



JOHN MOORE HERITAGE SERVICES

HISTORIC BUILDING RECORD

OF

BLOCK 8, LAMBOURN BUSINESS PARK,

LAMBOURN WOODLANDS, HUNGERFORD RG17 7RU

NGR SU 32300 75874

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Block 8, Lambourn Business Park

Historic Building Record

SUMMARY

John Moore Heritage Services carried out a historic building recording of Block 8, Lambourn Business Park, Lambourn Woodlands, Hungerford, Berkshire (SU 32300 75874).

The building originated as part of RAF Membury Airfield, a dispersed airfield camp with 12 sites, established in 1942 as a bomber operational training unit at Lambourn Woodlands. The main site was surrounded by 11 dispersed sites, including the communal site, instructional site and W.A.A.F site. The study building is situated at the airfield's former communal site and was the Officers Mess. The building comprises four interlinked buildings arranged around an internal courtyard. The western and southern wings of the building were used by officers for dining and recreation, while the eastern and northern wings housed a kitchen, food preparation area, boiler room, water tower and larders. Due to later alterations original function of each building is not particularly legible; however, a small number of historic features survive, allowing the layout of these areas to be partially reconstructed. Of particular interest are two surviving murals, one partially extant and one fully intact and a surviving section of internal partition.

Post war, the building was substantially altered and refurbished to be used as offices and light industrial units.

1 INTRODUCTION

1.1 Origins of the Report

This report is a record of Block 8, Lambourn Business Park, Lambourn Woodlands, Berkshire (SU 32300 75874). The report was requested by Indigo Planning on behalf of Junction 14 LLP.

An application has been submitted to West Berkshire Council for Demolition of existing building and erection of an identical facsimile replacement building, plus associated works of construction (**20/01421/COMIND**). A condition relating to the recording of the existing building is proposed:

No demolition/ site works/ development shall take place within the application area until the applicant has secured the implementation of a programme of building recording in accordance with a written scheme of investigation which has been submitted to and approved in writing by the Local Planning Authority. Thereafter the development shall incorporate and be undertaken in accordance with the approved statement.

Reason: To ensure that an adequate record is made of these buildings of architectural, historical or archaeological interest.

Such an approach is in line with paragraph **199** of the 2019 National Planning Policy Framework. The level of recording necessary is in line with Historic England guidelines as set out in the Historic England document *Understanding Historic Buildings: A Guide to Good Recording Practice* (HE 2016). The requirements and methodology for recording were set out in Written Schemes of Investigation by John Moore Heritage Services (2020).

1.2 Location and Description

The site is located in the civil parish of Lambourn, in the West Berkshire district of Berkshire (centred NGR SU 32114 76094). Block 8 forms part of Lambourn Business Park, located at the former Communal site of RAF Membury Airfield, a temporary airfield established in 1942. The site is accessed off Ermin Street by a minor road and comprises a series of wartime buildings, now under mixed light industrial and office use. To the north and east the site is bounded by woodland, while to the south and west are fields currently in pasture.

1.3 Geology and Topography

The site is situated on a moderate southwest facing slope on the eastern side of a dry valley between 200 and 210m AOD. The underlying geology is Seaford Chalk Formation, a sedimentary Bedrock of the Cretaceous Period; this is overlain by superficial deposits of the Clay-with-flints Formation, clay, silt, sand and gravel formed in the Quaternary and Neogene Periods (mapapps.bgs.ac.uk/geologyofbritain/home.html).

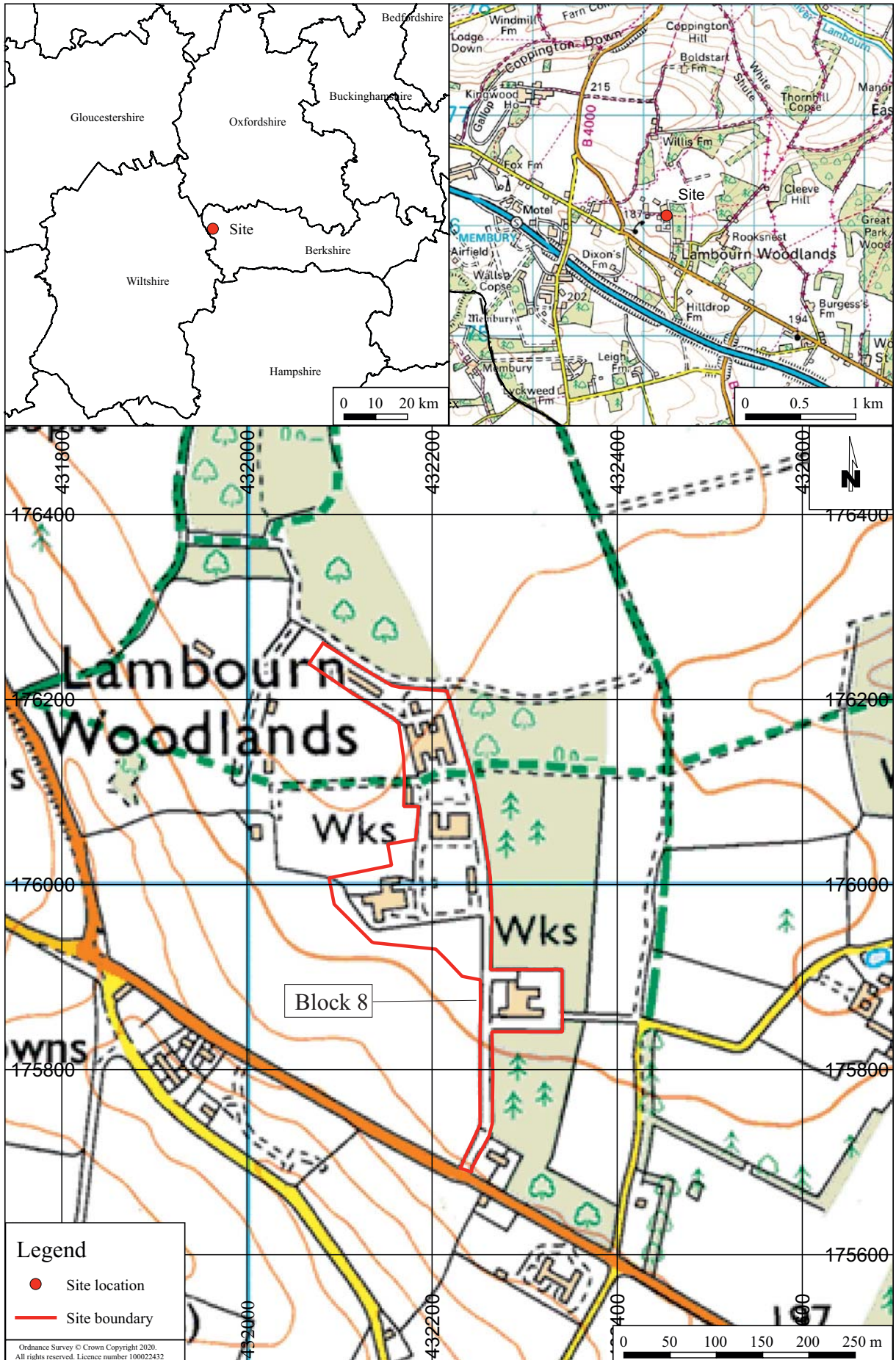


Figure 1: Site location

2 AIMS OF THE INVESTIGATION

- 2.1 To undertake a Level 3 (analytical) building survey (Historic England 2016) of the existing building so that the origin and any subsequent development of the building is recorded as part of the overall site's historic record.
- 2.2 Prepare plans and elevations of the existing, or annotate existing plans and elevations, and photographically identify and record any structural features or relationships.
- 2.3 To produce a written account of the building.

2.1 Methodology

John Moore Heritage Services carried out the work to a Written Scheme of Investigation (JMHS 2020) agreed with the Senior Planning Archaeologist of West Berkshire District. The format and contents of the report are an adaptation of the standards outlined in the Chartered Institute for Archaeologists' guidance paper for Heritage Impact Assessments, Historic Building Recording or Desk-based Assessments (Cifa 2020). The work has involved the consultation of the available documentary evidence (historical sources), including records of previous discoveries (archaeological finds), and historical maps (cartographic evidence), where necessary consultation of aerial photographs, all of which has been supplemented with a site visit. The format of the report is adapted from a Chartered Institute for Archaeologists *Standard Guidance* paper (Cifa 2020).

3 BACKGROUND

3.1 Heritage Background

RAF Membury Airfield, a dispersed airfield camp with 12 sites was established in 1942 as a bomber operational training unit at Lambourn Woodlands. The base was first used by the 3rd Photographic and the 67th Observation Groups, the reconnaissance unit of the USAAF Eighth Air Force Ground Air Support Command. The main site was surrounded by 11 dispersed sites, including the communal site, instructional site and W.A.A.F site. The base was transferred back to the RAF in 1945 and later sold to private owners (<http://www.ramsburyatwar.com/memburyairfield.htm> accessed 20/11/2020). The main airfield, truncated by the M4 motorway in 1971, is now used for light industrial purposes primarily based around aircraft maintenance. The study building is situated at the former site 2, the airfield's communal site. When in use, the communal site contained 34 buildings and structures including messes for officers and sergeants, dining rooms, a gymnasium, toilet facilities, shops for groceries, rations, barbers and a fuel compound. Of the original 34 buildings 10 are extant in some form at the present day. These are: the officer's mess, now known as Block 8 (the study building); the sergeants' mess, now known as Block 9; the institute, now known as Block 2; the ration store, now known as Block 5; the dining room, now known as Block 1; the gymnasium and chapel, now known as Block 6; the airmen's ablutions, the sergeants' and airmen's ablutions, the standby set-house and the grocery and provision store, now known as Block 3.

On the 1944 site plan, the Officers Mess (study building) comprised four interlinked buildings arranged around an internal courtyard (Figure 2; building 151). The western and southern wings of the building were used by officers for dining and recreation, while the eastern and northern wings housed a kitchen, food preparation area, boiler room, water tower and larders (Francis 1996, p.180).

To the north of the building were the Commanding Officers Quarters (building 152), a Squash Court (building 153) and the Officer's Ablutions (building 154), while to the east were two blast shelters (Figure 2). None of these buildings survive at the present day.

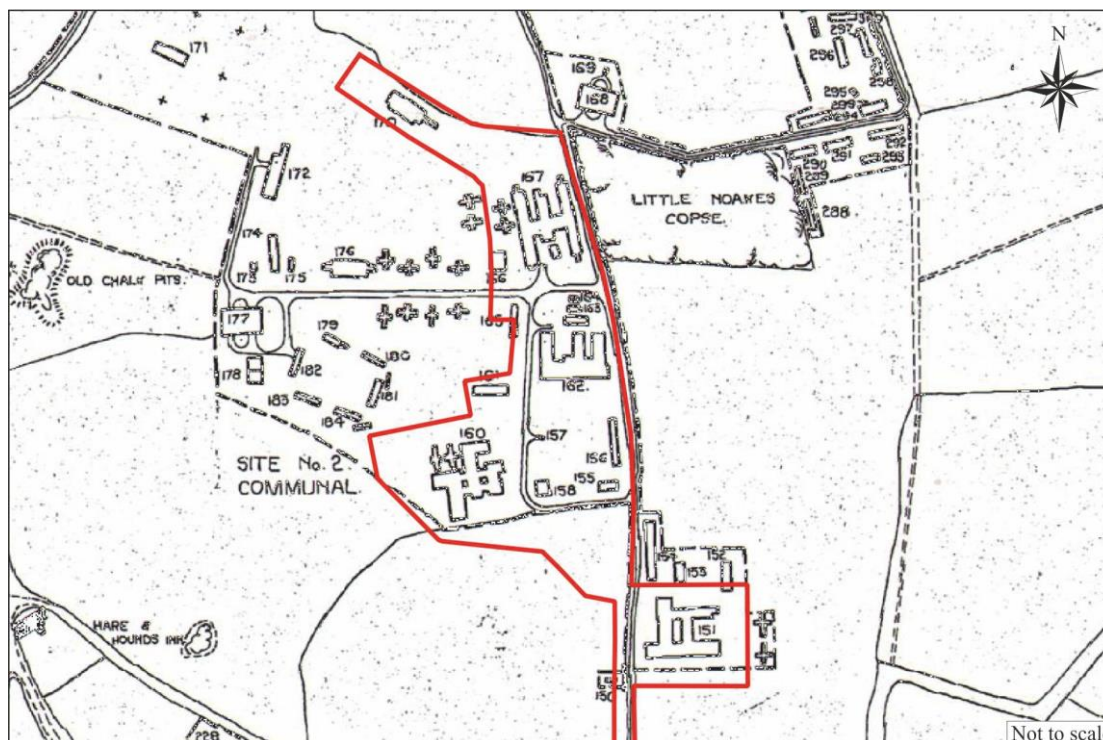


Figure 2: Plan of RAF Membury dispersed sites, 1944; block 8 (building 151) is present at the southern edge of the site (Air Ministry: Drawing 4495/44)

4 DESCRIPTION OF BLOCK 8

4.1 Introduction and General Description

The building comprises four wings, arranged at 90 degrees to each other around a central courtyard. These are described below as the northern, eastern, southern and western buildings respectively. The building is of brick construction, clad in cement render. There are external buttresses located at regular intervals along each elevation of the building; these are predominantly brick, though there is evidence for repair in concrete. The gabled roof is clad throughout in corrugated asbestos sheeting. Internally the roof structure throughout is formed from light steel, each truss comprising a tie beam and rafters with struts. These comprise lengths of flat steel bolted together. Timber purlins run the length of the roof between trusses, to which asbestos sheeting is attached.

4.2 External Elevations (Figure 3)

Elevation AA (South)

Elevation AA comprises the southern elevation of the southern building (Plate 1). The southern elevation contains 16 modern PVC windows, set centrally within the panels between the buttresses which are located at regular intervals along the elevation. Two entrances into the building are located centrally within the elevation, both accessed through a set of modern stairs constructed from concrete blocks and enclosed by metal railings. The western entrance, leading to room A1, is a PVC door set into a modern brick panel that spans the gap between two buttresses, while the eastern entrance, leading to room B2, is a set of PVC French doors.



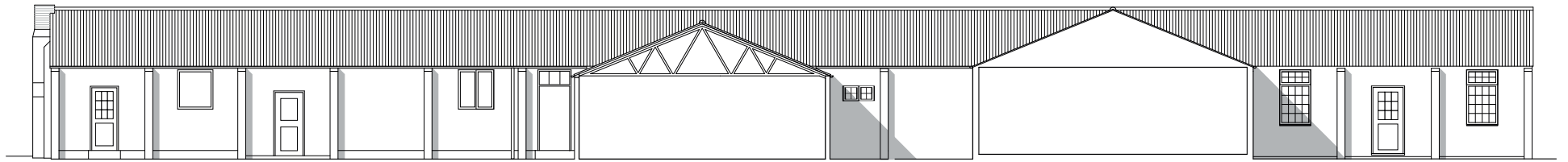
Plate 1: Elevation AA, looking north east

Elevation BB (North)

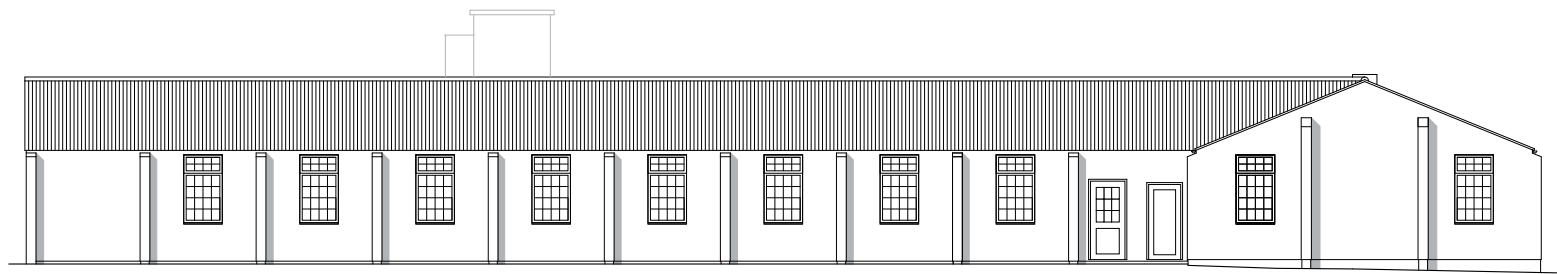
Elevation BB comprises the northern elevation of the southern building (Plate 2-3). Three PVC doors are present within the eastern end of the elevation, situated centrally within the first, third and sixth panels; these provide access to rooms C2, C1 and B1 consecutively. Two square PVC windows are present within the second and fifth panels. A concrete steps located at the base of the fourth panel indicates the position of a blocked doorway. A metal framed casement window is located within the courtyard section of the elevation. The western end of the elevation contains three panels; a PVC door is set within the central panel, flanked by two PVC windows located within the panels on either side.



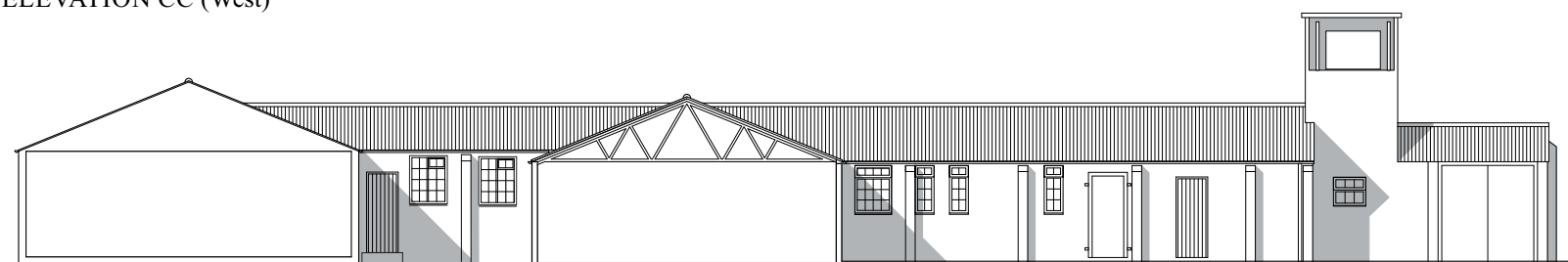
ELEVATION AA (South)



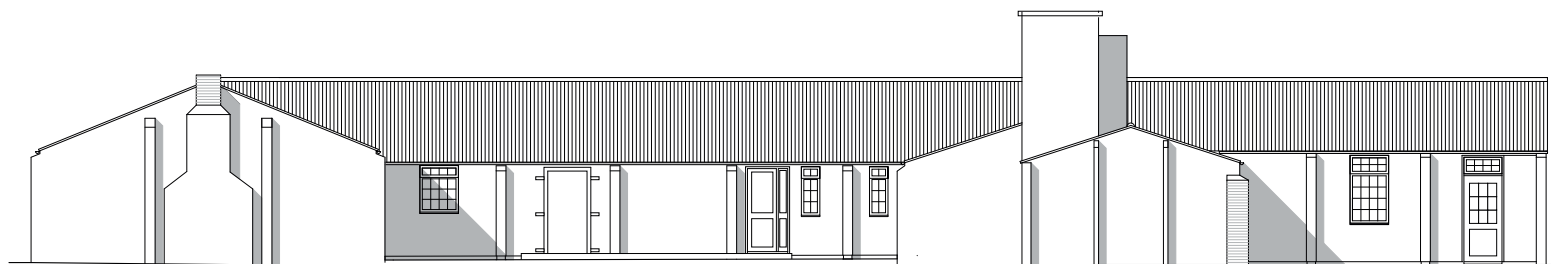
ELEVATION BB (North)



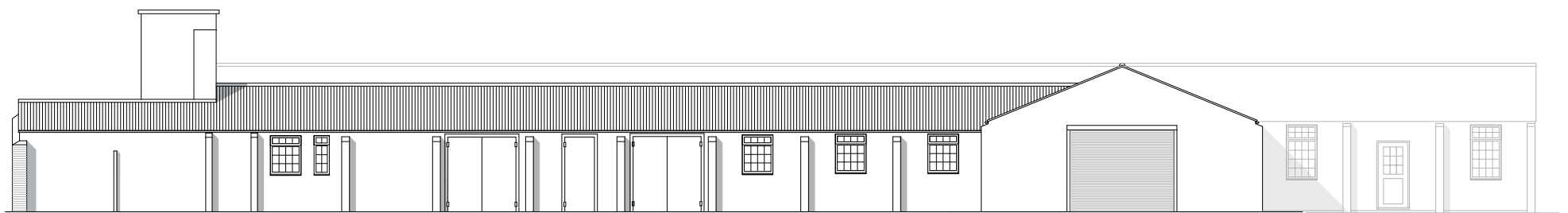
ELEVATION CC (West)



ELEVATION DD (South)



ELEVATION EE (East)



ELEVATION FF (North)

ELEVATIONS KEY LEGEND

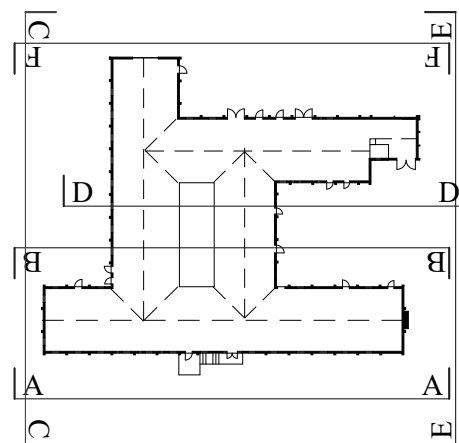


Figure 3: Block 8; external elevations



Plate 2: Eastern end of elevation BB and southern end of elevation EE, looking south east.



Plate 3: Western end of elevation BB, looking south.

Elevation CC (West)

Elevation CC comprises the western elevation of the western building and the western gable end of the southern building (Plate 4). The most northerly panel is blank, while panels two to nine each contain a PVC window; the tenth panel contains two PVC doors, leading to room H1. The western gable end of the southern building contains two PVC windows and two buttresses.



Plate 4: Elevation CC, looking south east.



Plate 5: Southern gable end, elevation EE. Looking north east.



Plate 6: Western end of elevation DD, looking north west.

Elevation DD (South)

Elevation DD comprises the southern elevation of the northern building. The westernmost section is located within the courtyard and contains a wooden plank door that leads to room G1, situated to the west of two metal framed windows. The eastern section of the elevation contains five panels: a PVC window is located centrally within the westernmost panel; two smaller windows are located to the left of centre within the second panel; the third contains a small PVC window and a sheet metal door that provides access to room F1, while the fourth contains a plank door to E1. At this point the elevation moves northwards to the water tower, the top of which is open and contains a water tank; a PVC window is located centrally within the lower part of the elevation. To the east of the water tower is a double metal door flanked by two buttresses; this provides access to room E1.



Plate 7: Eastern end of elevation DD, looking north-north west.



Plate 8: Northern side of elevation EE, looking west.

Elevation EE (East)

The southern part of Elevation EE forms the eastern gable end of the southern building. Situated centrally within the elevation is a brick built chimney breast; two rendered buttresses are located on either side of the chimney breast. The central portion is the external elevation of the eastern link between the southern and northern wings of the building. From south to north are: a PVC window located centrally within the first panel; the second contains a sheet metal door to D1; the third panel is blank; the fourth contains a modern PVC door to G2 and window, while the fifth contains a PVC window. The gable end of the northern building contains four buttresses, situated at regular intervals across the gable; the northern buttress is a modern replacement. The northernmost section of this elevation is the eastern elevation of the western building. This comprises three panels: the first is blank; the second contains a modern PVC window, while the final contains a PVC door to H2.

Elevation FF (North)

This elevation comprises the northern elevation of the northern building and the northern gable end of the western building. The eastern end of the elevation is blank, containing only buttresses. Two modern PVC windows are situated within the fourth panel; the sixth, seventh and eighth panels contain modern sheet metal doors to rooms F1 and G1 consecutively, while the final three panels each contain a modern PVC window. The northern gable end of the western building contains a modern roller door, located centrally, that provides access to H2.



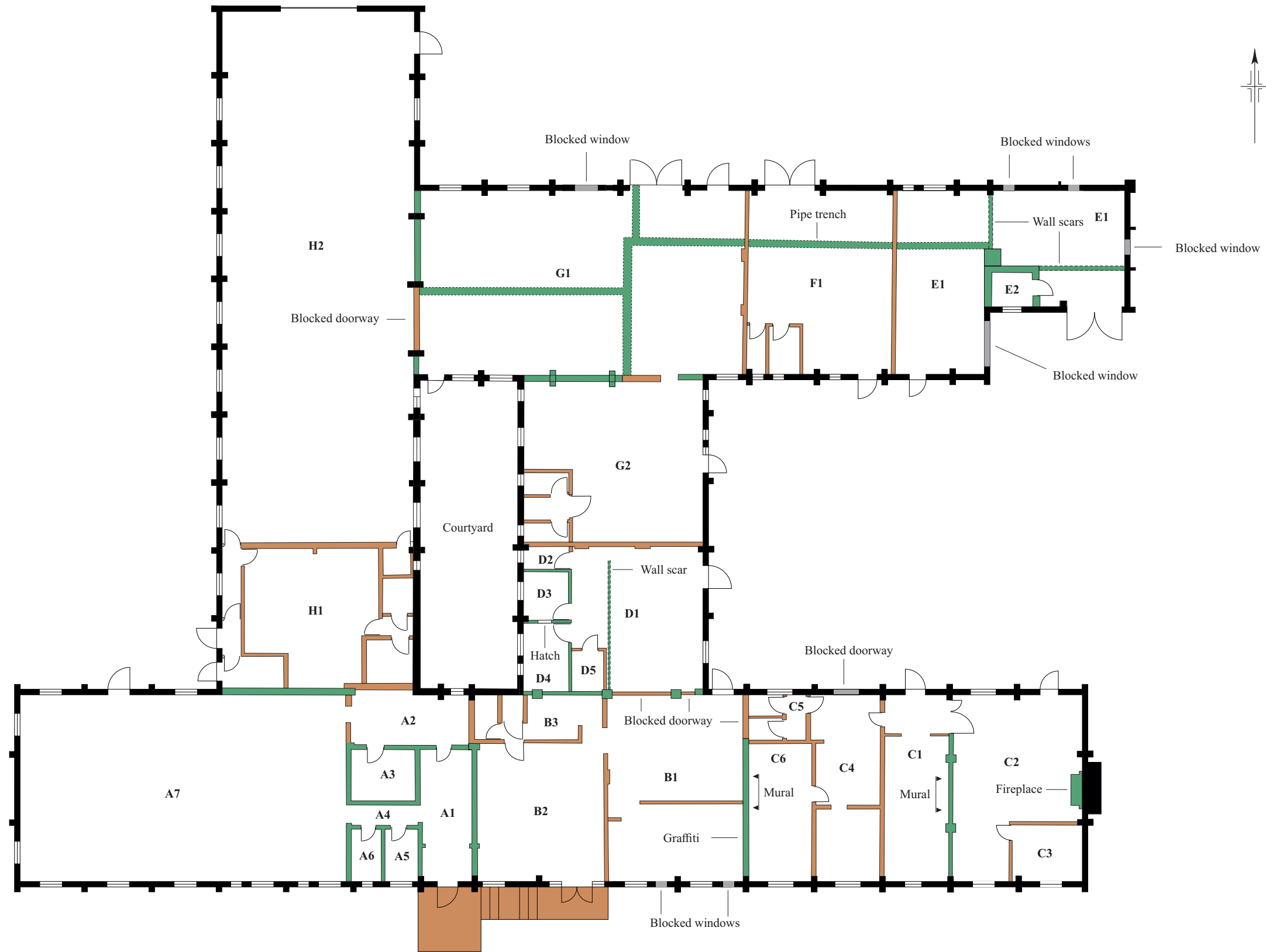
Plate 9: North elevation FF and east elevation EE, looking south west.

4.3 Interior (Figure 4)

The building has been subject to a series of modern subdivisions and alterations, each with separate access points. As such each 'Area' has been determined by modern divisions within the building.

Area A

Room A1 is accessed from the southern side of the building through a modern PVC door. The room has a suspended plasterboard ceiling and simple, uniform skirting and coving which extends through rooms A3 - A6. Room A1 is a hallway, leading north to utility room A2 and west to corridor A4. The eastern wall of the room is brick and thus likely original. Utility room A2 is accessed through a modern single panel door. The northern wall contains an original metal framed two light casement window; each light containing two panes (lights) over two. The eastern wall appears to be a modern plasterboard partition, while the southern wall contains access to kitchen A3 and the western contains a doorway to A7. Kitchen A3 is accessed through a modern single panel door and contains a range of modern fixtures and fittings. Corridor A4, accessed through a modern door, provides access to toilets A5 and A6 on its southern side and a doorway leading to room A7 at its western end. Both toilets are accessed through modern doors and contain a mirrored arrangement of sink, toilet and radiator, all of which are modern fittings. The partitions dividing the two toilets may be original and the windows to each room appear to be appropriate to the size of the room, with no evidence of later alteration. Bathroom A6 contains an historic metal drain cover. Room A7, accessed through a modern door, is a large open room with concrete floor and modern suspended panel ceiling. A series of modern radiators line the walls and a PVC fire door is present on the northern wall.



Key: ■ WWII ■ Post-WWII (modern)

0 10 m
1:200

Figure 4: Block 8; internal floorplan



Plate 10: Room A1; showing partitions. Looking north.



Plate 11: Room A7, looking west.

Area B

Room B1 was accessed from the north through a modern PVC door. There is a modern suspended ceiling and bare concrete floor. The room is partially divided with a modern wood and plasterboard partition. The northern wall is of brick; two separate blocked internal entrances, formerly north leading to room D1, are located to the west of the current doorway. The eastern wall is an original brick partition; a former entrance to area C is located towards the northern end of the wall, blocked with concrete blocks. A small section of graffiti is present at the southern end of the wall; this appears to extend above the modern ceiling (Plate 14). The southern wall contains two modern windows and two smaller blocked windows, located on the eastern side of each current window. The western wall is a modern concrete block partition; a doorway leads to room B2.



Plate 12: Room B1, northern wall; showing blocked entrances. Looking north

Room B2 is accessed from the east through a modern panel door. The suspended ceiling seen in B1 continues throughout, while the floor is wooden laminate; a range of modern fixtures and fittings are present. The eastern wall is a modern concrete block partition; modern French doors are located on the eastern side of the south wall and a modern window is located on the western side.



Plate 13: Room B1, eastern wall showing blocked internal doorway. Looking east.



Plate 14: Room B1, eastern wall; showing small patch of surviving graffiti. Looking east.

The southern end of the western wall is rendered, while the northern end is tiled and rendered; where tiles have been removed, it is evident that the wall is an original brick partition. A modern plasterboard partition extends from the northern wall, separating the rest of the room from a toilet and utility room. The wall to the north of the modern partition is an original brick partition.

Area C

Room C1 is accessed from the north through a modern PVC door; the room is divided by a modern plasterboard partition located on the southern side of the room, creating a small lobby area; to the east a double door provides access to room C2, while to the west a doorway leads to room C4.



Plate 15: Room C1, eastern wall; showing mural. Looking east

There is a modern suspended ceiling and carpet tile floor. Beyond the partition the room extends south into a room lined with modern wooden shelving; in this area the room is open to the roof. The western wall is a modern partition, while the east is an original brick and concrete block partition. Two brick buttresses are located along the length of the wall and a partial mural is situated centrally, towards the top of the wall.



Plate 16: Room C2, eastern wall; showing fireplace. Looking east.

Room C2, accessed through a modern double door, contains a modern suspended ceiling and carpet. The northern wall contains a modern PVC window and door, the east has a historic brick built fireplace located centrally, while the south contains a single modern window. Both windows have been partially infilled with concrete blocks, shortening the original apertures. A small modern partition (C3) is present on the south eastern side of the room, accessed through a modern six panel door.

Room C4, accessed from the east through a modern panel door, contains a modern suspended tile ceiling, skirting and a carpet tile floor. The northern external wall contains a blocked doorway, while the eastern wall is a modern partition. The southern external wall contains a modern window; as in room C2 the original opening has been partially infilled with concrete blocks. The western wall is also a modern partition and contains doorways to rooms C5 and C6.

Room C5, a toilet, is accessed from the east through a modern panel door. The eastern, southern and western walls of the room are formed from modern partitions while the external northern wall contains a modern window. The room contains modern fixtures and fittings.

Room C6, accessed from the east through a modern panel door, contains a partly removed suspended ceiling and carpet tiles; above the suspended ceiling earlier tube lights are suspended from a roof truss. The eastern and northern walls are modern partitions, while the southern external wall contains a modern window. The western wall is an original brick partition, partially clad in plasterboard. An extant mural is present on the wall. It seems to resemble 1940s actresses Mae West or Rita Hayworth.



Plate 17: Room C6, western wall; showing extant mural. Looking west.

Area D

Room D1 is accessed from the east through a modern PVC door. The room is open to the roof, which is lined with asbestos sheet; three steel trusses are present. A metal rod running the length of the room is suspended from the ceiling on the eastern side of the ridgeline, to which two striplights are attached. The floor is concrete. In addition to the doorway the eastern wall contains a modern window; the northern wall is a modern partition. The western wall of D1 is formed by an original plasterboard partition; three doorways are located along this wall, providing access to rooms D2 to D4. A modern partition extends from the southern end of this wall, forming room D5. The southern wall is an original brick partition that contains a blocked entrance to room B1.



Plate 18: Room D1, partitions D2 to D4. Looking west.

A brick buttress extends to the ridgeline from this wall; a wall scar is present along the full length of the buttress. The footprint of the former wall is also visible in the floor, extending north into the room.

Rooms D2 to D4 are a toilet, washroom and cloakroom consecutively; the rooms have modern fittings and fixtures, however little else appears altered. Each room is accessed through a wooden single panel door with Bakelite handle and lock escutcheons (Plate 21). The rooms are divided with plasterboard partitions that align with the external windows and the external walls are also clad in plasterboard; each window is an original metal framed unit comprising a top hung casement of two panes over a fixed light of two panes over three. The glazing in each window is patterned for privacy, suggesting that the original function of these rooms was similar to their current use. A sliding hatch is present between rooms D3 and D4.



Plate 19: Historic window in room D4; Looking west.



Plate 20: Hatch in room D4; looking north.

Room D5 is a modern partition, accessed from the north through a modern door from room D1.

Area E

Room E1, arranged in an L plan, is accessed from the south through a modern panel door. The room is open to the roof which is lined with plasterboard sheets and has a concrete floor. In addition to the door the southern wall contains a brick buttress; the rest of wall is of concrete block construction, though this appears to be historic. The eastern side of the southern wall contains a set of metal double doors. The western wall is a modern concrete block partition. The northern wall is brick and contains two modern windows; to the east of these are two blocked windows. The northern section

of the eastern wall forms the eastern gable end of the building; a blocked window is visible centrally within the wall.

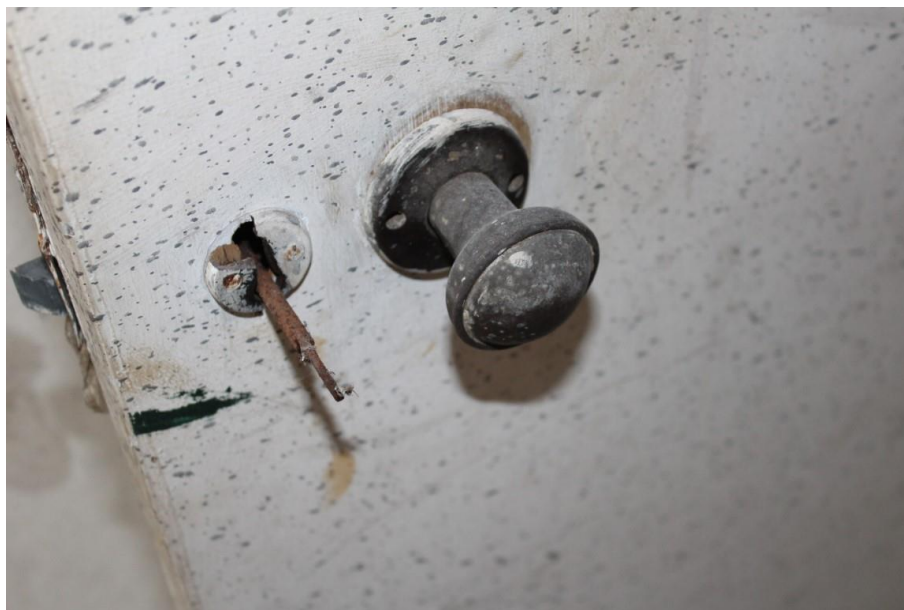


Plate 21: Bakelite handle and lock escutcheon in door to room D4

The water tower is seen within the room as a square brick built structure. A metal water pipe is recessed into the floor and covered with concrete slabs. This runs west from the base of the water tower, out of the room under the modern partition. A wall scar extends from the eastern side of water tower footing to eastern gable end and from western side of water tower extending north, indicating that the room was previously divided here. Room E2, the water tower, is accessed from the east through a modern panel door. The southern wall contains a modern window, inserted into a blocked doorway. The room is a toilet and contains a range of modern fixtures and fittings.

Area F

Room F1 is accessed from the north through a metal double door; the room is open to the roof, which is lined with plasterboard. Three metal trusses are visible and the floor is concrete; the water pipe trench seen in area E continues through the room on an east-west alignment. Both the east and west walls are modern concrete block partitions. A doorway containing a modern metal fire door is located on the eastern side of the southern wall, to the west of which is a narrow modern window. Two plasterboard partitions containing a toilet and washroom are present in the south west corner of the room; each partitioned area contains a modern window.



Plate 22: Room E; water tower structure.
Looking south east.



Plate 23: Room E; water pipe trench.
Looking east.

Area G

Room G1 is accessed from the north through a metal double door. The room is open to the roof, with three metal trusses visible; attached to the trusses is a lighting array comprising a loop of square sectioned hollow metal tubing to which a series of fluorescent lights are attached. Associated with the lighting are three historic fuse boxes, mounted on cork boards on the north, south and west walls (Plate 25). The floor is concrete; the water pipe trench seen in areas E and F continues through the room on an east-west alignment, before turning 90 degrees and running north-south, turning again to run east-west and continuing to the western end of the room. Branches extend from the water pipe trench to the north and south. The northern wall contains three modern windows, located to the west of the doorway; each is in the position of an original window, partially infilled with concrete blocks to accommodate the smaller modern windows.

The western wall is an original brick partition; a former internal entrance, infilled with concrete blocks, is present. A wooden plank door is present at the western end of the south wall; this appears original and is furnished with push-bar fittings; the door opens out onto an internal courtyard. To the east of the wall are two historic metal framed windows. Each window comprises three lights: a side-hung casement of two panes over four, paired with a top hung casement of two panes over a fixed unit of two panes over three. Five horizontal metal bars are fixed to the frame of the side-hung casement, limiting access through the window. To the west the wall is a brick partition, within which is a doorway to room G2. The eastern wall is a modern concrete block partition.

Room G2, accessed on its northern side from G1, has a modern suspended ceiling and carpeted floor. Two modern windows and a PVC door are present on the east wall while

the southern wall is a modern partition. The southern end of the western wall is occupied by a modern internal partition containing three small rooms used as two toilets and a washroom; modern windows are present in two of the partitioned rooms that look out onto the internal courtyard. In the wall to the north of the partition are two further modern windows, also overlooking the courtyard.



Plate 24: Room G1; west wall and roof structure. Looking west



Plate 25: Room G1; southern wall with historic door and windows. Looking south



Plate 26: Room G1; northern wall with historic door. Looking north



Plate 27: Room G1; northern wall with historic fuse box and switches. Looking north

Area H

Room H1 is accessed from the west through a modern PVC door. The room is formed from a series of modern internal partitions, has a modern suspended ceiling and is carpeted. The southern wall of the room is an original brick partition; a former internal access route has been blocked on the eastern side of the wall. A modern window is present within the corridor leading to room H1 on the western wall.



Plate 28: Room H2; showing roof structure and blocked doorway. Looking north.

Room H2, accessed from the south, is open to the roof and has a concrete floor. Eight trusses are visible and the roof is lined with asbestos sheeting; there is no evidence of the pipe trench previously seen in room G1, suggesting that the concrete floor has been re-laid. Two historic metal windows are present at the southern end of the eastern wall, overlooking the internal courtyard; to the north of these a panel of concrete blocks an internal access way to room G1. At the northern end of the wall is a further modern window and modern door. The northern wall is occupied by a modern roller door, positioned centrally. Modern windows occupy every panel of the western wall, with the exception of the most northerly panel.



Plate 29: Room H2; eastern wall with historic windows. Looking east

5 ASSESSMENT

5.1 Phases

Phase 1: WWII

The building was purpose built as an Officer's Mess during the construction of RAF Membury in 1942.

Phase 2: Post-WWII

Post war, the building was substantially altered and refurbished to be used as offices; as a result the building has been separated into eight different areas.

5.2 Historic and Architectural Assessment

The external plan of the building does not appear to have been altered significantly since its construction, as demonstrated through comparison with the airfield plan (Figure 2). However, internally the building has been subject to substantial subdivision and refitting, making recovery of the original internal layout difficult. As noted in

section **3.1** the western and southern wings of the building were likely to have been used by officers for dining and recreation, while the eastern and northern wings housed a kitchen, food preparation area, boiler room, water tower and larders (Francis 1996, p.180). A small number of features remain extant that date to the wartime construction and use of the building.

Original internal brick partitions survive, allowing some elements of the former layout to be discerned. The southern building was partitioned into four rooms; to the east was the smallest room, now C2 and C3. This contained a fireplace, perhaps indicating it was a lounge or recreation area. To the west was a larger room, formed by C1, C4, C5 and C6. The extant murals on both partitions of this room suggest that this was also a recreational area. The room formed by B1, B2 and B3 is larger and of less certain purpose, though presumably also formed part of the recreational area. The blocked windows on the southern wall of room B1 are similar in arrangement to those seen in A5 and A6, perhaps indicating the former presence of partitions against the southern wall. A number of internal partitions appear to survive in area A, though the original function of these is uncertain. The arrangement of windows seen in partitions A5 and A6 extends along the southern wall of room A7 for four windows, perhaps indicating that the partitions formerly extended further into this room.

The western building, formed by rooms H1 and H2, is the longest of the four and shows no evidence for any internal partitioning; the room is light, with windows present on both the western and eastern walls. The size of the room and lack of any internal divisions suggests that this was the dining room. The building could have been accessed from the south from area A and from the east through area G.

The eastern building originally comprised area D and room G2. Three historic partitions survive at the southern end of the western wall. The original function of these partitions is uncertain, though the presence of frosted glass in the original windows perhaps indicates that they were toilets or shower facilities. A wall scar running centrally from the southern partition indicates that at least the southern end of the room was subject to further division. This may also indicate a desire to keep the partitioned area screened from the rest of the building.

The northern building is formed from areas E, F and room G1. The eastern end of this building contains the water tower; a smaller room was located at the eastern end of the building, now only evident as wall scars. Due to its location adjacent to the water tower this is likely to have been the boiler room. A water pipe runs from the water tower through the rest of the building. The rest of the building appears to have been open, with no evidence for any internal partitions. Historic electrical circuitry, including fuse boxes and light switches, survive in room G1. It is likely that this building was the kitchen and larder, accessed from the south through room G2 and from the west through H2.

Internally the building has been subject to substantial subdivision and refitting; as a result the building has been separated into eight different areas. Areas A and C appear to have served as office buildings while area B was a cafe. In these areas suspended tile ceilings prevail and flooring is a mixture of concrete and carpeting. A series of internal partitions, both concrete block and stud walling, were erected, reducing the original rooms in size. Areas D, F, G and H appear to have served as light industrial units.

Typically these are open to the roof and have bare concrete floors, though there are smaller areas of internal partitions and suspended ceilings.

The original metal windows have been replaced throughout the building with modern PVC replacements. In some locations the original apertures have been partially blocked, allowing a smaller modern window to be inserted, while elsewhere they have been fully blocked.

6 CONCLUSIONS

John Moore Heritage Services carried out a historic building recording of Block 8, Lambourn Business Park, Lambourn Woodlands, Hungerford, Berkshire (SU 32300 75874).

The building originated as part of RAF Membury Airfield, a dispersed airfield camp with 12 sites, established in 1942 as a bomber operational training unit at Lambourn Woodlands. The main site was surrounded by 11 dispersed sites, including the communal site, instructional site and W.A.A.F site. The study building is situated at the airfield's former communal site and was the Officers Mess. The building comprises four interlinked buildings arranged around an internal courtyard. The western and southern wings of the building were used by officers for dining and recreation, while the eastern and northern wings housed a kitchen, food preparation area, boiler room, water tower and larders. Due to later alterations the original function of each building is not particularly legible; however, a small number of historic features survive, allowing the layout of these areas to be partially reconstructed. Of particular interest are two surviving murals, one partially extant and one fully intact and a surviving section of internal partition.

Post war, the building was substantially altered and refurbished to be used as offices and light industrial units.

7 BIBLIOGRAPHY

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John Moore Heritage Services 2020, 20/01421/COMIND–Unit 8, Lambourn Business Park, Lambourn Woodlands, Hungerford RG17 7RU Building Recording -
Written Scheme of Investigation

OASIS DATA COLLECTION FORM: England

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OASIS ID: johnmoor1-409010

Project details

Project name	HISTORIC BUILDING RECORD ON BLOCK 8, LAMBOURN BUSINESS PARK, LAMBOURN WOODLANDS, BERKSHIRE
Short description of the project	John Moore Heritage Services carried out a historic building recording of Block 8, Lambourn Business Park, Lambourn Woodlands, Hungerford, Berkshire (SU 32300 75874). The building originated as part of RAF Membury Airfield, a dispersed airfield camp with 12 sites, established in 1942 as a bomber operational training unit at Lambourn Woodlands. The main site was surrounded by 11 dispersed sites, including the communal site, instructional site and W.A.A.F site. The study building is situated at the airfield's former communal site and was the Officers Mess. The building comprises four interlinked buildings arranged around an internal courtyard. The western and southern wings of the building were used by officers for dining and recreation, while the eastern and northern wings housed a kitchen, food preparation area, boiler room, water tower and larders. Due to later alterations original function of each building is not particularly legible; however, a small number of historic features survive, allowing the layout of these areas to be partially reconstructed. Of particular interest are two surviving murals, one partially extant and one fully intact and a surviving section of internal partition. Post war, the building was substantially altered and refurbished to be used as offices and light industrial units.
Project dates	Start: 03-11-2020 End: 03-11-2020
Previous/future work	Yes / Not known
Any associated project reference codes	4365 - Contracting Unit No.
Any associated project reference codes	20/01421/COMIND - Planning Application No.
Type of project	Building Recording
Site status	None
Current Land use	Vacant Land 3 - Despoiled land (contaminated derelict and ?brownfield? sites)
Monument type	AIRFIELD BUILDING Modern
Significant Finds	NONE None
Methods & techniques	"Measured Survey","Photographic Survey","Survey/Recording Of Fabric/Structure"
Prompt	National Planning Policy Framework - NPPF

Project location

Country	England
Site location	BERKSHIRE WEST BERKSHIRE LAMBOURN Block 8, Lambourn Business Park

Postcode RG17 7SJ
 Study area 310 Square metres
 Site coordinates SU 32300 75874 51.480413316737 -1.534821108196 51 28 49 N 001 32 05 W Point

Project creators

Name of Organisation John Moore Heritage Services
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 Project design originator JMHS
 Project director/manager John Moore
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 Project supervisor Tom Rose-Jones
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Physical Archive Exists? No

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