

SCOTTISH BORDERS (local authority)

Cavers (parish)

Stobs Camp

Building surveys for Home Front Legacy

Andrew Jepson and Dianne Swift – Archaeology Scotland

NT 50002 09373 (centred on) Due to its extraordinary level of preservation Stobs Camp, four miles south of Hawick, is an internationally important First World War site. It was an arena for Scotland's preparation for war and the subsequent handling of First World War civilian internees and military prisoners. Although Stobs' military connections continued up until the early 1960s the focus of the Stobs Camp Project is the period prior to, and during, the First World War. It aims to better understand Stobs and the role it played, to value, share and commemorate Stobs and the people connected to it and to protect the camp for future generations. As part of work to ensure the physical remains are recorded the project conducted a series of building assessments using a framework provided by the Home Front Legacy project, a UK-wide venture that ran throughout the First World War centenary to encourage communities to record home front sites. Below is a summary of these assessments undertaken August-October 2017 and March, May and July 2018. All are located at Stobs Camp unless specified.

Hut at Kirk O'er, Robertson

NT 43150 14315

Weatherboard hut believed to date to the First World War re-erected at Robertson in the Scottish Borders. Structure is now L-shaped to fit its new location. Significant alterations were made in the process including the addition of extra doors. N facing wall 11.96m, S facing wall 17.75m and W facing wall 5.77m. Building is structurally intact but unrecognisable as a First World War hut. Features include five hopper-style windows S facing, one W facing and two N facing. There are two single square-head doors S facing and four N facing. The N facing doors appear to have been added following erection at Kirk O'er. Corrugated iron roof.

Huts at Mansfield Road Nursery, Hawick

NT 50845 15323

Three rectangular corrugated huts. Buildings 1 and 2 are on an E-W alignment and are connected by a timber-lined roofed passageway. Building 3 is on an N-S alignment. Buildings 2 and 3 are joined. Building 1 is 25.2m S facing by 6m W facing. Building 2 is 9.5m S facing. Building 3 is 9m E facing by 3.6m S facing. Features of building 1 include six windows S facing, one W facing and eight N facing. There is one single door N facing and one W facing. Building 3 has three windows E facing. Interiors have been significantly modernised. Building 1's corrugated roof is pitched, building 2's roof is semi-circular and building 3's roof is flat.

Hut at Selkirk

NT 47697 28447

Weatherboard hut believed to date to the First World War re-erected at Selkirk in the Scottish Borders. NE facing wall 18.38m, SW facing wall 18.48m, SE facing wall 6.27m and NW facing wall 6.39m. Features include four hopper-style and two modern windows NE facing, three hopper-style windows SW facing and two blocked windows SE facing. A single door NW facing. The corrugated roof is pitched. A wooden plaque states that the building was dismantled at Stobs Camp in 1960 and erected at Philiphaugh in Selkirk and then moved to its current location in the late 1980s. Stencilling on underside of corrugated roofing panel states "G.E. Borders, RE Stores, Stobs Camp, Hawick."

Drying Hut 1

NT 50332 09432

Rectangular single-storey structure for drying horse tack and soldiers' uniforms. N facing wall 7.25m, E facing wall 5.13m, S facing wall 7.25m and W facing wall 6.42m. Single unit in plan. Constructed from brick with a concrete rough casting outer skin. Features include one heavy wood frame door. Access is via four concrete steps. There are two windows, one E facing and one W facing. Roof is intact but breached. A brief internal inspection revealed metal frames used for hanging items. Building believed to pre-date the First World War.

Nissen Hut, Wester Deloraine**NT 33247 20575**

The remains of a corrugated Nissen hut re-erected at Wester Deloraine in the Scottish Borders. Rectangular in plan with longitudinal sides facing E and W. Access door at S with blocked door at N end. W facing wall 13.1m and S facing wall 7.45m. Features include four dormer-style windows, two W facing, one E facing with the remains of a second dormer on the E side. Two windows contain wired glass on the N facing side and two S facing. A brief internal inspection revealed later partitioning to keep livestock. Corrugated roof. Roof supported by half-circles forming seven internal sections. Each section measures 1.85m in width.

Armstrong Hut, Wester Deloraine**NT 33331 20596**

An Armstrong hut re-erected at Wester Deloraine in the Scottish Borders. Rectangular in plan with longitudinal sides facing N and S. S facing wall measures 25.3m and W facing wall 8.9m. Features include a large open entrance for livestock S facing. Sides are wooden frames covered by corrugated iron panels. Roof is pitched with evidence of replaced cladding. Stencilling on internal corrugated panel states "India Office 5."

Stobs War Memorial**NT 50582 10052**

Freestanding sandstone war memorial remembering the local men who gave their lives during both World Wars. The memorial consists of a pillar on a block with a stepped base. Above the pillar there is a cross of sacrifice and a shield containing a St Andrew's Cross. Twelve names are inscribed from the First World War and one from the Second World War.

Gas Training Chamber**NT 50544 09081**

Rectangular single-storey structure for training British soldiers on an N-S alignment. N facing wall 4.16m, E facing wall 6.29m, S facing wall 4.18m and W facing wall 6.27m. Single unit in plan. Constructed from brick with a concrete rough casting outer skin. The building originally had two doors, one NE facing and one SW facing and two windows, both E facing. Roof is intact but breached.

Drying Hut 2**NT 50404 09143**

Rectangular single-storey structure for drying horse tack and soldiers' uniforms. N facing wall 6.46m, E facing wall 7.24m, S facing wall 5.16m and W facing wall 7.24m. Single unit in plan. Constructed from brick with a concrete rough casting outer skin. Features include one heavy wood frame door. Access is via four concrete steps. There are two windows, one N facing and one S facing. Roof is intact but breached. A brief internal inspection revealed cast metal frames used for hanging items. Building believed to pre-date the First World War.

Storage Building**NT 50305 09366**

Rectangular structure believed to be a storage building on an N-S alignment. N facing wall 9.45m, E facing wall 18.72m, S facing wall 9.56m and W facing wall 18.74m. Constructed from corrugated iron panels. High roof with possible attic space. Nine steel cables run externally from the roof to the ground. Features include a high window N facing, two doors and one window E facing and a high window S facing. Telegraph cables run externally from the S window to the E wall. Corrugated roof is intact. No internal access.

Officer's Hut**NT 50244 09240**

Rectangular single-storey structure on an E-W alignment believed to have been an officer's hut during the First World War and a Clerk of Works office during the Second World War. N facing wall 27.97m, E facing wall 6.36m, S facing wall 27.97m and W facing wall 6.36m. Height to roof 3.9m. Constructed from corrugated iron panels. External features include the partial remains of a veranda and picket fence on the N facing side. Veranda is 12.33m in length and 2.45m wide. There are nine windows N facing and three doors, two marked with the number "27". There are twelve windows S facing and one door. A brief internal inspection revealed one long passage and six rooms with electric cables and light fittings visible. Corrugated roof is intact. Five chimneys are visible on the S facing roof.

British Guard Hut/Post Office**NT 50254 09289**

Square single-storey structure in the British Guard Camp. E facing wall 6.45m, S facing wall 6.45m and W facing wall 6.4m. The N facing side was inaccessible. Constructed from corrugated iron panels on a brick foundation. Features include one heavy wood frame door and window E facing, one window S facing and one window W facing. A brief internal inspection revealed an entrance corridor, a toilet cubicle and two rooms each with a fireplace sharing a brick chimney. Corrugated roof is intact.

Mens Hutments 1-6**NT 50195 09177 (centred on)**

The brick foundations of six rectangular Guard Huts on an N-S alignment. N facing wall 5.75m, E facing wall 23.2m, S facing wall 5.75m and W facing wall 25.37m. None of the huts exceed eight courses of brick. There are three access steps in the N corner of each hut. In the NW corner there is a raised concrete platform with visible floor drainage and a drain with curb stones externally at ground level.

British Guard Camp – summary**NT 50165 09198 (centred on)**

The remains of the British Guard camp contains three guard huts, a reservoir, ablutions blocks and a YMCA. All buildings are demolished. The guard huts have concrete bases with an external drain at the W end. They are 16.20m by 4.50m in plan. Three further huts visible on a 1917 plan were not located.

NCO office 1**NT 50260 09557**

The remains of a rectangular office on an NE-SW alignment. 30.6m by 6.3m in plan. Largely destroyed with the remains of some brick wall.

NCO office 2**NT 50285 09546**

The remains of a rectangular office on an NE-SW alignment. 3.7m by 2.8m in plan. Visible only by earthworks.

NCO office 3**NT 50292 09598**

The remains of Non-Commissioned Officer's quarters. 42.6m by 6.9m in plan. Visible only by earthworks.

NCO office 4**NT 50268 09568**

The remains of an office on an NW-SE alignment. 12.7m by 7m in plan. Visible only by remaining concrete base.

Mens Hutments 7-8**NT 50128 09119 (centred on)**

The remains of two rectangular Guard Huts on an N-S alignment. The outline is defined by brick foundations. N facing wall 6.03m, E facing wall 18.8m, S facing wall 6.38m and W facing wall 18.8m. Hut 7 did not exceed four courses of brick. Hut 8 was largely destroyed and survey was not possible. Features of Hut 7 include a series of forty-three square brick bases measuring 0.37m by 0.48m laid out in lines at ground level. There are three access steps in the N corner and in the NW corner there is a raised concrete platform with visible floor drainage and a drain with curb stones externally at ground level. There were seven bolts embedded in the concrete floor.

Fortification Trench A**NT 50181 09398**

<See main DES 2018 entry for Excavation>

Fortification Trench B**NT 50250 09403**

<See main DES 2018 entry for Excavation>

Water Treatment Works**NT 49924 09851**

Three rectangular and three octagonal tanks believed to be part of the camp's water clarification works. Rectangular tank 1 is 4.11m by 2.91m in plan, tanks 2 and 3 are 4.17m by 2.94m in plan. All are constructed from bricks and mortar. Each has a brick pillar in the centre and is defined by a brick wall on a concrete base. Only two or three courses of brick are visible. The octagonal tanks are constructed from concrete and are between 3.92m and 3.96m in diameter with each of the eight equal sides approximately 1.63m in length. Each tank has a concrete octagonal pillar situated centrally 1.49m across in plan with equal sides of approximately 0.63m. No mechanism remains. Holes for connecting pipes were observed.

Quartermaster's Store Buildings**NT 50358 09494 (centred on)**

Three rectangular buildings and one large building on an approximate N-S alignment. Buildings believed to form part of the Quartermasters Store. Rectangular buildings 1-3 are only visible by stone bases and measure 9m by 5m, 2.20m by 5m and 3m by 10.7m. The large building measures 40m by 10m on an approximate rectangular footprint and is defined by three or four courses of brick walls. Stone steps provide access at the N end. Internal divisions are difficult to identify.

Cemetery building 1**NT 50418 09616**

The remains of a rectangular building on the route to the former cemetery. 5.57m by 10.15m. Building largely destroyed. Broken concrete base on brick walls. Subfloor rubble has sunk creating a void. There are nine courses of brick in the NW corner and two in the SW corner. Building is visible intact in a photograph taken during the First World War.

Cemetery building 2**NT 50454 09607**

The remains of a square building on the route to the former cemetery. 5.25m by 5.25m. Visible only by remaining concrete base under vegetation. Building is visible intact in a photograph taken during the First World War.

Former cemetery**NT 50523 09563 (centred on)**

Former Prisoner of War cemetery at Stobs Camp in use during the First World War. Located at the E edge of Stobs Camp approximately 31m by 25m in size and bordered by a row of trees around its perimeter. Features include the remains of a memorial stone standing on a raised platform at the W end of the cemetery area. The base of the stone is in situ with a spread of demolition lying on the ground. There are also the remains of two stone seats and six stone steps leading up to the platform. Yew trees planted by German prisoners are set in a semi-circle behind the demolished memorial. The bodies in the cemetery were disinterred in the early 1960s. There is no evidence for the location of the original headstones.

<See main DES 2017 entry for Geophysical survey and Excavation>

<See main DES 2018 entry for Re-instatement of PoW Memorial>

Archive: Historic Environment Scotland, Scottish Borders Council, Historic Environment Record (intended)

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