed between 1947 and 1952, but this building is later in date, probably having been added in 1961. A plan survives from 1961 which appears to be a construction drawing for a new structure. The plan has a note that it was updated in 1971, but it is unclear what the nature of this updating was.



Description:

Building 410 is a single storey, rectangular plan, brick building with a gabled roof clad in modern ridged metal sheeting.

The south elevation (Plate 404.3) has two large slat vents, one secondary towards the base of the wall and one primary beneath a concrete lintel, as well as a further boarded window towards the west end. Immediately to the south of this elevation is a large free-standing steel chimney which is shown on the 1961 plan. There are also two further small, modern upstanding flues above the elevation.

The west elevation has a set of double doors with horizontal slat louvres (Plate 404.2).

The north elevation has four boarded windows with concrete sills and an older painted sign saying AM No: D19 (Air ministry design No. D19). On this side of the building there is a small brick enclosure with low walls (c.1.25 m tall) and a large ledge where fuel tanks would have been stored [Plate 404. 1]).

The east elevation has double slat vent doors (Plate 404.4) and a small brown sign fixed to the wall showing the number 185. Presumably there was once a small structure or piece of plant here which was numbered 185 in the site numbering system, but this has now been demolished.

It was not possible to access the interior of Building 410.



Plate 410.1 North side of building



Plate 410.2 West side of building 410



Plate 410.3 South side of building



Plate 410.4 East side of building

Building UH12: Tank

NGR: SP 51538 25720

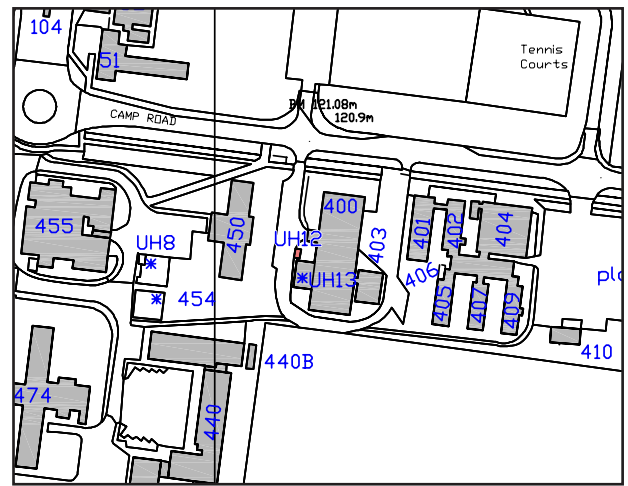
Recording Level: 1

Location

The tank is located within Area OA13, located at the edge of Camp Road and to the east of the barrack area. The tank is situated to the west of building 400.

History/ Function

This tank is of unknown date, and it is difficult to determine an accurate date. It is however probable that it dates from the 1950s, and is contemporary with the construction of buildings 400-410.



Description:

The cylindrical tank (painted brown) sits on two brick plinths at a height of 2m (Plate UH12.1). It is surrounded by a concrete wall which is thought to have formerly supported a timber fence, although this is no longer extant.



Plate UH12.1 East elevation

Building UH13: Offices

NGR: SP 51535 25710

Recording Level: 1

Location

The tank is located within Area OA13, located at the edge of Camp Road and to the east of the barrack area. The tank is situated to the west of building 400.

History/ Function

This office/ admin structure is thought to date from the 1980s.

Description:

This single-storey structure has a pitched metal roof, and is clad in corrugated metal sheeting which is painted cream with earlier green paint visible beneath (UH13.1). It has simple two-light metal windows, and sits on a concrete plinth. The front (east) elevation has a double metal and glass door providing the only point of access. Internally, it is possible to see that it is carpeted with several electrical sockets (5 plus) running around the room at desk height. The building is thought to have had an administration function, the large access door suggests it was used regularly by the public.

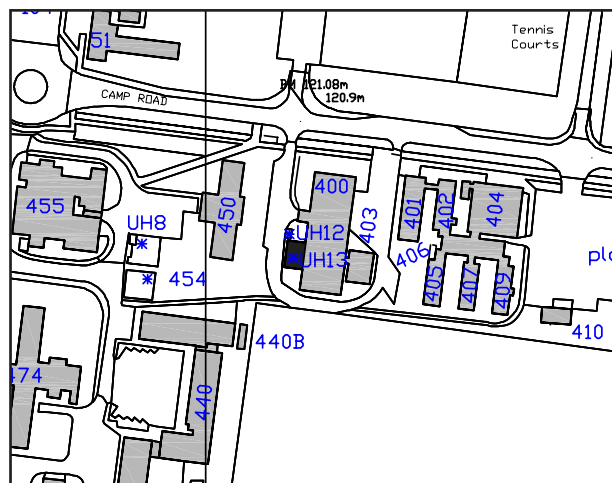
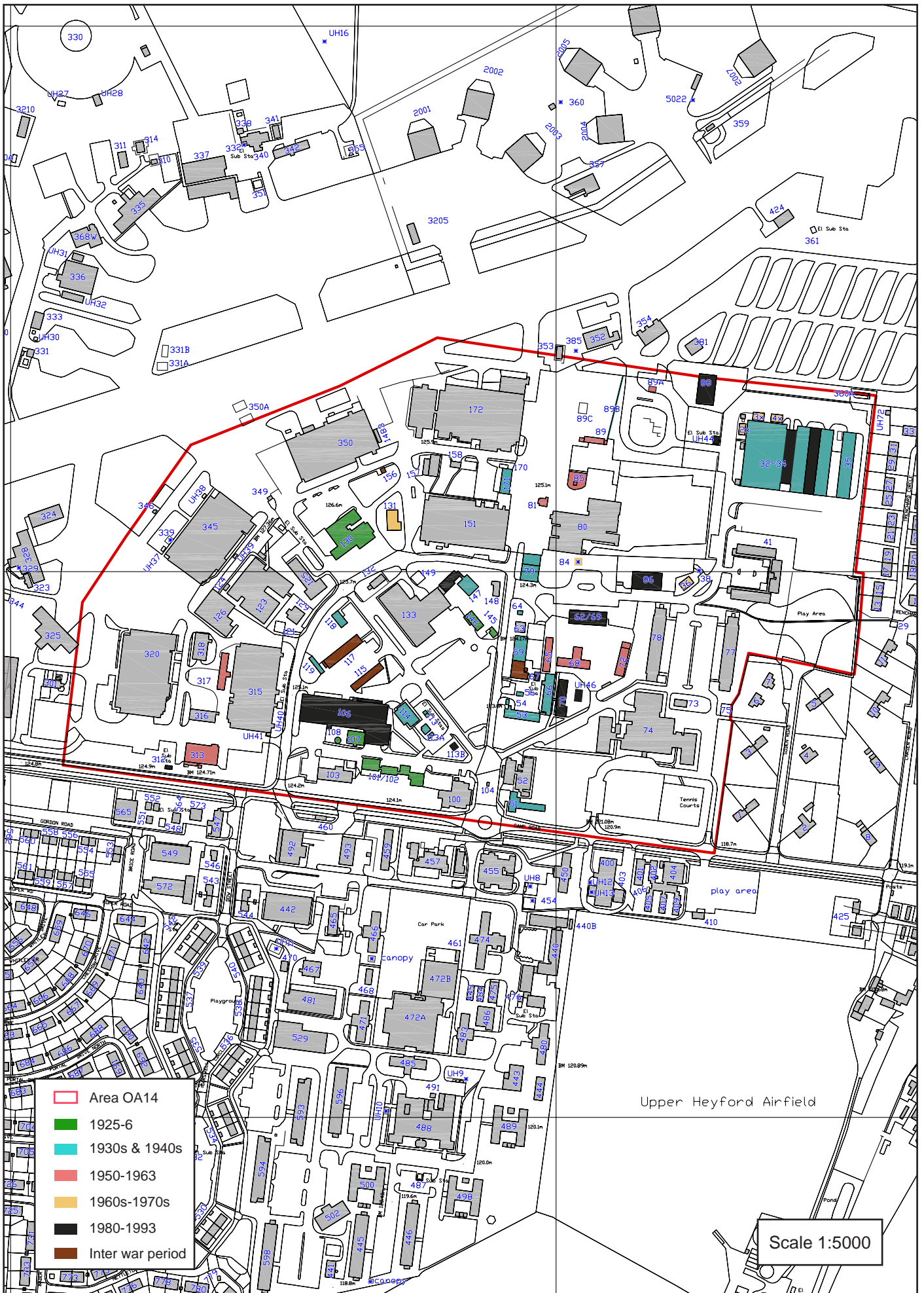


Plate UH13.1 East elevation

AREA OA14, TECHNICAL AREA



Building 32-35: Commissary

NGR: SP 51697 26107

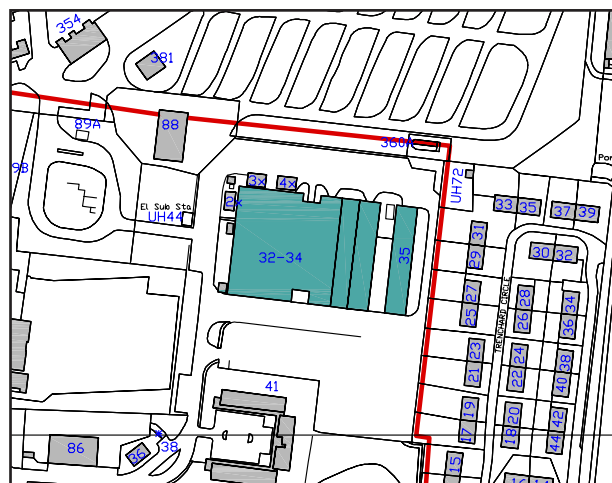
Recording Level: 2

Location

This building is located within Area OA14D, at the eastern edge of the technical area to the north of Camp Road. The building is part of a larger structured numbered 32-35.

History/ Function

The Commissary is not shown on an AP of 1942 or site plans of 1947, but the building is visible on the AP of 1954. Site records show that the building dates from 1947, it therefore seems probable that this date is correct and it was built shortly after the 1947 site plan.



Constructed with many later alterations and additions, building 32 is a large three bay plus later infill (post 1947-pre 1974) rectangular warehouse building. This building formed the main sales and warehouse storage areas for the Commissary, where staff and families were able to purchase food and other supplies. Buildings 33 to 35 are also large single bay warehouse buildings with an infill bay constructed (c. 1974), in the open area between warehouse 33 and 34.

Description

Building 32

The commissary consists of a large rectangular warehouse building with three bays, each with a double pitch roof and gable wall on the north and south elevations (Plate 32-33.1-3). The building is constructed of a steel frame with sheet metal walling and corrugated metal roofing. External to the main building are a series of small storage units, many of which are temporary in nature, on the south and east elevations (Plate 32-33.4).

The main customer access to the commissary is on the north elevation, with two glazed double doors centrally placed within a brick porch with flat canopy roof which is a later addition. The main entrance is to the east of this and consists of a single double door also set within a smaller brick porch. To the western bay there is a double fire access door and a small barred window. Each bay has a louvred ventilation grill within the gable and on this elevation clerestory windows which have been blocked. The central bay has a large rear lit sign in blue and white saying 'UPPER HEYFORD' and above the exit door is a matching sign saying 'COMMISSARY' (an elevation drawing for addition of this signage exists within the archives and is dated October 1975). A small brown painted sign displays the opening hours.

To the east of the main commissary building a cold storage unit has been constructed which infills the space between building 32 (the Commissary) and building 33. This is clearly a later addition although it is constructed along the same lines as the main warehouse structures and appears already *in situ* on plans dating to 1975. It is set back from the main façade and has a large roller shutter opening and some open grille ventilation to one side. Adjacent to this is building 33.

The east elevation is very plain with two fire escapes and two further doors leading in the the staff area of the building. This side of the building also has a series of storage and services units which are divorced from the main building. Some of these are temporary in nature, including a large metal chiller box, the remainder being of brick construction. These were mostly all *in situ* by 1975 as they are shown on the plans with one small concrete block structure post dating this. The largest chiller box has been removed but the concrete footing remains. Two further chiller boxes are located on the north of the building and these are post 1975 additions. The south elevation has a total of six clerestory windows, each gable wall having two windows (Plate 32-33.5). These windows have six lights and also have internal metal bars. The central bay has a large roller shutter as well as an emergency exit. The rear elevation of the infill cold storage area has louvred ventilation and a large sliding doorway.

Internally the building still contains many features connected to its use as a shopping facility. The main sales area is a large open space with a series of steel columns covered with mdf as the structural support (Plates 32-35.6-8). The entire sales area has a suspended ceiling with strip lighting. Two different styles of laminate flooring indicate the shopping and till sales areas. Still *in situ* are two large freezer units and two smaller refrigeration units. At the front of the store are small offices to each side, one of which has barred internal and external windows and would have been the cash office for the storing and processing of takings. Adjacent to this is a possible restaurant/ coffee area. On the eastern side of the sales area is the former butchers servery which contains double swing doors leading through to the meat preparation and carcass storage areas. These are tiled rooms with tiled floors and there is a ceiling mounted track system still *in situ* which enabled the moving of carcasses through from the delivery bay to the carcass store and the meat preparation room (Plate 32-32.9). The meat preparation room also has access to a large freezer that is situated within the cold storage area. The carcass storage room has a sloping floor with in built drainage.

Access to the warehouse area at the rear of the store is through centrally placed double fire doors. Adjacent to this is another large opening that has been blocked up (Plate 32-33.10). The warehouse area has the steel frame roof exposed and a concrete floor. There are various brick and concrete block structures within this space which are rest, office and toilet facilities for the staff. There is also a brick and wire fencing structure that is shown as already existing on the 1975 plan as a vegetable preparation area, however its function may have changed following that date. A concrete block structure is on the west side of the building and is noted to be a sensitive store, presumably for high cost items.

The infill warehouse which was added between the commissary and building 33 is used as a cold storage area and contains eight large freezer/chiller stores as well as a compressor unit (Plate 32-33.13). There is no natural light within this space. The stores are spaced each side of the warehouse and the metal track for the butchers carcasses begins at the large metal sliding door and continues through to the carcass storage room.

Buildings 33, 33a, 34 and 35

Buildings 33, 34 and 35 are clearly of the same date as building 32 and each consist of a single bay metal framed warehouse unit as previously described. Each has a large central roller shutter door and clerestory windows. Internally the warehouses are large open spaces, each with additional rooms added at a later date. No. 33 was occupied by a courier company at the time of survey, and the warehouse had office and toilet facilities in portacabins to the rear of the warehouse. No. 34 had a series of small wood and concrete block offices located centrally to each side of the warehouse. No. 35 has concrete block office and wc facilities to the rear of the warehouse on the eastern side.

Externally there is a large open space between no. 34 and no. 35 and this contains an enclosed concrete conveyor housing approximately 1.2m high (Plate 32-32.15). A hatch for this can be seen within no. 34. A similar conveyor system is likely to have existed between no. 33 and 34 however this is no longer extant due to the infill warehouse no 33a.

No 33a is a smaller warehouse, both in width and height however it runs the full length of the adjoining warehouses (Plate 32-35.16). It is also metal framed and clad, its internal metal frame is painted yellow. It has a large roller shutter and door on the south facing elevation. Internally there is a modern timber frame partition and beyond this to the rear there are a series of timber frame and concrete block offices/ WCs. A plan from 1974 shows the proposal for the infill warehouse to have open space to the rear, however it is clear that this plan was not carried out and a longer warehouse was constructed instead.

Archive

Three plans were identified in the Upper Heyford archives.



Plate 32-35.1 View of front elevation



Plate 32-35.2 Entrance to commissary store



32-35.3 View of commissary store front elevation



32-35.4 External side elevation showing temporary stores



Plate 32-35.5 View of rear elevation



Plate 32-35.6 Internal view of store entrance



Plate 32-35.7 Internal view across store to rear



Plate 32-35.8 Internal view across store to entrance



Plate 32-35.9 View of meat preparation room



Plate 32-35.10 View of rear warehouse with staff rooms



Plate 32-35.11 View of cash office



Plate 32-35.12 View of vegetable preparation room



Plate 32-35.13 External view of warehouses 33-35



Plate 32-35.14 Warehouse 44, front elevation



Plate 32-35.15 Open space and conveyor housing between 34 and 35



Plate 32-35.16 External view of 33



Plate 32-35.17 Internal view of infill warehouse



Plate 32-35.18 Internal view of 34



Plate 32-35.19 Internal view of 35

Building 36: Area Defence/ Veterinary Clinic

NGR: SP 51624 25991

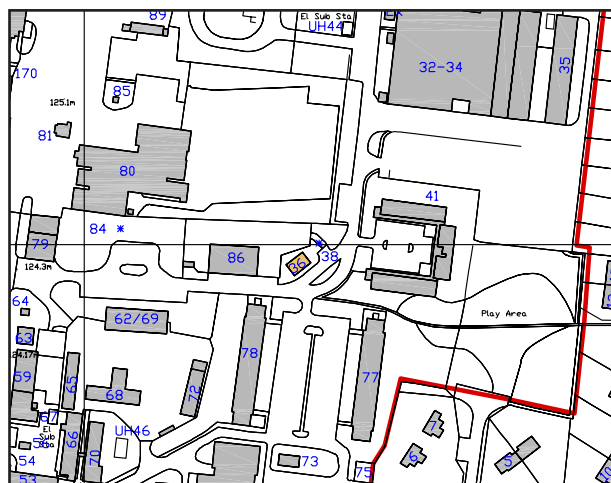
Recording Level: 1

Location

This building is located within Area OA14D, it lies within the technical area immediately to the north of and situated between buildings 77 and 78.

History/ Function

A plan dating from 1971 shows the building as a 'Area Defence Counsel/ Veterinary Clinic'. It has had a secondary use as a offices (most recently by Alan Consulting Engineers), but retains its primary form as shown on the plan. It is first visible on a site plan of the airbase in 1983, but is not extant on earlier aerial photography. The building is therefore thought to date from the 1971 plan of the building.



Description:

This simple single-storey brown brick structure is rectangular in plan and single phase. It has a flat asphalt roof with timber fascia and crittal windows (Plate 36.1) These have timber lintels and tile sills, which (with the exception of the north-east elevation) are painted white. The south-east (front) elevation has a single timber and glass door with windows to both sides which have two rectangular lights. There is a further window at the north-east end of the elevation, which is a larger four-light window of the same type as the south-west elevation.

This larger window would have allowed sufficient light into the 'Vet Clinic' which was located in the room at the north-east end of the building. This room was access from the north-west elevation by a separate single glass and timber door. The north-west elevation also has a small two-light crittal window. The north-east elevation has three small windows each with two rectangular lights. These retain the earlier brown paint, with earlier green paint visible beneath.

Archive

One floor plan was identified of building 36 in the Upper Heyford archive.



Plate 36.1 North-east elevation

Building 38: Car Wash

NGR: SP 51617 26012

Recording Level: 1

Location

This building is located within Area OA14D, within the technical area between buildings 86 to the west and 41 to the east.

History/ Function

Constructed in 1986, this car wash is associated with building 86.

Description:

This 'Tammermatic' carwash has pink brushes to the front and each side. The car wash is access from a side road extending around building 36, with the exit via the front of building 86. The brushes are held on a metal clad frame through which the cars drive, overhead buttons state: 'Foam' 'Wash' and 'Wheels'

There is a small grey metal shed to the front (west), probably dating from the 1980s. This has double doors to the front and what appears to be boarded up windows to the side situated to the side of the car wash access road. It is thought that this simple structure was the kiosk to the car wash.





Plate 38.1 South-east facing view of car wash

Building 51: Briefing Rooms

NGR: SP 51469 25787

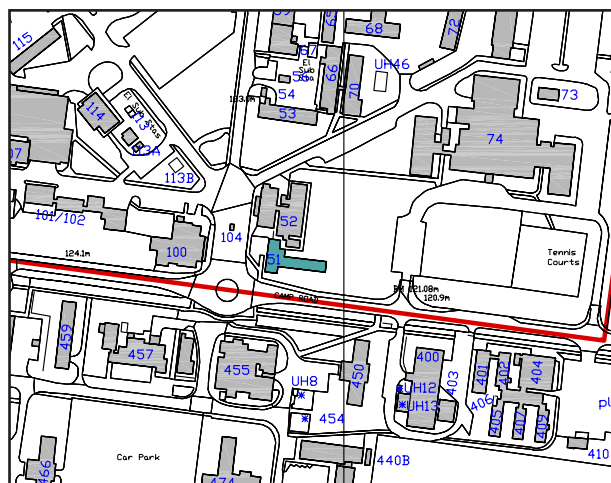
Recording Level: 2

Location

This building is located within Area OA14E; it is located at the entrance to the technical area for Camp Road, immediately to the south of building 52.

History/ Function

A building is shown on an AP of 1942 in the location of the briefing rooms which is rectangular in plan and aligned north to south. This is also shown on a 1947 plan of the site as building number 147 'Crew Briefing'. An AP of 1954 shows an extension to the rear of the building, which is also rectangular in plan and aligned east to west. The concrete vault is first shown on the 1954 AP.



Description

Building 51 consists of two phases of building: the original north-south range is 18.6m by 6.2m. The east-west extension is 27.1m by 5.9m and is set just south of the centre of the east wall of the original range. A concrete vault, near contemporary with the extension, is located at the north-west corner of the extension, abutting the eastern wall of the original building (Plate 51.1). A similar vault is located in building 66.

The original range is a timber-framed weather-boarded structure with a later metal clad gabled roof on a brick plinth (Plate 51.2); the extension has rendered walls over a probable steel frame (Plate 3), a rendered brick plinth (Plate 51.4) and an identical roof covering. The vault is flat roofed with rendered walls. A brick wall which surrounds the adjacent building and is abutted by the vault, appears on the 1942 AP and has since been reduced in length.

The original range has since had a small double-doored lean-to attached to the north western end, it is also weather boarded with a brick plinth, but does not appear on the 1946 AP; the 1954 AP has shadows obscuring this area. The extension has a small entrance porch on the southern side which appears to be a later addition.

The windows in the original range are replacement wood-framed casement windows. Blocked windows are visible to the southern ends of the east and west elevations, evident in the weather-boarding and confirmed in the building plan (Plate 51.5). The extension retains its crittal-style metal casement windows (Plate 51.6). All external doors are fairly modern replacements. The windows to the WCs at the rear of the building are set higher than the other windows, the smaller, easternmost window to the separate WC cubicle being a later insertion and does not appear on the building plan. The two windows in the extension adjacent to the vault are a later reconfiguration as they are plain single opening casement windows and the internal brickwork has been altered.

Both ranges are currently painted cream with the standard brown woodwork and plinth common across the site; the weather-boarding shows mid-green paint beneath the peeling cream paint and all windows and doors show the dark green of the former estate colour scheme below the peeling brown paint. It is unclear if the rendering of the later range was previously mid-green.

The building is currently being used to store documents, furniture and theatrical costumes which has obscured the view of some of the internal spaces.

The original range is plaster-boarded to the internal face of the external walls with stud partitions as per the layout of the plan; the exception is the addition of a corridor to the eastern wall adjacent to the extension. The later range has a painted brick skin internally (Plate 51.7) with brick partitions; a small reconfiguration may have occurred in the WC walls.

Suspended ceilings have been installed in both ranges: the original boarded ceiling is visible behind this is the later range (Plate 51.8). The ceiling of the vault consists of ceiling tiles screwed to timber battening which has been fixed to the underside of the concrete roof structure (Plate 51.9).

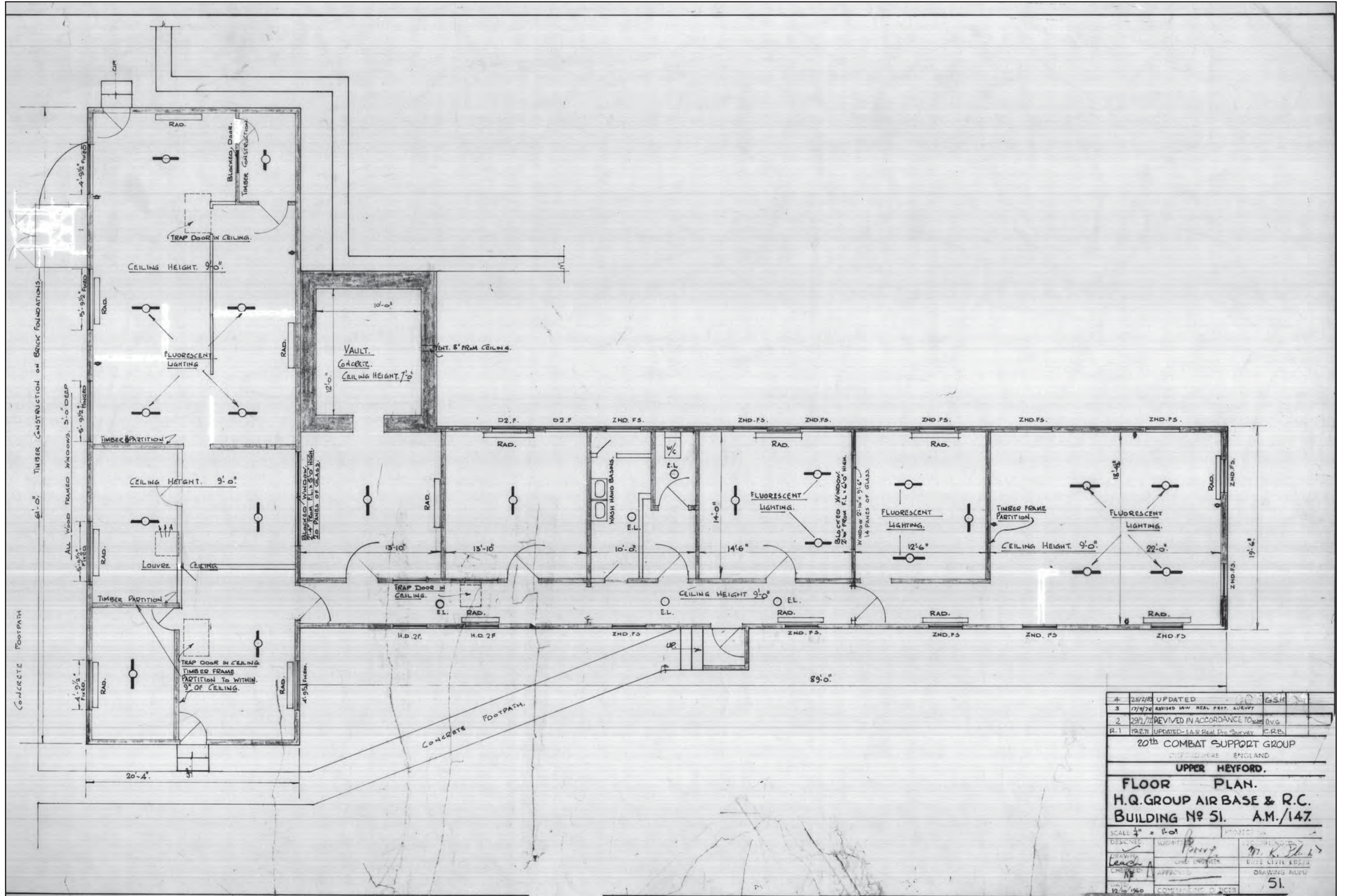
There are two internal windows which were already blocked at the time of the last set of annotations to the plan in 1983: one is between the original range and the adjoining extension wall which has been boarded over, although it is still identifiable by the frame (Plate 51.10). The other is situated between the two easternmost partitioned offices and has been painted over with the frames and panes still visible. Numerous hatches and internal windows are between rooms, although the purpose of each has been lost with the removal of the office furniture and any signage (Plate 51.11).

The internal doors to the original range are largely modern replacements and in the extension are either half glazed doors or with four horizontal panels and are original to the construction (Plates 51.12 & .13). No vault door is marked on the plan and no evidence of a frame remains on the jambs, however, the door to the vault in building 66 is fitted to the outside of the opening which may be reflected in the gap between the skirting board and the opening (Plate 51.14).

The skirting boards to the majority of the building, where visible, as of a plain bull nose profile, but the easternmost partitioned office has a wider, chamfered, skirting to the outer side of the partition (Plate 51.15).

Archive

One floor plan was identified in the Upper Heyford archive.



4	25/2/83	UPDATED	G.S.H.
3	17/9/78	REVISED IAW REAL PROF. SURVEY	
2	29/1/72	REVISED IN ACCORDANCE TO	D.V.G.
R.1	19.2.71	UPDATED IAW Real Pro Survey	C.R.E.
20th COMBAT SUPPORT GROUP			
DISFORD, ENGLAND			
UPPER HEYFORD.			
FLOOR PLAN.			
H.Q. GROUP AIR BASE & R.C.			
BUILDING No 51. A.M./147.			
SCALE	1/4" = 1'-0"	PROJECT NO.	
DESIGNED	SUBMITTED	APPROVED	
DRAWN	DATE	DATE	
CHECKED	APPROVED	DATE	
DATE	12/10/1960	COMMITTEE OFFICER	

Figure 51.1 Floor plan (1961, updated 1983)



Plate 51.1 Concrete vault, looking west



Plate 51.2 West elevation



Plate 51.3 South elevation



Plate 51.4 Construction of the plinth



Plate 51.5 Original range, looking north east



Plate 51.6 North elevation



Plate 51.7 Easternmost room in the later range



Plate 51.8 The original ceiling in the later range



Plate 51.9 The ceiling of the concrete vault



Plate 51.10 The blocked window between the two phases



Plate 51.11 An example of a later internal doorway with window



Plate 51.12 An example of an original internal glazed door



Plate 51.13 An example of an original internal panelled door



Plate 51.14 The entrance to the concrete vault



Plate 51.15 An example of the moulded skirting board

Building 53: Office

NGR: SP 51472 25869

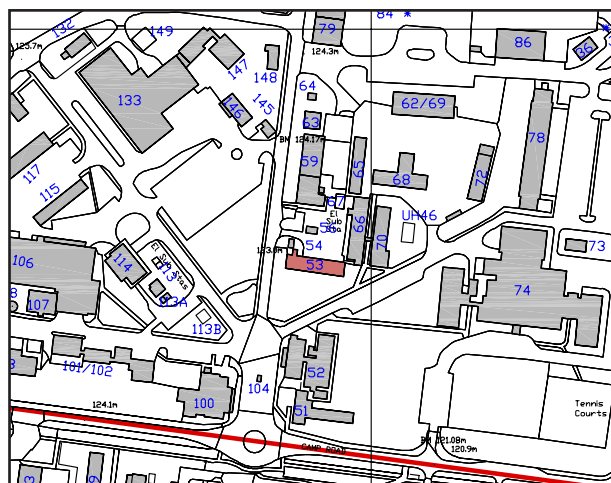
Recording Level: 2

Location

This building is located within Area OA14B, it is situated within the technical area to the north of the entrance of Camp Road and building 52 and to the west of building 74.

History/ Function

The building is visible on an AP of 1954, but is not visible on earlier aerial photography, although buildings can be seen in the vicinity of building 53 in 1937 and 1942 photography. A site plan of 1947 agrees with this analysis, and also shows buildings of a different orientation within the vicinity of building 53.



The only surviving plan of the building is dated July 1990 and details minor alterations to the internal layout.

Description

Building 53 is a single-phase building with later replacement of dilapidated elements and minor internal alterations. It is aligned east - west and is approximately 7.5m by 34m and approximately 4m to the apex, excluding the plinth.

The building is a steel framed structure with aerated concrete block curtain walls. The original internal partitions are also aerated concrete blocks, with the later partitions being plasterboard and stud construction with occasional high level glass lights. The steel members sit on concrete pads and stretcher bond brickwork infills between the pads.

The external face has been rendered with modern stone chip pebbledash with raised areas emphasising the steel frame (Plate 53.1). The plinth, woodwork, rainwater goods and window sills are the standard brown of the estate colour scheme with the former dark green scheme showing where paint has peeled. The main entrance door is relatively new with the majority of the remaining external doors being painted white but showing the former brown and green schemes beneath the peeling paint (Plate 53.2). The sheet metal pitched roof covering is also a later replacement of the original.

The aluminium-framed casement windows are also a later replacement of the original frames, although they appear to repeat the original positions (Plate 53.3). Only four panels do not contain windows: one towards the east end of the north elevation, the two end panels at the west end of each elevation and the panels either side of the door at the east end of the building, but no evidence, physically or on the plan, suggests windows have been blocked.

A small, flat roofed extension is located at the north west of the building with an external door to its east side (Plate 53.4). Despite being windowless it is labelled as an office on the plan.

The sloping ground level necessitates differences in the level of the plinth around the building (Plate 53.5) with a concrete platform and steps at the east end. A horizontal handrail added after painting and the exposure of the unfinished poured face of a portion of the centre of the platform suggest a past reconfiguration of the platform or a change of function (Plate 53.6).

At the time of the survey, the building was occupied by The Millennium Tapestry Company and used as offices and craft storage which has obscured some of the internal spaces.

The finish of the internal face of the external walls and the majority of the internal partitions is painted aerated concrete block (Plate 53.7). The plan of 1990 details some minor alterations to the internal layout, some of which can be seen in scars in the walls indicating former partitions and two blocked doors to the south offices.

The majority of the internal spaces have a suspended ceiling (Plate 53.8), although the roof structure can be seen in the westernmost storage area and several of the offices along the southern wall (Plate 53.9).

Few fixtures and fittings indicate the age of the building; some internal doors retain their original bronze door furniture (Plate 53.10), but most have been replaced with aluminium.



Plate 53.1 West elevation



Plate 53.2 An example of the three colour schemes



Plate 53.3 South elevation



Plate 53.4 North elevation, western end



Plate 53.5 North elevation, eastern end



Plate 53.6 East elevation



Plate 53.7 Interior of the westernmost room



Plate 53.8 The later suspended ceiling and partitions



Plate 53.9 The structural members visible in the southern offices



Plate 53.10 An example of an original internal door

Building 54: Single Storey Hut

NGR: SP 51457 25883

Recording Level: 2

Location

This building is located within Area OA14B, between buildings 53 and 59, and to the west of building 74.

History/ Function

This small, single storey hut is noted as dating from 1940 in site records; the signage states 'Defence Works Services' and the chimney and louvered door indicate that it served as a plant room. The small scale of the building means that it is difficult to identify the building in aerial photography of the period, although buildings are visible in the vicinity of building 54. Architecturally, the structure appears to date from the 1940s/1950s.

The building is now disused and in poor condition.

Description:

This single-phase rectangular hut, (approximately 3m by 4m, by 4m in height) is constructed from rendered concrete blocks on a concrete base with a corrugated asbestos cement pitched roof. The ends of the roof timbers project from the north gable. The walls are painted off-white with brown plinth and woodwork to match the airfield colours; where the paint has peeled, the former two-tone dark green colour scheme is visible. The sole door to the building is in the north elevation and is a louvered replacement dating to circa the 1980s (Plate 54.1); the windows to the east and west elevations are also later replacements, and contain obscure glass in the standard Pilkington Cotswold high privacy pattern type (Plate 54.2). The south elevation contains a chimney consisting of two rendered block stacks, the easternmost of which contains an iron soot door and a fairly recent upward extension, the westernmost contains a high level overflow pipe (Plate 54.3). A redundant footpath and the route of an external cable indicate the potential for a blocked opening or other removed-feature to the west of the chimney.

A black-out switch and a light over the door are to the north elevation and building number, and the aforementioned department signage are to the west elevation as is the electricity supply conduit and accompanying signage.

The interior was not accessible due to the presence of asbestos, but a restricted view via the louvered door showed a single room, open to the roof structure, with painted block walls and a concrete floor.

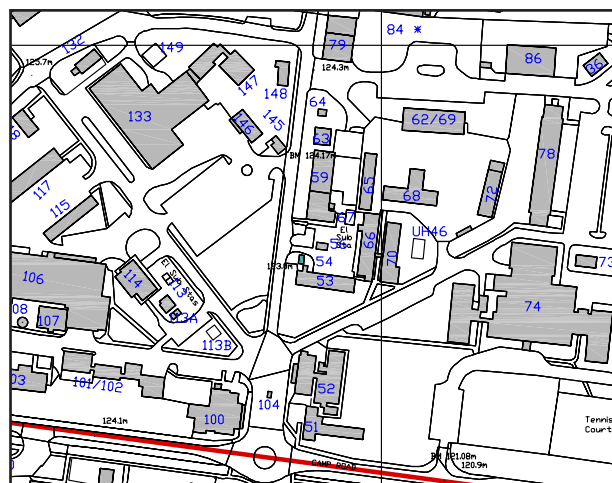




Plate 54.1 North and east elevations



Plate 54.2 West elevation



Plate 54.3 South elevation

Building 56: The Works Squadron

NGR: SP 51472 25889

Recording Level: 1

Location

This building is located within Area OA14B, between buildings 54 and 59 and to the west of the building 74.

History/ Function

This structure was originally one of three structures, but a Nissan Hut has been demolished (Francis 1996). A plan of 1947 shows a small building (no. 110) which was used as a 'Works Squadron', although the rest of the description is difficult to determine. It possibly describes it as a 'Nissen Hut', suggesting the description applies to the Nissen Hut as described above in Paul Francis's report.

Description

The Works Squadron is brick built, which has been painted cream with brown at the base with earlier green paint visible beneath. It is single storey, rectangular in plan with a pitched metal roof and load bearing brickwork. The critical windows have wood sills, which are painted brown with green paint evident beneath.

The north-west (front) elevation has a simple front timber porch with an asphalt roof and double wood panelled doors painted brown. A 'black out' switch and sign survive from the Second World War. At the south-east elevation is a further such switch and a single door, which is a later replacement and painted white. The side (north-east and south-west) elevations have two sets of critical windows each. The north-east elevation has one large window divided into three sections consisting of two rows of four lights. The adjacent (south-east) window is divided into two sections, one with two rows of four lights and the other a sash window with two sections.

The south-west elevation also has the same type of larger window at the north-west end which consists of three sections only. There is a smaller window to the south-east which is of a different type with one half containing a single static window, and the other half consists of a static window with a small hinged window in the top section.

Internally, the building is now empty but retains its primary layout with two sections separated by a brick wall (the larger to the north-west). It has been used in recent times by 'PT Integration Technology', as shown by the modern strip lighting and carpets, but is not now in use.

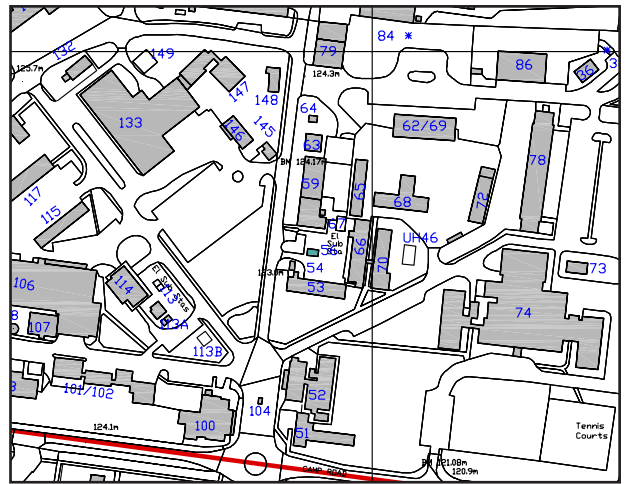




Plate 56.1 Front (north-west) and side elevations

Building 59: Works Service Building

NGR: SP 51473 25929

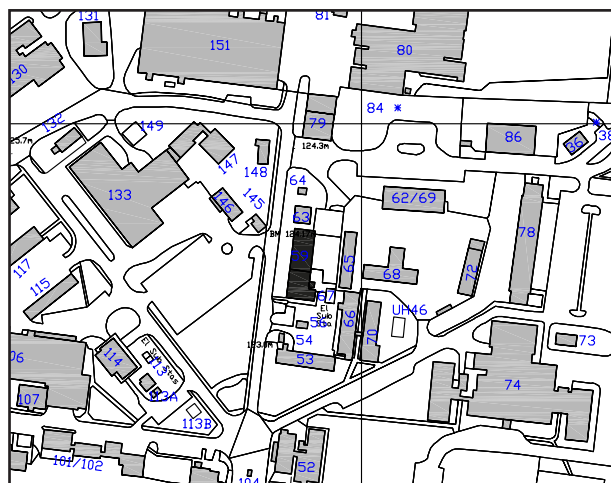
Recording Level: 2

Location

This building is located within Area OA14B, to the north of Camp Road. It is situated within the Trident Area between buildings 53 and 59 and to the west of building 74.

History/ Function

The building is not shown on the 1926 or 1927 Upper Heyford site plans; instead these plans each show the dotted outline of a different proposed building in this general area but on a different footprint. The key shows the dotted outline as 'W&B& Contractors yards (site for)'.



A site plan from 1928 does show a building in this area, apparently with the same footprint as the southern half of the building 59 in the current project. The building, which was numbered 14, was part of a group of structures and the key shows that it was a works contractor's yard. The area is shown with a similar layout and function on the 1931, 1937 and 1939 site plans. Each of these early plans shows the building with a distinctive broadly rectangular form but with two small projections at the north end either side of a central recess. The keys also show the building with two standard RAF type references: 1134/27 and 1183/27.

The building is again shown on the 1945 and 1947 site plans although there have been some alterations to the footprint and a new range has been constructed against the north side of the building. The building number is now 49 and the keys of these plans call the building the 'Works Services Building'.

The Works Services Building formed the offices, stores and yard of the station Clerk of Works who undertook repairs at the base and also monitored larger scale works being undertaken by external contractors.

A floor plan of the building survives from 1985 and this appears to show a large extension to be built on the north side of the original building (Fig.59.1). The plan shows that the building was already being used as a store and the extended building was to remain in this use.

The building has most recently been used by the Millennium Tapestry Company, prior to them moving to building 53.

Description

Exterior

Building 59 divides into two clearly distinct sections: at the southern end is the original building, constructed in 1927, and to the north of this is a larger extension, probably constructed in the 1980s.

The original 1927 building is a single storey structure, constructed from stretcher bond brick which is painted a cream colour above a brown painted 'plinth' to the walls. There is a slate covered roof which is hipped to the west side and two matching gables to the east side. Thus the roof has a U-shaped plan and there are long roof lights to the four main slopes. The windows are largely primary metal framed (painted brown) with concrete lintels and sills.

To the *south elevation* (Plate 59.2) there are four primary windows and evidence of a blocked doorway towards the eastern end of the elevation which the 1985 plan shows was open at this date. Two of the windows are large with transom and mullion while the other two are smaller.

The *west elevation* (Plate 59.1) has two large primary windows with transoms and mullions, an existing doorway towards the south and evidence of a blocked doorway further north. It is also interesting to note a boot scraper next to the southern doorway and a 1927 date stone close to the centre of the elevation.

The *east elevation* (Plate 59.4) forms the rear of the building and includes two brick gables although these are now largely obscured by two small secondary lean-to projections. A paint store, which is shown on the 1985 plan and to which no access was possible, covers the lower part of the southern gable while a bike shed (post 1985) covers the lower part of the northern gable.

The north elevation of the original building is obscured by the main, large secondary extension which is clad in vertical panels and which incorporates later 20th-century metal framed windows. This extension has a gabled roof, clad in corrugated sheeting, and two large double doors to the east elevation. There is a single central doorway in the north elevation of this extension.

Interior

Although the interior of the primary 1927 building has seen various changes it is still possible to gain a good understanding of the original layout of the building. It is clear that the building comprised a large, open plan area to the east (c.12 m x 7 m) over half the footprint of the building) which would have provided storage space, and a series of smaller rooms to the west. These smaller rooms would have provided WCs and administration space as well as offices for both the clerk of works and station engineer. The relatively large storage area to the east has now been reduced in size by the creation of an office in the southern third with suspended ceiling, shelves and carpet but it is clear that this was formerly part of the larger store. The existing store room is open to the roof trusses and illuminated by long roof lights (Plates 59.9-11). The room has painted brick walls (English bond) and although it appears that there was originally only a single doorway in the west wall there are now two with a larger doorway having been created towards the north end of the wall.

The M-profile roof is supported by a pair of aligned, north-to-south trusses, with an I-section post at the valley between them. Each truss is typical of the 1920s constructed from light-weight steel and each member formed from bolted L-section members.

There are three softwood purlins to each slope as well as a thin ridge piece and the underside of the slope is clad in vertical boards which run over the purlins. The floor in this roof is lino over a concrete slab.

The western part of this building is divided into three main rooms and some smaller spaces created off these. The southern third includes a ladies WC at the south-west corner, a small office immediately to the east of this and an east-to-west corridor linking the spaces. The central third is a broadly square plan room which is created by a modern wall at the north end post-dating the 1985 map. In 1985 this area was a single larger space which extended north to the end of the 1927 building although this was not the primary arrangement. There are surviving stubs in the side walls from a former east-to-west cross wall on a more southerly alignment than the current modern wall. The original cross wall would have been immediately to the south of a doorway in the west elevation while the modern cross wall is immediately to the north of the former (blocked) doorway.

The relatively featureless secondary extension is essentially single phased with concrete block internal walls, concrete floor and an open portal frame roof (Pl. 14-15). The 1985 plan shows several internal walls which are no longer in-situ but the imprint of them is visible in the floor. There are five shallow concrete portal frames supporting the roof with the shallow-arch rafters fixed to the heads of the posts. At the eaves there is a concrete plate and to each slope there are four galvanised metal purlins.

Conclusion

Building 59 was constructed in 1927 as part of a works service yard and although it has been extended, and the complex of which it was part much altered, the core building survives intact with relatively few significant changes. The building comprised a relatively large store in the east half and smaller offices or ancillary rooms to the west half. The store is open to the ceiling and similar in character to numerous other stores at airfields from this period. There are well preserved examples of this standard type of building at RAF Bicester and RAF Duxford.

Archive

One floor plan survives within the Upper Heyford archives.

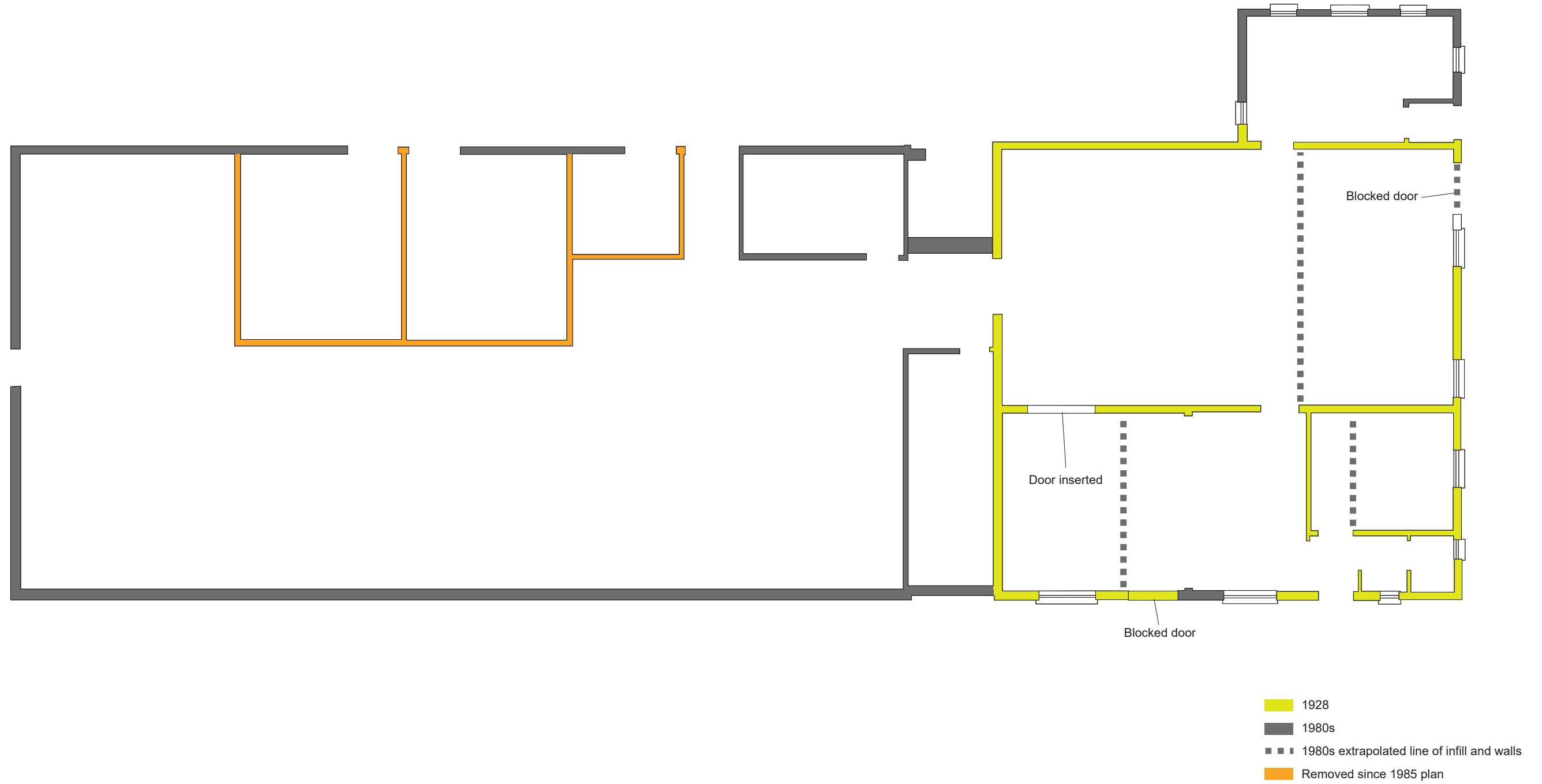


Figure 59.1: Phased floor plan (1985)



Plate 59.1 West side of building



Plate 59.2 South side of building 59



Plate 59.3 South-east corner of building 59



Plate 59.4 East side of building 59



Plate 59.5 Doors in east side of building



Plate 59.6 Central part of west wall



Plate 59.7 West side of northern extension



Plate 59.8 North extension viewed from north-east



Plate 59.9 Interior of primary building



Plate 59.10 Interior of primary building



Plate 59.11 Roof of primary building



Plate 59.12 Typical room in primary building



Plate 59.13 Refurbished room in primary building



Plate 59.14 Northern extension



Plate 59.15 Northern extension

Building 62/69: Workshops (Electrical)

NGR: SP 51531 25962

Recording Level: 1

Location

This building is located within Area OA14B, within the trident area and to the west of buildings 77 and 77.

History/ Function

The building dates from 1981 as the 20th Civil Engineering Squadron's workshop.

Description:

This structure is rectangular in plan, constructed from red brick in stretcher bond with internal block work walls (Plate 62/69.1).

It has a pitched metal roof with six protruding roof lights to the south, and one to the north. It is single phase with large rectangular or square metal frame windows painted brown. The numerous windows would have provided a light environment to work on electrical/ maintenance issues.

There is a wire fence extending from the two end elevations, separating the area surrounding the building in half. There is a car park to the front (south) of the buildings, and this building is grouped with other maintenance structures surrounding the car park. Immediately to the front of the building are car-parking spaces with demarcations such as: *'Reserved for Shift Electrician'*.

The south (front) elevation has a central area distinguished by white painted metal cladding above two double timber doors. These are separated by nine windows, and there are a further four windows to the east of the east door. Attached to the metal cladding is a sign stating *'20 C.E.S - MOD/ B.C.E & M.E/ Workshops/ Bldg 62'*, and a emblem with the words: *'Proud/ Professional/ Positive/ 20th Civil Engineering Squadron'*. Next to the west double door is a brown military sign and a bell stating *'Please Ring'*. Two single windows (also rectangular) are situated immediately adjacent to the double doors, and there are two single timber brown doors at the west end. A row of dark brown footers above the door and window openings provide some architectural detail. There are a further three rectangular lights at the east end of the elevation, with frosted glass indicating an internal sanitary area.

The west elevation has a two-light window at the south end, there is a petrol pump just to the south of the window. The north (rear) elevation faces the road and has four sets of square windows in the west half. At the east end are two sets of square windows, one with two rows of four windows and one with two rows of three windows. The windows all have a row of dark brown footers above and below the openings, as described on the west end of the front elevation. There is no point of access from the road. Central heating pipes run to the front of the building which connect up to the Central Heating Station (Building 146).

The east elevation has two sets of windows with two rows of four lights, of the same type as the front elevation. There is a double timber brown door giving access to the PSA plant area with clay tile vents above.

The building continues in use by the Heyford Park maintenance team. Internally, it is divided up by concrete block walls into storage and work/ rest areas. There is a long spinal corridor to the front of the building from which rooms are accessed. It has a concrete floor and strip lighting overhead. There is little sign of its former military use, other than some brown military signs.

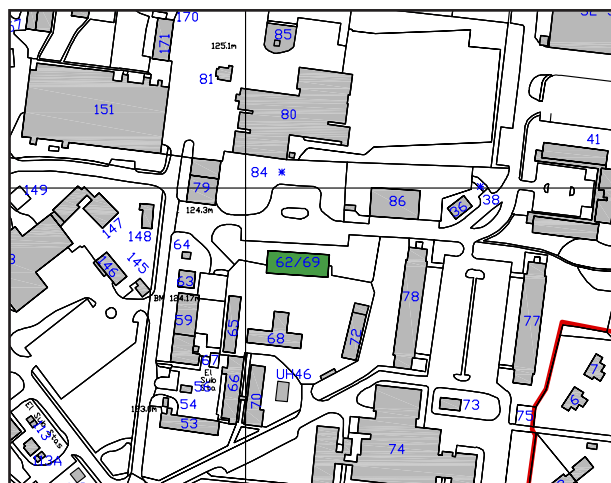




Plate 62/69.1 Front (south) elevation

Building 63: Water Tower

NGR: SP 51474 25950

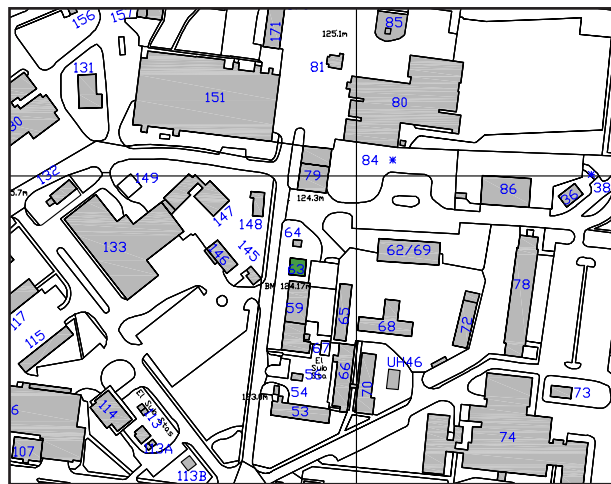
Recording Level: 1

Location

This building is located within Area OA14B, directly to the north of building 59.

History/ Function

Site records show that the building dates from 1952. It is not possible to identify the building on a 1954 AP, but a plan of 1945 shows building 108 in the location of the water tower. The description is difficult to read on the plan of 1947, although it is possible to decipher the word 'water'. It is therefore possible that the water tower dates from at least 1947.



Description:

The water tower has a very visible presence on the landscape, its functional form enhances the military character of the site. It is one of three within the airbase (with buildings UH74 and 291) (Plate 63.1).

The tank is supported on a metal frame, the feet to which are set on concrete pads forming three rows of three pads. The frame is bolted together and holds three metal girders on which the tank sits.

A ladder extends the height of the tower on the west elevation fronting the road, providing access to the large square tank at the top. The steps also meet a platform just below the height to of the tank. This platform then projects to the east with railings running along each side. From here, the steps extend up the side of the tank on the east face providing access to both sides. On top of the tank, railings are evident in the central area. Two main pipes extend from the water tank to the ground. The water tower is painted brown (now peeling).

Further description is provided within the entry for building UH74 which is an identical water tower.



Plate 63.1 View of east and south elevations

Building 64: Store

NGR: SP 51472 25974

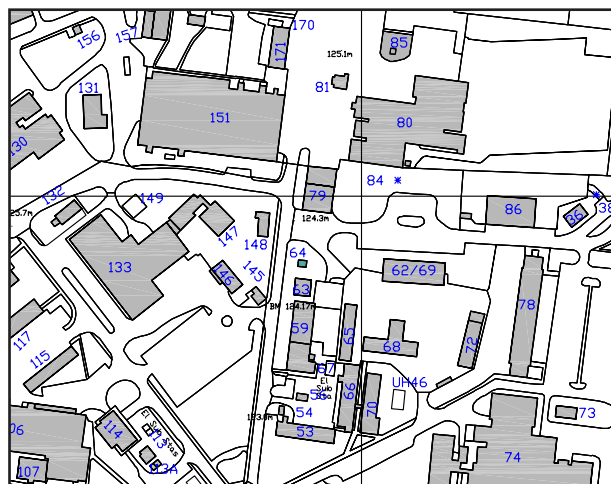
Recording Level: 2

Location

This building is located within Area OA14B, in close proximity to the water tower (building 63).

History/ Function

Building 64 dates from the 1940s and is thought to have been used for storage or as a workshop. It is not possible to identify the structure in an AP of 1942 and 1954 because of foliage in the locality of the building. A plan dated 1947 identifies the building as number 109 'Store (Petrol)'.



Description:

This simple red brick structure is single storey constructed in stretcher bond, measuring 4m by 3.3m, with a non-extant roof (Plate 64.1 and .2) The front (east) elevation has large double timber doors (painted brown and green), which is accessed from a path with joins the road. Otherwise the structure has no features of interest.

It was not possible to gain access, however a ladder was put up against the wall to gain an internal view of the space (Plate 64.3). This showed largely empty metal shelves, vegetation and leaves due to the removed roof.



Plate 64.1 Front (north) elevation



Plate 64.2 Rear elevation



Plate 64.3 Internal view of store

Building 65: Civil Engineering Ops Office

NGR: SP 51497 25926

Recording Level: 2

Location

This building is located within Area OA14A, it is located within the Trident area between buildings 59 and 68.

History/ Function

Building 65 is not shown on any of the early airfield plans up to and including that of 1947. Each of these plans shows the area just to the east of the Works Service Yard as open ground.

There is a rectangular plan building shown on an aerial photograph from 1954 with a similar footprint to that of the building 65 in the current project but evidence suggests that the building may be a modern reconstruction.



A plan survives from 1965 showing the internal layout of the building but providing little information on the use of the structure. The plan does state that the building had Butler Skin construction although it is uncertain what this was.

Plans from 1981 and 1982 show the building with a similar layout as in 1965 and the plan provide further information regarding the use of the building at this time. They show that time the building was then the 'Civil Engineering Operations Office' and that the interior was divided into six main spaces:

At the south end was the appliance store,
to the north of the appliance store was a 'production co-ordination' area with desks and a customer counter
at the centre of the building was a Readiness and Logistics area (office space)
to the north of this was the OIC/NCOIC office
towards the north was the BRAAT storage/ issue area
at the north end was the CW Ensemble Storage/ issue area.

There is also an plan from 1989 which shows the outline of rooms but does not show the use of the building or the use of any of the individual spaces. It is also uncertain whether this was a proposal drawing that was not carried out but the layout matches neither that on the plans from 1981-2 or the current (final) plan of the structure.

Description

Exterior

Building 65 is a single storied, rectangular plan building (c.30 m x 6 m), the walls and roof of which are entirely clad in overlapping, vertical panel sheets suggestive of a later 20th-century date (probably 1980s or later) (Plate 65.1). The cladding is painted a dark army green colour and the building is set on a brown concrete base or plinth which appears to be older than the cladding. Some flecks of the brown paint have been lost to reveal an older green surface to the concrete base.

It may be significant to note that the cladding overhangs the concrete base by c.15 cm suggesting that the cladding was probably added to the outer shell of an existing structure, thereby stepping the footprint of the building out slightly. It must also be significant to note that the arrangement of windows in the external shell broadly matches the layout of windows on the plans from 1965 and the early 1980s.

The east elevation is the principal elevation with five modern varnished timber casement windows and three doors reached by simple sets of concrete steps (Plate 65.2,.3 and .4). Towards the centre of the elevation there is a large concrete drum/pipe which has been reused for planting. The west elevation is to the rear and has five modern windows, one of which is longer than the others (Plate 65.5).

The north elevation is gabled and is relatively featureless other than a door and modern window while the south elevation is similarly plain other than a single modern window (Plate 65.5). Each gable end has a floodlight and blackout switch.

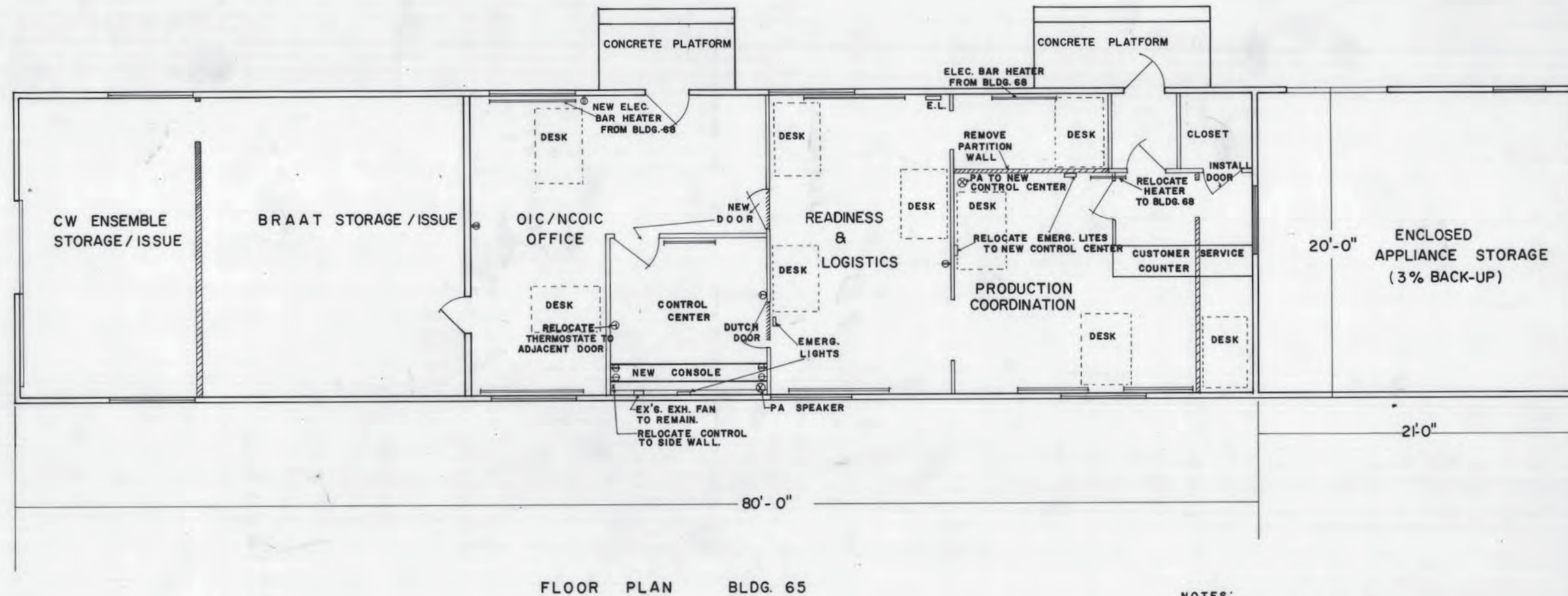
Interior

Internally the building has been substantially altered in the late 20th century. It is carpeted throughout and has a suspended ceiling with integrated lighting (Plate 65.8). A missing ceiling panel reveals a second boarded ceiling above this but unfortunately no access was possible to the roof space above. The internal partitions, doors, windows and other features are all modern (Plate 65.9).

At the south-eastern corner of the building is a WC and to the west of this is a small office type kitchen. The rest of the building is divided by plasterboard partitions into c.10 plain offices with shelves and modern heaters/ fittings etc.

Archive

Four plans were identified in the Upper Heyford archives.



FLOOR PLAN BLDG. 65

LEGEND

⊕	NEW OUTLETS	240 V	DUPLEX
⊖	" "	110 V	"
	TO BE REMOVE		

NOTES:

1. PATCH WALLS & CEILING THROUGHOUT
2. PAINT " " " "
3. TELEPHONE REQ'T:
 - a. KEYLAMP SYSTEM AT EACH DESK (9ea) & CONTROL CONSOLE WITH:
1-A-XA, 1-A-XC, & 2-C.
 - b. INTERCOM SYSTEM TO INCLUDE:
 1. OIC/OPS
 2. NCOIC/OPS
 3. R & L
 4. MAT. CONT.
 5. ALARM MAINT.
 6. BARRIER "
 7. HVY. EQUIP

0020576

	SYM	NOMENCLATURE	CODE IDENT	IDENTIFYING NO.	SPECIFICATION	MATERIAL	UNIT WT.	ZONE	FIND NO.
	QTY REQD.	LIST OF MATERIALS							
		UNLESS OTHERWISE SPECIFIED DIMENSIONS ARE IN INCHES	DRAFTSMAN L. J. TULLY	DATE 21-9-81	U.S. AIR FORCE				
		TOLERANCES ON	CHECKER						
		FRACTIONS DECIMALS ANGLES			TITLE				
		+ .XX + - .XXX -	ENGINEER		FL PL BLDG. 65				
		MATERIAL	A.F. PROJ. ENGR.						
			CONTRACT NUMBER						
			A F DESIGN ACTIVITY AUTHENTICATION	SIZE A F F	BLDG # 65 DRAWING # 46 SHEET # 2				
				F					
				SCALE					
	NEXT ASSY	USED ON	NEXT ASSY	FINAL ASSY					
	APPLICATION		QTY REQD.						

Figure 65.1 Floor plan (1985)



Plate 65.1 Northern end of building



Plate 65.2 East elevation



Plate 65.3 Detail of east elevations



Plate 65.4 Door in east elevation



Plate 65.5 Southern elevation



Plate 65.6 Western elevation



Plate 65.7 Shelving in small room



Plate 65.8 Typical room



Plate 65.9 Corridor



Plate 65.10 Door in room

Building 66: Offices

NGR: SP 51498 25890

Recording Level: 2

Location

This building is located within Area OA14B, it is situated within the trident area to the west of building 74.

History/ Function

Building 66 is first visible on an AP of 1942. A building is shown in the location of Building 66 in historic plans, but it is not possible to decipher from the written description the function of these buildings.

The 1942 AP shows the roof of the building to be camouflaged; this paintwork was not visible in the 1954 AP.

A plan of the earlier range survives in the form of a plan of mechanical alterations to accommodate the new building, but only detail drawings of the new range survive rather than plans or elevations.

Description

Building 66 comprises two phases: the single-storey northern range is the earlier and the two-storey southern range replaced the southern half of the older building in 1984. A vault has been added to the northern end of the west elevation.

The earlier building has blockwork walls finished in cream-painted thin-coat render with a bellcast near the base of the wall to deflect rainwater away from the two lower courses of blockwork (Plate 66.1). The pitched roof is re-covered in bituminous felt. The external door in the north elevation is set back in a small open porchway (Plate 66.2).

The vault is brick-built with the same thin-coat render and bellcast as the adjoining earlier range (Plate 3). The vault has been extended to the north with the addition of a blockwork boiler house; the flat felt-covered roof extends over both structures. A similar vault was part of Building 51.

The plinth, window frames, louvre door to the boiler room and other woodwork are painted with the standard estate brown with some elements displaying the former dark green estate colour where the paint has peeled. The access doors are painted white.

The later range is a brick outer skin and block inner skinned two-storey building with a metal clad pitched roof. The building plans of 1984 indicate that it replaced the southern portion of the existing building. At this point, an enclosed walkway consisting of a flat roofed timber framed glazed structure on a brick base with double doors to either side was constructed between the new range and the adjacent Building 70 (Plate 66.4).

The early range retains the majority of its Crittall-style metal framed casement windows with two later wooden replacements to much the same design, one to the ladies WC, painted black externally, and the office next to the WCs, painted white externally (Plate 66.5). The north western office window has been covered over externally, the north eastern office windows have been covered over internally, all of which retain the window frame.

The later range has its original double glazed windows in brown powder coated aluminium frames. A window at mid-storey height at the south end of the east elevation indicates the location of the stairs at the far end of the building (Plate 66.6).

At the time of the survey, the building was in use as offices and laboratories for Transense Technologies which prevented access to some of the internal spaces.

The later range is used as mainly as offices with some light workshops on the ground floor, the walls and ceilings are plastered and painted and the floors are carpeted (Plates 66.7 & .8). The décor is plain with white doors and woodwork and magnolia walls, however, the metalwork and skirting of the staircase, of which architect's drawings survive, is painted with the brown gloss used on external areas of the estate (Plate 66.9). The two-storey block is as-built with the exception of one blocked doorway on the first floor between the central corridor and an office where the opening has been boarded, but the architrave remains (Plate 66.10).

Two steps in the central corridor which runs through both ranges indicates the join between the buildings.



The earlier range has been redecorated and the corridor and offices carpeted to match the later extension, although the walls are unplastered painted blockwork (Plate 66.11); a cornice has been added in all offices, workshops and the corridor to neaten the appearance of the join between the block wall and plastered ceiling (Plates 66.12 & .13). The WCs are fully tiled to the floor and walls.

Changes to the layout of the earlier range are visible in scars to the walls and ceilings where partitions have been removed and blocked doors have been plastered over, contrasting with the surrounding exposed blockwork (Plate 66.14).

The vault is accessed via the laboratory and is used for storage. The inner face of the 45cm thick walls is painted brick and the concrete floor is painted; the poured concrete roof structure is visible, the imprints from the timber boards of the shuttering are prominent (Plate 66.15). The internal door to the vault is a Chubb 'fire resisting' strongroom door fitted to the office-side of the opening (Plate 66.16).

Archive

Ten plans were identified within the Upper Heyford archives.



Plate 66.1 East elevation, northern end



Plate 66.2 Northern elevation



Plate 66.3 Concrete vault and boiler room



Plate 66.4 The enclosed walkway between the buildings, looking south



Plate 66.5 The two storey extension, looking south



Plate 66.6 East elevation obscured by building 70



Plate 66.7 An example of an office in the later range



Plate 66.8 The workshop in the later range



Plate 66.9 The staircase in the later range



Plate 66.10 The ground floor corridor in the later range



Plate 66.11 The corridor in the earlier range



Plate 66.12 An example of an office in the earlier range



Plate 66.13 The workshop in the earlier range



Plate 66.14 An example of a blocked door in the earlier range

Building 67: Substation

NGR: SP 51483 25903

Recording Level: 1

Location

This building is located within Area O14B, between buildings 59, 65 and 66.

History/ Function

This substation and enclosure appear relatively modern and probably date from the 1980s.

Description

Very simple enclosure around electrical substation plant. Enclosure formed from chain-link fencing and supported by concrete posts at each corner with diagonal bracing.

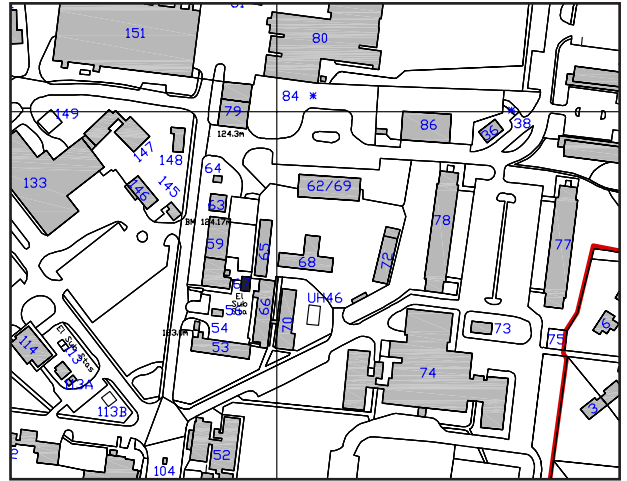


Plate 67.1 Sub-station looking north



Plate 66.15 The interior of the concrete vault

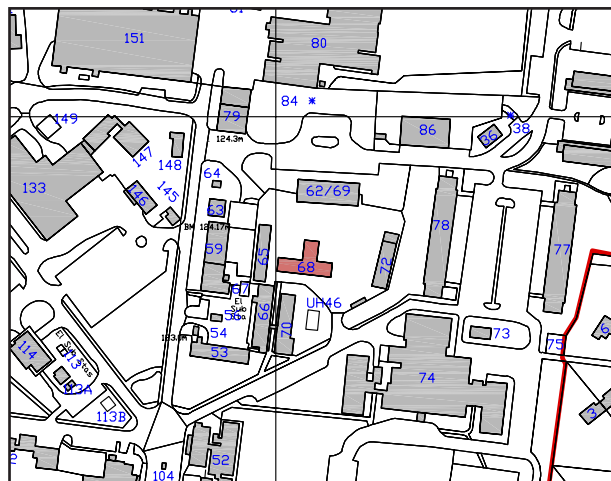


Plate 66.16 The door to the concrete vault

NGR: SP 51523 25920
Recording Level: 2

This building is located within Area O14B, between building 65 to the west and 72 to the east.

Site records show that building 68 dates from 1939, it is not however shown on the 1947 plan. Aerial photographs of the period show a building in the location of building 68 in 1954 orientated east to west, although the projection to the north is not evident.



This single storey office building has been altered in both external finishing and internal layout on several occasions.

The southernmost range measures approximately 30.3m by 7.4m and the northernmost range 11m by 7.7m; the building height at the apex is 4.5m.

An examination of the 1959 building plan, the earliest available, indicates that although the drawing is titled 'as built', the northernmost projection is in fact an extension shown by the difference in thickness of the walls and the position of the joins in relation to the existing doors and windows (Fig.68.1). By the same principle, it may also suggest that the western range also post-dates the easternmost building. By the time of the 1992 plan, however, the external walls are drawn identically. Of the surviving drawings, the only change to the footprint is the removal before 1992 of a small extension to the east of centre of the south elevation, marked 'compressor' (Fig.68.2).

By the time of the 1992 plan, the external and internal windows had been rationalised to reflect the extension and the internal partitions. The plan, however, does not reflect the current internal layout, indicating that the building has since undergone another scheme of alteration or was not built as planned. The probability of further alteration is demonstrated by the windows and door of the north elevation of the extension: the door and easternmost window are not on the 1992 plan, yet in reality they are contemporary with the westernmost window and the cladding is unaltered (Plate 68.2).

One window in the eastern elevation of the northern extension is shorter than the other windows. The level of the top of the window is similar to the doors, although the physical evidence for alteration is obscured by external cladding and internal plaster, the 1959 plan shows a shutter-type door accessing the workshop, similar to that of the workshop in the eastern end of the south range.

The interior is ostensibly fairly modern. The suspended ceiling, partition walls and internal doors in the majority of the building date to circa the 1990s. As with the external cladding, the majority of the evidence of original material and alterations has been obscured by modern plaster and plasterboard (Plate 3).

The floors are concrete, with carpet or vinyl remaining in most of the office areas.

The small southern extension with the double doors has painted brickwork to the interior (Plate 68.4), while the internal walls to the southern end of the north range are of painted aerated concrete block. All other wall finishes are plaster. The room to the immediate west of the original eastern unit has timber panels to dado level with plaster above, albeit with several gaps indicating potential former openings or fixtures (Plate 68.5).

No plans survive prior to 1959, although map evidence shows at least part of the southern range of the building dates to before 1954.

The building plan of 1959 shows the building on its current footprint, although it appears to have been extended to the west

and to the north. This plan also shows that the building was divided into three self contained units: the seemingly original eastern unit, the small single roomed western unit, albeit with some of the new internal space allocated to the 'original' unit, and the northern unit.

The small western unit is not annotated on the 1959 plan, although by 1981 it is a 'Sign/Glass Shop' and by 1992 it has been incorporated into the eastern unit creating a full southern range of rooms.

The largest, eastern range is likely to be the original part of the building, taking the evidence of the 1959 plan into account. The 1981 plan titles it 'Maintenance Bay' and this appears to be the likely usage in 1959 as there is a compressor to the south of the external wall and a shutter-type door to the eastern wall. Work benches with storage beneath are provided to most walls. By 1981, a small strip along the northern wall has been partitioned for use by the northern unit. By 1992 the strip has been reclaimed and the shutter, compressor and workbenches have been removed and the space partitioned into several offices.

The northern extension was built between 1954 and 1959 and also has a shutter-type door to the east wall, smaller than that of the eastern unit, although this has been replaced with double doors by 1981. The 1981 plan does not label the usage of the unit, although the Harris heater survives in the north eastern corner and a Customer Service Area has been partitioned-off in the north western corner. By 1992 this space had been partitioned into offices and was still self-contained.

At some point after 1992, the walls and roof were clad with metal sheeting and the windows and doors replaced.

Archive

Three plans were identified in the Upper Heyford archives.



Plate 68.1 East and north elevations, looking south west



Plate 68.2 South elevation, western end



Plate 68.3 An example of the modern fittings to the interior



Plate 68.4 Interior of the small southern extension



Plate 68.5 An example of a room in the western rang

Building 70: 20th CES Conference Room

NGR: SP 51508 25892

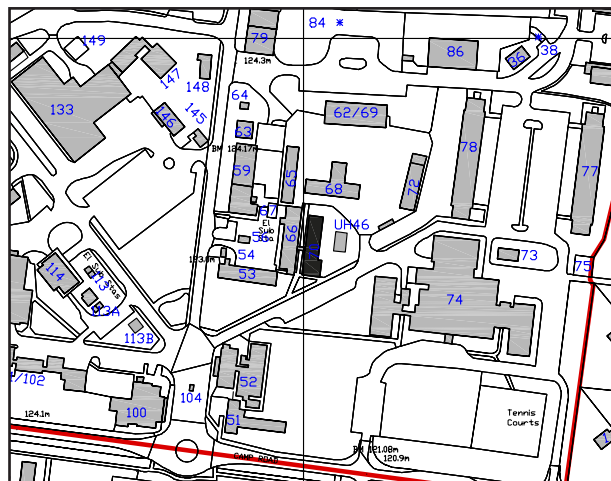
Recording Level: 1

Location

This building is located within Area OA14B, to the north-west of building 74.

History/ Function

The former '20th CES Conference Room' dates from 1972. A building is shown in the location of building 70 on aerial photography, but it is thought that the extant building was built in the footprint of the early building.



Description:

Building 70 is a prefab structure roughly rectangular in plan connected to Building 66 via a short link-through passage. The former paint scheme was a uniform brown and cream including brown timber cladding and windows with sections of cream coloured timber below the windows. The numerous timber windows are split in half each containing a roughly square larger section and a smaller rectangular section. The building now survives in poor condition with rotting/ fallen timber and very poor internal condition.

The south (front) elevation has two wood-panelled doors accessed via concrete steps, as the building is set on a platform which is not visible as the base of the structure is surrounded by timber cladding. The west door has timber railings and a small porch with a flat ashfelt roof.

There are eleven windows along the east elevation and eight along the west in total. At the south end of the west elevation is a wood panelled section which is presumably the sanitary area, at the north end there is a wood panelled door with a sign above stating 'Contract and ? Management'.

Internally, carpets and lights are visible although in very poor condition.

Archive

One plan was identified in the Upper Heyford archive.



Plate 70.1 Front (south) and side elevations

Building 72: Storage Sheds

NGR: SP 51565 25922

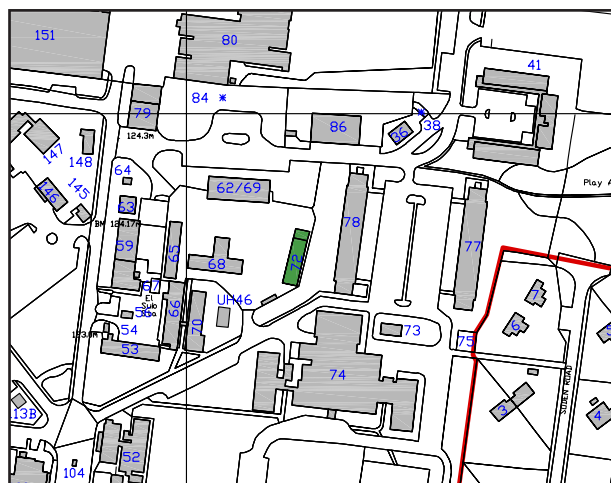
Recording Level: 2

Location

This building is situated within Area OA14B to the north of Camp Road, it is located within the yard area of building 62/69, and immediately to the north of building 74 (the Officer's Mess).

History/ Function

Building 72 is not shown on any of the early airfield plans up to and including that of 1947 but it is shown on a 1954 aerial photograph.



A proposal drawing (plan and elevation) survives from 1952 outlining a new 'Heavy Equipment and Lumber Storage Shed for Air Installations' (Fig. 72.1). This is labelled as building No.72 and has a broadly similar form to the building 72 in the current project, as well as being on a similar footprint, but there are various significant differences between the building on the drawing and the extant structure.

The examination of the building in the current project does not suggest that the differences are the result of alterations following construction and it seems far more likely that as this was just a proposed drawing prior to construction.

The drawing does give a good indication of how the building was to be used with large open plan areas for lumber storage to the south and vehicle storage to the north and offices beyond this. The building shown is open faced to the west (other than the rooms at the north end), the same as the extant structure but it was proposed to be c.9 m longer.

As the proposal drawing is dated November 1952, and there is an aerial photograph confirming that the building had been built by 1954, it is likely that the main construction of the building took place in 1953.

The building is now largely empty but it is still used for some ephemeral storage (ladders, plywood, trailers, skip, pallets, sand etc).

Description

Exterior

The storage shed is a single storey, rectangular plan (29 by 8 m) building with a gabled roof clad in corrugated metal (probably aluminium) sheeting and incorporating projecting barge boards (Plate 72.1 - .4). The building divides functionally into two distinct sections: by far the largest area is to the south and comprises open storage space while at the northern end there is a narrow, two storey bay which housed individual rooms (offices etc) (Plate 72.5 and .6).

The south and east walls are relatively featureless and clad in plain corrugated sheeting and the north elevation also has a similar cladding but this elevation also incorporates four six-light windows to illuminate the offices (Plate 72.7 and .8). The windows are metal framed and there are two at ground floor and two at first floor level. This end of the building is now partly covered by a later, lower structure constructed c.0.5 m away from the main building 72. The wall cladding panels are painted a cream colour, with a brown plinth, but this is peeling off in many places to reveal an earlier moss green colour beneath.

The west side of the building, facing the main works yard, is essentially open faced to allow access into the storage bays and one of the visually distinctive features of the elevation are a set of triangular shaped pseudo-capitals formed of corrugated panelling at the heads of the posts between some of the open bays. There is also a range of phasing or evidence of alteration visible in the structure (see below).

Bay 1 (northern end of west elevation) – this forms the end of the bay with the enclosed rooms (offices), and is clad in corrugated panels and incorporates two metal framed windows, one at each floor level.

Bay 2 – this is the northernmost bay of the primary storage areas but it has been altered and infilled with secondary corrugated sheeting. Primary corrugated sheeting does survive however at the top of the bay over the former opening;

Bay 3 – this bay is now entirely open, other than simple secondary wooden gates in the lower half, but evidence survives to show that it would formerly have had a corrugated panel or hood over the top, the same as that surviving in bay 4. The horizontal plate immediately below the eaves has also been removed from this bay (the only bay where this is the case) to give extra headroom.

Bay 4 – this bay survives close to its original form with a corrugated panel hood over the large opening beneath. This panel over the top of the opening is slightly lower than those over bays 6-8 but it illustrates the height of the panels which would have been over all the openings in Bays 2-5. Bay 4 has a simple secondary set of timber gates.

Bay 5 – this bay is now essentially open other than a simple wire mesh set on a secondary softwood frame. Fragments from a former corrugated panel over the top of the bay which would have been at the same height as that in bay 4 (ie slightly lower than those in Bays 6-8). However at some point this panel was somewhat crudely cut to make it match the slightly higher opening, presumably for larger vehicles.

Bay 6 is also now partially closed by a secondary wire mesh. There is a thin band of corrugated panelling over the top of the bay which slopes down at each end.

Bay 7 – this is similar to Bay 6 as it has the higher corrugated panels and triangular shaped pseudo-capitals, but this bay also has secondary gates instead of the wire mesh found in bay 6.

Bay 8 – (southern end of west elevation) - this bay is partially closed with secondary wire mesh and it has the higher type of corrugated panelling over the opening. There are truncated metal brackets in the north and south posts of this bay which could be from former gates, but their form is more suggestive of former brackets for horizontal rails which would have enclosed the bay.

The end bays of the storage area (bays 2 and 8) are 3m wide and narrower than the bays facing the main storage area (4.04m each).

Interior

As referred to above the interior of building 72 divides into the large storage areas to the south, occupying the main footprint of the building, and the much smaller area in the northernmost bay with separate rooms (offices and administration).

The seven main storage bays are visually a single open space although there is a secondary plastic-coated wire mesh on a softwood stud framework which prevents access along the building and divides bays 2 to 5 from bays 6 to 8 (Plate 72.9).

The structural frame of the building is entirely open in the storage areas with the nine roof trusses supported at each end by a circular section steel post, and between each of these the corrugated cladding is supported by a central softwood post and three horizontal rails (Plate 72.10 to .14). The softwood members are not part of the main structure and are just intended to carry the cladding. It is interesting to note that the horizontal softwood rails extend with a single member between the steel posts and the verticals are shorter members fixed to the horizontals (rather than vice versa). The horizontals are fixed to the main steel posts by small iron brackets.

The building has lateral bracing through thin diagonal, circular section tie-rods in both the walls and roof. The bracing in the walls forms a zig zag pattern along the length of the east wall and it is sandwiched between the softwood members and the corrugated cladding.

The roof comprises nine, east-to-west bolted steel trusses, typical in form for the mid 20th-century although those at the ends of the building are simpler than the main trusses. The seven main trusses are formed from a combination of flat section steels for the central triangle of the truss which would be in tension and I-section members for the other struts which would be in compression. There are steel connecting plates at the main junctions and every other truss has additional deeper braces which extend down well below the tie-beam and connect the main structural posts to the rafters.

There are four softwood purlins to each slope, including a pair that is very close to the ridge, and towards the eaves there is also a longitudinal metal member (L-shaped) similar to a purlin but not in contact with the cladding. This longitudinal member has a series of steel brackets with an empty bolt hole.

The tie-rods in the roof extend diagonally between the east and west walls just below the tie-beam level. The head of every post in the east and west walls connects to two lateral rods, each one mirroring the other and diverging away from the truss. Each rod extends across two bays before reaching the other side of the building.

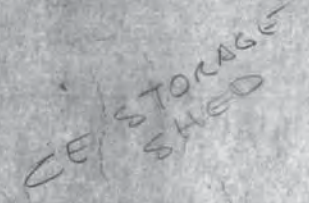
There is a first floor six-light internal window at the north end of the storage area. This wall formerly had a central door at first floor level to allow access from the storage area but this has been crudely blocked and replaced by a new door towards the east end of this wall with a basic flight of softwood steps. It may well be that this set of steps was moved from the previous central location. The two doors in this wall (one at ground floor, one at first floor) are each primary with four horizontal panels.

Conclusion

Building 72 appears to have been constructed in 1953 as a storage shed for lumber and heavy equipment. The current form of the building is broadly similar to its primary form with a simple structural steel frame and the interior arranged with a small set of enclosed offices off a large open-plan storage area. A proposal drawing survives from 1952 suggesting that the building was originally intended to be c.9 m longer than the as-built structure and it seems clear from the current examination that the longer Building 72 was never constructed.

Archive

Fifteen plans were identified in the Upper Heyford archives.



Dep. No. 294 R-225A-67



Plate 72.1 West side of building



Plate 72.2 West side of building



Plate 72.3 Southern end of west side



Plate 72.4 Central part of west side



Plate 72.5 Northern end of building



Plate 72.6 Northern end of building



Plate 72.7 Southern end of building



Plate 72.8 Rear (east) side of building



Plate 72.9 Interior looking north



Plate 72.10 Roof



Plate 72.11 Interior looking west



Plate 72.12 South end of building



Plate 72.13 Roof of building



Plate 72.14 Typical wall bay

Building 79: Garage

NGR: SP 51479 26002

Recording Level: 1

Location

This building is located within Area OA14B, it is situated within the Trident area and immediately to the east of hangar 151.

History/ Function

The former garage dates from 1940, and continues in use as storage. A canopy was constructed at the south of the building in c.1983 (shown in historic plans/ no drawing number). The 1947 plan shows a building numbered 20A, which is described as a four-bay petrol tanker. The building is not shown in the 1937 AP, but is evident in the AP of 1942 with a camouflaged roof.

Description

This single storey (double height) structure is extended to the front (south) with an open ended steel framed canopy (painted red) which is clad in corrugated plastic. The main body of the building, which is the primary 1940s phase, is rectangular in plan and constructed from brick (painted white) with a flat concrete roof.

This primary phase has four large roller doors between brick pillars (painted cream and brown) to the south elevation (Plate 79.1). There is a small entrance door to one of the roller doors providing a fire exit, which is contemporary with the construction of the canopy (as shown by historic plans). On each pillar are chains on pulleys used to open the roller doors, and in total three master electrical switches. To the west are modern electrical switch boxes on a metal girder. A sign states 'Almera' above the doors. The later (probably 1980s) extension provides a semi-enclosed work space which has strip lighting hanging down from the roof. A small white porta-cabin has been put within the area of the extension, which serves as an office

The west and east elevations are painted cream with brown at the base and two drainpipes painted brown. There are central heating pipes leading above ground height from the east elevation. The north elevation faces the airfield and is similar in form to the south elevation, which fronts the technical area of the airbase. It has four roller doors, that are painted brown with single door openings for each which are also corrugated metal. There is also a small wood framed window in the east door. On the most eastern door is a pulley with a chain, there is also an old external light (now not in use).





Plate 79.1 Rear (north) elevation

Building 81: Auto Admin. Maintenance

NGR: SP 51491 26066

Recording Level: 2

Location

This building is located within Area OA14A, situated immediately to the west of hanger 151.

History/ Function

Building number 81 is visible in an AP of 1954, it is not apparent in the 1942 AP or on the site plan of 1947. The building therefore dates from between 1947 and 1954.

Description

Summary

Building 81 is a small and simple single storey structure with gabled roof largely constructed of tall pre-cast concrete panels (2.45 m x 0.62 m x 0.16 m) (Fig. 81.1). It has a roughly square plan c.7.7m² and a later timber-clad addition. The ground on which the building sits slopes slightly down towards the east so it has some footings and a base to ensure a horizontal ground floor inside. These footings are simple concrete structures at all four corners of the building as well as one at either middle point of the north and south façades. The building has two doorways and large windows facing north and south. It is painted with cream colour as well as a thick strip and windows' frames in brown. It looks like the only coat of paint the building has had as it is coming away and showing only bare blocks of concrete behind. The roof is made of corrugated iron sheets.

The internal layout has been only seen through the windows due to asbestos contamination inside so no accurate measured recording has been possible. It is divided into two halves by a partition wall, one of which remains clear whereas the other comprises a corridor and some other smaller premises.

External

The north façade has two windows in the west half and another window and a doorway in the east half (Plate 81.1). Each window has three tall rectangular panes; those at either end being casements. The doorway is the easternmost opening and it is accessible by means of a step due to the ground sloping towards the east. The west façade has a doorway slightly to the south of the mid-point and has no windows (Plate 81.3). A small timber-clad lobby projection (3.45 x 1.3m) overlies the doorway. The upper half of the lobby's door has a square pane with a horizontal casement window on it; the lower half has vertical boards. To the north of this door there is a window currently boarded. This structure is covered by a flat roof with waterproof mesh.

The south façade has two windows in the east half matching those in the north façade. It also has one smaller window in the east end of the west half which has only two tall rectangular, translucent (rather than transparent) panes and only one casement. The rest of the wall is made of the same concrete panels seen elsewhere. Under the window with translucent panes there is a pipe coming out from the wall suggesting that the room inside is likely to be a WC. The east façade is a solid concrete vertical panels with neither doorways no windows. It does not have any other feature.

Internal

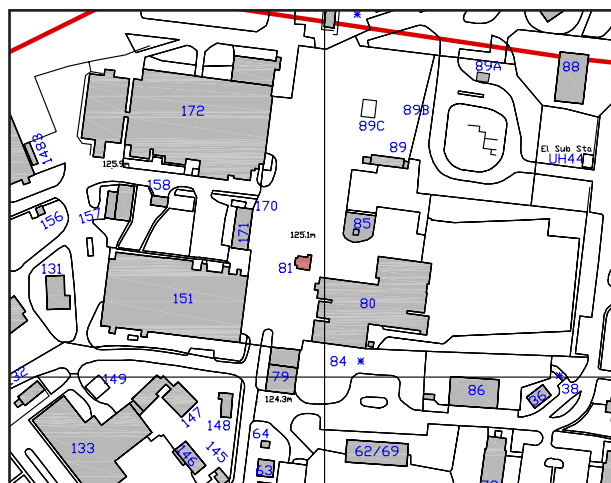
Due to the presence of asbestos access inside the building was restricted. However, some notes and photographs could be taken through windows. It has also been possible to sketch the internal layout of the building.

The building is internally divided in two halves: east and west. The partition walls are likely to have been built with a material lighter and easier to remove than the concrete panels used for the external shell. The eastern half is a clear space with a desk next to the door, in the north end. The west wall has two doorways; one joining this room with the corridor that leads to the doorway in the west façade and the other one to access the probable WC.

The western half of the building has at least two rooms and a corridor. The corridor is off centre (slightly to the south) and runs from the doorway in the west façade to the clear room in the east half. The north room is the largest in this half of the building and the doorway is in its southern wall's eastern end. To the north of the corridor there is at least one room which is likely to be a WC although it can not be confirmed because the doors remain closed and the windows are translucent. There is another door to the east end of the corridor's southern wall which also remains closed but looks like a cupboard.

Archive

One plan was identified in the Upper Heyford archive.



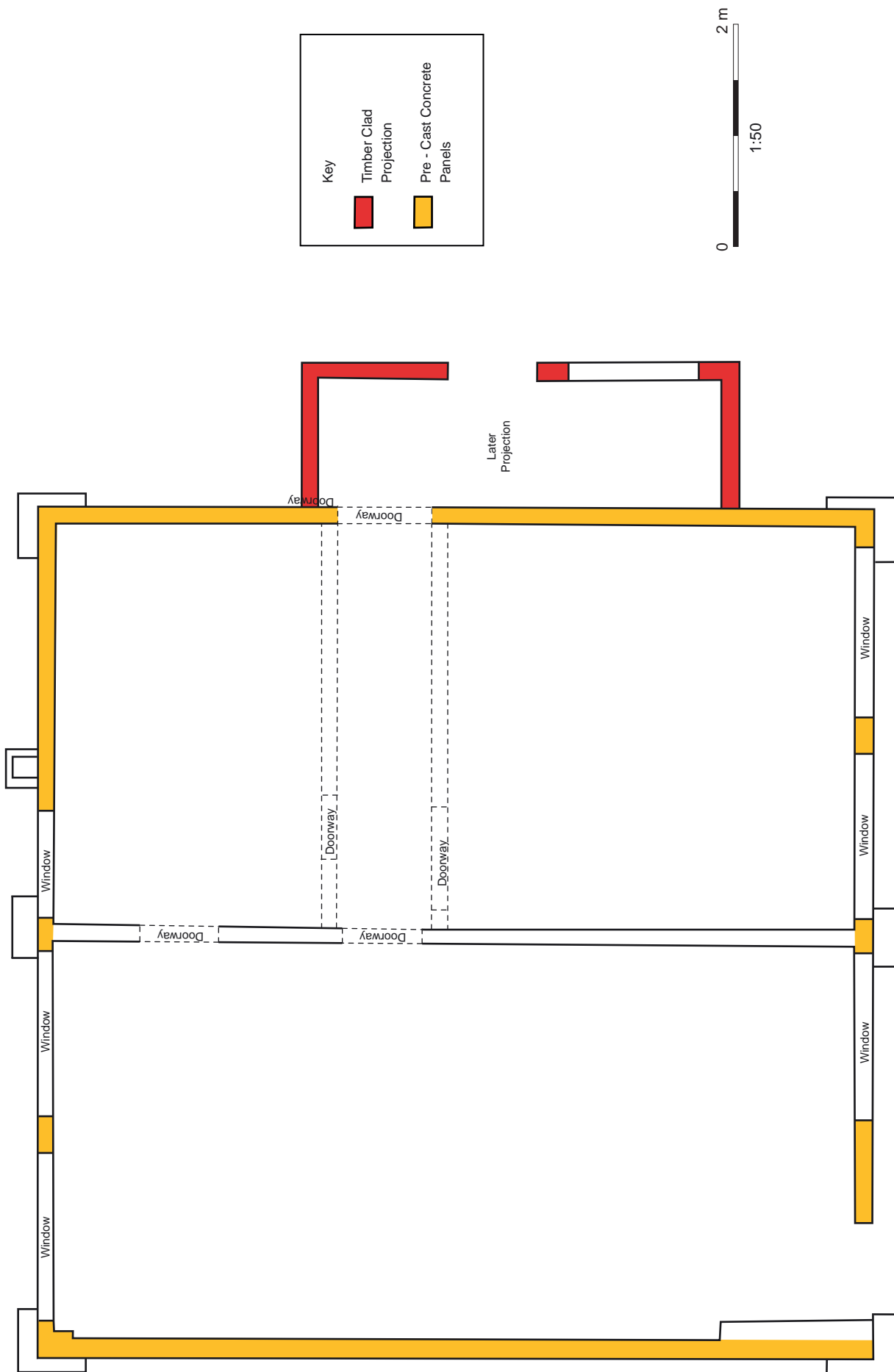


Figure 81.1 Construction plan



Plate 81.1 North elevation



Plate 81.2 West elevation



Plate 81.3 South elevation



Plate 81.4 East elevation



Plate 81.5 Door in west elevation



Plate 81.6 Window in south elevation



Plate 81.7 Window detail



Plate 81.8 Interior view

Building 84: Petrol Kiosk

NGR: SP 51516 26007

Recording Level: 1

Location

This building is located within Area OA14C, the small petrol kiosk is located to the east of building 79 (a garage), off a paved semi-circular entrance from the road.

History/ Function

This small petrol kiosk is understood to date from 1975.

Description:

The petrol kiosk is constructed from painted concrete blocks and has a flat asphalt roof (Plate 84.1). The south-east face is now boarded up, the north-east face has a red emergency switch and piping extending from it. There is a concrete channel leading up to the kiosk and a half circular road extends from the main road to access the petrol kiosk.



Building 85: Store/ Workshop

NGR: SP 51522 26085

Recording Level: 1

Location

This building is located within Area OA14C, to the east of hangars 151 and 172.

History/ Function

Site records show that the former store dates from 1981, but structurally it appears earlier in date. It is not shown on the 1947 map. It is not visible on a aerial photography of the period, however this may be because its size means that it is not easy to identify. It seems probable that the building dates from the 1950s/ 1960s.

Description

The store is a simple brick structure with a flat bitumen roof measuring roughly 2m² (Plate 85.1). The west (front) elevation has a plain wood panelled door in a timber frame, the south elevation has a single wood framed window with a concrete sill. The red brick was previously painted white although this is largely peeling off, and the wood panelled door is brown.

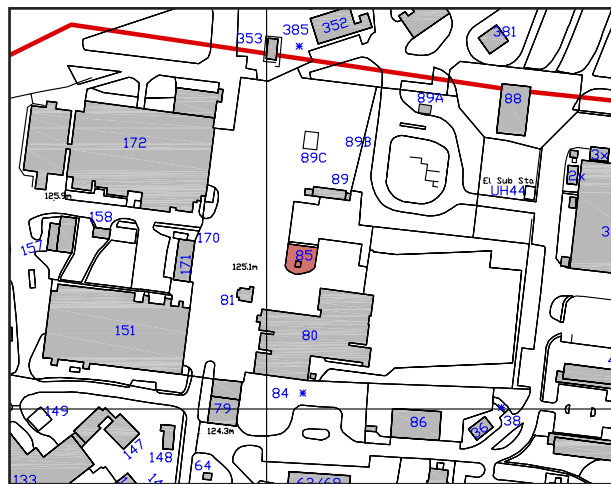


Plate 85.1 West elevation

Building 86: Auto Hobby Shop

NGR: SP 51589 25995

Recording Level: 1

Location

This building is located within Area OA14C, within the Trident area and to the north of building 78.

History/ Function

Building 86 was built in 1981 and continues in use in a similar function today as a Tyre Depot by QEK.

Description

This single-phase building is rectangular in plan and constructed in brown brick with metal cladding used for the roof and continuing above the level of the doors (Plate 86.1). The roof has an inverted pitch sloping to the west and is taller to the rear of the building.

The east (front) elevation has four metal swing doors separated by brick pillars. The south elevation (which faces the road) has two single doors at each end with two double timber doors with slates in the middle, which provide access to probable plant areas. There are two small rectangular wood-framed windows which provide light to probable internal sanitary areas.

The rear (west) elevation has four garage doors separated by brick pillars, as seen on the front elevation (although one is a roller door). The north elevation has two plain timber doors (one single and one double), but otherwise has no feature of interest.

Plans of the building dating from 1977 show that internally the space was used for the following functions: Hydraulic Lift Bay, Muffler and Tyre Shop, Spray Paint Booth, Paint Prep Area, Welding, Machine Shop and General Repairs and Tune Up as well as Storage, Plant and Office space.

Archive

One plan was identified in the Upper Heyford archive.

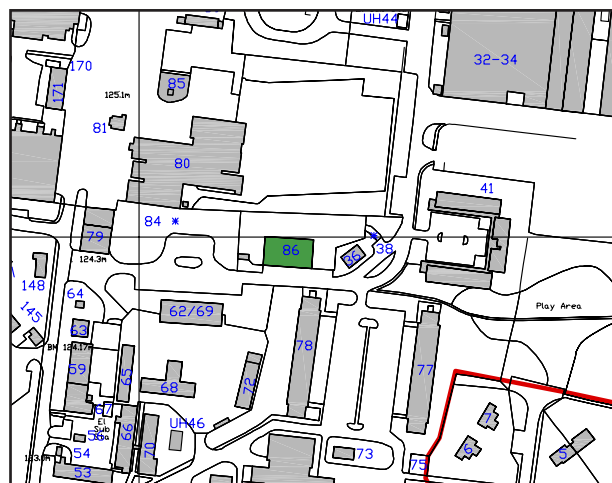




Plate 86.1 Front (east) elevation

Building 88: Refuelling/ Vehicle Maintenance

NGR: SP 51643 26171

Recording Level: 1

Location

This building is located within Area OA14C, at the southern edge of the airfield and to the north-west of the Commissionary (buildings 32-35).

History/ Function

This former garage dates from 1986.

Description:

Building 88 is a functional structure originally used for maintaining vehicles which has more recently served as a garage, a sign at the front states: 'OCB – Car & Commercial 24hr Specialist Recovery'. The single storey building is double height with a small number of windows, which have plain metal frames. The building is rectangular in plan, metal clad (grey) and supported on a steel frame with a shallow pitched which is also metal clad.

The front (east) and rear elevations have four double folding metal doors with red bollards between sets of doors with a single one at the end (Plate 88.1). At the south end a single timber and glass door provides access to the building's main internal space, whilst a set of double doors with air vents in the upper half provide access to a separate plant area. This was maintained by the PSA and contains Hot Water Boilers, Fire Detection Systems and a Ventilation Control Panel.

The south elevation has a reinforced glass window with a green sub-frame at the east end and a single wood and glass door (blue) toward the west end. There are two vents and a pipe just below roof level, otherwise there are no features of architectural interest.

The rear elevation has a reinforced glass door to the south end, and a large metal framed window which provides light to an internal rest/ recreation area (formerly an office).

The north elevation has few architectural details with the exception of vents protruding from the metal cladding towards the rear and front elevations. There is a single green timber door providing a point of access and an extractor pipe at the west end.

Internally, the layout appears to be little changed despite its secondary use, as shown in the plan (Plate 88.2). It consists of a large open area used for maintenance with offices, W.Cs and a recreation area at the southern end of the building. The 'Store Workshop' shown on the plan has been refitted as an office for the car recovery business, which have occupied the building more recently. Above these rooms there is a mezzanine floor holding plant. Internal military fixtures and fittings remain such as overhead storm lights, extractor vents, a gantry and signage. There are internal breeze block walls painted in green and cream.

Archive

One plan was identified within the Upper Heyford archive.

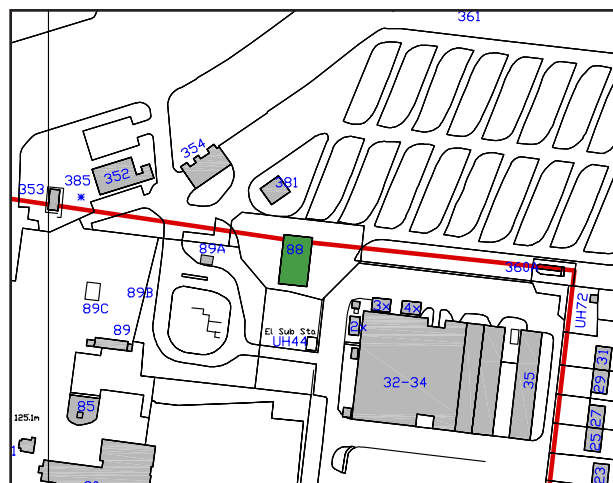




Plate 88.1 Front (east) elevation



Plate 88.2 Internal view to east

Building 89: Firing Range

NGR: SP 51536 26124

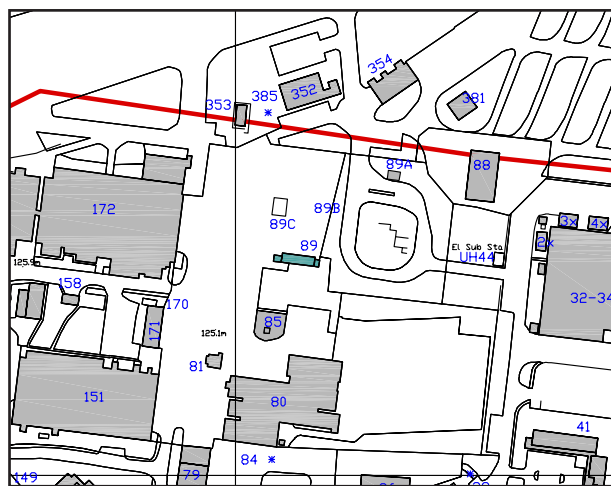
Recording Level: 2

Location

This building is located within Area OA14A, close to the southern edge of the runway and to the east of hangar 172.

History/ Function

Building 89 is visible on an AP of 1954, it is not readily apparent on the 1942 AP but the area is covered with foliage making buildings difficult to decipher. It is numbered 111 on the 1947 plan and described as 'M.G Range' (M.G referring to machine gun). A plan of the building dating from 1962 shows that it was used as a Firing Range by the 20th Combat Support Group. This plan however is unclear, and the writing in particular is difficult to decipher.



Description

This building is an unusual configuration, it is an earlier red-brick firing range with has been extended to the front to enable the internal space to be used for storage (Plate 89.1). The building is built up to the firing range wall that comprises its east elevation, and the west elevation consists of timber panelling to the east built on to an earlier red brick rectangular projection to the rear of the building (Plate 89.2). This west elevation also consists of a tall central red brick element, which is situated between the timber panelling and rear single-storey red brick element (Plate 89.3). The rear (south) elevation is also constructed from red brick, and contains crittall windows (Plate 89.4).

The firing range is a single storey range, constructed in red brick with a pitched corrugated roof. It is currently used for storage, and plywood supported on posts has been added to the front elevation in order to enclose the internal space. A rough door has been constructed from plywood to facilitate access via the front elevation (Plate 89.5). Above the plywood, clear corrugated sheeting has been added at an incline between the top of the plywood and the earlier external elevation to allow light to enter the space. Above this clear sheeting is metal sheeting and reused timber panels, which run directly below the corrugated asbestos roof which is inclined to the rear of the buildings.

The east elevation consists of the red brick firing wall range, which the building has been built up to (Plate 89.6). The west elevation consists of three elements, to the north is timber boarding which extends beyond the front (plywood) elevation and pre-dates this later addition (see Plate 89.2). This boarding extends to the rear single-storey element of the building, which has a timber fascia below a corrugated sheeting roof and a painted sign which gives the earlier 'AmNo', although it is now not possible to read the number (Plate 89.7). A door has been infilled within the west facing element of the single storey section, and a concrete lintel is visible above (Plate 89.8). To the rear a wood panelled door remains *in situ* (although access is not possible), and two crittall windows. The purpose of the tall double-storey element of the building, which is situated at the western extent of the structure, is unclear and access is not possible.

The rear elevation is very overgrown with vegetation inhibiting interpretation. As described above, at the west end of the elevation are two crittall windows, and concrete sills (Plate 89.9). There is a further door to the east, which also has a concrete lintel above, and is painted green with brown paint visible beneath (Plate 89.10). There are also two large vents (1m square) at the base of the elevation which have concrete lintels and metal bars over the openings.

Internally, access was possible to the main body of the building via the extended front elevation. Access was not possible to the west end, in particular the tall double-storey element of the building. The building is used for storage, predominantly tyres, and has been separated recently in half longitudinally (Plate 89.11). Modern timber posts extend up to an overhead steel girder running the length of the building and orientated east to west, with wire mesh fencing between the posts. This has created a separate storage area to the rear of the building. Internally the building has exposed brick elevations (painted white) with a timber roof supported on joists orientated north to south. There is overhead strip lighting. The vents (also described above) are situated along the rear wall at ground level and painted green, these have been built into the brick elevation and are contemporary with the primary build of the former firing range (Plate 89.12). These may have been used to extract fumes resulting from practice fire.

Archive

One plan was identified within the Upper Heyford archive.



Plate 89.1 Front (north) elevation



Plate 89.2 West elevation



Plate 89.3 West elevation



Plate 89.4 South elevation

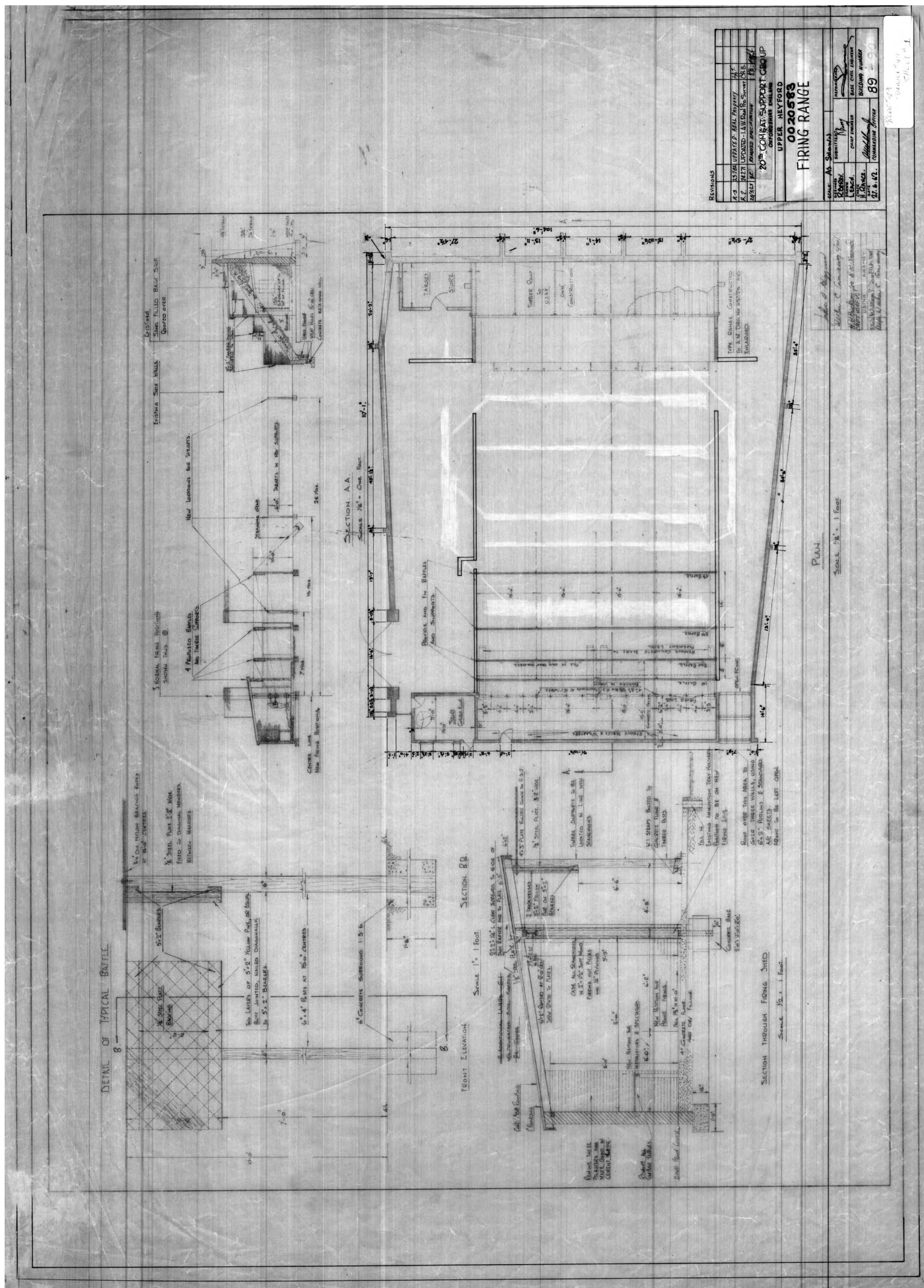


Figure 89.1 Plans and elevations (1982)



Plate 89.5 Door to front (north) elevation within plywood extension



Plate 89.6 Firing range wall (east elevation)



Plate 89.7 North elevation (west end)



Plate 89.8 Infilled door at west element of north elevation



Plate 89.9 Rear elevation, crittall window



Plate 89.10 Rear elevation, crittall window and door



Plate 89.11 Internal view, looking east



Plate 89.12 Internal view of vents in rear wall

Building 89A: Petrol Pump Booth

NGR: SP 51590 26174

Recording Level: 1

Location

This building is located within Area OA14C, at the southern edge of the flying field between hangar 172 and the Commissionary (32-35).

History/ Function

The building is not shown on a 1947 plan of the site, an AP of 1954 shows a building in the same location as building 89A but this appears larger than the extant structure.

Description

Small single storey brick shed with a pitched tiled roof and timber fascia. The building is roughly square in plan with brown timber framed windows, and remains in use by Paragon for refuelling. The south (front) elevation has a plain timber door and a three-light window.

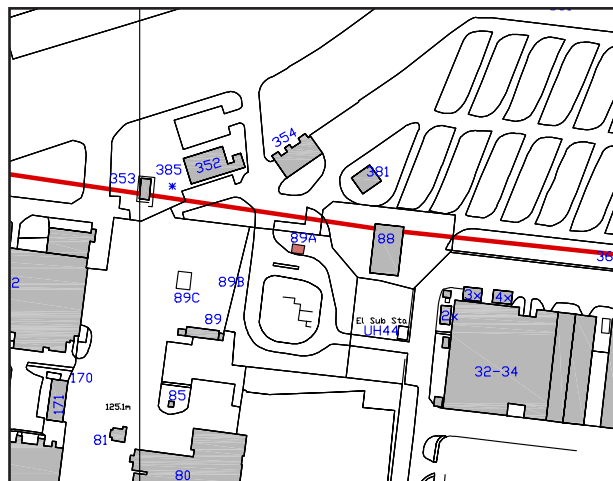


Plate 89A.1 Front (south) elevation

Building 89B: Blast separation wall

NGR: SP51552 26138

Recording Level: 2

Location

This building is located within Area OA14 (Airfield Technical Area) on the southern edge of the main airfield. It is adjacent to Building 89 (firing range).

History/ Function

This substantial wall was constructed in 1939 to provide protection and blast separation between two areas of the airfield's technical area and to the east of the firing range.

Description

The blast separation wall is constructed from typical, mid 20th century red/orange brindle bricks laid in English bond. It is approximately c.35 m long and c.5.5 m tall. To the east side there are three sloping concrete buttresses and there is also a brick pier towards the centre of the structure.

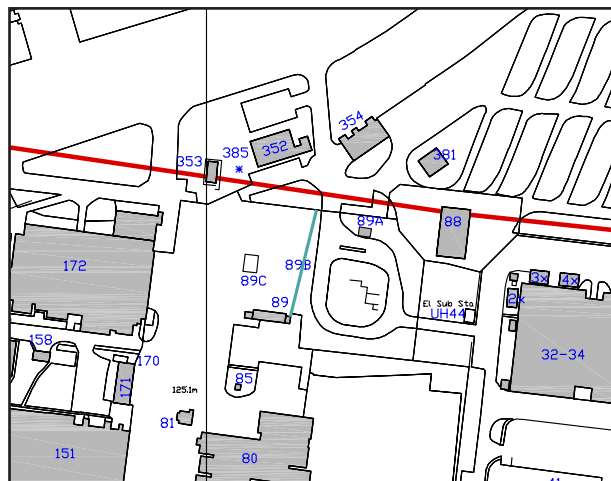


Plate 89B.1 East side of wall 89B

Building 101/ 102: Fire-party House

NGR: SP 51380 25812

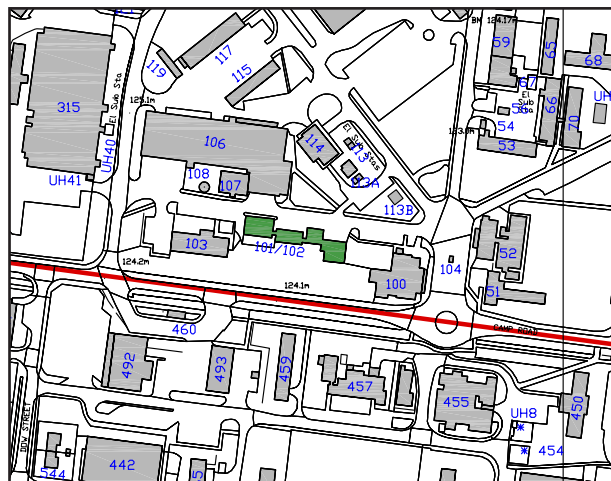
Recording Level: 2

Location

This building is located within Area OA14B, it is situated to the west of the entrance to the technical area with the rear of the building facing Camp Road.

History/ Function

The former Fire Party House consists of four distinct elements which west to east are: the Engine Stalls, the Ready Station, the Barrack Area (the entirety of building 101) and the Fire Department Supply (building 102). The building carried on in use during the later phases of Upper Heyford's military use, and today is let out for storage and as a car maintenance workshop.



A date stamp on the east elevation of the Ready Station shows the construction date is 1926, it is likely that all four elements of the building are the same date although there has been some modifications to the structure. Building 102, which formerly stood as an independent structure, has been significantly extended to the rear, and joined to the Barrack Area by a connecting foyer.

Two plans were identified of the building; the first dating from 1952 illustrates the external front elevation and the floor plan. The second key plan is undated, but is evidently post-1952 in date and probably dates from the 1970/ 80s.

Description

Engine Stalls

The four elements of the Fire-party House are distinct but adjoining buildings. At the west end are the Engine Stalls which is a tall double height building with a pitched roof, adjoined to the Bunk Room via a small linking entrance passage (Plate 101/2.1). The building is constructed from Butler sheeting (painted white) with drainpipes situated roughly centrally, sitting on a substantial concrete base (painted blue). Below the roof are small rectangular windows in two long rows to the rear, and two side elevations (Plate 101/2.2). Large electric metal and glass doors provide entry for the vehicles at the front (south facing) elevation, which are later replacements. Written in white letters on the tarmac is: 'Fire Dept Keep Clear'. Drainpipes are also situated centrally along the elevations, and there are floodlights to the front elevation.

Internally, the engine stalls are a large open space with a concrete floor (Plate 101.3). The walls are constructed on metal frames, which hold thin white timber boards (chip board). Storage heaters are mounted onto the walls (1980s), and there are various pipes particularly around the single entrance door on the east elevation linking this building to the Ready Station (Plate 101.4). There are large strip lights hanging from the apex of the roof and two storm lights to each side, as well as strip lights hanging along the wall. The single door is a functional timber door which leads into the bunk room area. To the rear of this through the passage is a simple brick built plant room with a flat felt roof, which is accessed from the rear of the building via substantial double metal door. The plant room and connecting passage to the bunk area are part of the building's primary construction.

Ready Station

The 'Ready Station' dates from 1926, as evident by the date stamp on the east elevation below the apex of the roof. The structure was reconfigured post-1952 although it retained largely the same plan (Plate 101/2.5). In the 1970/80s plan it is titled the 'Bunk Room', although this would have served largely the same function. This element of building 101/ 102 is brick built, and roughly square in plan with a pitched tiled roof. The bricks are painted white with blue at the base and primary drainpipes are extant which are also painted blue. The rear elevation has not been repainted and retains the earlier brown and cream colour scheme, with a band of brown at the base and painted cream brickwork above (Plate 101/2.6).

There are three windows to the front elevation, two to the west elevation and three to the rear elevation, which are metal framed (brown) and thought to date from the 1970/80s. Those to the rear are large sash style windows providing light to the corridor that runs along the rear of the building. The two west windows on the front elevation have a single pane between which is a former door which has been infilled with brick. This door is still evident in a plan dating from 1952, and is shown leading directly into a lobby. To the east of the door is a brick gulley and tap, that dates from the primary construction of the building. Situated roughly centrally a pipe can be seen extending from the ground above the level of the gutter. The east window is a larger double paned window and a lower level, than the two single paned windows to the west. Around the larger window it is possible to see an area of infilled brick, that reflects the location of a former door, also evident on a plan dating from 1952 (Plate 101/2.7). This single door provided the only point of access to the former 'Rest Room'.

The east elevation has a date stamp '1926' below the apex of the roof and an area of infilled brickwork to the south of the elevation. The 1952 plan shows that this was formerly the location of a door, that has subsequently been infilled with brick and painted white. There is a passage connecting the 'Ready Station' and 'Barrack Area' to the east that is part of the primary build, although it has been extended to the south probably in the 1970/80s creating a sanitary area (Plate 101/2.8). The 1952 plan depicts the link-through passage, and the brickwork of the rear elevation shows that is part of the primary construction with a lower flat felt roof. The brickwork to the front elevation is clearly later where the building has been extended to the south to follow the same alignment as the front elevation of the 'Barrack Area'. This extension was to facilitate an additional sanitary area, which is accessed from the Ready Station (see below), and built adjacent to an existing sanitary area within the Barrack Area thus creating separate male and female sanitary facilities.

Bunk Room

Internally, the 'Bunk Room' and 'Rest Room' are accessed via a spinal corridor running along the rear of the building, which connects this room with the 'Engine Stalls' to the west and 'Training Room' to the east. The fixtures and fittings are thought to date from the 1980s with a suspended ceiling, white walls, timber doors (blue) and blue carpet. The male sanitary area to the east of the building dates from the 1970/80s (as described above), and its fixtures and fittings are contemporary with this period. There are no fixtures and fittings relating to its primary build (Plate 101/2.9). The layout has been altered from the latest plan identified; at the west end the corridor wall has been removed creating an open area when entering the building from the Engine Stalls. The 'Alarm Room' was entered via a single door on the front elevation, which has subsequently been infilled (see above), formerly this was a lobby area to the front of the building with 'Ready Station' to the rear and a separate 'Alarm Room' to the west. The east element of the building was also formerly accessed from the front elevation via a single door, which gave access to two rest rooms. This layout was later changed to one room with two dividing walls (not running the full width of the room) creating three separate resting areas. The second undated plan (probably 1970/80s) shows that additional rest areas were also created immediately to the west, but one of the walls creating the two separate rest areas was subsequently demolished creating a larger open space. Today, it is possible to see in places evidence of the earlier floorplan indicated by changes in the skirting boards, recesses in the walls or projecting elements at ceiling height indicating the alignment of former internal walls.

Barrack Area

The former 'Barrack Area' is shown on the 1952 plan linking to the 'Ready Station' which was evidently part of the primary construction, the building was subsequently used as a Training Room. This element of the building is constructed from concrete panels (typical of military buildings of this period), which are set on a brick base (Plate 101/2.10). In unity with the internal and external blue and white decor of the building, the concrete panels are painted white and the brick at the base painted blue. The building has a pitched modern metal roof and a drainpipe situated roughly centrally (painted blue). Towards the west of the elevation a pipe extends from the ground above the height of the gutter, of the same type described to the front elevation of the Ready Station. There are four pairs of windows to the front elevation which are 1970/80s replacement windows (brown metal as evident elsewhere), those to the west for the sanitary area are single pane windows with the remaining double pane windows. To the rear elevation are seven windows, which are double pane windows of the same type as the front elevation (Plate 101/2.11). The 1952 plan shows an additional window which has subsequently been replaced by a single timber door, to the rear the elevation has not been repainted and the earlier cream and brown colour scheme remains.

Internally, the 1952 plan shows the Barrack Area as a large open area with a separate 'Fire Administration Office' to the east and a small sanitary area to the west. The office was subsequently divided into two separate rooms to the north and south separated by a central corridor from which both rooms are accessed. The sanitary area to the west, which contains modern fixtures and fittings including a shower, has been extended slightly to the east which is not shown on the (undated) plan. A corridor providing access to the Ready Station separates the sanitary area from a small gully kitchen, which is a later addition probably dating from the 1970/80s (shown on the undated plan). The plan also shows a wall separating the main room in two sections, which has subsequently been removed although a small section of this wall is evident along the internal front elevation. The 1952 plan indicates a dashed line in the same alignment as the removed wall, and also a secondary north/ south wall immediately to the west, an existing small section of this wall on the internal front elevation also indicates the alignment. The fixtures and fittings of the former Barrack Area are thought to date from the 1980s and contemporary with its use as a Training Room, with a suspended ceiling incorporating lights, white walls, a blue carpet and blue roller blinds to the windows (Plate 101/2.12).

Maintenance Shop

The Barrack Area is linked to the Maintenance Shop at the east end, although this element of the building is a later addition. The front element of the building was the Fire Department Supply, that was subsequently extended to the rear creating a Maintenance Shop and Office and a link to the Barrack Area (Plate 101/2.13). These modifications are shown on the undated plan. The front elevation is part of the primary build which was a separate structure (building 102) standing slightly to the north of building 101. It is constructed in red brick with a drainpipe and hopper at each end of the elevation (painted blue), and a flat concrete roof with brick parapet above. It retains its two critical windows with frosted glass (4 rectangular lights) and its earlier building number (Am No 112) at the east end of the elevation. Between the two windows is a large area of brick infill, that indicates the position of a former door. This is illustrated on the 1952 plan, with a two light window above. The west elevation has a large area of later brick infill where a formerly large opening has been infilled and double doors

inserted, as shown in the later plan of the building (Plate 101/2.14). The 1952 plan does not depict doors here and its possible that the building was open ended. Build up to the north of this elevation is the later addition to the structure, which has a lower roof line sloping down to the north. The east elevation appears to have been of similar construction, with a large area of brick infill with a narrow area of primary brickwork evident to each side of the elevation. There are double doors (blue) within the brickwork. Written on the band of concrete which is the flat concrete roof, 'Crash Tender' is clearly written (an airport crash tender is a specialised fire engine designed for fire fighting and rescue in aerodromes (Plate 101/2.15). This end of the building was separated into two rooms (a store and office), to which this entrance would have provided access. The rear of the elevation had three windows (shown on the 1952 plan), which are clearly evident internally as recesses in the wall infilled with brick, facilitating the extension of the building to the rear (Plate 101/2.16). The two windows to the east and west have been infilled, whilst the central window has been reconfigured into a door.

The extension to the primary building is shown in the second undated plan; the red brickwork is evidently modern dating from the 1970/80s and is constructed in the location of a former lean-to (shown on the 1952 plan) (Plate 101/2.17). The extension has a modern metal roller door to the east elevation allowing vehicle access to the Maintenance Shop. The west elevation has a modern brown metal framed window (two-light) and a foyer/ passage with a flat felt roof of the same build, that links through to the former Barrack Area. There is also a two light metal-framed window to the foyer's rear wall. The rear elevation of the Maintenance Shop has six brown metal framed windows (two-lights), and a brown timber fascia. It is surrounded by a metal security fence creating an external storage yard/ working area, within this a large exhaust pipe extends from the rear elevation and tyre pressure gauges remain extant.

Internally, the primary north element of the building is a tall open space with a concrete floor, brick painted walls and strip lighting. At the east end the partition wall has been demolished creating one large supply room from the former office and store depicted on the 1952 plan. The Extinguisher Store is connected to the supply room by double timber doors, and (as described above) this is connected to the rear extension by a door in the location of a former window. The Maintenance Shop is a large open space with painted white brick walls, a lino floor, RSJs supporting the roof from which strip lights hang (Plate 101/2.18). The Maintenance Shop leads into a foyer area that in turn leads into an office at the north-west corner, both these rooms have white painted walls and carpeted floors.

Archive

Two plans were identified within the Upper Heyford archive.



101/2.1 Engine Stalls, front (south) elevation at west end of building



101/2.2 Engine Stalls, front and side elevation



101/2.3 Engine Stalls, internal view looking towards entrance doors



101/2.4 Engine Stall, view of internal door linking to Ready Station



Plate 101/2.5 Ready Station, front (south) elevation



Plate 101/2.6 Ready Station, rear elevation



101/2.7 Ready Station, infilled door to front elevation



101/2.8 Ready Station east elevation and linking passage to Barrack Area



101/2.9 Internal view of Ready Station, from linking corridor



101/2.10 South elevation, showing Barrack Area between the Ready Station and Maintenance Shop



101/2.11 Barrack Area, rear elevation



101/2.12 Internal west view of Barrack Area



101.2.13 Maintenance Shop, front (south) elevation



101.2/14 Maintenance Shop, showing brick infill to south and west elevations



101/2.15 East elevation with 'Crash Tender' evident above the door



101.2/16 Maintenance Shop, rear elevation



101/2.17 Maintenance Shop, front elevation showing 1970/ 80s extension



101/2.18 Internal view to east of Maintenance Shop

Building 106: Post Office

NGR: SP 51311 25872

Recording Level: 1

Location

This building is located within Area OA14B, it is a large structure situated within the Trident area, to the west of the main entrance from Camp Road.

History/ Function

The Post Office is evident in an AP of 1954, but is not shown on plans of the site from the 1940s. It was extensively extended and developed during the Cold War.

Description

This large structure used as a post-office is metal clad, and sits on a concrete base (Plate 106.1). The building has an earlier brick core, and has been extended to the front and extensively to the rear to create a large post-office for use by American servicemen in the 1970/80s (Plate 106.2). Access is via the front elevation, where servicemen could collect the post. To the rear is a large warehouse/ sorting area, with further sorting rooms and office rooms within the central brick core of the building.

The north-east (front) elevation has concrete steps and a concrete ramp leading up to the entrance. The steps and path are enclosed by bricks walls, which also support a metal overhang for the porch entrance. The porch entrance is an unusual construction. The entrance area contains two double wood doors with steps directly in front, a sign states 'Mail Is Up' in front of the south set of steps. There are also metal railings leading down to the road from here. There are three metal-framed windows in the porch area, and a further two to the north of the entrance area. The concrete base is clearly visible in this area. There is also a single wood door and steps leading up. The elevation is metal clad, painted brown. On the metal roof a sign states 'FICE' presumably the remnants of '(POST OF)FICE'. To the north of the entrance porch the building is set on a concrete base.

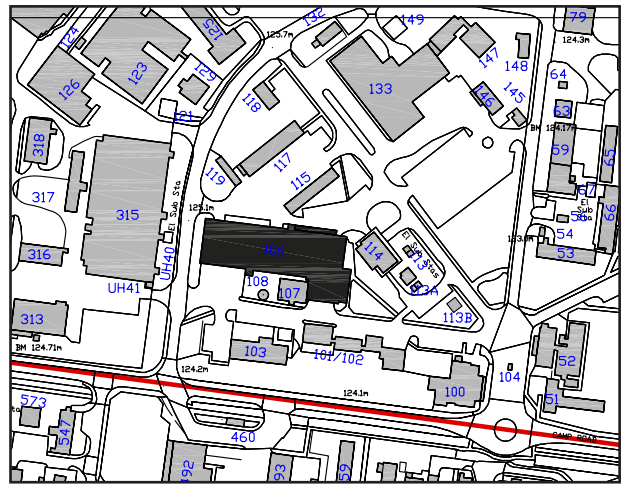
The south-east elevation has three windows at the east end, and a flat roof. It steps in to the north after the entrance porch and a large warehouse projects to the west. This has a concrete base which is painted brown although peeling and green paint is visible beneath this. There are seven narrow four light windows, and one three light window in metal frames (painted brown) beneath the roof level. An extractor fan is visible towards the east end of the building. At the east end of the building in the corner meeting the entrance porch is a small brick built structure, which has a metal framed window but no external access. At the west end of the building is concrete loading platform and metal roller doors painted brown and a single wood door. There is a simple concrete structure built up against the building to the east of the loading platform that has double timber doors. This contains 'Dust Control' equipment, a sign which has been painted over but remains visible states 'Amno169'.

The south-west elevation has six three-light windows below roof level, and a smaller window roughly mid-height in the north-west half of the elevation. At the south-east end there are concrete steps with no entrance door showing that the metal cladding is later. There is a single timber wood entrance door to the north-west with concrete steps leading up to it. There is also piping extending from the building into the ground.

The north-east elevation has six narrow windows (four lights) below roof level in the south-west division of the building. There is also a brick and concrete loading platform and metal rolling doors and a single wood door (in alignment with the south-east elevation) (Plate 106.3). There is a plant area painted white projecting to the north-east, roughly mid-distance along the elevation which is painted white. A concrete loading platform runs in alignment with this. There is another set of metal rolling doors with two single wood doors to the south-west of this, and a double timber door towards the front elevation and a metal framed window. The loading platform has four metal pillars supporting a metal roof which projects from the roof and overhangs the platform.

Internally, the main access to the building via the front elevation leads into a foyer area where servicemen were able to collect their post. There is a small office and counter for employees to collect their post, and a larger counter set further back which has access to the storage area where parcels could be collected and distributed. The large storage area, has a concrete floor which is painted in areas and coloured coded, to facilitate the sorting of post (Plate 106.3). This is accessed from the east doors at the front and roller doors to the side elevation (north-east). There are several small rooms which are either carpeted or with lino, and with plain timber doors. The walls are mostly brick suggesting this configuration was similar to the primary build of the front element of the post-office.

To the rear of the building the large (later) warehouse is a large empty space with a concrete floor and breeze blocks (which are painted blue and white). It has a double-pitched roof supported on seven simple steel trusses. The area is divided into two



by a series of metal posts painted blue, and there are various small breeze block rooms on the outskirts of the space used for storage. This area appears to have been used more recently by a mobility company.

Archive

Two plans were identified within the Upper Heyford archive.



106.1 South-east (front) and side elevation



106.2 Rear and side elevations



106.3 Internal view of colour coded storage warehouse

Building 107: Reservoir

NGR: SP 51319 25850

Recording Level: 1

Location

This building is located within Area OA14B, it is situated immediately to the south of building 106, and next to the water tower (108).

History/ Function

The building is shown on a plan of 1926, which identifies it as building number 16 'Reservoir'. It is also shown on later plans from the 1940s, on which it is numbered 39.

Description:

The reservoir sits directly adjacent to the water tower (108), and is one of an interesting group of structures of this period within the area (Plate 107.1). It is constructed from concrete panels with reinforced concrete bars which are painted white, and sits on a concrete raised base (Plate 107.2). There are four concrete panel sections to the rear, and three to each side elevation. The building is rectangular with a rectangular projecting element to the front (projecting 1.62m, and 2.67m in width). There is a channel running around the footprint of the building (Plate 107.3).

The internal tank has a flat metal roof, with two rows of four metal cowls visible sitting internally on top of the water tank (Plate 107.4). The building is now in relatively poor condition with badly peeling paint, and a tree growing from the top of the tank.

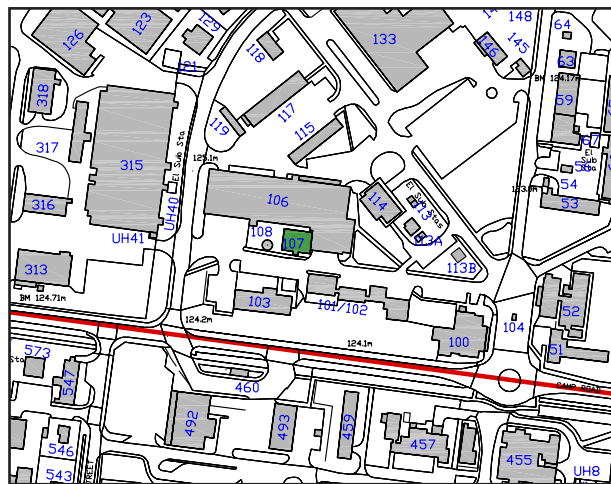




Plate 107.1 South elevation



Plate 107.2 Rear view showing concrete panels



Plate 107.3 Base of water tank showing projection and channel running around the footprint



Plate 107.4 Top of tank showing cowels

Building 108: Water Tower

NGR: SP 51306 25848

Recording Level: 1

Location

This building is located within Area OA14B, it is situated immediately to the south of building 106, and next to building 107 which is the reservoir.

History/ Function

The building is shown on a plan of 1926, which identifies it as building number 17 'Water Tower'. It is also shown on later plans from the 1940s, on which it is numbered 38.

Description

The water tower is one of six towers known to have been constructed, the others are located at Bircham Newton, Bicester, Filton, Hornchurch and Wittering. The tower has a water storage tank with a capacity of 30,000 gallons mounted on a forty-foot high reinforced concrete staging. It is accessed from a metal ladder (Francis 1996).

The tower is constructed in reinforced concrete, and is 11m high (Plates 108.1).It survives in fairly poor condition and at the time of inspection had a fence surrounding its base for health and safety reasons. The four stagings are built from pre-cast concrete and sit on a concrete square base (Plate 108.2). There are three sets of water pipes at the front elevation leading from the base into the ground which are boxed in. At the front elevation is a metal staircase which has a platform situated at mid-height of the tower, and leads to the top of the tank. The tank is circular in plan with two small pipes extending from the top.

Archive

One plan was identified in the Upper Heyford archive.

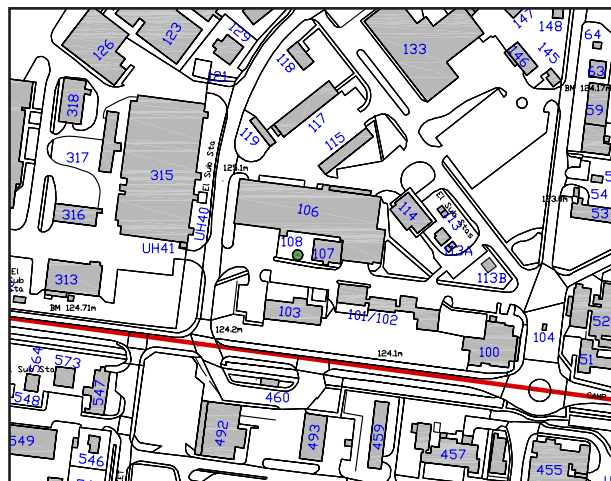




Plate 108.1 View from west of tower



Plate 108.2 South elevation

Building 113: Transformer House Sub-Station

NGR: SP 51385 25873

Recording Level: 2

Location

This building is located within Area OA14B, it is situated immediately adjacent to the Transformer House (building 114) and to the east of building 106.

History/ Function

The sub-station for the Transformer House is thought to be of the same date as the Transformer House, it is first shown on a 1945 plan of the site and numbered 117, although it is not possible to decipher the function of the building on the plan. Building 114 is shown on an AP of the site dating from 1942, but not on the 1937 AP. The date of the Transformer House and sub-station is therefore between 1937 and 1942.

Description

This enclosure is built in English Bond brickwork to a height of approximately 2.3m and in plan is 3.8m (north-east to south-west) by 7.2m (north-west to south-east). It is essentially of one phase, although the dividing wall to the south-east of centre may be a later addition as it abuts the walls either side. The outer walls are topped with a layer of mortar set with shards of window glass set on edge to discourage trespassers. The sides of the building, the north-east and south-west walls, are featureless (Plate 113.1); the end walls are open with a short return to the inside and contain built-in concrete blocks which support the hinges of the mesh and barbed wire metal gates (Plate 113.2). The gates and machinery are painted in the brown used across the airbase, but where the paint has peeled the dark green paint of the former colour scheme is visible. The brown metal building number signs are located on the westernmost return of the north-west end and the southern end of the south-west facing wall.

No physical access to the interior was possible, although the nature of the building provided a good view of each of the two spaces. Each space contains a cooled distribution transformer, manufactured by Parsons, set on a concrete base with the surrounding ground covered in pebbles. The transformer in the south-eastern space is the larger of the two (Plate 113.3). A conduit protruding from the ground next to each transformer carried cables to/from the machine and in the south-east space a metal fixing and two capped pipes or conduits are fitted to the southern wall near to the gateway. Although no longer affixed, a white plastic sign on the ground in the enclosure next to the larger machine reads 'DANGER HIGH VOLTAGE. Transformer No. 2'

The Transformer House is now disused, but still in fairly good condition

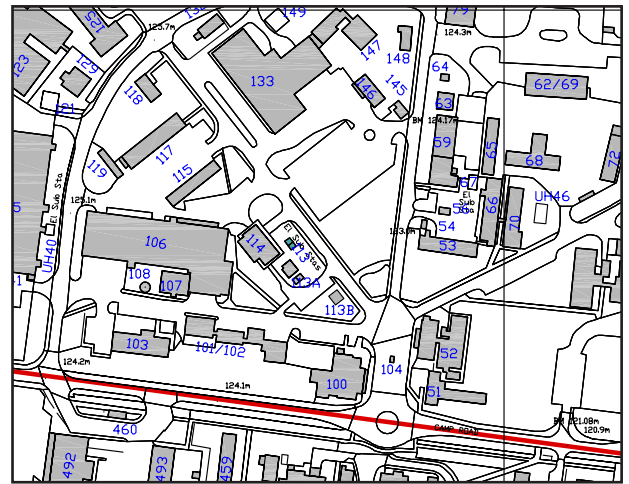




Plate 113.1 North east and south west elevations



Plate 113.2 South-east elevation



Plate 113.2 North west elevation

Building 113A: Transformer House Tanks

NGR: SP 51385 25856

Recording Level: 1

Location

This building is located within Area OA14B, it is situated immediately adjacent to the Transformer House (114) and to the east of building 106.

History/ Function

The tanks for the Transformer House are thought to be of the same date as the Transformer House (building 114). This building is first shown on a 1945 plan of the site and numbered 117, although it is not possible to decipher the function of the building on the plan. Building 114 is shown on an AP of the site dating from 1942, but not on the 1937 AP. The date of the Transformer House and sub-station is therefore between 1937 and 1942.

Description

The building includes two large metal tanks which are painted brown, although now badly peeling. These are connected by pipes extending from the top of the tanks to below-ground, the point at which they extend below-ground is surrounded by a low breeze block wall. The tanks sit on concrete pads and are surrounded by a low concrete wall. To the rear is a brick built enclosure in english bond, with a metal hatch to the north elevation at the west end, which is surrounded by metal barriers. There are two pipes extending vertically from inside the enclosure.

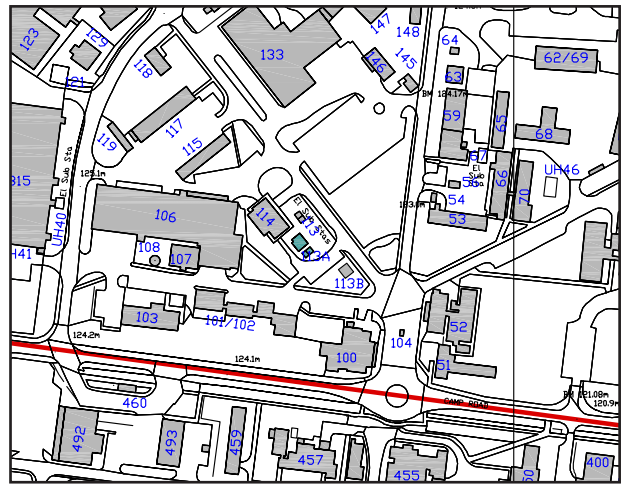


Plate 113A South-east elevation

Building 113B: Electricity Substation

NGR: SP 51407 25842

Recording Level: 1

Location

This building is located within Area OA14B, it is situated immediately adjacent to the Transformer House (building 114) and to the east of building 106.

History/ Function

The sub-station is of modern construction and thought to date from the 1980s.

Description

This is a small electricity sub-station with a flat concrete roof, covered in bitumen. It is rectangular in plan with double doors to the front (east) elevation, which are large timber panelled doors. The bricks are grey coloured modern bricks which are thought to date from the 1980s.

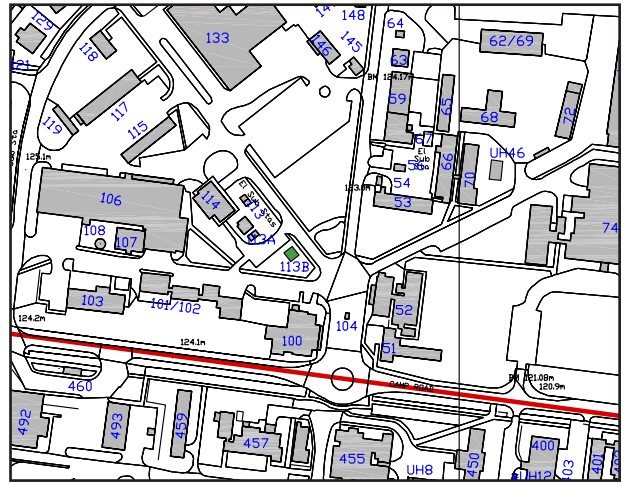


Plate 113B East elevation

Building 114: Transformer House

NGR: SP 51369 25871

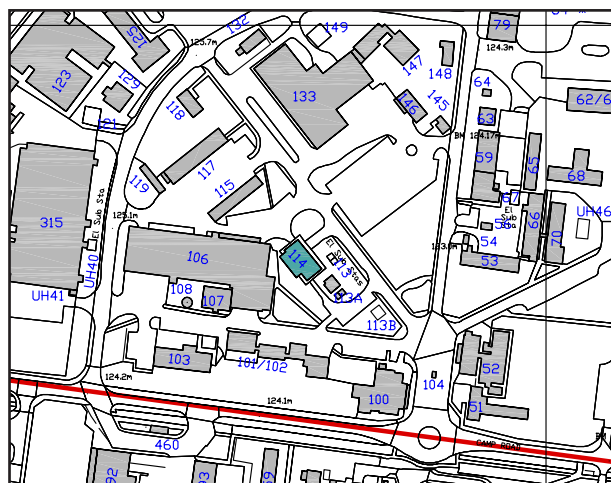
Recording Level: 2

Location

This building is located within Area OA14B, it is situated immediately adjacent to the Transformer House sub-station and tanks (113 and 113B) and to the east of building 106.

History/ Function

The sub-station for the Transformer House is thought to be of the same date as the Transformer House (113). This build is first shown on a 1945 plan of the site and numbered 117, although it is not possible to decipher the function of the building on the plan. Building 114 is shown on an AP of the site dating from 1942, but not on the 1937 AP. The date of the Transformer House and sub-station is therefore between 1937 and 1942.



Building 114 was built to the drawing number 11307/38, a 1938 standard design for a Standby Set House which contained large diesel generators which would provide power to just the essential services in the event of a loss of mains power (Francis 1996). The 'set' referred to the generator and dynamo.

Although the majority of the fixtures and fittings related to the function of the building as an emergency electricity generator have been removed, the building was constructed to a set design and so the function is known.

Description

Exterior

The building itself is a double-height space constructed of english bond brickwork with a flat roof and surrounded by a blast wall constructed of concrete and faced in english bond brickwork.

Aligned north-west to south-east, the building is approximately 21m by 11m and approximately 10m tall; the blast wall is approximately 25.8m by 17.5m and 4.5m to 5m tall depending upon ground level (Fig.114.1). A 5' (1.52m) walkway is between the blast wall and the building for the majority of the perimeter; however, workshops have been constructed between the two elements to the south-west of the building. These rooms deviate from the original design and the 1942 AP confirms that they are a later addition, although it is not clear on the 1954 AP whether this alteration had occurred by then. The rooms are in existence by the time the 1961 drawing was updated in 1978; although it is unclear if these form part of the update, the partition walls do cut across windows, reinforcing the theory that they are later additions.

The blast walls were often cavity walls between skins of brick and/or concrete with the cavity filled with gravel to protect against bomb blast (Francis 1996), although the wall is shown as solid on the plan of 1961/1978. The internal face is of poured concrete: the planks of the shuttering being visible as imprints on the concrete. Occasional light fittings and braces have been fitted to the inside of the blast wall (Plate 114.1). The brickwork of the blast wall is heavily spalled and stained, but it does not appear that this obscures any alterations.

The north west elevation of the blast wall contains a wide gateway with concrete lintel and jambs and is currently fitted with a modern hinged metal gate. An overflow pipe is towards the north east end of the elevation. Two black painted rectangles are to this edge of the elevation with white figures stating '114' above and 'NATO' below. The elevation of the building behind the blast wall features metal double sliding doors in line with the gateway in the blast wall, a flue at high level and one adjacent window to which a vent had been added at low level are to the right of the doors (Plate 114.2). A wall has been constructed between the blast wall and the building to create a single storey space at the west corner of the building which was inaccessible at the time of survey.

The south east elevation of the blast wall includes a gateway with concrete lintel and jambs which now has a modern hinged double leaf gate (Plate 114.3). An overflow pipe is towards the southern end of the blast wall and the building number (this time in the form of the brown plaque with white numbers used across the site), and a black painted rectangle with white letters 'NATO' beneath it are to the easternmost corner. The only visible feature on the elevation of the building above the height of the blast wall is the flue identical to that of the north-west elevation: the two windows of the offices in this end of the building have single-storey height windows only.

The north east elevation has a gateway towards the northern end; the opening is the full height of the blast wall and has a single rolled steel joist rather than a lintel and brick jambs (Plate 114.4). Currently there are modern hinged metal gates to the opening. The brown building number plaque and black painted rectangle with 'NATO' in white lettering is at the northern

corner, and signs warning of high voltage are on and adjacent to the gates. The elevation of the building behind the blast wall includes four windows: three of which are full height and one is above the wooden double leaf door. This has hinges made by Charles Collinge of Lambeth, which are a patented pin and cup cast iron strap hinge (Plate 114.5). There are two hoppers and downpipes at either end of the elevation which lead into a gully which runs along the walkway between the building and blast wall (Plate 114.6).

The south-west elevation displays substantial alteration (Plate 114.7). The area between the projection of the blast wall and the building within has been infilled; the blast wall has also been extended upwards by half a storey and flat-roofed as per the main building. At least two openings have been infilled with brickwork, indicated by two concrete lintels, both are above the level of the original blast wall and so it is not possible to judge if a gateway was infilled at this stage. The lintel above the modern fan outlet relates to this installation and so has been discounted as a phase of opening.

The extension in height of the blast wall to form the offices displays different colour bricks to the upper courses, although the returns either side and the brickwork to the corners indicate that this can simply be attributed to a different batch of bricks used for the second lift (Plate 114.8).

All of the remaining windows are the original crittall-style metal framed windows, the entrance doors may be replacements; the gates in the blast wall are all later replacements. The finishes to the woodwork, doors, windows and rainwater goods are in the standard brown paint of the airfield with the previous dark green colour scheme visible where the paint is flaking. The original wall vents are constructed of cut tiles (Plate 114.9).

Interior

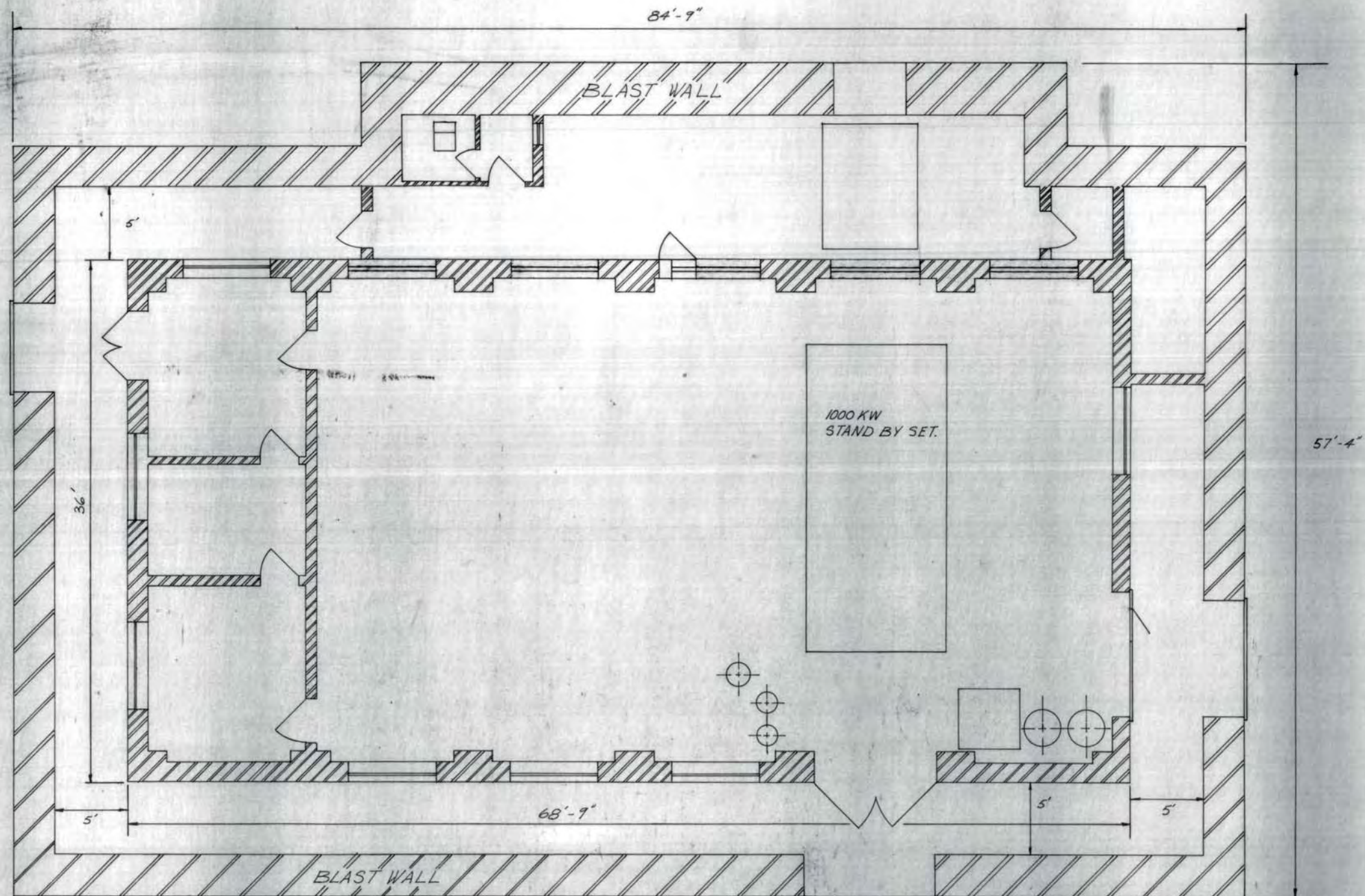
The interior of the building is a double-height open space with walls of glazed brick in english bond to full height. The floor is quarry-tiled, which extends to form a skirting, and the ceiling and lintels are painted concrete. The exception to this is the south-eastern end of the room which consists of workshops sectioned off from the space with tanks over; this space above the workshops is finished in standard brick (Plate 114.10).

The windows in the south-western wall are at clerestorey height; the southernmost window having been replaced with a metal vent; these openings have since been enclosed by the construction of the spaces within the blast wall (Plate 114.11). A door to the enclosed area has been inserted below the central window, indicated by a slight change of colour of the surrounding glazed tiles.

Pits and remains of stands in the floor indicate the former location of machinery (Plate 114.12); an overhead crane manufactured by Herbert Morris of Loughborough survives to the north western end of the space and some plant remains at the opposite end of the room (Plate 114.13).

The workshops to the south east of the building are tiled to sill height, approximately 1.4m above the floor, with painted brickwork above; a course of grey glazed bricks forms a skirting; the lintel is directly below the ceiling (Plate 114.14). The internal panelled and ledge and braced plank doors are original (Plate 114.15).

The space created by extending to the blast wall contains a small partitioned area for a WC (Plate 114.16) and the plant which is served by the modern vent visible in the south-west elevation (Plate 114.17). The remainder of the space appears to have been used as a workshop. The clerestorey windows to the main space are the only windows (Plate 114.18), the light being provided by fluorescent fittings along the walls.



FLOOR PLAN OF 114
— SCALE: 1/4" = 1'-0" —

0021604		B
25/07/61 UPDATED JAN. REAL PROP. SURVEY		
STRATEGIC AIR COMMAND		
OXFORDSHIRE ENGLAND		
UPPER HEYFORD		
FLOOR PLAN BLDG.		
114		
SCALE: 1/4" = 1'-0"	PROJECT NO.	
DESIGNED:	SUBMITTED:	RECOMMENDED:
DRAWN: CABRERA	CHEF ENGINEER	BASE CIVIL ENGINEER
CHECKED:	APPROVED:	DRAWING NUMBER
DATE: 6 MARCH 61	COMMANDING OFFICER	114A

Figure 114.1 Floor plan (1961)



Plate 114.1 View between the blast wall and the north-east elevation



Plate 114.2 North-west elevation



Plate 114.3 South-east elevation



Plate 114.4 North-east elevation



Plate 114.5 A Charles Collinge, Lambeth hinge



Plate 114.6 Gully in the walkway



Plate 114.7 South-west elevation



Plate 114.8 Alterations to the extension within the blast wall



Plate 114.9 An example of a vent



Plate 114.10 The interior of the Set House, looking south east



Plate 114.11 The interior of the Set House, looking towards the extension



Plate 114.12 The support structure for the former machinery



Plate 114.13 The interior of the Set House, looking north west



Plate 114.14 An example of a window in the workshops



Plate 114.15 The workshops, looking north east



Plate 114.16 The workshops in the extension, looking south east



Plate 114.17 Plant in the extension, looking north west



Plate 114.18 The concrete roof structure in the extension

Building 115: Motor Transport Shed

NGR: SP 51330 25908

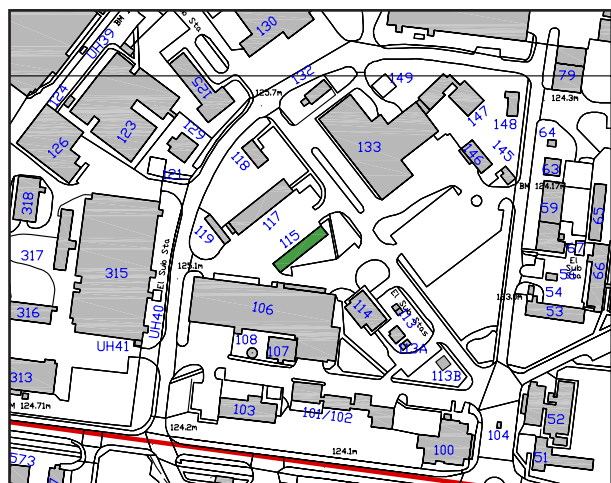
Recording Level: 2

Location

This building is located within Area OA14B, it is aligned south-west to north-east between buildings 106 and 133, and lies adjacent to building 117.

History/ Function

Building 115 (and building 117) are shown as 'site for' 'MT sheds' on a plan of 1927, by 1931 they are numbered 11 and shown as built. In later plans from the 1940s they are numbered 41 and described as 'MT Sheds'. The buildings are visible on the AP of 1937. The two MT sheds therefore date from between 1927 and 1931.



The 1942 AP shows the camouflage paint on the roof which has disappeared by the AP of 1954.

Two plans were identified in the RAF Museum at Hendon of M.T sheds which date from 1927, and a revised plan from 1936 (Fig. 115.1 and 115.2) A plan dated 24 February 1961 and updated 1 September 1971 also survives (Fig. 115.3).

Description

The building is approximately 34m x 6.5m with the front elevation to the north west (Fig.115.1). It is an eleven-bay steel-framed building with a slate covered pitched roof and concrete curtain walls to the side and rear elevations. The front elevation is brick between the steel columns to the majority of the bays, and timber boarding to the south western three bays (Plate 115.1).

The bays would originally have been fronted with timber doors which would be fastened open on the concrete hurters, but have since been removed (Francis 1996). It is not clear from the available plan whether the blocking of the bays constituted the alterations which the update of 1971 recorded or whether the blocking had already been carried out by that time, however, at the time of the 1971 plan, the central bay retained the full size double-doors as did the second bay from the south.

The gable walls have visible steel columns flush with the concrete (Plate 115.2) and are otherwise featureless apart from the telephone lines entering the building via the north east end wall (Plate 115.3). The south eastern, rear, elevation contains only vents spaced evenly along the eaves, four downpipes and two UPVC windows and fan vents to the WCs at the northernmost end of the elevation (Plate 115.4). The exterior is painted white with a grey skirting, woodwork and concrete hurters; the building may have had elements painted in the former dark green airfield colour scheme as some green paint shows where the paintwork is peeling.

The doors and windows to the north west, front, elevation are black painted modern replacements with the exception of the crittall-style window in the north east end bay (Plate 115.5). This bay appears to be the earliest bay to be separated from the vehicle bays as there is a solid, probably block, dividing wall shown on the 1961/71 plan. The ceiling panels are batten and boards; differing from the modern suspended ceiling of the adjoining rooms. The bay doesn't appear to have been originally constructed as an enclosed space, but would have been converted within a few decades of building.

The timber boarded bays are of two phases, as indicated by the 1961/71 plan: the two outer bays have heavily weathered boarding and later boarded-over former doorways adjacent to the current openings, and the central bay has more recent boarding.

Security lights and a black-out switch are also to the front elevation, as is a white plaque with '115' written in black. Some of the columns retain door fittings from the original doors (Plates 115.6 & 7).

Although the difference in materials of the curtain walling in the front elevation indicates infilling in several phases, the interior of the building has been plastered, painted and carpeted so that it is not possible to distinguish dates or phases from inside the building. The concrete hurters at the base of each column are visible internally.

Bays 2-4 have very recent glazed partitions with wooden doors with a suspended ceiling; the partition shown between bays 3 and 4 on the 1961/71 plan has been removed (Plate 115.8).

Bays 5-7 form an open office with the same suspended ceiling as the previous space (Plate 115.9); a doorway to the southernmost

end of the space leads to a blockwork lobby (Plate 115.10) which in turn leads to the kitchen. The kitchen fittings are modern and a fairly modern suspended ceiling is fitted over the former, possibly plaster, ceiling. The lobby in bay 6 has a higher ceiling and the partition on the 1961/71 drawing remains; it consists of plasterboard to around eaves height with wooden boards covering the steel truss (Plate 115.11). A modern doorway has been inserted which leads to the office created from bays 10 and 11 which is an open space with the same suspended ceiling as the previous offices.

The roof construction is visible in one room above the ceiling and shows the original steel trusses remain; the rafters and sarking boards may have been replaced (Plate 115.12).

Archive

One plan was identified in the Upper Heyford archive, and two plans of the M.T sheds at the RAF Museum at Hendon, one specifically references the structure at Upper Heyford.

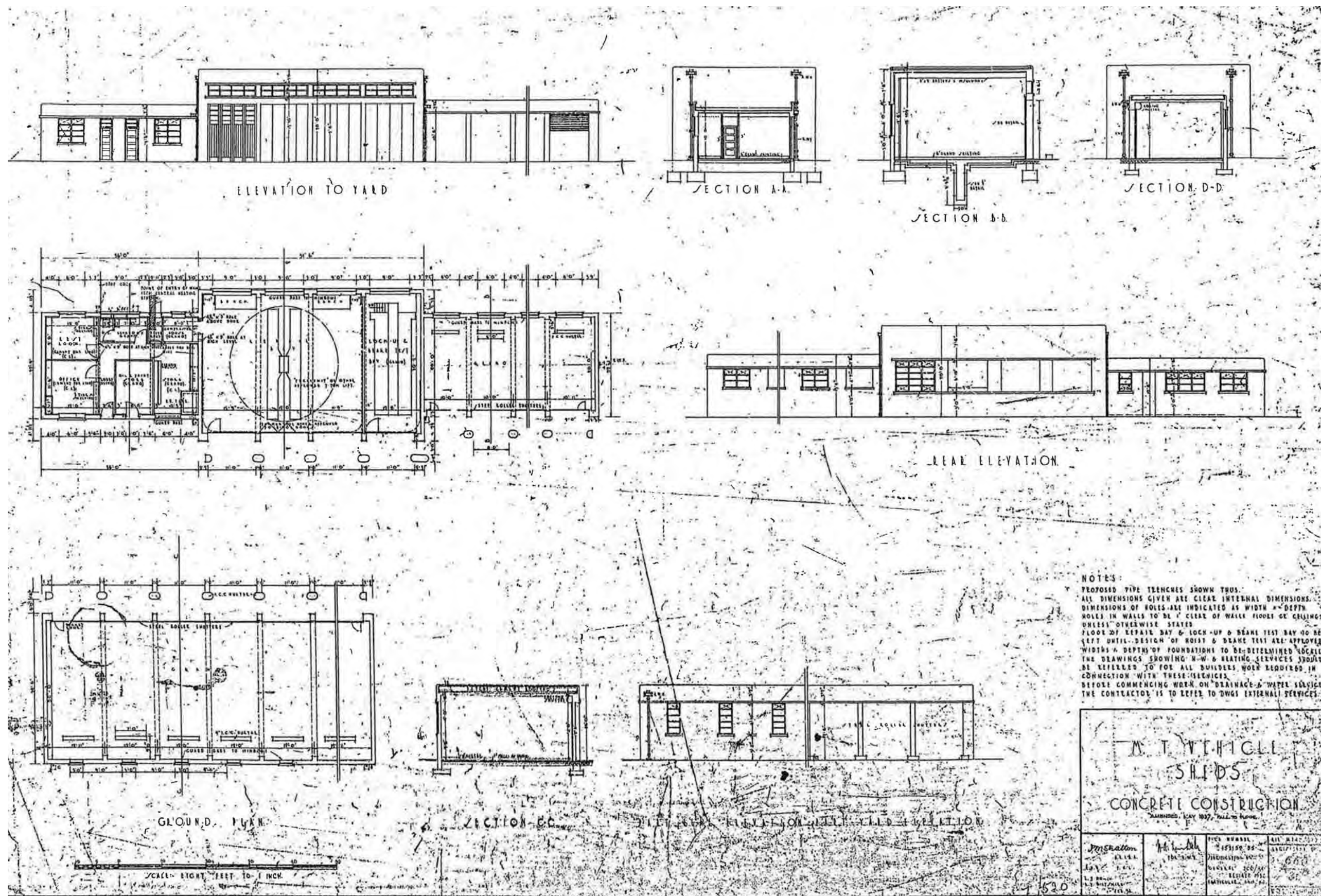


Figure 115.1: M.T vehicle sheds, plan and construction (revised 1937)



Plate 115.1 North-west elevation



Plate 115.2 South-west elevation



Plate 115.3 North-east elevation



Plate 115.4 South-east elevation



Plate 115.5 An example of a window and steel column



Plate 115.6 An original hinge surviving on a column



Plate 115.7 An original hinge surviving on a column



Plate 115.8 An example of the modern glazed partitions and suspended ceiling

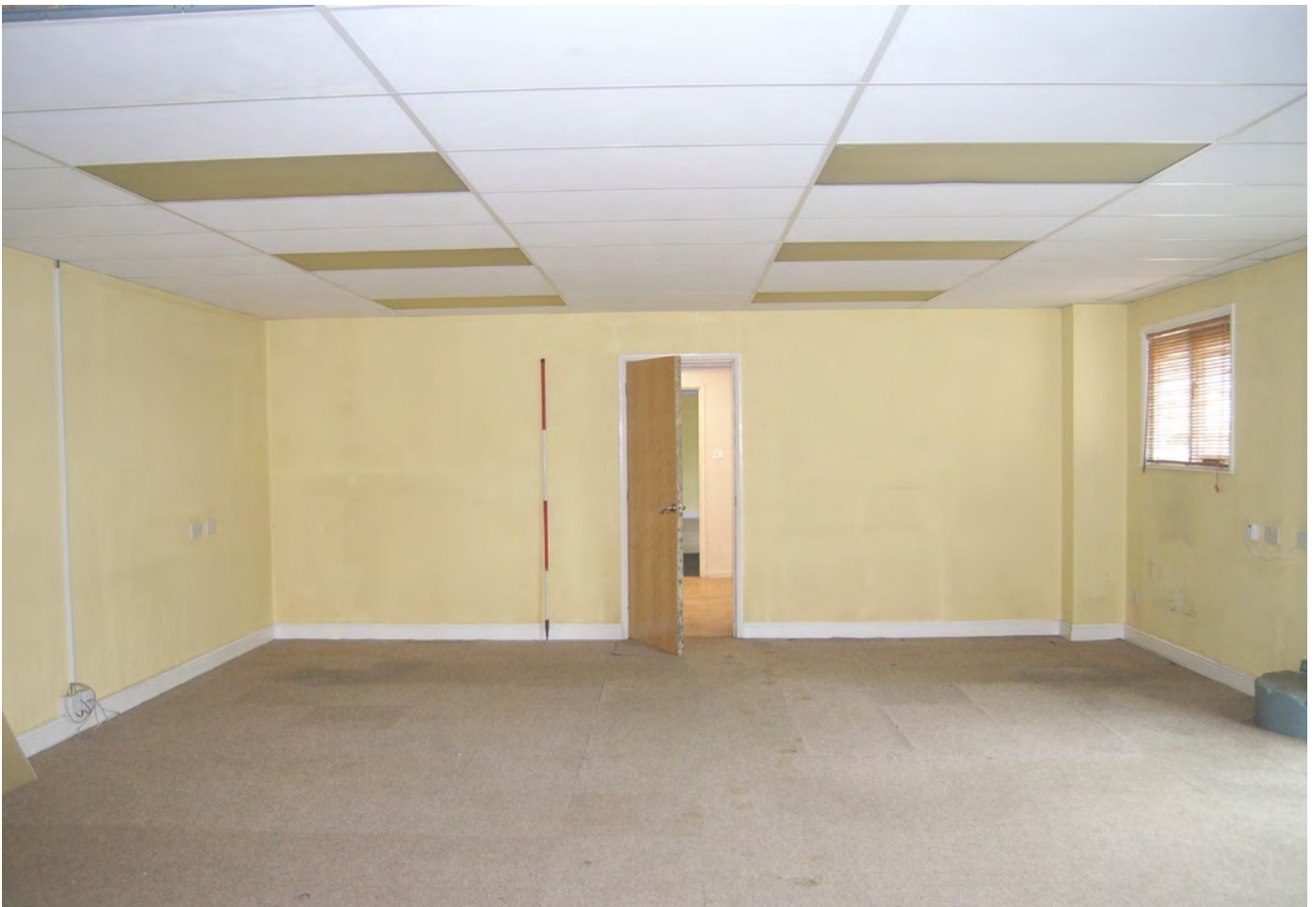


Plate 115.9 The large open plan office, looking south-west



Plate 115.10 Blockwork lobby between office and kitchen



Plate 115.11 A partition pre-dating the suspended ceiling



Plate 115.12 The roof structure above the suspended ceiling

Building 117: Motor Transport Shed

NGR: SP 51310 25930

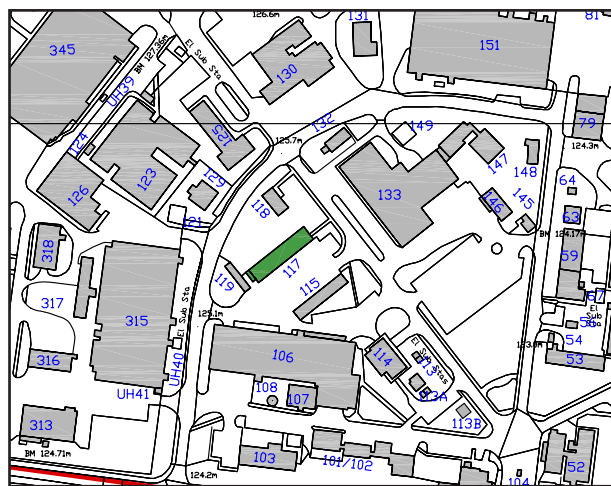
Recording Level: 2

Location

This building is located within Area OA14B, it is aligned south-west to north-east between buildings 106 and 133, and lies adjacent to building 115.

History/ Function

Building 117 (and building 115) is shown as 'site for' 'MT sheds' on a plan of 1927, by 1931 they are numbered 11 and shown as built. In later plans from the 1940s they are numbered 41 and described as 'MT Sheds'. The buildings are visible on the AP of 1937. The two MT sheds therefore date from between 1927 and 1931.



Two plans were identified in the RAF Museum at Hendon of M.T sheds which date from 1927, and a revised plan from 1936 which relates specifically to the sheds at Upper Heyford (drawing number 1929/26) (see Fig. 115.1 and 115.2). Within the Upper Heyford archive a plan dated 19 September 1956 and updated 30 April 1963 and 8 September 1978 also survives, although it is not clear which alterations to the building the three dates refer to.

Description

An extended and altered building with three distinct elements, marked most notably by the difference in height of the slate covered gabled roofs (Plate 117.1). The overall length of the building is approximately 40.6m and it is approximately 9.6m in width.

Exterior

The original range is a steel-framed structure with poured concrete rear and side walls. The original building consisted of six bays, including a repair bay to the south-west end with a wall between this bay and the five open-plan vehicle bays. The lower-roofed portion of the building to the north-east consists of two further sub-divided bays originally containing a motorcycle bay, store, office, rest room and WC (Plate 117.2).

To the front of the building, concrete hurters, which are no longer extant, were in place to secure the open timber doors. Hurters were also located towards the rear of the five open bays to prevent damage to the rear wall by the vehicles; these have also since been removed.

None of the original doors remain. The bays would have been accessed via full height and width hinged wooden doors; the remnants of some of the hinges survive on the steel columns (Plate 117.3). The majority of the bays have been infilled with brick, in english bond. All but one of these walls contain a door and/or window, all of which date to after 1978.

The door and window to the front elevation of the repair bay were installed c.2009; the previous arrangement being a pair of timber doors to the same height as the current window and width as the outer edges of the current door and window (Plate 117.4). This itself was a replacement door, the 1927 plan showing the doors being hung from the steel columns. This bay also includes skylights to both pitches of the roof.

The front elevation of the north easternmost bay is of poured concrete. The adjacent bay, adjoining the taller vehicle bays, would have originally had timber gates to access the motorcycle bay but has since been partially bricked-up in stretcher bond, and a door and window inserted (Plate 117.5). This alteration is shown on the 1956/ 78 plan. The current door is a modern replacement. The metal-framed casement window has similar furniture to the adjacent office window which is original to the build. This may indicate reuse from elsewhere, potentially the south western elevation of the building which had three windows until the extension bays were built after 1937. The original window opening has a moulded surround as per the other original openings in this bay.

The north-east elevation displays a blocked doorway, which is still shown as a door on the 1956/ 78 plan. A small timber-framed window is now within the blocked area. Two small metal-framed windows serving the WC and lavatory do not appear on the 1927 electrical plan, although they appear contemporary to the building and would plausibly have been required (Plate 117.6). The window to the northern corner of the building, shown as the rest room on the 1927 plan and now used as a kitchen, has replaced the original window in the north-west elevation; the size of this blocked area suggests there may also have been an unrecorded phase as a doorway. These alterations had occurred by the time of the last update to the surviving plan. The current window frame is a modern UPVC replacement. The edge of the former doorway and the WC and lavatory window

openings have moulded edges, the window within the blocked doorway and the later inserted kitchen window do not. Two chimneys are visible within the roof, either side of the ridge; these serve two fireplaces, now boarded-over, in the two corner rooms, the former office and drivers' rest room.

The rear, north-west elevation of the original building displays the aforementioned blocked window/ doorway in the northernmost office bay with an original metal-framed window to the store room in the adjacent bay (Plate 117.7). The rear of the vehicle bays do not have windows, but a row of vents run along the five vehicle bays beneath the eaves (Plate 117.8). The repair bay, the southernmost of the original block, has the original metal-framed window with a single central opening light, and a later extractor vent above.

The three southernmost tall bays were built to drawing number 4012/37 (Francis 1996), therefore after 1937, and appear on the AP of 1942. The bays are similar to the existing, but they were constructed with metal-framed windows above the doorways to allow in natural light (Plate 117.9) and have tall metal-framed windows, each with two horizontally pivoted lights, to the rear elevation (Plate 117.10). The structure is of rendered 9" brick with two reinforced concrete columns to the front. The two southernmost bays now have metal roller shutter doors rather than the sliding doors detailed on the 1956/ 78 plan and the third bay, adjoining the original phase, has been boarded-over with timber boards and a personnel door inserted. Vents are to the gables at either end of this roof.

A rendered brick-built lean-to structure, contemporary with the extension, at the south-west end contains the boiler room, which is accessed externally, and another room accessed internally (Plate 117.11). A chimney extends from the boiler room and abuts the gable wall. The boiler room is set in a semi-basement and is entered via concrete steps surrounded by railings (Plate 117.12). A louvred timber door, louvred timber vent and a small metal-framed window serve this room. Internally, the walls are of unfinished brick. A metal-framed window which serves the internal room is at the western end of this elevation.

The current external decoration is white painted walls with a grey painted plinth with dark grey or black woodwork, metalwork and rainwater goods, however, the former brown (seen now only on the boiler room door and railings) and earlier green colour schemes of the site are visible where the paint is peeling. The building number plaque is also black-on-white rather than the standard estate white-on-brown.

Interior

Internally, the three taller bays retain the original boarded ceiling with a roof space access hatch. The walls and floor are painted brickwork and concrete respectively. A timber sliding door to the south west wall leads to the room in the lean-to, now used as a 'Shutter Test Room'; the boiler room adjacent to this is not accessible from inside (Plate 117.13). A mezzanine floor has been inserted to the bay adjacent to the original range (Plate 117.14). The rear wall contains the three metal-framed windows described previously. This dividing wall contains three recessed areas between the brick columns which indicate the three blocked windows contained within this formerly external wall; a door leads through to the original repair bay.

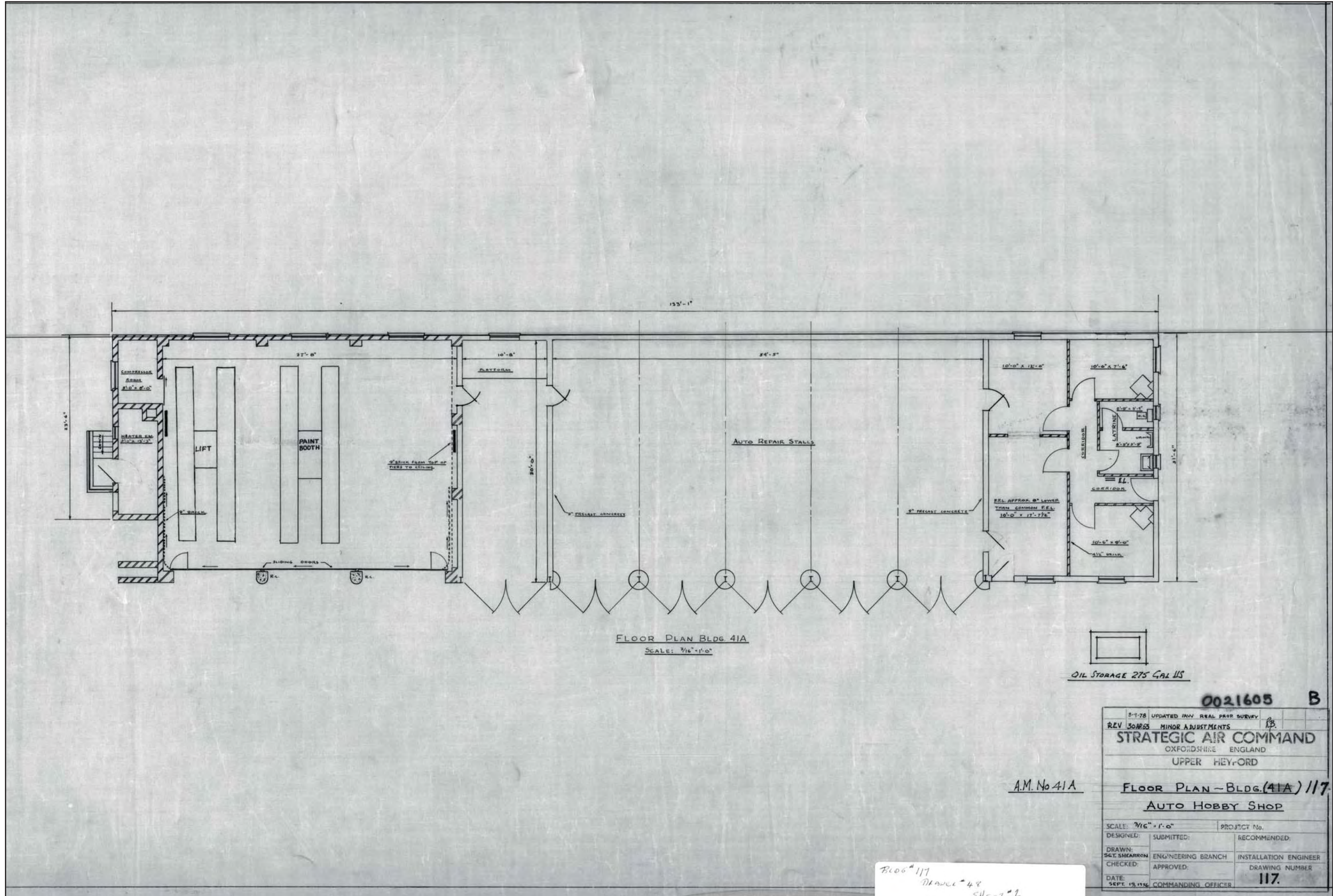
The original repair bay has a modern steel-framed free-standing floor inserted across the whole bay (Plate 117.15), with the staircase at the north-west end utilising the platform indicated on the 1956/78 plan and possibly the same feature marked 'bench' on the 1927 plan. The external door and window to the front elevation are post-2009, and the metal-framed window to the rear has been discussed previously. Traces of a feature, possibly a former inspection pit, are in the centre of the concrete floor and correspond with a feature marked on the 1927 plan, but not on the 1956/ 78 plan. The upper floor is open to the roof, with the sarking boards and steel frame exposed and the skylights provide light to the space. The post-2009 brickwork is unpainted in this area (Plate 117.16).

The workshop area created from the five original vehicle bays has a modern suspended ceiling, the walls are painted poured concrete with painted brickwork to the blocked front elevation and the floor is painted concrete (Plate 117.17). There are three large features in the floor which appear to be filled-in inspection pits or similar, although these are not marked on either of the available plans.

The north-east bays, originally built as a motorcycle bay, office and staff rooms have few original features. The ceiling is a modern suspended ceiling, the walls are plastered and the floors are covered in laminate flooring and linoleum (Plate 117.18). The two fireplaces abutting the north-east external wall have been covered over and plastered (Plate 117.19). The internal doors are modern and the kitchen and WC fittings are recent (Plates 117.20 & 21).

Archive

One plan was identified in the Upper Heyford archive, and two plans of the M.T sheds at the RAF Museum at Hendon, one specifically references the structure at Upper Heyford.



A.M. No 41A

Bldg 117
 Drawn 48
 117

0021605 B	
REV 30/63	UPDATED INV. REAL PROP. SURVEY
MINOR ADJUSTMENTS	
STRATEGIC AIR COMMAND	
OXFORDSHIRE ENGLAND	
UPPER HEYFORD	
FLOOR PLAN - BLDG. (41A) 117	
AUTO HOBBY SHOP	
SCALE: 3/16" = 1'-0"	PROJECT No.
DESIGNED:	SUBMITTED:
DRAWN:	RECOMMENDED:
CHECKED:	ENGINEERING BRANCH
DATE:	INSTALLATION ENGINEER
SEPT. 19. 1978	DRAWING NUMBER
COMMANDING OFFICER	117

Figure 117.1 Floor plan (1978)



Plate 117.1 South-east and south-west elevations



Plate 117.2 South-east and north-east elevations



Plate 117.3 Original hinges surviving on a column



Plate 117.4 The double doors to the former repair bay, removed 2009



Plate 117.5 The door and window now serving the former motorcycle bay



Plate 117.6 North-east elevation



Plate 117.7 North-east elevation and north-west elevation, northern end



Plate 117.8 North-west elevation, southern end



Plate 117.9 Later southernmost bays

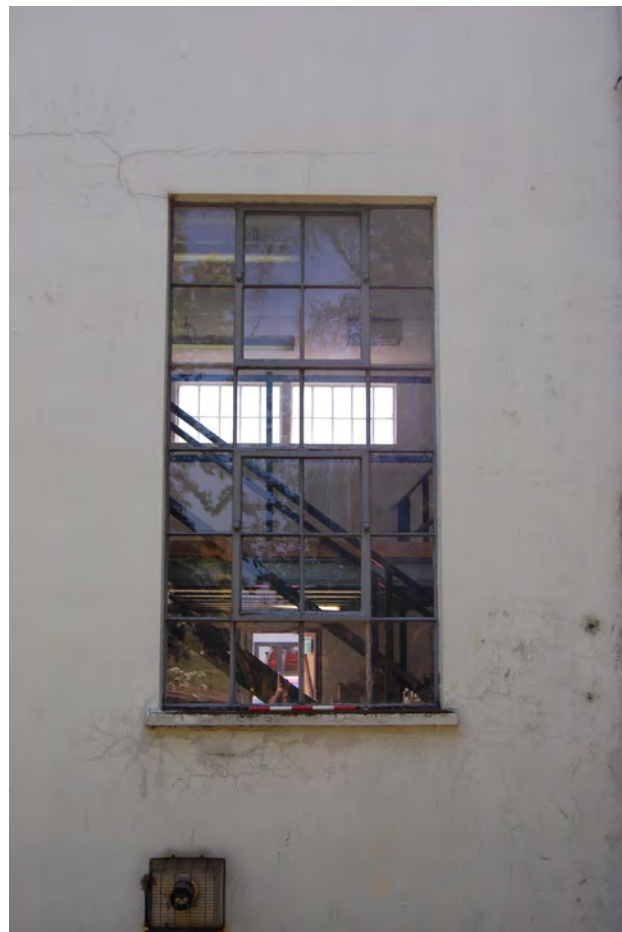


Plate 117.10 An example of a rear window to the tall bays



Plate 117.11 The boiler room, looking east



Plate 117.12 Sunken entrance to the boiler room



Plate 117.13 Entrance to the Shutter Test Room

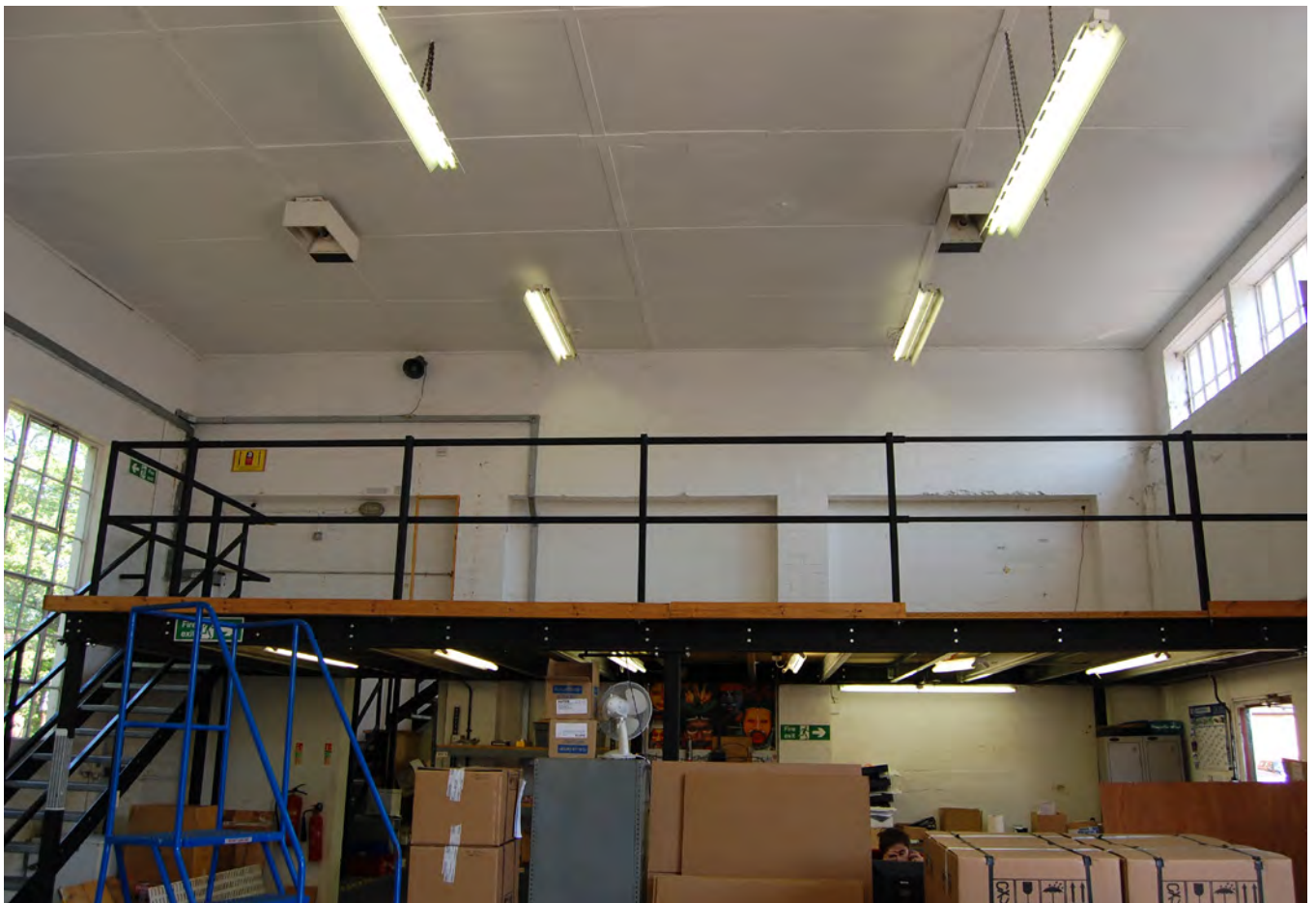


Plate 117.14 Mezzanine floor, looking north-east



Plate 117.15 The lower floor of the former repair bay



Plate 117.16 The upper floor and roof structure of the repair bay



Plate 117.17 The workshop area, looking north-east



Plate 117.18 The office area in the former motorcycle repair bay



Plate 117.19 A disused flue in the north eastern office



Plate 117.20 The modern kitchen, looking north-east



Plate 117.21 The WC, looking north-east

Building 118: Office (Link Trainer)

Description:

NGR: SP 51304 25958

Recording Level: 2

Location

This building is located within Area OA14B, within the Trident area and to the south-east of building 123 and hangar 345.

History/ Function

Building 118 first shown on a plan of 1947, is numbered 118 although it is not possible to read the description other than the word 'link'. The building is evident on a 1942 AP with a camouflaged roof, although it is not visible on a 1937 AP. The building therefore dates from between 1937 and 1942.



A floor plan dated 16 November 1959 and updated 21 July 1978 depicts the division of the building into offices, but it is not clear which date relates to the construction of the partitions.

In the 'Welcome To Britain '82-'83, Your Unofficial Guide to RAF Upper Heyford' magazine, building 118 is labelled as the 'Social Actions Office'.

Description

Aligned north-west to south-east, the building is approximately 16.1m by 8.2m and originally consisted of two mirror-image units which would have each contained a 'Link' brand flight simulator to train pilots to fly in poor visibility using the plane's instruments.

The building is built to drawing number 12386/38 and is of flemish bond brickwork with a flat roof behind a brick parapet. A reinforced concrete band encircles the building several courses below the roof line, acting as a continuous lintel for the windows to all elevations (Plate 118.1).

Two sets of double-doors to the front, north-east, elevation have individual concrete lintels. A concrete-slabbed step extends across both doorways and metal boot scrapers are to either end. Panels, presumably for repair or reinforcement, and a letter box have been added to the left hand side unit's doorway. The 1959/ 78 plan states that the right hand side unit's doorway is blocked, however, the two doorways and the doors to the porchway behind are identical. This indicates the doorway was reinstated and all of the doors replaced soon after the latest plan update or the blocking-up was never actioned (Plate 118.2).

The front and rear elevations each have a hopper and downpipe to either end of the building leading from the flat roof behind the parapet. The original vents are constructed of cut clay tiles; later terracotta vent bricks have been inserted immediately above the slate damp proof course, four courses beneath the existing vents (Plate 118.3).

The left hand side unit retains the dark green paintwork of the site's former colour scheme, whereas the right hand side unit was updated with the brown colour scheme to the windows and rainwater goods; the doors have both since been painted dark blue with the green showing where the paint has cracked. Emergency lighting bulkheads are to the front elevation of the right hand side unit, connected to a black out switch on the pier between the doorways. Coupled with the difference in paint schemes, this suggests that the units may have been in separate occupation for a period, however, there is only evidence for one WC remaining, although the right hand side unit does retain pipework of a former sink unit and so may have been self contained and traces since obscured (Plate 118.4).

Where the original metal-framed windows survive, they are divided horizontally into three panes with the front and rear elevations containing square window frames which pivot horizontally, with the taller windows to the side elevation having the upper two panes as a top-hung casement (Plates 118.5 & .6). Several of the front and rear elevation windows have been replaced with modern uPVC frames (Plate 118.7). Concrete sills are beneath each window. A small metal-framed window of the same style with only the top-hinged upper pane opening has been inserted in the rear elevation of the left hand side unit, to the WC (Plate 118.8). This does not appear on the plan of 1959/78 suggesting that the window has been reused from a building in the vicinity which was of the same period as this building.

A building number plaque in black-on-white rather than the usual white-on-brown for the site is to the southernmost end of the front elevation.

The division between the two original units is by way of a central masonry partition which has since had an opening cut

through it towards the rear of the building, shown on the plan. Stud partitions divide the units into smaller rooms shown on the 1959/ 78 plan, although it is not clear which of these dates the partitions relate to, however, the majority of the internal door furniture is contemporary with the 1959 drawing. The building currently retains roughly the same layout, although several of the partitions have been removed or reduced to revert some areas to open plan. The skirting boards on the later partitions differ to the skirting boards on the external walls.

The internal walls are plastered and painted. The plastered ceiling is level with the top of the concrete string course (Plate 118.9). The original WC door has moved from the south-east partition to the north-east and a kitchenette then installed to the south-east of the WC (Plate 118.10).

The electrical installations, including the sockets, light fittings and wall mounted heaters date to c1980s and the cabling is run in surface mounted metal conduits.

No indication of the base and trunking for the simulators or other evidence of the original use remains, although the floor may retain these below the modern carpet, however the floors of the right hand side unit appear to have a later concrete finish.

Archive

One plan was identified in the Upper Heyford archive.

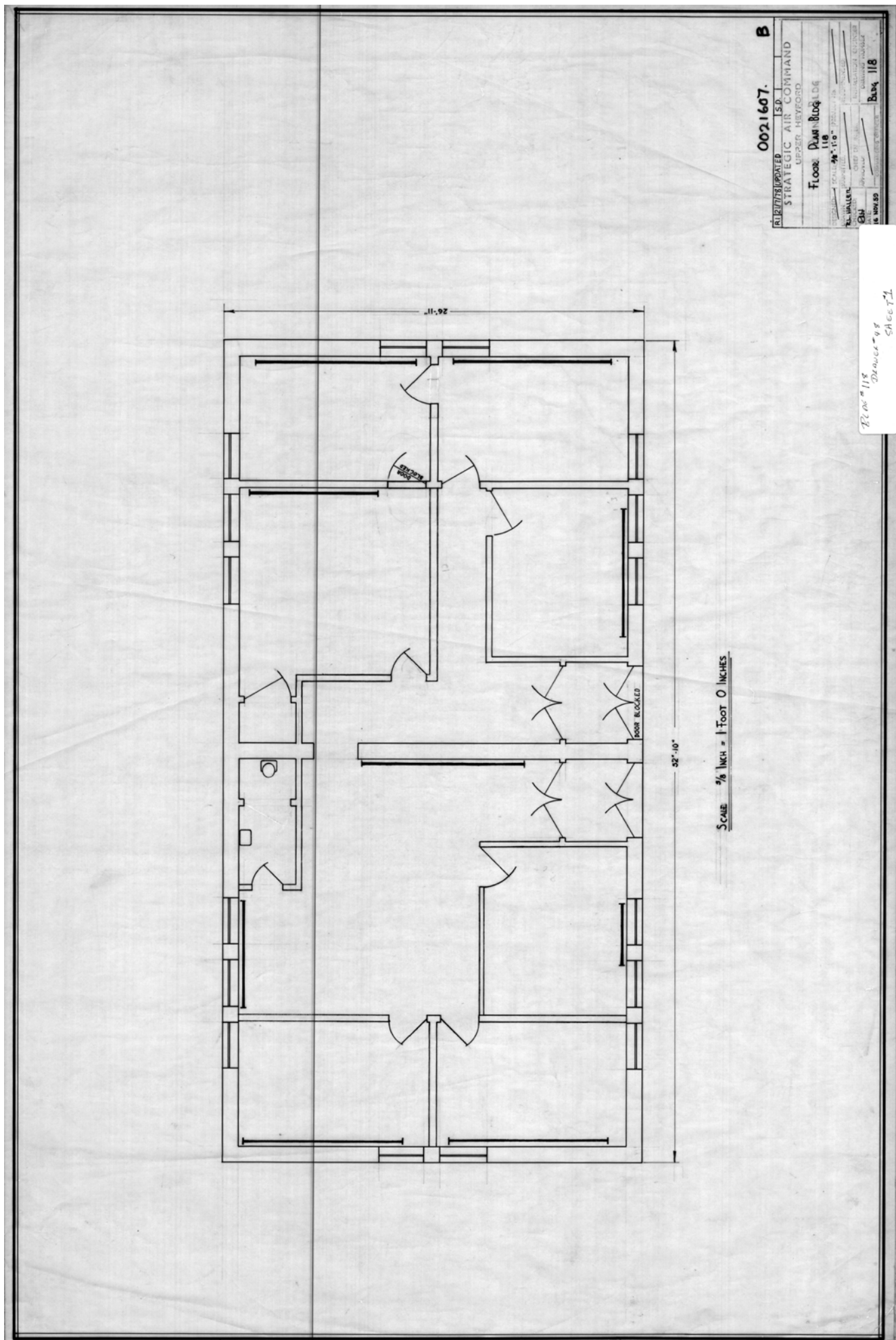


Figure 118.1 Floor plan (1978)



Plate 118.1 North east elevation



Plate 118.2 Entrance double doors to the units



Plate 118.3 Southern end of the north east elevation



Plate 118.4 Right hand unit, southernmost office, looking west



Plate 118.5 South east elevation



Plate 118.6 North west elevation



Plate 118.7 South west elevation



Plate 118.8 The reused window to the WC



Plate 118.9 Internal view of the front elevation



Plate 118.10 Internal view between units, looking north west

Building 119: Garage and Store

NGR: SP 51286 25916

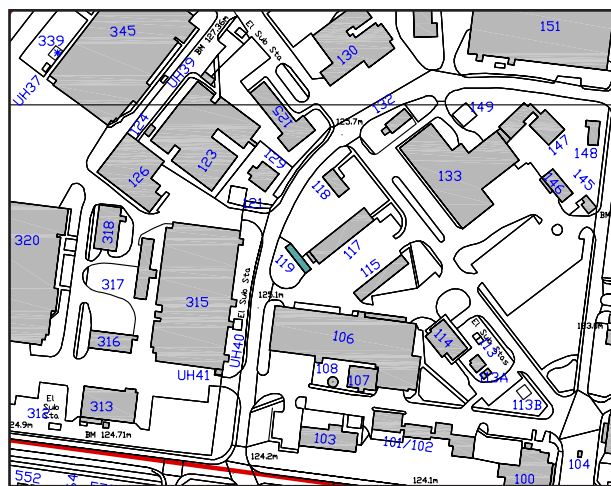
Recording Level: 2

Location

This building is located within Area OA14B, located within the Trident area it is situated at the south-west end of building 117.

History/ Function

Building 119 is shown on a plan of 1945 as building number 103, the 1947 plan describes it as 'Protected ?' (it is not possible to read the second word). The building is first shown on aerial photography of 1942 with a camouflaged roof, although it is not visible on the 1937 AP. The Garage and Store therefore dates from between 1937 and 1942.



The building is part of the Motor Transport section and is constructed to drawing number 6225/37, being the 1937 design for a Protected Long Bay ('protected' in that it has a reinforced concrete roof). The only surviving drawing of this building is a plan dated 28 March 1961 which shows the building to be ostensibly as built.

Description

The building is aligned north west to south east with the only access at the south eastern end where a full height and width doorway, albeit with short returns to either side and above, forms the only access (Plate 119.1). It is built in permanent brick in English bond on a concrete plinth. The reinforced concrete roof has a small parapet.

The building was constructed as an open space for the garaging of trailers and long vehicles, being 19.2m long (18.5m internally) and 4.5m wide (3.75m internally). It is unaltered structurally, but a modern self-supporting, steel-framed mezzanine floor has been inserted at the rear of the room to increase floorspace (Plate 119.2). The internal sliding door noted on the 1961 plan has been replaced recently with a roller door with integral personnel door (Plate 119.3), although the rail for the sliding door remains (Plate 119.4).

The doorway has a concrete lintel over, above which some brickwork has been replaced. The side elevations each contain two high level windows above which a continuous concrete lintel runs above the windows and the space between, both sills are concrete (Plate 119.5). The north western elevation has no features (Plate 119.6).

The plinth, building number to the front and window frames are painted in the brown paint colour of the airfield, although the wooden frame to which the polycarbonate sheets are attached has been painted white. The building number has been painted on the right hand side of the north-west elevation in white on a black background.

The building retains its three-pane crittall-type windows; the panes pivot horizontally. The left hand window of each side elevation has been covered over externally with clear polycarbonate sheets and some windows are barred internally (Plate 119.7).

Internally, the walls are painted brick; the ceiling is painted concrete, patterned with the planks of the shuttering as it was poured. The floor is sealed concrete.

Archive

One plan was identified within the Upper Heyford archive.

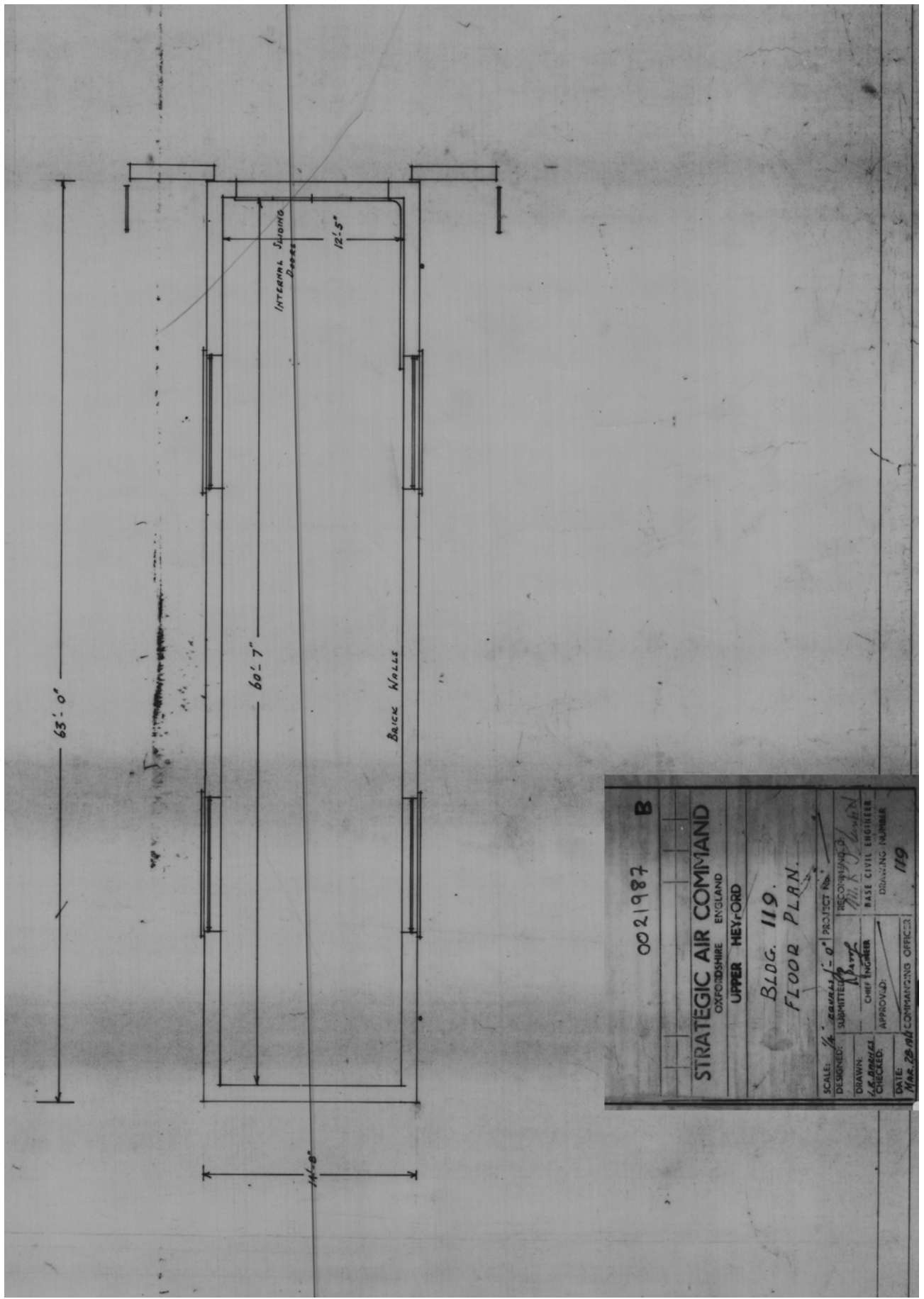


Figure 119.1 Floor plan (1961)



Plate 119.1 South east elevation



Plate 119.2 Area below the mezzanine, looking north west



Plate 119.3 Personnel door for the roller shutter and the rail for the former door



Plate 119. 4 Upper rail for the former door



Plate 119.5 North west and north east elevations

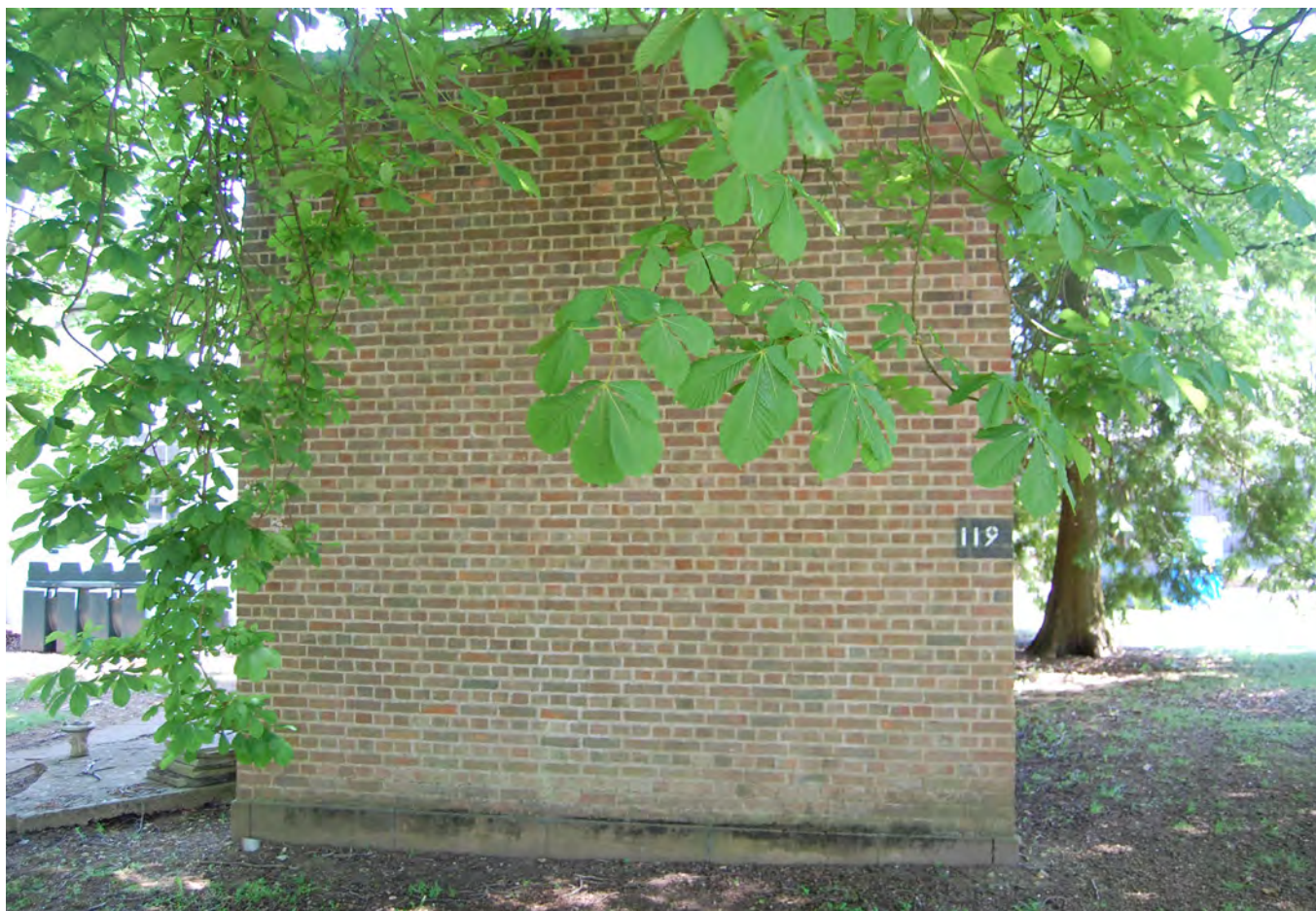


Plate 119. 6 North west elevation



Plate 119. 7 A high level window, barred internally

Building 130: Workshop/ Theatre

NGR: SP 51307 26036

Recording Level: 2

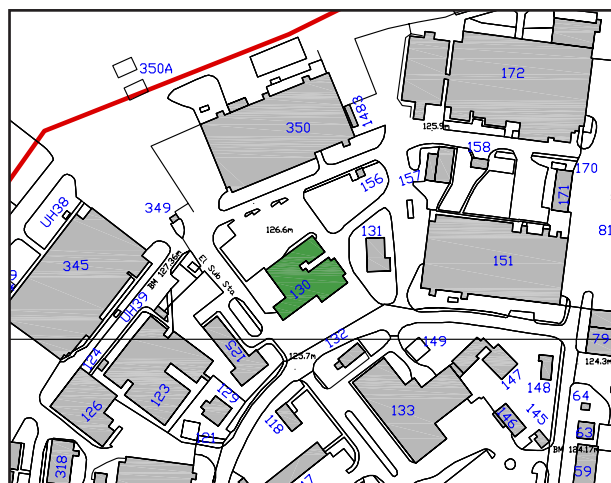
Location

This building is located within Area OA14A, within the area of the large A-frame hangars, between buildings 123 and 151.

History/ Function

Building 130 is the main workshop which is first shown on a plan of 1926 and numbered 9 'Workshops'. It is shown as a roughly square building, but by 1927 it is shown in a similar plan form to the current configuration with a recessed area on the east face. By 1945 the building is numbered 28, and described as 'Workshops?', the plan number appears to read UD/118/27-7296/37 (or 31?).

The building is visible in an AP of 1937 in the layout described on the 1927 site plan.



The Main Workshop was originally for repairs and so it was located in close proximity to the aeroplane hangars. The internal spaces consisted of open bays for the aeroplane repairs with separate workshops for blacksmithing, welding, fabric, engine and airframe repairs etc. (Francis 1996). The *'Welcome To Britain '82-'83, Your Unofficial Guide to RAF Upper Heyford'* magazine, shows a change in function for the structure to a theatre, as building 130 is labelled as the 'Base Theatre/ Clothing Sales'. It is thought that the conversion to a theatre took place in 1948.

A drawing dated 6 October 1960 details modifications to the wing containing the theatre (Fig.130.1), and a drawing dated April 1986 details the re-roofing to the pitched roofs only; the flat roofs remaining unaltered (Fig.130.2).

Description

Originally built to drawing number 1788/25 as a group of three open-bayed sheds, set out in a 'U' shaped linked group with the opening between the wings to the north-east. The buildings have been extended and altered considerably, including in 1937 to drawing number 4296/37 (Francis 1996), however this may not have been carried out until 1941 as a date stone stating 'RAF 1941' is on the south-west facing gable of the projecting extension of the south eastern wing.

The 1941 adaptations include the aforementioned structure to the south-west end of the wing to a height slightly lower than the existing building and the increase in height of the roof of the existing four bays adjoining this (Plate 130.1). A large access door for the aircraft was originally at this end of the wing; it has since been blocked and replaced with two personnel doors, although it is not clear at which point before the 1960 drawing this occurred.

The structure consists of steel trusses supported on brick piers on a permanent-brick structure. The gabled roofs would have originally been covered in slate (Francis 1996), but by the time of the 1986 installation of a metal-clad roof, the specification on the drawing states that the pitched roofs were of corrugated asbestos cement sheets. The original roof covering incorporated skylights, possibly along the length of each slope; boards are visible bridging the gap in the sarking boards where there are gaps in the suspended ceiling (Plate 130.2). According to the specification notes on the 1986 drawing, the roof works retained the steel trusses, softwood purlins and softwood sarking boards. The new battens, insulation and cladding were then fitted to the existing structure. This work also included the demolition of three chimneys, although the locations of these are not detailed on the drawing.

The majority of the extensions are in the space between the two wings (Plate 130.3). It is not possible to ascertain the sequence of their construction from the APs, however, these extensions, although seemingly piecemeal, well pre-date the 1960 drawing and may relate to the aforementioned individual workshops associated with the original function. These small, flat roofed rooms are in either english bond or stretcher bond brickwork and have metal-framed windows and ledge and braced timber doors. These extensions obscure the majority of the original openings within this courtyard which appear to have been tall twenty-paned metal-framed windows to the majority of the bays. They are all accessed via doors into the courtyard, although the extension along the north-western edge of the auditorium, and the larger extension which bridges the space between all of the ranges to the south-west end of the courtyard have doors inserted to enable access from the main buildings.

The extension to the south-east elevation of the north western wing currently has a catslide roof leading from the wing. This structure is certainly an extension although it is unclear if this always had a single pitched roof or if it was flat. The flat-roofed extensions have painted concrete ceilings within.

The extensions to the north-east end of the south-east range were most recently the projector room, battery store and film store (Plate 130.4). Although these are undated, the raised entrance accessed by steps for the projection room suggests that it

was constructed for this purpose during the conversion of this wing to a theatre as it takes into account the raised floor of the auditorium. The two lean-tos to each side abut this. These three additions which abut this elevation obscure any traces of the likely former openings.

The north western elevation currently contains a single doorway to this end of the south-west range (Plate 130.5), which evidently replaces a full height and width doorway which has been bricked-up; the concrete lintel being just visible on the gable wall several courses above the eaves. Originally, metal-framed windows identical to that which remains in the adjacent wing would have lit each bay, but these have since been blocked; a doorway in the bay adjacent to the window has been inserted later. Much of the visible alteration has been obscured by the heavy paintwork. A brown painted double stripe, with grey primer showing through, decorates the brickwork, differentiating between the Communications block and the theatre.

The decoration continues around to the south-west elevation where the word 'COMMUNICATIONS' is painted in the same brown colour with black shadowing (Plate 130.6). A doorway identical to those in the north-west elevation replaces a window to the left hand side of the elevation with a porch over. A partially blocked window is to the bay adjacent to the 1941 extension and the two bays to the left of this have blocked windows. The two bays either side of the door do not appear to have blocked openings, however, thick paintwork obscures the brickwork. The 1941 extension obscures the original gable wall of the south eastern wing which was also increased in height as part of the same project.

The 1941 extension lacks the Communications Squadron's decorative stripe as it forms the backstage area of the theatre. A double leafed door is in the centre of the gable wall with two small eight-pane metal framed windows to either side; the date stone is above this towards the apex. To the north-west elevation of this is a central metal-framed casement window and to the south-east elevation is a central timber-framed casement window with a wooden door to the right of this. A cinema letter board is fitted to the upper left hand corner of this wall.

The south-east elevation of the heightened bays faintly shows the original roofline, although the paint obscures the brickwork and all but obscures the two blocked windows, one to the left hand bay and the bay to the right of this which has been converted to a doorway. A line of vents runs level with the redundant lintels, level with the eaves of the original-height bays to the north east.

The south east elevation of the original bays is all but completely obscured by the entrance and WCs block. The current entrance way extension is a rebuild of the former vestibule and WC which is shown on the 1960 plan, although stylistically the current form appears to have been constructed soon after this. The 1986 plan shows it in its current form. Above the main entrance door is the 'Skyking' illuminated sign with a standard Army & Airforce Exchange Services (AAFES) 'Theater' (sic) sign emphasising the American usage of the site.

The poster frames to the sides of the entrance doors are labelled 'Army & Airforce Motion Picture Services' which merged with the AAFES in 1975.

The original colour scheme of white painted brickwork with a brown painted plinth and brown windows, doors, woodwork and the older rainwater goods, which is common across the base, is visible. However, the earlier colour scheme of mid-green walls with dark green details can be seen where the paint has peeled.

The southernmost wing has been converted into a theatre and cinema facility. This conversion possibly occurred in 1948 as a note on the modification plans of 1960 reference a schedule of specifications of 1948. This also corresponds with the style of the surviving panelling and door furniture of the vestibule-to-auditorium doorways which survived the entrance rebuild (Plate 130.7). During the 1960 works, the stage area was remodelled in order to provide a larger cinema screen. The surrounding decorative timberwork was altered and bespoke planters constructed to either side (Plate 130.8). The current interior décor obscures any indication of blocked openings.

The floor of the auditorium has been raised towards the north eastern end (Plate 130.9). The modern suspended ceiling slopes upwards towards the screen end of the auditorium (Plate 130.10). The original radiators remain along the side walls of the auditorium which were concealed by panelling and grilles; vents allowed the heat to circulate into the auditorium. Behind the screen, the original speaker 'The Voice of the Theatre' remains in situ (Plate 130.11). The original blue leatherette and round wooden backed seats are stored underneath the stage. The stage is constructed of sawn softwood frame.

Doors to either side of the screen lead to dressing rooms (Plate 130.12), with WC and a loading area. The wall in which the doors are located is the original end wall and evidence remains of the large aeroplane access door which was blocked when the extension was built in 1941 (Plate 130.13). All of the partition walls to the extension are of brick, including the corridor formed between the two phases.

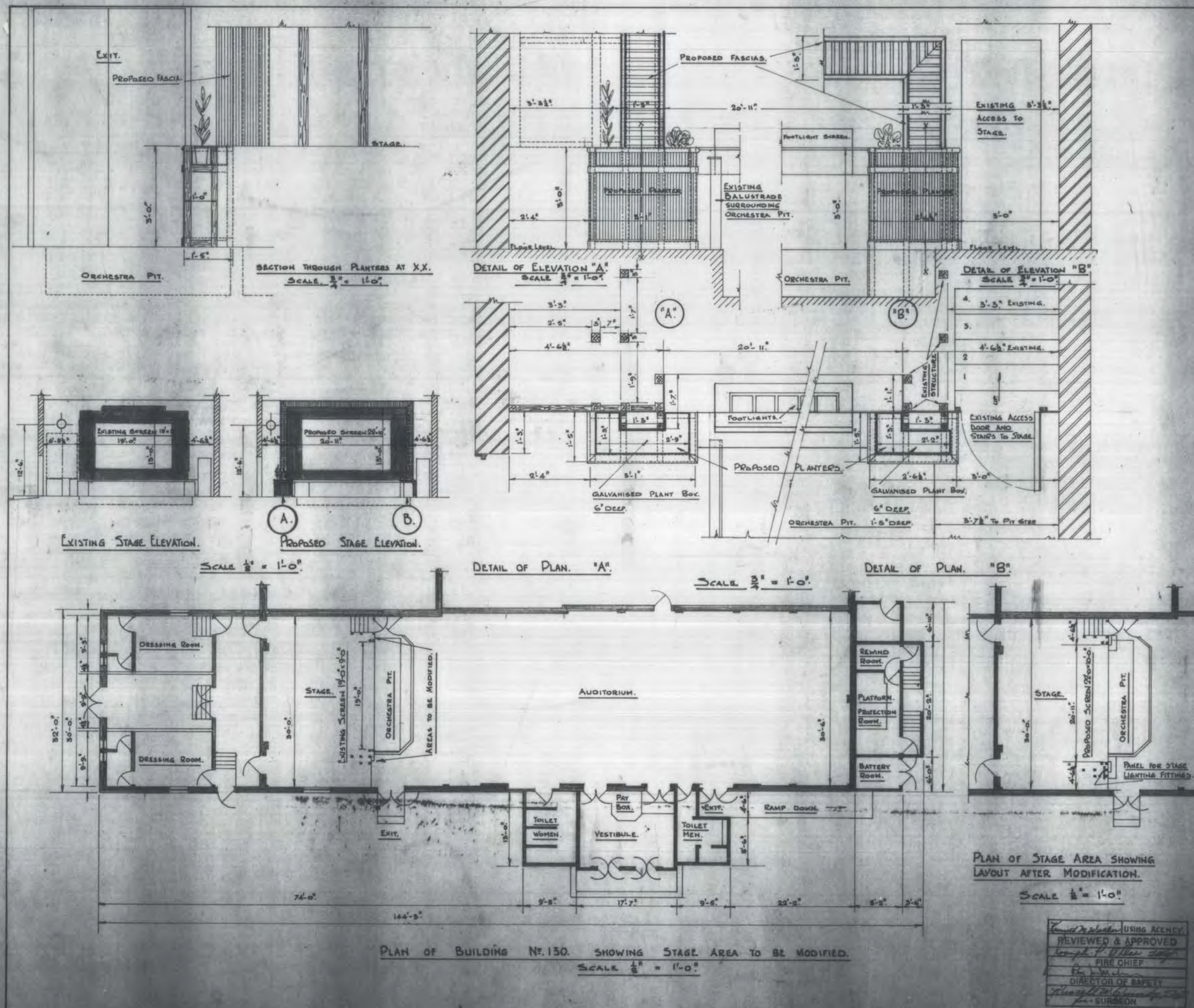
The south western and north western ranges have been partitioned into small offices and no features of the workshops are visible. In the westernmost corner, a partitioned office has hatches opening out onto the adjoining corridor; counters are to the office-side of the partition which contain drawers, cupboards and shelves below in arrangement conducive with a

distribution function (Plate 130.14). The aforementioned '*Welcome To Britain '82-'83...*' magazine lists this building as including 'Clothing Sales' and so this may be related to this function. The latest usage for this area of the building, according to the signage on the board and painted on the wall, is for the 620th Communication Squadron.

The offices have a modern suspended ceiling to the whole area. The stud partitions do not extend upwards to meet the ceiling and some areas are decorated with faux wooden panelling to dado level to the corridor face (Plate 130.15). The external walls are painted brick. There is occasional built-in furniture in other rooms, although these do not indicate specific functions.

Archive

Two drawings were identified in the Upper Heyford archive.



OUTLINE SPECIFICATIONS.

B & C.E. WORK.

1. REMODEL STAGE AREAS AS SHOWN TO PROVIDE NEW FASCIA SURROUNDS AND TWO NEW PLANTERS.
2. CONSTRUCTION OF FASCIAS TO BE LIGHTWEIGHT, SOFTWOOD CONSTRUCTION FACED WITH APPROVED HARDBOARD.
3. PROVIDE AND FIX ALL NECESSARY TIES AND SCANTLING TO ENSURE STABILITY OF FASCIA OVER STAGE.
4. PLANTERS TO BE OF SOFT WOOD CONSTRUCTION, FACED WITH APPROVED HARDBOARD, COMPLETE WITH GALVANISED WATERTIGHT TRAYS, AND SKIRTING BOARDS AND NOSINGS AS SHOWN.
NOTE: THE PLANTERS MUST BE MADE TO FIT THE TWO DIFFERENTLY SHAPED SIDE LOCATIONS.
5. DECORATE WITH PRIMER, UNDERCOAT AND ONE FINISHING COAT WITH OIL BASED PAINTS TO COLOURS TO BE DECIDED BY PERSONNEL SERVICES OFFICER.
6. PROVIDE AND FIX ALL NECESSARY ACCESSORIES TO PROVIDE A COMPLETE END - ITEM FACILITY.

M & E. WORK.

7. REMOVE THE FOLLOWING FITTINGS, MOUNT ON WOODEN PANEL AND REFIX AS NEAR TO EXISTING POSITION AS ALTERATIONS PERMIT.
 - (a). 3x5 AMP SOCKET OUTLETS FOR FOOTLIGHTS.
 - (b). 1 1/2 FUSE BOX AND PUSH BUTTON CONTROL BOX FOR MAIN CURTAIN.
 - (c). 3x5 AMP SOCKET OUTLETS (500W).
 - (d). 1x5 AMP SOCKET OUTLET FOR ELECTRIC CLOCK.
 - (e). 3x5 AMP SOCKET OUTLETS FOR PROSCENIUM LIGHTING.
8. CENTRALISE FOOTLIGHTS AND PROSCENIUM LIGHTING.
9. REPOSITION ELECTRIC CLOCK.

SPECIFICATIONS.

W.D. SCHEDULE 1948. & AMENDMENTS.

FOR ELECTRICAL DETAILS SEE DWG. NO. 28/C/85.

REVISIONS:-

STRATEGIC AIR COMMAND
OXFORDSHIRE ENGLAND
UPPER HEYFORD
MODIFICATION OF STAGE
BASE THEATRE.
BUILDING NO. 130

SCALE AS SHOWN.	PROJECT NO. UPP/285/6.
DESIGNED BY: [Signature]	RECOMMENDED BY: [Signature]
CHECKED BY: [Signature]	BASE CIVIL ENGINEER
APPROVED BY: [Signature]	DRAWING NUMBER
DIRECTOR OF SAFETY	UPP/B/500
FOR SURVEYOR	

BLOC 130

DRAWN 48

Figure 130.1 Floor plan (1960)



Plate 130.1 South-east elevation



Plate 130.2 Roof structure and blocked skylights above the stage



Plate 130.3 Yard area and infill between the two north east wings



Plate 130.4 North east elevation of the south eastern wing



Plate 130.5 North-west elevation



Plate 130.6 South-west elevation



Plate 130.7 Doors between the vestibule and auditorium



Plate 130.8 Decorative woodwork and planters to the edge of the stage



Plate 130.9 Auditorium, looking north-east towards the projector room



Plate 130.10 South east wall of the auditorium, including ceiling levels



Plate 130.11 Cinema speaker behind the screen



Plate 130.12 South eastern dressing room, looking south-west



Plate 130.13 First bay of the south-west extension, looking south east



Plate 130.14 Drawer and cupboard unit in the western corner



Plate 130.15 Example of the partitions in the south-west and north west ranges

Building 131: Boiler House

NGR: SP 51353 26049

Recording Level: 1

Location

This building is located within Area OA14A, within the area of the A Frame hangars, between hangar 151 and building 130.

History/ Function

Building 131 is not shown on the 1954 AP, or on the 1947 plan of the site. Site records show that it dates from 1965, which is in line with the architectural form of the building.

Description:

The building is brick-built with a rectangular footprint, and large aluminium windows in vertical sections with concrete lintels and sills. It is single storey but double height with a flat ashfelt roof, and vents visible on the roof.

The south-east elevation (front) has a single storey projection, also with a flat ashfelt roof, at the south-west end (Plate 131.1).. This has a simple three light crittal window and a single timber door. On the north-east face of this projection are two small crittal toilet, which provide light to an internal sanitary area. There are double timber slated doors providing access to the plant area towards the north-east end of the building. There is also a simple timber single-storey structure with wire fencing surrounding it.

The south-west elevation has a simple timber door and various pipes extending from it around the rear of the building and into the ground.

The north-west (rear) elevation has a set of vertical windows and three large rectangular areas which have been boarded up with corrugated sheets (Plate 131.2). Vents are visible in some areas of boarding and it is probable that these areas were former ventilation for the boiler house. These are brown, with green paint visible beneath. There are various pipes extending from the elevation around to the south-west elevation and into the ground.

The north-east elevation two sets of windows but otherwise no features of interest.

Internally pre-cats concrete panels are visible, and the building is painted cream throughout. The building is divided into two main areas; the 'Pump Room' to the south-west, and the 'Boiler Room' to the north-west (Plates 131.3 & .4). Plant is visible, which appears to survive in good condition. Within the 'Pump Room' is a water purification system, in addition to pumps (for summer and winter). Within the main 'Boiler Room' (within the north-east half of the building), are three boilers with steps leading up providing access for maintenance etc. of the boilers. On the internal front elevation area are switches for boilers. The small extension at the front of the building is a 'Water Testing Lab' with a sink to wash corrosive material, in addition to a sanitary area.

Archive

One plan was identified in the Upper Heyford archive.

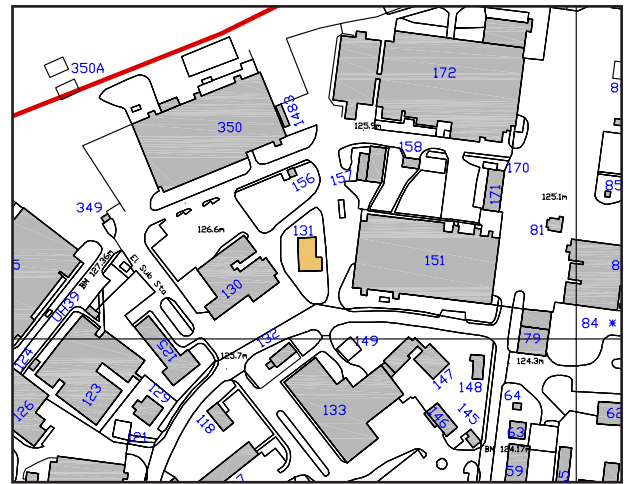




Plate 131.1 South-east (front) elevation



Plate 131.2 Rear (north-west) elevation

Building 145: Inflammables Store

NGR: SP 51446 25945

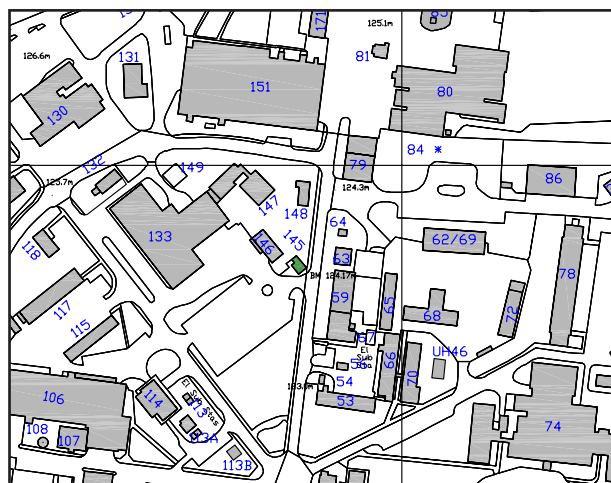
Recording Level: 2

Location

This building is located within Area OA14B, it is situated within the Trident area, to the east of building 133.

History/ Function

The building is shown on a plan of 1926, numbered 66 and described as 'Store-Flammable'. It is next to the Lubricant Store (146). In the 1947 plan it is numbered 47 and described as 'Flammable Store'. The building is visible on an AP of 1937 and the 1942 AP shows the painted camouflage on the roof.



Description

A single phase building with no signs of alteration, this store was built to drawing number 329/26, being a 1926 design for a set of two buildings intended as Lubricant Store and adjacent Inflammables Store. The associated Lubricant Store (building 146) has a date stone stating 1926 which corresponds with the drawing number suffix.

The building is aligned north-west to south-east and in plan is a rectangular building of approximately 7.4m by 5.3m, with a projection of approximately 2m by 3.5m to the north of the north-west end of the building (Plate 145.1).

Built to house flammable materials, the internal and external walls are of 9" (23cm) thick brickwork built in english bond, the felted flat roof is of reinforced concrete and the floor is also of concrete.

The doors and frames are metal with louvres above and there are vents to the roof of each room to provide ventilation of fumes (Plate 145.2). Low level terracotta vents to each room are in the south west, north-west and north-east walls which appear to be later inserts (Plate 145.3). Concrete lintels are above each opening and the window sills and door thresholds are concrete; shallow concrete ramps lead to the doors in the two south western elevations.

The doors, windows, window bars and rainwater goods are painted with the standard brown of the airfield with the previous dark green colour scheme below, visible where the brown paint is peeling.

A small area of brickwork has been replaced to the left of the lintel of the southernmost door of the south-east elevation (Plate 145.4).

The north east and south east elevations are painted with a black rectangle with '145' in white paint; a green rectangle is painted below with 'AM No. 145' in white paint with the black undercoat visible where the paint has weathered (Plate 145.5). The black rectangle of the south-east elevation has been covered with the standard brown plaque with white characters common on the airfield (Plate 145.6), an identical plaque has been screwed to the south-west elevation which doesn't appear to have previously displayed a number.

The building is divided into four rooms:

The large central room is accessed via the door in the south western elevation and also contains the window to the left of the door and the two central windows in the north-east elevation (Plates 145.7 & 8). This was not accessible.

The small room in the projection to the north-west is accessed via the door in its south-west elevation (Plate 145.9), the window is opposite the door. The walls are cream painted brickwork with the same finish to the concrete skirting, the concrete of the ceiling is painted white and the floor is unfinished concrete. A red 'NO SMOKING' sign has been stencilled underneath the window. A modern wooden rack has been attached to the north western wall (Plate 145.10).

The south eastern end of the building is divided into two rooms: the largest of the two is the same size as the projecting room at the other end of the building. It is accessed via the northernmost door in the south-east elevation (Plate 145.11), the window is in the north eastern elevation. The walls are painted cream with an area to the north-east of the door indicating where shelving or similar has been removed (Plate 145.12), the skirting is black and the ceiling is painted white. The floor is unfinished concrete with painted thick white lines marking out two numbered bays in the north eastern end of the room (Plate 145.13). The same 'NO SMOKING' sign as aforementioned has been stencilled opposite the door.

The smaller room, the southernmost room of the building, is accessed via the southernmost door of the south-east elevation,

its window is the southernmost of the south-west elevation. The walls and ceiling are painted with brown gloss with a black painted concrete skirting. The floor is unfinished concrete (Plate 145.14).

Archive

One drawing was identified in the Upper Heyford archive.

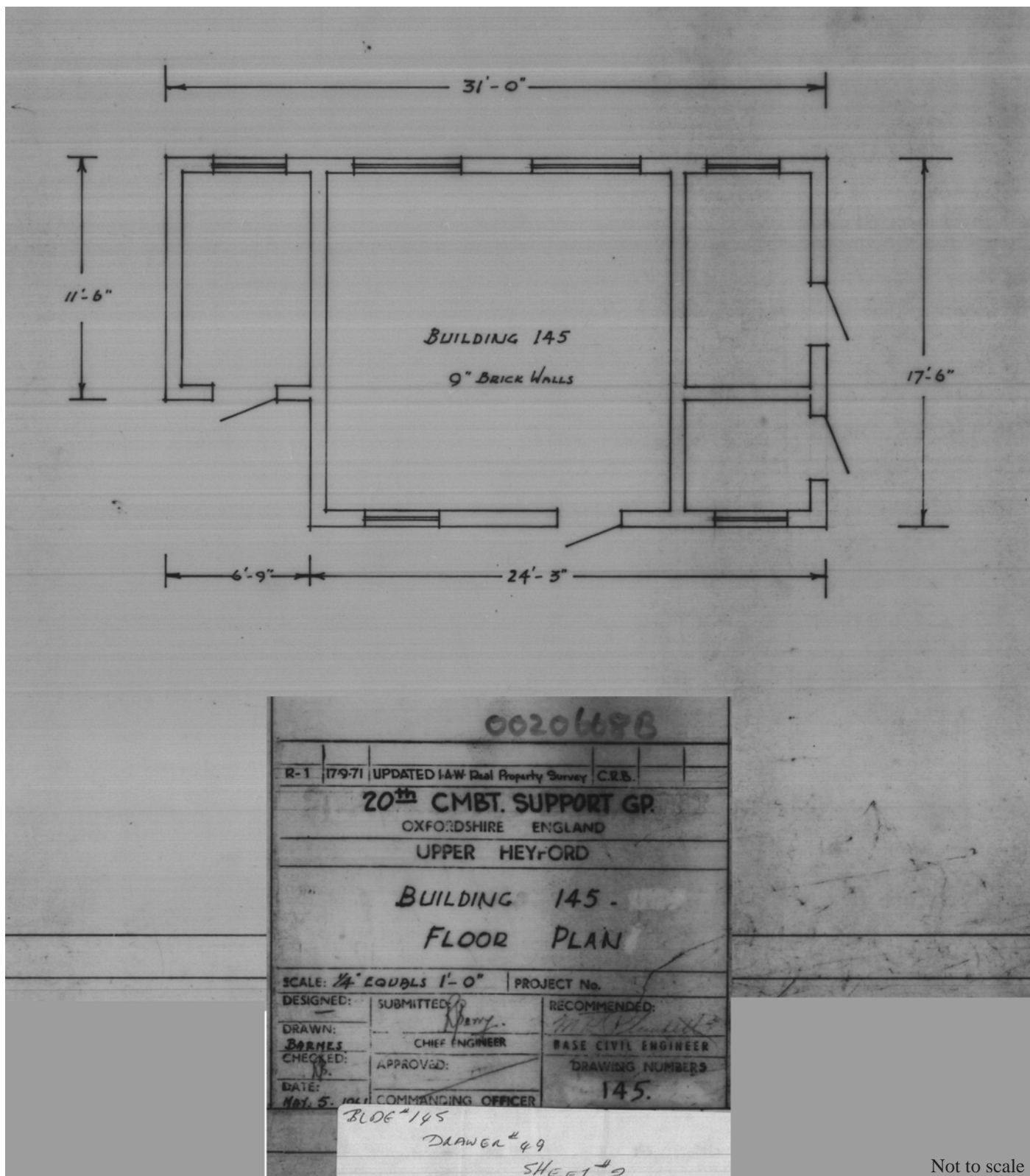


Figure 145.1 Floor plan (1971)



Plate 145.1 South-west elevation



Plate 145.2 Example of the ventilation louvres above the doors and concrete roof



Plate 145.3 North-west elevation



Plate 145.4 South-east elevation

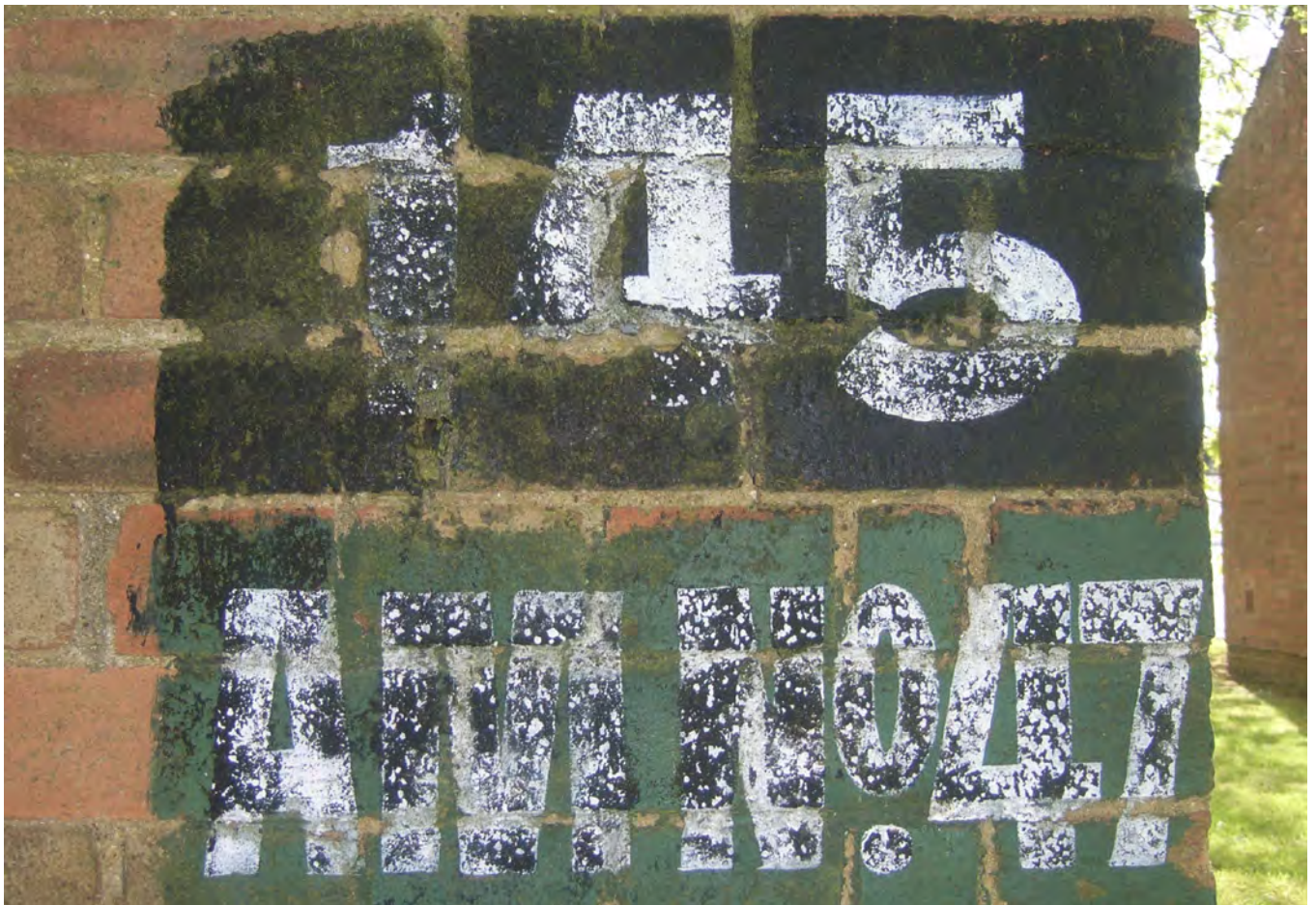


Plate 145.5 Two phases of building numbers



Plate 145.6 Building numbers and later number plaque



Plate 145.7 South-west elevation



Plate 145.8 North-east elevation



Plate 145.9 Entrance to the small north-west room



Plate 145.10 Interior of the small north-west room



Plate 145.11 South-west and south-east elevations



Plate 145.12 Easternmost room to the south-east end, looking north-east



Plate 145.13 Painted bays on the floor



Plate 145.14 Southernmost room to the south-east end, looking north west

Building 146: Lubricant Store

NGR: SP 51430 25956

Recording Level: 2

Location

This building is located within Area OA14B, it is situated within the Trident area, to the east of building 133 and adjacent to the Inflammables Store, building 145.

History/ Function

The building is shown on a plan of 1926, numbered 65 and described as 'Store-Lubricant'. In the 1947 plan it is numbered 46 and described as 'Lubricant Store'. The building is visible on an AP of 1937 and the 1942 AP shows the painted camouflage on the roof.



Description

A single phase building with no indication of structural alteration, this store was built to drawing number 329/26, being a 1926 design for a set of two buildings intended as Lubricant Store and adjacent Inflammables Store (Fig.146.1) (also see Fig. 145.1). A date stone stating 1926 is to the right of the door to the south eastern room which corresponds with the drawing number suffix (Plate 146.1).

The gabled, pitch-roofed rectangular building is aligned north-west to south east, approximately 18.5m by 8m in total, and consists of a raised space designed as a lubricant store and a slightly lower-roofed space of approximately 3.25m wide at the southern end of the building designed for use as a liquid container store and with its floor at ground level. Covered areas are either side of the west corner of the building (Plate 146.2).

The larger lubricant store is constructed on a platform faced in vitrified red bricks in english bond. This platform, taking into account the sloping ground level, raises the floor level by approximately a metre to enable vehicles to back up to the covered area and roll barrels of oil directly from the vehicle to the covered platform and then to the storage area.

Built to house flammable substances, the internal and external walls are of 9" (23cm) thick brickwork built in english bond with a slate damp proof course to each range according to the floor level. Steel roof trusses are supported on half-brick-thick piers supporting timber rafters, over which is a slate roof on narrow sarking boards which are laid running from the apex to the eaves. A steel cage is affixed between the trusses and timbers in the lubricant store (Plate 146.3). Both rooms are open to the roof.

Skylights along the length of all four roof slopes form the only windows to the building and are covered to the inside in the lubricant store by the aforementioned steel cage. Two roof vents are to the apex in the liquid container store room (Plate 146.4); the drawing number 329/26 shows four of the same in the lubricant store, although they are no longer extant. Floor level terracotta vents to each room are in the north-west (Plate 146.5) and south-east (Plate 146.6) walls which appear be later inserts.

Each space has one doorway in the south-west elevation: sheet metal covered ledge and braced wooden double doors serve the lubricant store and steel doors faced with plywood are to the liquid container store. The doors to the lubricant store were originally externally mounted sliding doors, as shown on the 1961 plan, and faint marks from this survive above the current doors.

The covered area to the north-west elevation consists of a simple felted timber-framed flat roof supported by four rolled steel joists acting as columns to the front and attached to the brickwork to the rear. The unloading platform is a concrete slab on an English bond vitrified brick-faced base with two sets of four steps, one set into the rear right of the platform, the other, cast separately, at the front left. To the north-west end of the platform is a circular concrete cap, c.126cm in diameter, with a thin metal catch which is potentially the capping stone for a storage tank, however, it was not possible to move the cap to confirm the usage (Plate 146.7).

The covered area to the north west end is not on the original design, although the current canopy structure is contemporary with that of the loading platform and the platforms are of the same materials. Shadows on the APs available obscure this end of the building. A ground level concreted area is to the front of this platform and is under the area of the canopy with an angle bracket along the ground between columns, probably for a timber frame enclosing the area (Plate 146.8). There are no steps up to this platform, nor is there an entrance into the building in this elevation and so it may be assumed that this was for less secure storage. Both platforms have the same concrete skirting as the internal areas.

The areas behind the downpipes at the join of the two spaces have been rendered (Plate 146.9). Concrete lintels are above both doors. Many areas have been repointed, especially under the eaves and verge, but no other signs of alteration are present other than the installation of the terracotta vents. The rainwater goods and woodwork are painted with the standard brown of the estate with the previous dark green colour scheme below, visible where the brown paint is peeling. The exceptions are the doors which are painted black; the liquid container store doors being much degraded.

A fire extinguisher box and a sign detailing emergency procedure are to the right of the lubricant store door. Various modern light fittings, speakers and other electrical fittings are to most elevations.

To the southernmost ends of the north-east and south-west elevations is a painted black rectangle with the standard brown plaque with '146' in white characters as per the building identification plaques on the airfield; a green rectangle is painted below with 'AM No. 46' (the previous building number) in white (Plate 146.10). To the southern end of the south-east gable are the remains of an orange painted sub-circular shape with a dark blue illegible number or letter. Timber set into the joints in the brickwork adjacent to this, and at the opposite end of the elevation, suggest fixtures which may relate to the signage, as does the paint and fixing fragments to the area surrounding the Lubricant Store doors.

The Lubricant Store is of four bays; the space is open to the roof which is lined with the aforementioned steel mesh; the north-west bay and a small area inside the doorway is separately caged (Plate 146.11). A pair of black painted metal gates are immediately behind the double entrance doors. The unplastered brick walls are painted white with grey paintwork visible where the paint has peeled, the concrete render skirting is painted grey, as is the underside of the roof and the concrete floor, the majority of the metalwork is painted white with the exception of the gates to the entrance doors which are black.

Two hot water fed space heaters are in the upper corners of the west and east corners of the room (Plate 146.12). The hot water feed pipes are connected to building 148. Later Dimplex electric wall heaters are in the caged area next to the door and to the north-west wall, presumably fitted after the flammable lubricants ceased to be stored here. Various modern electrical fittings, including an electricity meter, are also present.

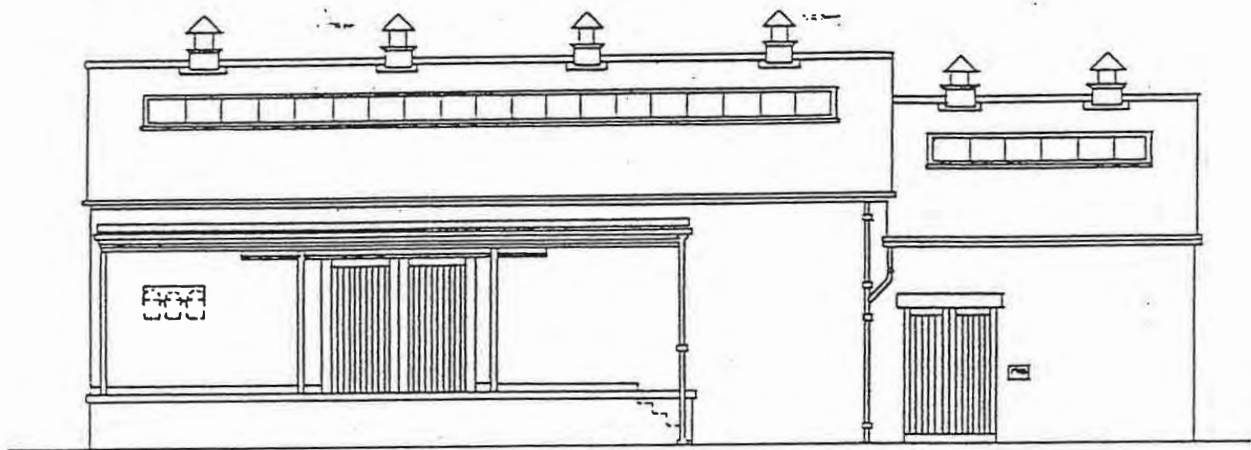
Anecdotal information offered to the surveyor suggests that the building was later used as a secure store or armoury, which would account for the metal mesh and gates appearing to be a later addition to the building.

The two-bay liquid container storage area does not have the wire mesh between the joists which is present in the adjoining room. The decoration is the same as the lubricant store with the exception of the truss which is painted black (Plate 146.13). Two types of fluorescent light fittings are attached to the underside of the truss and a switch and socket are the only fittings in the space.

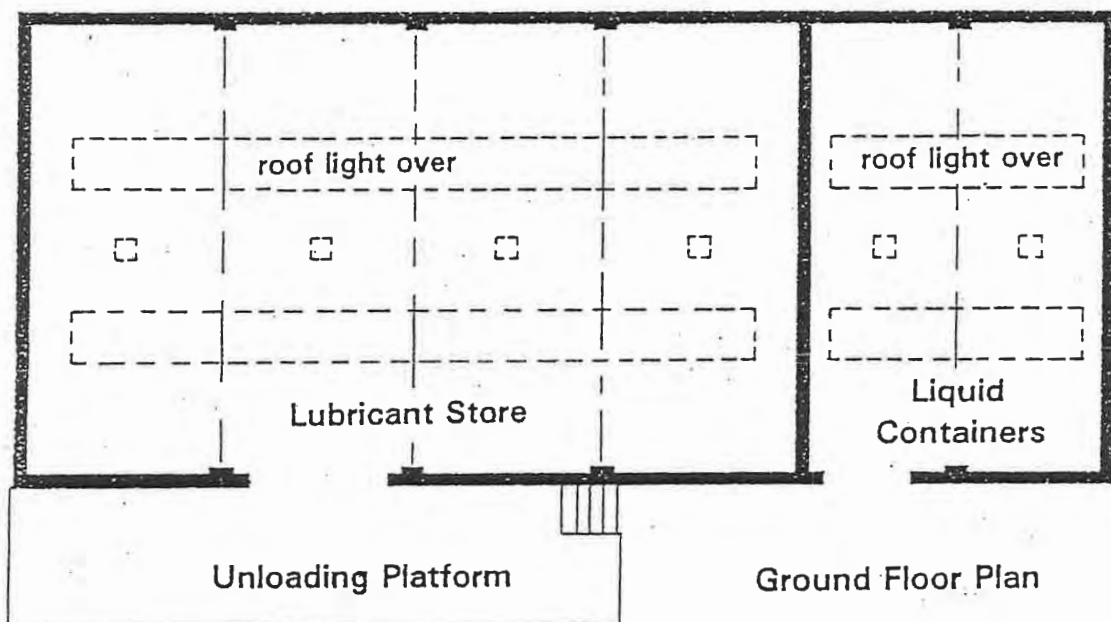
The internal faces of the entrance doors have masking tape attached with three modern philosophies handwritten in red: *'All processes of nature are successful - nature knows no failure. She never plans anything but success'*. *'Either create or disintegrate'*, *'If something is not in the process of growing, it must, by the laws of it's being, be dying'*. To the left of the doorway on the face of the brick pillar is a grey, black and white silhouette (Plate 146.14).

Archive

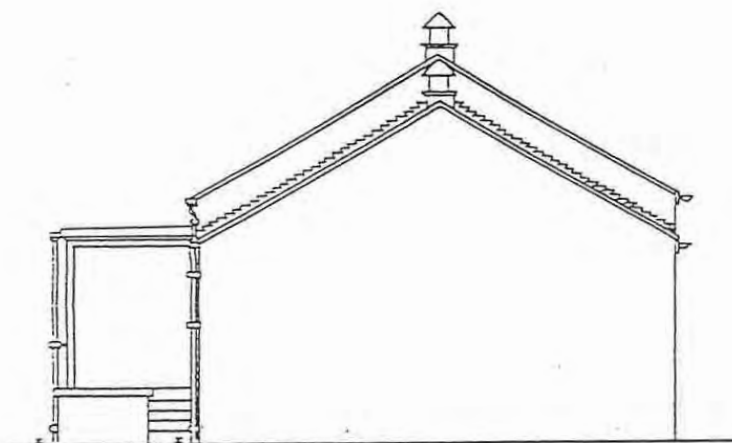
One drawing was identified in the Upper Heyford archive.



Front Elevation



Ground Floor Plan



Side Elevation

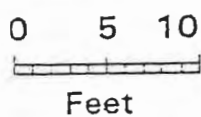


Figure 146.1 Lubricant Store construction drawing (329/26)



Plate 146.1 The date stone in the south-west elevation



Plate 146.2 South-west elevation



Plate 146.3 Lubricant store, looking south-west



Plate 146.4 Roof vents, looking north-east



Plate 146.5 North-west elevation



Plate 146.6 South-east elevation



Plate 146.7 Concrete capping to the western corner of the Lubricant Store



Plate 146.8 Shelter to the north-west end



Plate 146.9 North-east elevation



Plate 146.10 Three phases of building numbering

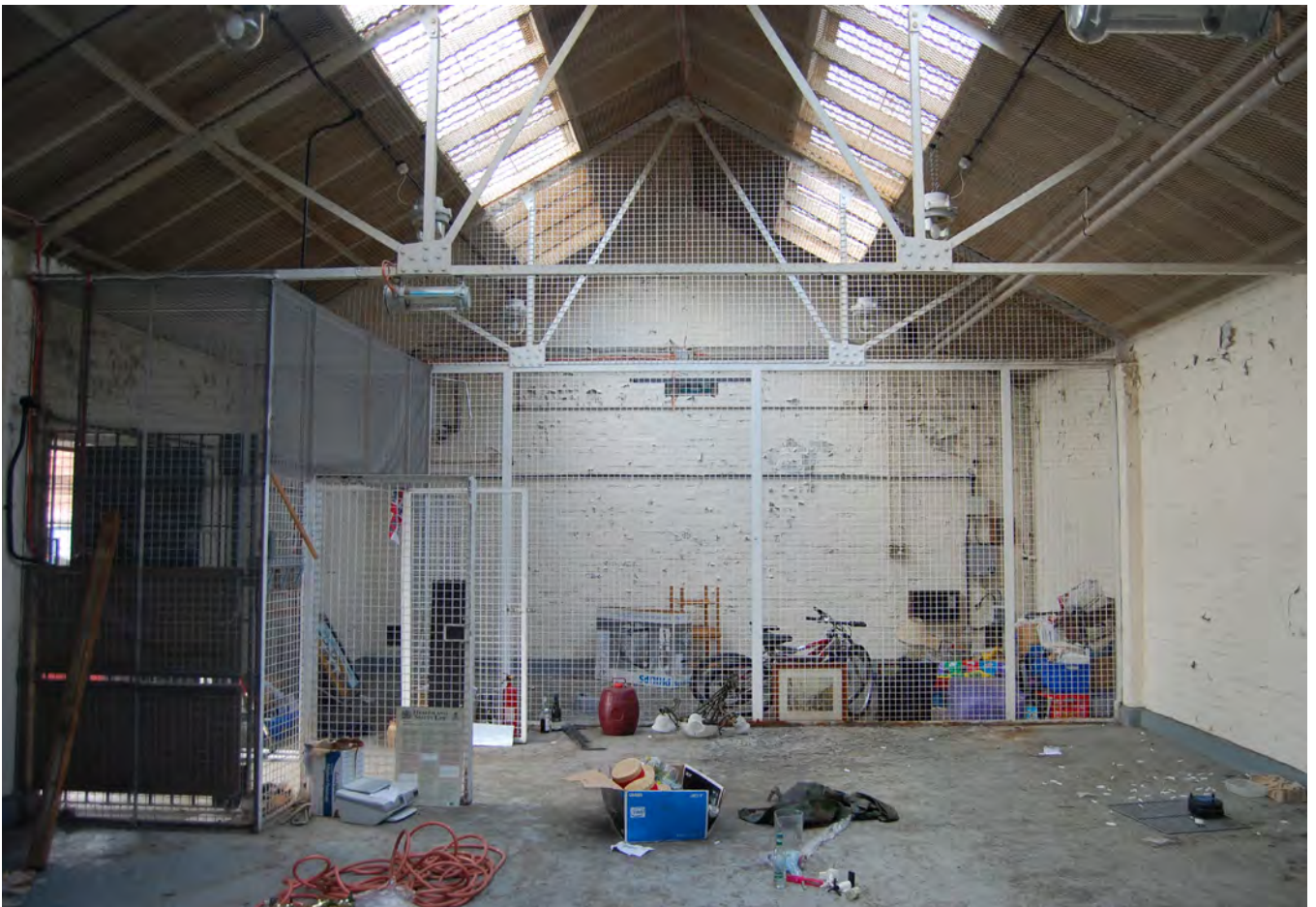


Plate 146.11 Lubricant store, looking north-west



Plate 146.12 Space heater in the Lubricant Store



Plate 146.13 Roof structure in the Lubricant Store



Plate 146.14 Doors to the Lubricant Store including artwork

Building 147: Link Trainer Building

NGR: SP 51423 25988

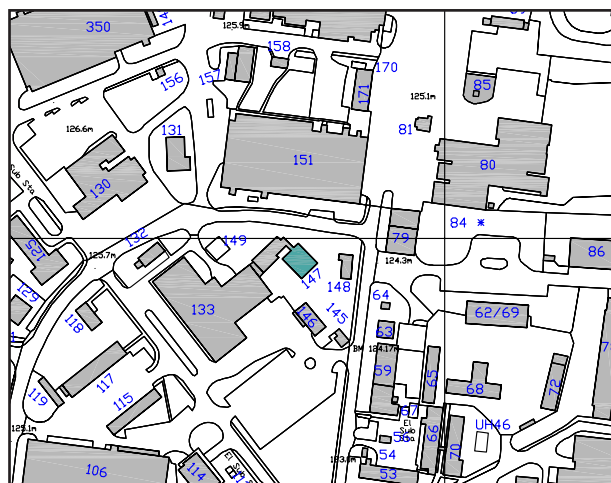
Recording Level: 2

Location

This building is located within Area OA14B, it is within the trident area and to the rear of building 133 (the former main stores and church).

History/ Function

The eastern element of building 147 is thought to be visible in the 1937 AP of the former airbase, although this lacks clarity. It is visible in the 1942 AP with a camouflaged roof, and it is also visible in the 1954 aerial photography (without the later western element). A plan of 1945 shows the building, and it is described on the 1947 plan as building 102 'Link Trainer?'. As it is not shown on earlier plans from the late 1930s and the 1937 AP lacks clarity, it therefore seems likely that the building dates from the early 1940s. This structure has been significantly extended in the 1980s when a prefab single storey range has been added orientated north-east to south-west.



Description

The building dates from the late 1930s/ early 1940s, but has been extended in the 1980s. It is now in a depilated condition with three elements (Plate 147.1); the first which is orientated north-east to south-west is a pre-fab building linked to building 133 via an overhead passage (Plate 147.2). The 1980s prefab structure is 'Civilian Personnel Offices', and appears internally to be subdivided into standard offices. The second element is the primary build and orientated north-west to south-east, and is of more substantial concrete construction (Plate 147.3). The primary build is 'Plant Room No.1' and is linked to the prefab structure by a small brick-built linking passage. There is small brick-built structure linking the two elements of the building (Plate 147.4). Internal inspection and close external inspection was problematic due to asbestos and the poor condition of the building.

The main body of the building dates from the late 1930s/ early 1940s is constructed in concrete with piers along all elevations. The building is painted cream with a band of green paint over brown at the base, it has a double shallow-pitched roof with corrugated sheeting (possibly asbestos). The west (front) elevation has two timber doors, one double and one single, both of which are accessed from concrete steps (Plate 147.5). The double doors have a porch entrance, with a corrugated sheeting roof supported on two concrete walls extending from the face of the elevation. A sign states 'Civilian Personnel Office', and the customer hour times. There are also steps leading up to a single timber door with a small reinforced glass window, the door (painted red) has a sign stating 'Employees Only – Customer entrance to the left of building'.

The north elevation has six metal (brown) windows, which are replacements for probable former crittal windows, and a double timber door situated centrally along the elevation that is also accessed from concrete steps (Plate 147.6). The door has louvers to the top and bottom, with 'Plant Room No.1' written on a plaque. A further vent is built into the elevation, and situated to the west of the door.

The west (rear) elevation of the primary 1930s/40s structure remains visible, but the southern half has a brick built linking building built onto the elevation which connects it to the later prefab structure (see Plate 147.4). There is a set of double timber doors (painted brown) which provide access to the earlier building, and within the brick linking structure are two infilled windows. The brick structure forms the passageway between the early building, and later 1980s prefab element. This has a flat ashfelt roof and timber fascia board (brown), and a single timber and glass door. It has large timber framed windows. It is possible to see internally that the brick is painted white, and there are overhead strip lights and a small heater.

The south elevation has five metal replacement windows, there is a small central window with two larger windows to each side (Plate 147.7). The prefab element of the building is in very poor condition and was surrounded by fencing for health and safety reasons at the time of inspection (Plate 147.8). It has large metal framed windows, and a flat ashfelt roof. Access is from the south elevation of the building, which has an overhead roof, that links building 147 to 133 (Plate 147.9).



Plate 147.1 North elevation, prefab range and link building



Plate 147.2 Prefab addition and south elevation



Plate 147.3 North elevation



Plate 147.4 East elevation and linking structure to 1980s prefab addition



Plate 147.5 West elevation



Plate 147.6 North elevation



Plate 147.7 South elevation



Plate 147.8 Dilapidated 1980s prefab



Plate 147.9 Covered link between 147 prefab range and building 133

Building 156: Store

NGR: SP 51345 26094

Recording Level: 2

Location

This building is located within Area OA14A, within the area of the A-Frame hangars and is situated immediately to the south of hangar number 350.

History/ Function

A small building is shown in the vicinity of building 156 on plans of the airbase from 1926 as building number 7 'Technical Lactrines', it is also shown in a later plan from 1945 as building number 23 with the same function. The 1945 plan also shows a building of a similar size adjacent to building 23 which is numbered 116A, although it is not possible to read the accompanying function of this building. The site assessment of the building does not suggest it was formerly used as a lactrine, therefore it seems more probable that the extant building is number 116A. The site assessment shows the building has more recently been used for storing chemicals, an undated plan of the building describes it as 'Store'.

Description:

This is a small single storey brick-built structure with a corrugated asbestos roof. The front (north) elevation has a concrete lintel over double timber doors, which have louvres to the lower half (Plate 156.1). Internally it has white painted brickwork with a concrete floor, which has been painted grey with two sprayed yellow lines (Plate 156.2). The corrugated roof sheeting lies directly on timber joists with metal brackets used to hold the joists to the brick elevations. There are several (probable 1980s) signs internally including '*Danger: Wear Face Shield and Rubber Gloves When Handling Chemicals*' and '*No Smoking*' stencilled on the south and west elevations in black. The buildings is thought to be linked to building 131 and used to store chemicals, it is now empty.

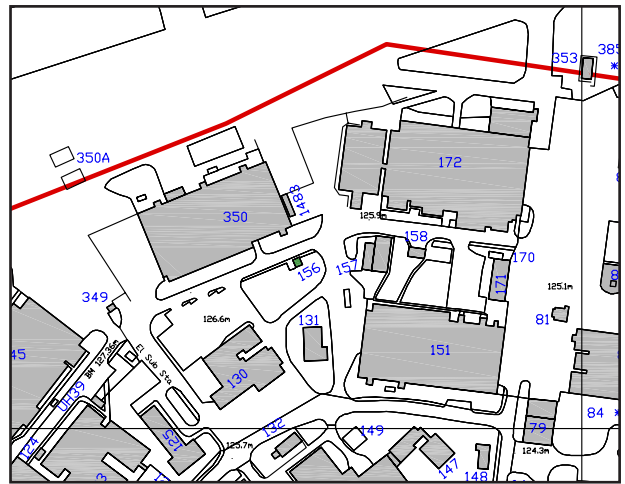




Plate 156.1 Front (north) elevation



Plate 156.2 Internal view

Building 171: Petrol Tanker Shed

NGR: SP 51460 26085

Recording Level: 1

Location

This building is located within Area OA14A, between the two eastern A Frame Hangars numbered 172 and 151.

History/ Function

The petrol tanker sheds are first shown on a 1939 plan of the site as building number 110, and are described as 'Shed Petrol Tanker No1 (6 bays)'. Plans from the 1940s show the building as number 20 and described them as 'Petrol Tanker Shed'.

Description

Petrol tanker sheds were built on RAF stations following the decision in 1934/5 to replace fixed refuelling points with a mobile system of refuelling aircraft. The RAF owned tankers filled up with aviation fluid from a bulk fuel installation before driving out to the aircraft which were dispersed around the airfield. In 1934 the first RAF petrol tanker sheds were designed by A Bullock, FRIBA, they could either be single garages or have multiple bays (Francis 1996). They were built close to hangar aprons, as shown at Upper Heyford, where the tanker bay is located between two A Frame hangars at the edge of the Flying Field. The building survives in poor condition, vegetation can be seen growing internally and the ceiling has collapsed. External inspection only was possible.

The former petrol tanker shed is constructed in red brick with a flat concrete roof, and timber and metal windows (Plate 171.1). It has a rectangular footprint, and whilst the main body of the building has not been extended, the structure has been subject to reconfiguration and infilling of brickwork on the external faces. A surviving plan of the building dating from August 1975 for 'Proposed Modifications' shows four bays of the building (bays 1-4), with notes stating '*Replace shutters with brick infill*', and '*Remove roller shutters and infill with brickwork*'. The internal layout shows that the secondary use of the building was as a dispatch office, rooms are allocated for '*Chief Dispatcher*', '*Vehicle Ops Officer*' and '*Drivers Lounge*'. The plan shows a six-bay building, although does not show the alterations planned for two of the bays. The six bays shown are thought to be the original configuration of the building, as the 1939 plan describes it as a 6-bay building (see above).

The building has a brick built parapet above the flat concrete roof and flush concrete coping. The brickwork is painted cream, with a thick brown band running below the height of the windows. This petrol tanker shed is thought to have had open bays with metal up-and-over roller doors separated by brick piers. These are no longer extant, and the bays have been infilled with brick, and doors and windows with concrete lintels to facilitate the secondary use of this building. The west elevation of the building opens up to the space between the two hangars, the east elevation is within the area owned by Paragon.

The west elevation is (in-part) covered by trees and foliage compromising interpretation; the 6 bays are numbered 1-6 (north to south) for ease of description. The first bay has a single timber door and window which have been inserted in each bay (Plate 171.2), the third bay has two crittal windows, the fourth bay has a single timber door within a timber frame, with a crittal window immediately adjacent to it (Plate 171.3). The fifth and six bays each have crittal windows with tile cills. The elevation has various straight joints, areas of repair and evidence of tying in brickwork throughout providing evidence of the conversion of the tanker bays to an office type building. A sign on the front states '*Kedroy Services Ltd.*', who were the most recent commercial occupants of the building.

The front (south) elevation has two iron drainpipes with hoppers (painted brown), to each side of a large crittal window (Plate 171.4). The east elevation is of the same arrangement as the west elevation, with six infilled bays (Plate 171.5). Each bay is infilled with a single timber door and a large crittal window. Again various areas of infill and repair are evidence in the conversion of the building to offices. At the north end of the building is a sub-station (170), surrounded by a low brick wall which is contemporary with the construction of building 171. The elevation has a single window between two drainpipes (as with the south elevation), but the window is a later replacement with a smaller timber window.

Internal inspection was not possible, but the space has evidently been reconfigured for use as office space. The surviving Tanker Bay shed at Duxford has steel trusses, with 9-inch fire walls separating each bay, which would have been the same arrangement formerly extant at former RAF Upper Heyford.

Archive

Two plans were identified within the Upper Heyford archive.

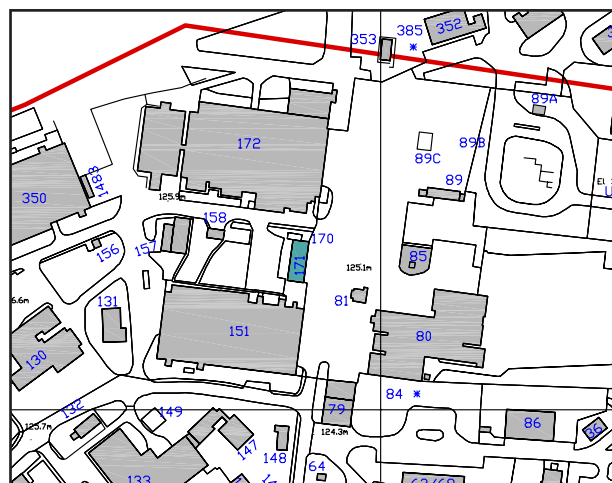




Plate 171.1 Front (west) elevation



Plate 171.2 North bay of west elevation



Plate 171.3 Bays 3 and 4 of west elevation



Plate 171.4 South elevation



Plate 171.5 Rear (east) elevation

Building 312: Electric Substation

NGR: SP 51150 25819

Recording Level: 1

Location

This building is located within Area OA14A, it is a small substation situated at the north edge of Camp Road, directly to the south of hanger 320.

History/ Function

The electricity substation is not visible on aerial photography or historic mapping of the site up to 1954. Structurally, the building is thought to be contemporary with the later expansion of the airbase in the 1970s/ 80s.

Description

The substation is constructed from reinforced concrete walls, it is rectangular in footprint and single phase. The concrete walls are c.2m high and surround an internal electrical substation, it has two (locked) openings at the north-west and south-east corners of the enclosure.



Plate 312.1 Front (north) elevation

Building 313: Pavilion

NGR: SP 51180 25829

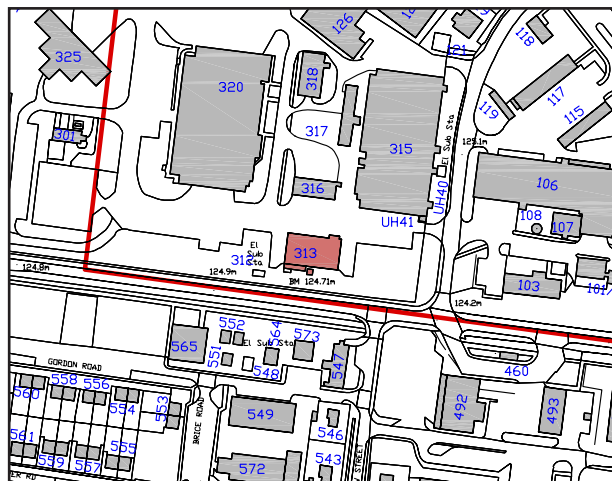
Recording Level: 1

Location

This building is located within Area OA14A, at the north edge of Camp Road and immediately to the south of the A Frame hangars 315 and 320.

History/ Function

The pavilion is shown in a 1954 AP of the site, but not the 1942 photography. The building is also not shown on a 1947 plan of the site, the pavilion is therefore thought to date from between 1947 and 1954.



Description

The gabled pavilion has a rectangular footprint, and is constructed from interlocking metal panels (painted white, but formerly painted green). The building is now in a very poor state and is in part collapsed.

The west elevation has primary tall central double doors with six-light windows to each side. The south elevation has various structures adjoining the western half of the south elevation, which are thought to be secondary additions. The main extension has a simple metal frame that supports a metal roof to shelter various elements of plant (which are related to dust extraction). There is also a concrete slab in the area on which plant stands, and to the west of this is a simple brick enclosure that is thought to have formerly enclosed a tank. To the east of this is a freestanding flat roofed brick structure with slatted (for ventilation) double doors to the east side, a sign states '*Air Heater Plant Room*'.

The north elevation is dominated by a large (secondary) lean-to structure, which is now largely collapsed (Plate 313.1). The eastern third is weather boarded while the central third has corrugated, metal cladding and the western third is now collapsed but is thought to have been open faced. The east elevation has two-high windows of the same type as the west elevation. It has large (secondary) central double doors, and a louvre vent in the gable.



Plate 313.1 North and east elevations

Building 317: Workshop

NGR: SP 51198 25912

Recording Level: 1

Location

This building is located within Area OA14B, within the technical area situated between the two hangars 315 and 320.

History/ Function

The workshop is shown in a 1954 AP of the site, but not the 1942 photography. The building is also not shown on a 1947 plan of the site, the workshop is therefore thought to date from between 1947 and 1954.

Description

Building 317 is constructed with concrete panels, and has a rectangular footprint with a pitched corrugated asbestos roof (Plate 317.1). The west (front) elevation has four windows (one infilled), and three sets of double timber doors. There are no features of interest on the north elevation.

The east (rear) elevation has a crittall window, and a double door with glass windows in the north half. In the south half of the elevation are two crittall windows, and a metal vent situated below the roof level. A rendered porch, possibly a later addition, provided entry to the building from the east elevation. There is a further boarded up entrance to the north. Elevated central heating pipes surround the rear elevation.

The south elevation has a crittall window of the same type as the front elevation. Internal access was not possible due to asbestos, but internally the space has evidently been divided into small (office type) rooms.

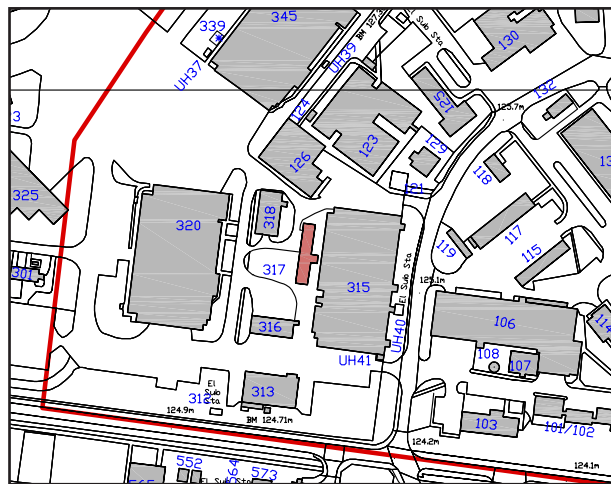


Plate 317.1 Front (west) elevation

Building 317A: Canopy

NGR: SP 51198 25912

Recording Level: 1

Location

This building is located within Area OA14A

History/ Function

Building 317A is the remains of a disused chimney covered by a metal canopy. There is a small square structure visible in the vicinity of building 317A in the 1942 aerial photography, but it is not apparent in the 1950 AP. This structure is numbered 32 of the 1947 map, but unfortunately it is not possible to read the description of the building. Structurally, the chimney appears to date from the 1950s but the canopy looks later in date.

Description

Building 317A has the remains of a probable brick-built hearth or barbeque measuring c.1.25 by 1.6m. It is enclosed by a pyramidal metal roof with openings at the apex for a flue.



Plate 317A.1 North-east view

Building 2x: Refrigeration Unit

NGR: SP 51672 26132

Recording Level: 1

Location

This building is located within Area OA14D, it is situated (with 3x and 4x) to the rear of the Commissionary.

History/ Function

This small structure is a storage/ refrigeration unit, probably dating from the late 1980s/ 1990s.

Description

This is one of three refrigeration units (2x-4x) surrounding the Commissionary (Building 32-34) used to store food produce. It is rectangular in plan constructed in metal with a flat roof, which is 2.3m in height. The front (west) elevation has two metal clad doors (of which the north one is falling off), with a sign stating 'Determine No One is Inside Before Locking', otherwise there are no features of interest. Internally, there are also no features of interest.

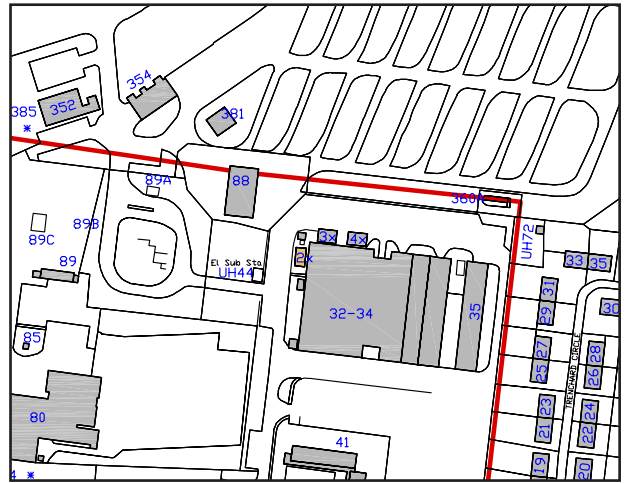


Plate 2x.1 Front (west) elevation

Building 3x: Refrigeration Unit

NGR: SP 51690 26144

Recording Level: 1

Location

This building is located within Area OA14D, it is situated with 2x and 4x to the rear of the Commissary.

History/ Function

This small structure is a storage/ refrigeration unit, probably dating from the late 1980s/ 1990s.

Description

This is one of three refrigeration units (2x-4x) surrounding the Commissary (Building 32-34) used to store food produce. It is rectangular in plan constructed in metal with a flat roof, which is 2.3m in height. The front (north) elevation has two metal clad single doors, with a sign stating 'Determine No One is Inside Before Locking' and electric wiring above. Otherwise there are no features of interest externally and internally.

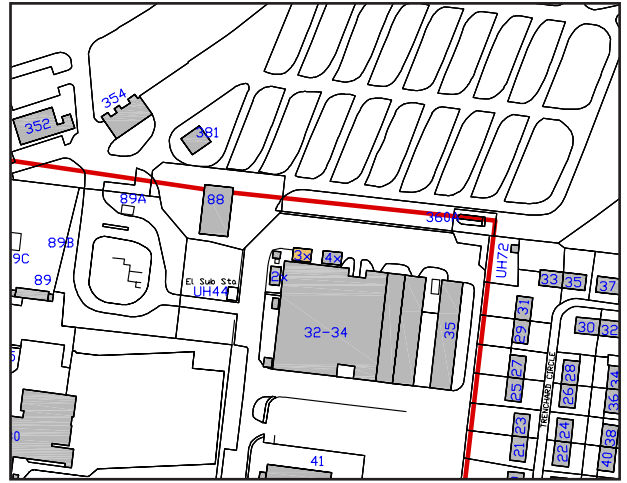


Plate 3x.1 Front (north) elevation

Building 4x: Refrigeration Unit

NGR: SP 51706 26146

Recording Level: 1

Location

This building is located within Area OA14D, it is situated with 3x and 4x to the rear of the Commissary.

History/ Function

This small structures is a storage/ refrigeration unit, probably dating from the late 1980s/ early 1990s.

Description

This is one of three refrigeration units (2x-4x) surrounding the Commissary (Building 32-34) used to store food produce. It is rectangular in plan constructed in metal with a flat roof, which is 2.3m in height. The front (north-west) elevation has two large metal clad doors, with a sign stating 'Assure Nobody is Inside Before Locking'. There is a temperature gauge between the two doors, otherwise there are no features of interest.

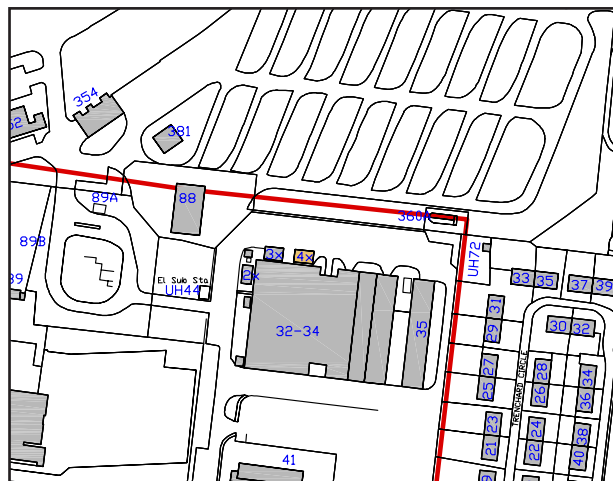


Plate 4x.1 Front (north-west) elevation

Building UH44: Electricity Sub-station

NGR: SP 51650 26123

Recording Level: 1

Location

This building is located within Area OA14B, directly to the west of the Commissioner (32-24), close to the southern edge of the Flying Field.

History/ Function

The building is not evident on aerial photography or historic mapping up the 1950s, and is more likely to date from the 1970s or 1980s expansion of the site.

Description

The sub-station is rectangular in plan and surrounded by timber fence panels (1.8m in height). The sub-station is in an over-grown state and difficult to accurately access.

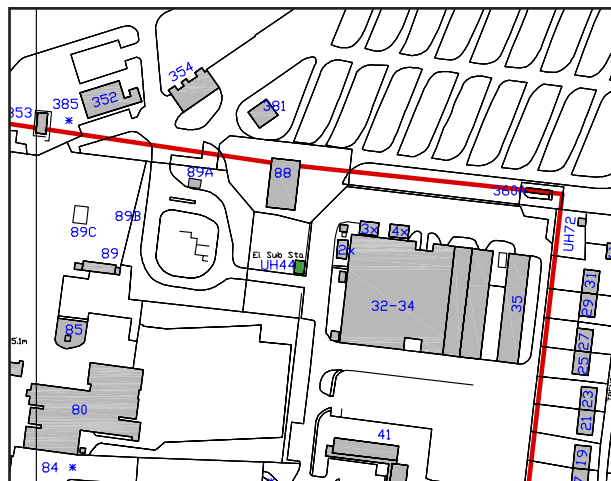


Plate UH44 Front (south) elevation

Building UH46: Portacabin

NGR: SP 51524 25892

Recording Level: 1

Location

This building is located within Area OA14B, within the Trident area, and immediately to the west of building 74.

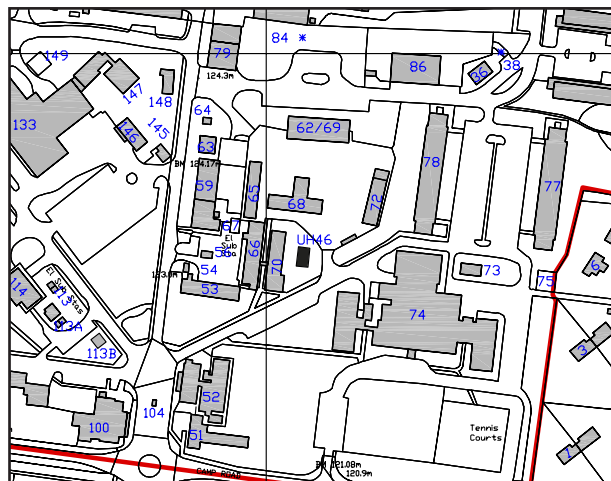
History/ Function

The small structure appears to be extant on the 1954 AP, and possibly the 1942 coverage. It is not however shown on mapping of the airbase from the late 1940s. It therefore seems probable, given the form of the structure, that it dates from the early 1950s.

Description

Building UH46 is rectangular in plan, and constructed in metal panels (painted cream), with a flat roof and simple metal framed windows. There are concrete steps leading up to the single door on the front (east) elevation. The building appears to sit on concrete blocks, but the base of the building is surrounded by a length of metal sheeting (painted brown) compromising interpretation.

The building survives in poor condition, and internal inspection was not possible.



BIBLIOGRAPHY

Published Sources

- The Air Ministry (1956) *The Second World War: 1939-45*, Royal Air Force, Works Air Publication 3236
- Brooks, R (2001) *Oxfordshire Airfields in the Second World War* Countryside Books
- Clarke, B (2008) *The Archaeology of Airfields* Tempus
- English Heritage (2006) *Understanding Historic Buildings: A Guide to Good Recording Practice*
- Francis, Paul (1996) *British Military Airfield Architecture* Sparkford
- Buchan Innes, Graham (2000) *British Airfield Buildings: Volume 2: The Expansion and Inter-War Periods* Leicester
- The Air Ministry (1956) *The Second World War 1939-1945 Royal Air Force Works* HMSO

Unpublished Sources

- CDC (2006) *RAF Upper Heyford Conservation Area Appraisal*
- Dobinson C, (2000) *Twentieth Century Fortifications in England Vol. VIII: Civil Defence in WWII* (CBA report)
- Dobinson C, (2000) *Twentieth Century Fortifications in England Vol. X: Airfield Defences in WWII* (CBA report)
- ACTA, Oxford Archaeology and The Tourism Company (2005) *Former RAF Upper Heyford Conservation Plan*
- ACTA (2006) *Former RAF Upper Heyford Airbase Landscape Character Assessment of the Airbase South of the Cold War Zone*
- Oxford Archaeology (2007) *Heyford Park, Oxfordshire Environmental Assessment*
- Oxford Archaeology (2012) *Written Scheme of Investigation for recording of buildings to be demolished*
- USAF Magazine (1982) *Welcome to Britain '82-'83, Your Unofficial Guide to RAF Upper Heyford*

Plans

- The Royal Air Force Museum Hendon
- Upper Heyford 3.S.E.B Squadrons on a Station Basis, Location Plan, Revised to Date (July 1926)
- Upper Heyford Location Plan (February 1927) (Air Ministry 174/27)
- Upper Heyford Location Plan (November 1928) (Air Ministry 1335/27)
- Upper Heyford Site Plan 1209/31 (9.3.32)
- Upper Heyford Site Plan (Record) 263 (February 1937) (Air Ministry 827/37)
- Upper Heyford Site Plan (Record) 263 (F1.3.1939) (Air Ministry 38)
- Upper Heyford Improvements to Living Accommodation, 1946/47 Programme (Air Ministry 205/47)
- Upper Heyford Site Plan Aircrew Mess and Quarters and Airmens' Mess (3238/47)
- Upper Heyford Site Archive
- RAF Upper Heyford Record of Site Plan (1980) (419/80)
- Base Comprehensive Plan (Reviewed April 1991)

Aerial Photography

English Heritage Archives

AP 1937 (SP5326/2 CCCS199/HJT305)

AP 1942 (15.AC46.H13.28.4.42 5")

AP 1942 (16.AC46.H13.28.4.42 5")

AP 1942 (47.AC46.H13.28.4.42 5")

AP 1947 (3632.CPE/UK2013.16APR47)

AP 1954 (0289.F62.82/RAF/1006.31Aug'54)

PSA Collection

47 sets of images accessed taken between 1970 and 1989

Airfield Information Exchange website - Accessed October 2015

AP (1969)

Photograph of Upper Heyford c. 1928

Documents

National Archives – files accessed

AIR29/655 (includes images of airbase taken between 1940 and 1942)

AIR2/18254

AIR2/13877

DEF71/301

AIR29/ 657

AIR2/63

AIR29/520

AIR2/13877

AIR2/18254

AIR2/18833

AIR28/866

Building Plans

RAF Museum Hendon

12035-12037 (8055/38, 8056/38, 8060/38) Combined Dining Room and Institute

12019 (104/23) Barrack Block Type 'B' and 'C'

12189 (218/25) Upper Heyford 'C' Barrack Block

12194 (22/27) Upper Heyford – MT Vehicle Sheds – Electric Lighting

12218 (221/25) Upper Heyford Type Barrack Block for 12 Airmen Pilots

12108 Proposed Reinforced Concrete Water Storage (1178/25) (2.7.1926)

Upper Heyford Plan Room

This vast quantity of plans are organised by building number, but are not as yet catalogued with reference numbers.

Websites

Airfield Information Exchange - Accessed October 2015

<http://www.airfieldinformationexchange.org/community/showthread.php?1374-Expansion-Period-Airfields>

RAF Upper Heyford Memorial - Accessed October 2015

<http://www.raf-upper-heyford.org/>

Hadite History - Accessed October 2015

<http://garystuff.homestead.com/cool.html>



Head Office/Registered Office/ OA South

Janus House
Osney Mead
Oxford OX2 0ES

t: +44 (0) 1865 263 800
f: +44 (0) 1865 793 496
e: info@oxfordarchaeology.com
w: <http://oxfordarchaeology.com>

OA North

Mill 3
Moor Lane
Lancaster LA1 1QD

t: +44 (0) 1524 541 000
f: +44 (0) 1524 848 606
e: [oanorth@oxfordarchaeology.com](mailto: oanorth@oxfordarchaeology.com)
w: <http://oxfordarchaeology.com>

OA East

15 Trafalgar Way
Bar Hill
Cambridgeshire
CB23 8SQ

t: +44 (0) 1223 850 500
e: [oaeast@oxfordarchaeology.com](mailto: oaeast@oxfordarchaeology.com)
w: <http://oxfordarchaeology.com>



Director: Gill Hey, BA PhD FSA MIFA
*Oxford Archaeology Ltd is a
Private Limited Company, N^o: 1618597
and a Registered Charity, N^o: 285627*