## Roebuck Barracks <br> Acaster Malbis <br> North Yorkshire

# Archaeological Building Recording Level II 

## LS Archaeology



January 2015
Luigi Signorelli BA MA


Development: Outline application including access for the redevelopment of former Canadian Air Force Base, to form 16 no. dwellings with new access, access road and stables.

Date of Issue: 09/012/15

Site Dates: 16-17/12/14

Project by: LS Archaeology Whitwell on the Hill North Yorkshire YO60 7JJ Tel: 01653618279 mob. 07912485125

Client: Prospect Archaeology

## Table of Contents

TABLE OF CONTENTS ..... III
LIST OF FIGURE ..... V

1. SUMMARY .....  1
2. INTRODUCTION .....  1
3. ARCHAEOLOGICAL BACKGROUND .....  3
4. DEVELOPMENT .....  3
5. AIMS AND OBJECTIVES .....  3
6. METHODOLOGY .....  3
7. RESULTS .....  5
7.01 BUILDING 1 .....
7.02 BUILDING 2 .....  7
7.03 BUILDING 3 .....  7
7.04 BUILDING 4 .....  8
7.05 BUILDING 5 .....  9
7.06 BUILDING 6 .....  9
7.07 BUILDING 7 ..... 10
7.08 BUILDING 8 ..... 10
7.09 BUILDING 9 ..... 11
7.10 BUILDING 10 ..... 11
7.11 Building 11 ..... 12
7.12 BUILDING 12 ..... 13
7.13 BUILDING 13 ..... 13
7.14 BUILDINGS 14, 15, 16, 17 AND 18. ..... 14
7.15 BUILDING 19 ..... 17
7.16 BUILDING 20 ..... 18
7.17 BUILDING 21-22 ..... 18
7.18 BUILDING 23 ..... 19
7.19 BUILDING 24 ..... 20
7.20 BUILDING 25 ..... 21
7.21 BUILDING 26 ..... 21
7.22 BUILDING 27 ..... 21
7.23 BUILDING 28 ..... 22
7.24 BuILDING 29 ..... 23
7.25 BUILDING 30 ..... 24
7.26 BUILDING 31 ..... 24
7.27 BUILDINGS 32 A, B AND C. ..... 25
7.28 BUILDING 33 ..... 26
7.29 BUILDING 34 ..... 26
7.30 BUILDING 35 ..... 27
7.31 BUILDING 36 ..... 27
7.32 BUILDING 37 ..... 28
7.33 BUILDINGS 38, 39, 42, 43, 44 AND 45 ..... 28
7.34... ..... 31
7.35 BUILDING 40 ..... 31
7.36 BUILDING 41 ..... 32
7.37 BUILDING 46 ..... 32
7.38 BUILDING 47 ..... 33
While Assessing and recording the building on this site few impressive murals have been notice.
ALTHOUGH NOT HO HISTORICAL INTEREST IT SEEM APPROPRIATE TO CREATE A RECORD OF EACH OF THESE PAINTINGS, WHICH IN OUR VIEW, RECORDS A MODERN APPROACH IN USING DISUSED SPACES ..... 337.39 MURALS34
8. CONCLUSION ..... 36
BIBLIOGRAPHY ..... 37

## List of Figure

Figure 1: Roebuck Barracks location (copy from Streetmap.co.uk) ............................................................ 1
Figure 2: Site location, outlined in red (picture from Google Earth)............................................................ 4
Figure 3: Plan of site showing all the assessed buildings ............................................................................. 4
Figure 4: Plan of site showing the lost buildings since 1965 (in red) .......................................................... 5
Figure 5: Plan of site with photo directions marked in red ....................................................................... 35

## List of Plates

Plate 1: Building 1 looking southwest .....  6
Plate 2: Building 1 looking west .....  6
Plate 3: Building 1 interior .....  6
Plate 4: Building 2 looking west. .....  7
Plate 5: Building 2 looking south .....  7
Plate 6: Building 2 interior .....  7
Plate 7: Building 3 looking south .....  7
Plate 8: Building 3 interior .....  8
Plate 9: Building 3 looking east .....  8
Plate 10: Building 4 looking south east .....  8
Plate 11: Building 4 looking east. .....  8
Plate 12: Building 4 interior .....  8
Plate 13: Building 5 looking south west .....  9
Plate 14: Building 5 looking west .....  9
Plate 15: Building 5 interior .....  9
Plate 16: Building 6 looking north east ..... 9
Plate 17: Building 7 interior ..... 10
Plate 18: Building 7 looking north west ..... 10
Plate 19: Building 8 interior ..... 10
Plate 20: Building 8 looking west ..... 10
Plate 21: Building 8 looking north east ..... 10
Plate 22: Building 9 looking north east ..... 11
Plate 23: Building 9 looking south west ..... 11
Plate 24: Building 10 interior ..... 11
Plate 25: Building 10 looking northeast. ..... 11
Plate 26: Building 11 looking north west ..... 12
Plate 27: Building 11 looking west ..... 12
Plate 28: Building 11 interior ..... 12
Plate 29: Building 12 interior ..... 13
Plate 30: Building 12 looking north east ..... 13
Plate 31: Building 12 looking south west ..... 13
Plate 32: Building 13 interior ..... 13
Plate 33: Building 13 looking west ..... 13
Plate 34: Building 13 looking through the window towards building 47 ..... 14
Plate 35: Building 14 interior ..... 14
Plate 36: Building 14 looking north west ..... 14
Plate 37: Building 15 looking north east. ..... 15
Plate 38: Building 15 interior. ..... 15
Plate 39: Building 15 the hummer beam ..... 15
Plate 40: Building 15 the principal rafters and the tie pole ..... 15
Plate 41: Building 16 looking north west ..... 15
Plate 42: Building 16 interior ..... 15
Plate 43: Building 16 particular of the hummer beam ..... 16
Plate 44: Building 17 looking north west ..... 16
Plate 45: Building 17 interior ..... 16
Plate 46: Building 18 looking north west ..... 16
Plate 47: Building 18 interior ..... 16
Plate 48: Building 19 looking north west ..... 17
Plate 49: Building 19 looking east ..... 17
Plate 50: Building 19 interior ..... 17
Plate 51: Building 20 looking north ..... 18
Plate 52: Building 20 interior ..... 18
Plate 53: Building looking north east ..... 18
Plate 54: Buildings 21 interior ..... 18
Plate 55: Buildings 21 and 22 looking south east ..... 18
Plate 56: Building 22 pumping engine. ..... 19
Plate 57: Building 23 interior ..... 19
Plate 58: Building 23 looking north east. ..... 19
Plate 59: Building 23 looking east ..... 19
Plate 60: Building 24 looking north west ..... 20
Plate 61: Building 24 looking north east. ..... 20
Plate 62: Building 24 interior ..... 20
Plate 63: Building 25 looking north east. ..... 21
Plate 64: Building 25 looking south west ..... 21
Plate 65: Building 26 looking south east ..... 21
Plate 66: Building 26 looking south southwest ..... 21
Plate 67: Building 26 interior ..... 21
Plate 68: Building 27 interior ..... 22
Plate 69: Building 27 looking northwest ..... 22
Plate 70: Building 27 looking south west ..... 22
Plate 71: Building 29 looking south west ..... 23
Plate 72: Building 29 interior ..... 23
Plate 73: Building 29 tower block looking south west ..... 23
Plate 74: Building 29 tower block interior. ..... 23
Plate 75: Building 29 access $t$ the tower block ..... 23
Plate 76: Building 30 looking north west ..... 24
Plate 77: Building 31 looking south ..... 24
Plate 78: Building 31 interior. ..... 24
Plate 79: Building 32a looking south east ..... 25
Plate 80: Building 32a looking north west ..... 25
Plate 81: Building 32a / b interior ..... 25
Plate 82: Building 32c roof air ventilation ..... 25
Plate 83: Building 32b/c interior ..... 25
Plate 84: Building 32b looking south ..... 25
Plate 85: Building 33 looking south ..... 26
Plate 86: Building 33 interior ..... 26
Plate 87: Building 34 looking north ..... 26
Plate 88: Building 35 looking north ..... 27
Plate 89: Building 36 looking north east. ..... 27
Plate 90: Building 36 interior ..... 27
Plate 91: Building 37 interior ..... 28
Plate 92: Building 37 looking south ..... 28
Plate 93: Building 38 looking south west ..... 28
Plate 94: Building 43 interior ..... 29
Plate 95: Building 43 looking west ..... 29
Plate 96: Building 42 interior ..... 29
Plate 97: Building 42 looking north west ..... 29
Plate 98: Building 39 looking west ..... 29
Plate 99: Building 39 looking west ..... 29
Plate 100: Building 45 looking west ..... 30
Plate 101: Building 44 looking north east. ..... 30
Plate 102: Building 44 interior ..... 30
Plate 103: Building 45 interior ..... 30
Plate 104: Building 40 electrical swich ..... 31
Plate 105: Building 40 electrical fitter / plug ..... 31
Plate 106: Building 40 interior ..... 31
Plate 107: Building 40 looking south ..... 31
Plate 108: Building 40 interior looking west ..... 31
Plate 109: Building 41 looking south west ..... 32
Plate 110: Building 41 tower block looking north east ..... 32
Plate 111: Building 46 looking west ..... 32
Plate 112: Building 46 particular of the exterior pumping system. ..... 32
Plate 113: Building 46 remains of a pump ..... 33

## 1. Summary

A program of archaeological assessment, building recording level 2, at Roebuck Barracks, Green Lane, Acaster Malbis, North Yorkshire was undertaken prior to determination of the planning application for the redevelopment of the former Canadian Air Force Base in order to create 16 new dwellings provided with access, access road and stables. A total of 47 buildings were assessed, of which most are to be considered in a very poor state of preservation and some due to their very poor state of preservation were deemed inaccessible.

## 2. Introduction

L S Archaeology was commissioned by Prospect Archaeology, to undertake an archaeological investigation, building recording level 2, requested by the Development Management Archaeologist of the Historic Environment Team, North Yorkshire County Council, September 2014. It complies with the guidance for the Understanding Historic Buildings, historic building recording level 2 (English Heritage 2006), and the Archaeology and Planning (NPPF).


Figure 1: Roebuck Barracks location (copy from Streetmap.co.uk)
This report serves as a short report on the result of the assessment of all the remaining dwellings/structures at Roebuck Barracks, Green Lane, Acaster Malbis, North Yorkshire, related to the area impacted by the new proposed development of the property.

The archaeological evaluation was carried out in order to characterize the archaeological potential of the development areas in accordance with the criteria set out within the English Heritage, Understanding Historic Buildings, A guide to good recording practice (2006), paragraph 5 of this document, the Recording Levels, sets the standards for any buildings recording to be implemented at 4 different levels.

The recording of a building as Level 2 should consist of: a descriptive record. It may be made of a building which is judged not to require any fuller record, or it may serve to gather data for a wider project. Both the exterior and the interior will be viewed, described and photographed. The record will present conclusions regarding the building's development and use, but will not discuss the evidence on which these conclusions are based. A plan and sometimes other drawings may be made but the drawn record will normally not be comprehensive and may be tailored to the scope of a wider project.

This document also complies with the National Planning Policy Framework 2012 (NPPF) Section 12 Paragraphs 128, 135 and 141.

Section 12 of the NPPF; 'Conserving and enhancing the historic environment' provides guidance on the treatment of heritage assets.

Paragraph 128 of Section 12 states that; planning decision should be based on the significance of the heritage asset, and early consideration of the potential for 'heritage assets' is advised and where the loss of a heritage asset is considered justified, the developer is required to 'record and advance understanding' of the heritage asset before it is lost.

Paragraph 135 of Section 12 states that; the effect of an application on the significance of a non-designated heritage asset should be taken into account in determining the application. In weighing applications that affect directly or indirectly non designated heritage assets, a balanced judgement will be required having regard to the scale of any harm or loss and the significance of the heritage asset.

Paragraph 141 of Section 12 also states that; Local planning authorities should make information about the significance of the historic environment gathered as part of planmaking or development management publicly accessible. They should also require developers to record and advance understanding of the significance of any heritage assets to be lost (wholly or in part) in a manner proportionate to their importance and the impact, and to make this evidence (and any archive generated) publicly accessible. However, the ability to record evidence of our past should not be a factor in deciding whether such loss should be permitted.

Whilst it is recognized that important remains should be retained, the benefits of development may be considered to outweigh the benefit of retention, especially where remains of less than national importance are concerned.

Roebuck Barracks is situated immediately adjacent to Green Lane, near Acaster Malbis, about 8 km south of York and it occupies an area of 6.5 hectares. The site lies at approximately 9.5 m above Ordnance Datum.

The geology of the site comprises; of Sherwood Sandstone Group - Sandstone. Sedimentary Bedrock formed approximately 229 to 271 million years ago in the Triassic and Permian Periods. Local environment previously dominated by rivers.

The ground surface is relatively flat and is mostly made of a mixture of topsoil and anthropogenic material, compact gravel and concrete areas.

## 3. Archaeological Background

The proposed development lies within an area of unknown archaeological potential, although a brief web surf looking at old OS maps shows that there were no buildings prior to site been developed around 1040 for military purpose.

Although initially the building of barracks on site was commissioned in 1942 for the nearby airfield RAF Acaster Mabis, it reached its full development in January 1943 with the erection of a full size 'Class A' bomber station, with three concrete runway, steel 'Nissen' hangers and new administrative buildings.

In 1944 the air field was used as Aircrew Training School. Post WWII, the airfield became a home to a maintenance unit whose responsibility was to store and disposal of vast amounts of ammunition. The military base was decommissioned in 1963 and the land sold to public.

The airfield was used in the 1970 by private light aircraft, while the site was turned into a Poultry farm, and from the mid 1970s to 2003 it became a piggery.

## 4. Development

The planned development of the former Air Force Base, propose the erection of 16 new dwellings with new access, access road and stables.

The site comprises derelict former barracks buildings, which were also used as a poultry farm buildings and eventually pig houses, remains of tarmac and concrete roads, and large overgrown areas of grass, shrubbery and trees.

## 5. Aims and Objectives

Considering that the development lies within an area of unknown archaeological sensitivity, the key of the evaluation is to understand the impact that the development may have upon any surviving archaeological remains related to the WWII airfield. Specifically the evaluation sought to recover information revealing the state and condition of the remaining dwellings in order to enable an informed and reasonable planning decision to be taken as to whether the development should be permitted in its proposed form.

## 6. Methodology

The objectives were met by assessing each individual dwelling, while creating a digital photographic and written record for every single building.

The site assessment was carried out between the $16^{\text {th }}$ and $17^{\text {th }}$ Decemberr 2014.


Figure 2: Site location, outlined in red (picture from Google Earth)


Figure 3: Plan of site showing all the assessed buildings

## 7. Results

A total of 47 buildings were assessed. Although most found in a poor condition of preservation, the majority of the buildings are single storey unit made of bricks and mortar with corrugated asbestos-cement roofs. A number of taller brick built tower remains standing in the south, and appear to have been house storage tanks most likely for water use. Some of the assessed buildings consisted of the Nissen huts type, however these dwellings were found in very poor condition of preservation.


Figure 4: Plan of site showing the lost buildings since 1965 (in red)

A large rectangular building (modern shed) located near the center west of the site appeared to be in a poor state of repair with most of its roof collapsed to the ground. Other timber dwellings in the south also suffered significant damage.

A small building located in the north-west corner of the site (thought to be an old pumping station) houses a metal lined well chamber.

Few metal silos, associated with the former poultry farm and piggery can be seen standing adjacent to some of the buildings. Redundant silos have been tipped in the far south west corner of the site.

Since 1965 some demolition of former buildings has already taken place most likely due to farming activity (Figure 4).

Due to safety some buildings were not assessed internally (buildings 6, 25, 30, 32c and 38), whereas building 28 was not assessed since appeared to be a modern cottage, most likely built in association with the poultry farm or piggery.

For most of the brick built buildings the roof structure consisted of the principal and common rafters, hammer beam, hammer brace and pendant post made of cement, while the ridge pole consists of a long iron bar bolted at each end.

### 7.01 Building 1



Plate 2: Building 1 looking west
Building 1; consists of a rectangular shape in plan brick and cement walls, concrete floor, cast iron window frame, with an iron frame roof and asbestos tiles. A small wood door located at the south west corner of the west wall. A large vertical sliding door was fitted at the east.

Plate 3: Building 1 interior


Plate 1: Building 1 looking southwest


### 7.02 Building 2



Plate 4: Building 2 looking west

Building 2; is a small two rooms dwelling, with concrete floor iron frame roof and asbestos tiles. All interior walls have fake wood cladding.


Plate 5: Building 2 looking south


Plate 6: Building 2 interior

### 7.03 Building 3

Nissen hut, with brick walls at each north and south end, and corrugated iron roof. The hut appears to be in a poor state of preservation.


Plate 7: Building 3 looking south


Plate 8: Building 3 interior

### 7.04 Building 4



Plate 10: Building 4 looking south east
Rectangular shape in plan building with walls made of bricks and mortar, an iron frame roof with asbestos tiles. All windows have been removed, and new opening for modern large door are visible along the east wall. The interior is filled with debris from the collapsing walls and roof. This building has been deemed unsafe to enter.


Plate 9: Building 3 looking east


Plate 11: Building 4 looking east


Plate 12: Building 4 interior

### 7.05 Building 5



Plate 14: Building 5 looking west
Nissen hut, with brick walls at each north and south end, and corrugated iron roof. The hut appears to be in a better state of preservation then hut 3. Inside two side walls made with concrete bricks have been added when the hut was converted for piggery use.


Plate 13: Building 5 looking south west


Plate 15: Building 5 interior

### 7.06 Building 6

Building 6 is a small building, the walls are of brick and mortar and it has a flat roof with corrugated iron cover. Due to heavy overgrown vegetation and collapsed interior this building has been regarded as unsafe to enter.


Plate 16: Building 6 looking north east

### 7.07 Building 7



Plate 18: Building 7 looking north west


Plate 17: Building 7 interior

Rectangular building with walls made of brick and mortar, and orientated on a north northeast to south southwest direction. Of the roof structure only the iron tie beams survived. It also has a concrete floor and two entrances located at each end with the south entrance blocked with modern concrete bricks.

### 7.08 Building 8



Plate 20: Building 8 looking west


Plate 19: Building 8 interior

Nissen hut, which has internal partition brick and mortar walls, and a brick and mortar build tower at the west end. The east end of this dwelling has not survived and so is most of the corrugated iron roof and structure.

Plate 21: Building 8 looking north east


### 7.09 Building 9

Building 9 is a rectangular brick and mortar built tower, with access to the south. A substantial amount of derides has been deposited around this building creating a mound which made access to the tower difficult and unsafe.


Plate 22: Building 9 looking north east

### 7.10 Building 10



Plate 24: Building 10 interior
Building 10 is of a rectangular shape in plan, built with bricks and mortar, and orientated on a north northeast to south southwest alignment. The roof


Plate 25: Building 10 looking northeast
cover consists of asbestos corrugated tiles. At the south end it has a metal silos. Inside this building alterations made for the piggery are visible although a good part of the ceiling has collapsed making the access to this building unsafe. A tall brick and mortar square tower rise at the center of this building, the access to this part of the building is restricted due to falling ceiling.

### 7.11 Building 11



Plate 26: Building 11 looking north west
Building 11, similar to Building 10, is of a rectangular shape in plan, built with bricks and mortar, and orientated on a north northeast to south southwest alignment and set between buildings 10 and 12. The roof
 cover consists of asbestos corrugated tiles Inside this building alterations made for the piggery are visible although a good part of the ceiling has collapsed making the access to this building unsafe. A tall brick and mortar square tower (shorter than the tower of building 10) rise at the center of this building, the access to this part of the building is restricted due to falling ceiling.


Plate 28: Building 11 interior

### 7.12 Building 12



Plate 30: Building 12looking north east


Plate 29: Building 12 interior

This building is of a rectangular shape in plan, built with bricks and mortar, and orientated on a north northeast to south southwest alignment, located at the east of Building 11. The roof cover consists of asbestos corrugated tiles. At the north east end it has a metal silos. Inside this building alterations made for the piggery are visible although a good part of the ceiling has collapsed making the access to this building unsafe.


Plate 31: Building 12 looking south west

### 7.13 Building 13



Plate 33: Building 13 looking west


Plate 32: Building 13 interior


Building 13 orientated on a north to south direction, and of a rectangular shape in plan it has a concrete floor, and walls made of bricks and mortar. The roof like all the other rectangular structures consisted of the principal and common rafter, hammer beam, hammer brace and pendant post made of cement, while the ridge pole consists of a long iron bar bolted at each end. The roof cover consists of asbestos-cement undulated tiles. No window frames survived.

Plate 34: Building 13 looking through the window towards building 47

### 7.14 Buildings 14, 15, 16, 17 and 18

These buildings are a set of five buildings (buildings 14, 15, 16, 17 and 18) all orientated on a north to south direction, set at an equal distance of each other, are located at the center west part of the site. Of a rectangular shape in plan, all have a concrete floor, and walls made of bricks and mortar. The roof like all the other rectangular structures consisted of the principal and common rafter, hammer beam, hammer brace and pendant post made of cement, while the ridge pole consists of a long iron bar bolted at each end. The roof cover consists of asbestos-cement undulated tiles. No window frames survived.


Plate 36: Building 14 looking north west


Plate 35: Building 14 interior


Plate 37: Building 15 looking north east


Plate 39: Building 15 the hummer beam


Plate 38: Building 15 interior


Plate 40: Building 15 the principal rafters and the tie pole


Plate 42: Building 16 interior


Plate 43: Building 16 particular of the hummer beam


Plate 45: Building 17 interior


Plate 47: Building 18 interior


Plate 44: Building 17 looking north west


Plate 46: Building 18 looking north west

### 7.15 Building 19



Plate 48: Building 19 looking north west


Plate 49: Building 19 looking east

This building located at the centre of the site consists of two rectangular shapes in plan, structures, with the one at the east narrower and shorter in high. The structure is of brick and mortar with a concrete floor and is orientated on an east to west alignment. The roof structure is of metal and has asbestos tiles. At the top of the north and south walls, rectangular windows frames are still in place. A large door has been cut through to the west end wall, most likely to provide access for large machinery. Along the south wall at


Plate 50: Building 19 interior the western end, two square cubicles built with bricks and mortar and flat roof have been added to the main building, most likely to be associated with the farming activity. All in all the building is in a relatively good condition of preservation, although the eastern end of this building appears in a very poor state of preservation, with the roof nearly all collapsed.

### 7.16 Building 20



Plate 51: Building 20 looking north
Building 20 has a square shape in plan, with walls constructed with bricks and mortar, the roof frame is made of metal and is covered with asbestos tiles, the floor is concrete and the building has a single window along the west wall. A large metal sliding door has been inserted in the south wall. There is large metal chimney still hanging from the roof adjacent to the north wall.


Plate 52: Building 20 interior


Plate 53: Building looking north east

### 7.17 Building 21-22



Plate 55: Buildings 21 and 22 looking south east


Plate 54: Buildings 21 interior

Buildings 21 and 22 are two small brick and mortar shed with a flat roof gently sloping eastwards. It is likely that one of these building could have functioned as pumping station, for the air base. Evidence of metal pipes and engine are still visible in one the hall located inside building 22.


Plate 56: Building 22 pumping engine

### 7.18 Building 23

Building 23 is another Nissen hut, orientated on a north northeast to south southwest alignment, with brick walls at each north and south end, and corrugated iron roof. The hut appears to be in a very poor state of preservation, where most of the central part of the roof has disappeared or collapsed inside the structure. The floor consists of overgrown vegetation and derides. Overgrown vegetation also surrounds this


Plate 58: Building 23 looking north east
Plate 57: Building 23 interior


### 7.19 Building 24



Plate 60: Building 24 looking north west
This building is of a rectangular shape in plan, built with bricks and mortar, and orientated on a north northwest to south southeast direction, located at the north east end of site. The roof cover consists of asbestos corrugated tiles. At the north westt end it has a metal silos. Inside this building alterations made for the piggery are visible although a good part of the ceiling has collapsed making the access to this building unsafe.

Building 24 forms with buildings 25, 26 and 27 a cluster of buildings converted to piggery.


Plate 61: Ruildina 24 lookina north east


Plate 62: Building 24 interior

### 7.20 Building 25



Plate 63: Building 25 looking north east


Plate 64: Building 25 looking south west Similar to building 24 in construction, building 25 is located at the northwest end of building 24 and orientated on a north northeast to south southwest direction. Access to this building is through building 24 which in itself appears to be unsafe, as consequence no assessment of the building 25 interior was made.

### 7.21 Building 26

Building 26 is of a rectangular shape in plan, built with bricks and mortar, and orientated on a north northeast to south southwest alignment and it is located between Buildings 24, 25 and 27. The roof cover consists of asbestos corrugated tiles. At the north east end it has brick and mortar tower. Inside this building alterations made for the piggery are visible although a good part of the ceiling has collapsed making the access

Plate 65: Building 26 looking south east to this building unsafe.


Plate 66: Building 26 looking south southwest
Plate 67: Building 26 interior

### 7.22 Building 27




Plate 68: Building 27 interior
a cluster of buildings converted to piggery located close to the bungalow 28.

### 7.23 Building 28

This building was not assessed since it appears to be a modern bungalow most likely to have been built associated with the poultry farm or piggery.

This building is of a rectangular shape in plan, built with bricks and mortar, and orientated on a north northwest to south southeast direction, located at the immediate east of building 26. The roof cover consists of asbestos corrugated tiles. Inside this building alterations made for the piggery are visible although a good part of the ceiling has collapsed making the access to this building unsafe.

Building 27 forms with buildings 25, 26 and 24
Plate 69: Buildin Plate 70: Building 27 looking south west


### 7.24 Building 29



Plate 71: Building 29 looking south west


Plate 72: Building 29 interior

Building 29 is a small rectangular brick and mortar building orientated on an east to west direction, and located south of building 19. It has a metal roof frame and asbestos tiles, a concrete floor and few remaining windows however the state of preservation of this structure is very poor, deemed unsafe to enter. Part of this building also consists of a large rectangular tower erected at its eastern end. Inside the tower block metal pipes attached to the west wall, going through the ceiling are visible.


Plate 73: Building 29 tower block looking south west


Plate 74: Building 29 tower block interior


### 7.25 Building 30

This building of a rectangular shape in plan, is located immediately south of building 29. It appears in a very poor state of preservation, and deemed unsafe to enter. The structure is of bricks and mortar with asbestos roof tiles.


Plate 76: Building 30 looking north west

### 7.26 Building 31



Plate 77: Building 31 looking south


Plate 78: Building 31 interior

Building 31 is a modern steel frame shed and wood panels outside. Partitions for poultry farm use still in place. Orientated on north to south direction this building of a rectangular shape in plan is adjacent to building 32 (east side). It appears in a very poor state of preservation and deemed unsafe to enter.

### 7.27 Buildings 32 a, b and c



Plate 79: Building 32a looking south east


Plate 81: Building 32a / b interior


Plate 84: Building 32b looking south


Plate 80: Building 32a looking north west


Plate 82: Building 32c roof air ventilation


Plate 83: Building 32b /c interior

Buildings $32 \mathrm{a}, \mathrm{b}$ and c are a set of three building linked to each other. Orientated on a north to south direction have a brick and mort structure with a metal roof frame and asbestos tiles. All these buildings have been converted for piggery, with partitions built with concrete brick, and metal gates. Due to its poor state of preservation access to building 32c was blocked by falling debris.

The north part of building 32a consists of a brick and mortar tower. No access to this structure was visible.

### 7.28 Building 33



Plate 85: Building 33 looking south


Plate 86: Building 33 interior

This building located to the near east of the building complex 32, has a brick and mortar structure with a metal frame roof covered with asbestos tiles. The interior has been converted for piggery use, with concrete bricks partitions. Building 33 is in a very poor state of preservation deemed unsafe to enter.

### 7.29 Building 34

Building 34 is a series of modern wooden shed built along the west side of building 33 . These set of wooden structures appears in a very poor state of preservation, also similar to Building 35.


Plate 87: Building 34 looking north

### 7.30 Building 35

Building 35 is a series of modern wooden shed built along the east side of building 36. These set of wooden structures appears in a very poor state of preservation, also similar to Building 34.


Plate 88: Building 35 looking north

### 7.31 Building 36

Building 36 orientated on a north to south direction, and of a rectangular shape in plan it has a concrete floor, and walls made of bricks and mortar. The roof like all the other rectangular structures consisted of the principal and common rafter, hammer beam, hammer brace and pendant post made of cement, while the ridge pole consists of a long iron bar bolted at each end. The roof cover consists of asbestos-cement undulated tiles. No window frames survived. This building is located west of building 35 .


Plate 89: Building 36 looking north east


Plate 90: Building 36 interior

### 7.32 Building 37

Building 37 is a modern steel frame shed and corrugated metal panels outside. Partitions for poultry farm use still in place. Orientated on north to south direction this building of a rectangular shape in plan is located to the south of buildings 33 and 36. It appears in a poor state of preservation.


Plate 92: Building 37 looking south


Plate 91: Building 37 interior

### 7.33 Buildings 38, 39, 42, 43, 44 and 45

These buildings are a set of six buildings (buildings $38,39,42,43,44$ and 45) all orientated on an east to west direction, set at an equal distance of each other, are located towards the south west end of the site. Of a rectangular shape in plan, all have a concrete floor, and walls made of bricks and mortar. The roof like all the other rectangular structures consisted of the principal and common rafter, hammer beam, hammer brace and pendant post made of cement, while the ridge pole consists of a long iron bar bolted at each end. The roof cover consists of asbestos-cement undulated tiles. All of these buildings have been converted for piggery use, and appears in a very poor state of preservation deemed unsaved to access.


Plate 93: Building 38 looking south west


Plate 98: Building 39 looking west


Plate 97: Building 42 looking north west


Plate 95: Building 43 looking west


Plate 99: Building 39 looking west


Plate 96: Building 42 interior


Plate 94: Building 43 interior


Plate 101: Building 44 looking north east


Plate 100: Building 45 looking west


Plate 102: Building 44 interior


Plate 103: Building 45 interior

### 7.35 Building 40

Building 40 is a small square shape in plan building located towards the south west corner of the site, to the immediate west of building 38. The structure is of brick and mortar, it has a concrete floor and the roof has a metal frame covered with asbestos tiles. A large door has been created into the north elevation, with three metal window frames still in place. This is the only dwelling, which still have in place some of the mid 19 century electrical plug and switch. A small cubical built at the south east corner.


Plate 107: Building 40 looking south


Plate 105: Building 40 electrical fitter / plug



Plate 106: Building 40 interior


Plate 104: Building 40 electrical swich

### 7.36 Building 41



Plate 109: Building 41 looking south west

Building 41 are the remains of what once was a Nissen hut. Only the south wall and tower are still standing, both of bricks and mortar. This building is located at the far south west corner of the site.


Plate 110: Building 41 tower block looking north east

### 7.37 Building 46



Plate 111: Building 46 looking west


Plate 112: Building 46 particular of the exterior pumping system

This building is a small square in plan structure built with brick and mortar and it has asbestos roof tile. a small door opens on the north east side of the building, and two window with metal frame are inserted into the southeast and northwest walls. Inside a deep circular hall hosts a pumping engine. The remains of a metal pipe are still attached to the exterior of the southeast wall.


Plate 113: Building 46 remains of a pump

### 7.38 Building 47



Building 47 is a modern wood frame shed associated either with the poultry farm or piggery. Located at the center west of the site, adjacent to building 13, it appears in a very poor condition of preservation.

While assessing and recording the building on this site few impressive murals have been notice. Although not ho historical interest it seem appropriate to create a record of each of these paintings, which in our view, records a modern approach in using disused spaces.

### 7.39 Murals




Figure 5: Plan of site with photo directions marked in red

## 8. Conclusion

This evaluation was carried out in order to characterize the archaeological potential of the development areas in accordance with the criteria set out within the English Heritage, Understanding Historic Buildings.

A total of 47 buildings were assessed. Although most found in a poor condition of preservation, the majority of the buildings are single storey unit made of bricks and mortar with corrugated asbestos-cement roofs. A number of taller brick built tower remains standing in the south, and appear to have been house storage tanks most likely for water use. Some of the assessed buildings consisted of the Nissen huts type, however these dwellings were found in very poor condition of preservation.

A good part of these buildings were converted for poultry farm and later piggery use, with the insertion of partitions and metal grid gates and floor. In all the remaining buildings related to the former Air Base the interiors have been stripped bare leaving only the building structure.

The two pumping stations (buildings 21 and 46) are the only standing structure that may relate to the Air Force Base. Also in few of the towers, some of the pumping metal pipe still in place.

No other archaeological features related to the Air Force Base were observed during this archaeological investigation.

## Bibliography

English Heritage: The National Heritage List for England - list.english-heritage.org.uk Heritage Gateway - www.heritagegateway.org.uk

MAGIC-www.magic.gov.uk
English Heritage 2006. Management of Research Projects in the Historic Environment (MoRPHE) London
(NPPF) 2012 National Planning Policy Framework
NERC, 2011, Soils Data for England and Wales, National Environmental Research Council

Lithos 2014. Geoenvironmental Appraisal of land at Roebuck Barracks, Green Lane, Acaster Malbis.

## Luigi Sigorelli BA MA

LS Archaeology
January 2015

