THE ROYAL GUNPOWDER FACTORY WALTHAM ABBEY

South Site



THE ROYAL GUNPOWDER FACTORY - WALTHAM ABBEY		
NUMBER OLD SERIES G418 427	RCHME NUMBER	N.G.R. TQ 38080 99785
NAME/FUNCTION Pulping and moulding room Polymerisation Plant	START DATE 1888	END DATE 14-Nov-1990
NO PHOTOGRAPHY AVAILABLE		
CARTOGRAPHIC DEPICTION	DOCUMENTARY REFERENT 1) 1908 RGPF Ledger Pulping 1888 WASC 901/322 26 June 1888 Chimney WASC 901/325 16 July 1893 boiler of 10.000 gallon tank swalled in for use as a forge	g and moulding room, date guncotton Factory Proposed arrangement of
PHOTOGRAPHY HISTORIC BB92/16731 origin 27.7.1966 BB92/16732 Guncotton Factory 1896 PRO BB92/16739 Guncotton displacement apparatus May 1909 PRO BB92/16740 Cotton waste drying oven c1909 PRO	PHOTOGRAPHY RCHME 1) 206/G/1 From South 2) BB92/26251 View from South	ith West
RELATIONSHIPS WITH OTHER MONUMENTS ASSOCIATED WITH: CONDITION Good		
Description		

THE ROYAL GUNPOWDER FACTORY - WALTHAM ABBEY		
NUMBER OLD SERIES G431 429a-c, 430, 431	RCHME NUMBER	N.G.R. TQ 38200 99810
NAME/FUNCTION Gun Cotton Factory Central Stores and Stores Office	START DATE 1888-9	END DATE 27-Apr-1990
NO PHOTOGRAPHY AVAILABLE		
CARTOGRAPHIC DEPICTION	DOCUMENTARY REFERENT 1) 1908 RGPF Ledger 429 Nitrating house, pump room, drying room, fan room 430 Teasing room and mad 431 Paint store, date 1888 2) WASC 901/320 not dated dipping tanks WASC 901/321 26.June 1888 WASC 901/324 11.June 1929 "Robertson Asbestos protecte WASC 901/324/A 30.Jan 192 "Robertson Asbestos Protecte sheeting" WASC 901/325 16 July 1893 boiler 10.000 gallon tank, spa in for use as a forge	and fan house, weighing, date 1888 chinery store, date 1888 Screen & Fume shafts Guncotton Factory chimney proposed re-roofing with d metal sheets No 20 BG" 9 proposed re-roofing with d metal corrugated proposed arrangement of
PHOTOGRAPHY HISTORIC	PHOTOGRAPHY RCHME 1) 206/G/4 From South East 206/M/35 from South 206/M/35 from South West 2)BB92/26249 Guncotton Factor south west BB92/26250 Guncotton Factor	ctory 1888-9 view from

CONDITION

Good

DESCRIPTION

1) CONSTRUCTIONAL MATERIAL
Brick

2) ROOF MATERIALS AND STRUCTURE
Slate

3) POWER SOURCE
Electricity and steam heating

4) DIMENSIONS i) L ii) W iii) HT iv)DIA

5)

A stone plaque on the east wall is inscribed 'GunCotton Factory 1888-9'.

THE ROYAL GUNPOWDER FACTORY - WALTHAM ABBEY		
NUMBER OLD SERIES 476	RCHME NUMBER	N.G.R. TQ 38300 99620
NAME/FUNCTION Nitrating house/charge house	START DATE 1891	END DATE
NO PHOTOGRAPHY AVAILABLE		
CARTOGRAPHIC DEPICTION	DOCUMENTARY REFERENT 1) 1908 RGPF Ledger WASC	
	/charge house, date 1891	1000 470 Withding House
PHOTOGRAPHY HISTORIC	PHOTOGRAPHY RCHME	
RELATIONSHIPS WITH OTHER MONUMENTS ASSOCIATED WITH: 483		
CONDITION ?Buried		
DESCRIPTION The structure has been demolished, its site may be traced on the ground north of 483 as an earthwork.		

NUMBER OLD SERIES 483	RCHME NUMBER	N.G.R.
		N.G.R.
NAME/FUNCTION Washing house	START DATE 1894	END DATE
NO PHOTOGRAPHY AVAILABLE		
CARTOGRAPHIC DEPICTION	DOCUMENTARY REFERENT 1) 1908 RGPF Ledger WASC 1894 2) WASC 901/330 30 Nov 1899 washing House WASC 901/330A 5 May 1894 Washing House	1509 Washing house, date 94 Nitroglycerine Factory
PHOTOGRAPHY HISTORIC PHOTOGRAPHY RCHME 1) 206/G/8 Interior from West 206/G/9 Interior from South 206/G/10 Roof exterior from North 2)BB92/26257 Interior Nitroglycerine washing barre BB92/26258 Washing house interior service tunnel South BB92/26258 washing house roof Danger building li BB92/26260 Washing House detail service tunnel f North BB92/26261 Washing house entrance from West BB92/26262 Washing house detail of Nitroglycerine Gully support BB92/26263 Washing House roof of round house		orth m North lycerine washing barrel interior service tunnel to roof Danger building lights detail service tunnel from entrance from West detail of Nitroglycerine

DESCRIPTION

- 1) CONSTRUCTIONAL MATERIAL Timber
- ROOF MATERIALS AND STRUCTURE Timber covered by galvanised metal sheet.
- 3) POWER SOURCE Electric lighting and steam heating.
- 4) DIMENSIONS i) L ii) W iii) HT iv)DIA
- 5) The roundhouse is protected by an earthen bank revetted on the interior by a circular brick wall. The building is entered from the south west along a curving brick vaulted passage protected by a wooden slatted door at the entrance. The floor of the passage is asphalt covered. The passage is lit by electric lights, the wires encased in small diameter ferrous metal pipes.

The roundhouse is entered through double doors hung on brass butterfly hinges. The building is of timber frame construction with a weather boarded exterior and its interior walls are lined by vertical wooden boards. At the northern side of the building is a raised wooden platform, the horizontal supports of which pass through the roundhouse wall and are set into the brickwork revetment. Beneath this platform although not necessarily insitu is a stave built barrel bound by iron hoops fixed by copper nails. The height of this barrel is 1.22m within an internal diameter of 0.98m. The barrel has two drain holes one at the base and one 15cm up from the bottom. Around the lip of the barrel are a series of small pegs that may have been used to secure a cover. Another barrel within the building is identical excepting an internal diameter of 96cm.

The roof consists of rafters resting directly on the wall plate joining in a crown at the apex of the roof. The rafters are braced against any lateral movement by short spacing timbers. The roof is timber boarded covered externally by galvanised metal sheeting.

The building is lit by small windows around the top of the wall and two five light roof windows. Artificial lighting is provided by electric lights set into the roof protected by glass globes within chicken wire. The wires are set externally for these lights, protected by small bore ferrous pipes connecting to a cast iron switch box formerly mounted on a wooden pole on the top of the mound to the north. This was connected to the overhead power supply by Cordeaux type insulators by Bullers Ltd London with a single groove on the side and top.

The building is served by a brick service tunnel beneath the earthen mound from the north formerly leading frm 476. This is joined by another tunnel from the northeast to form a Y junction before entering the roundhouse. For part of its length the tunnel retains a wooden shelf that formerly supported a lead gutter along which the nitroglycerine into the settling? house. After processing the nitroglycerine passed out along along a similar gutter now removed set in a brick service tunnel to the south to the mixing house 486? and the waste water to a wash water filtration house 485?

A notice found in the building reads:

N G House

Temp of Washing Time of Settling
Temperature
1st 2nd 3rd 4th 5th Obscured 1 2 3 4

(five columns beneath)

THE ROYAL GUNPOWDER FACTORY - WALTHAM ABBEY		
NUMBER OLD SERIES 484	RCHME NUMBER	N.G.R. TQ 38307 99570
NAME/FUNCTION Junction house/covered way	START DATE 1894	END DATE
NO PHOTOGRAPHY AVAILABLE		
CARTOGRAPHIC DEPICTION	DOCUMENTARY REFERENCES 1) WASC 901/331 27 Sept 1891 N.G Factory covered passage between Washing House and Mixing House 1) 1908 RGPF Ledger WASC 1509 - Junction house/covered way, date 1894	
PHOTOGRAPHY HISTORIC	PHOTOGRAPHY RCHME	
RELATIONSHIPS WITH OTHER MONUMENTS ASSOCIATED WITH:		
CONDITION Good		
DESCRIPTION 1) CONSTRUCTIONAL MATERIAL Brick		
2) ROOF MATERIALS AND STRUCTURE		
3) POWER SOURCE		
4) DIMENSIONS iv)DIA 5) Circular brick tank to the south of the settling house? 483.		

THE ROYAL GUNPOWDER FACTORY - WALTHAM ABBEY			
NUMBER OLD SERIES 485	RCHME NUMBER	N.G.R. TQ 38240 99562	
NAME/FUNCTION Mixing house/porch	START DATE 1894	END DATE	
NO PHOTOGRAPHY AVAILABLE			
CARTOGRAPHIC DEPICTION	DOCUMENTARY REFERENT 1) 1908 RGPF Ledger WASC		
PHOTOGRAPHY HISTORIC	PHOTOGRAPHY RCHME		
RELATIONSHIPS WITH OTHER MONUMENTS ASSOCIATED WITH: 483, 484 Overlies N548			
CONDITION ?Buried			
DESCRIPTION			

THE ROYAL GUNPOWDER FACTORY - WALTHAM ABBEY		
NUMBER OLD SERIES 486	RCHME NUMBER	N.G.R. TQ 38320 99522
NAME/FUNCTION Mixing house/traverses Explosives Store	START DATE 1894	END DATE
NO PHOTOGRAPHY AVAILABLE		
CARTOGRAPHIC DEPICTION	DOCUMENTARY REFERENCE 1) 1908 RGPF Ledger WASC house/traverse, date 1894 2) WASC 901/329 30 Nov(?) stores	1509 - Mixing
PHOTOGRAPHY HISTORIC	PHOTOGRAPHY RCHME 2)BB92/26255 Interior of Mix BB92/26256 Roof exterior of	
RELATIONSHIPS WITH OTHER MONUMENTS ASSOCIATED WITH: 483, 484 Overlies N549		
CONDITION FAIR:		

DESCRIPTION

- 1) CONSTRUCTIONAL MATERIAL
 - Timber
- 2) ROOF MATERIALS AND STRUCTURE

Galvanised sheet metal

3) POWER SOURCE Electric lighting

- 4) DIMENSIONS i) L
- ii) W
- iii) HT

iv)DIA

The timber roundhouse is set within the centre of an earthen mound. The exterior walls of the roundhouse are protected by weatherboarding and braced by horizontal joists set into the brick wall. The roundhouse is approached from the south through a curving passage with an asphalt covered floor. The roundhouse is entered through double doors hung on brass butterfly hinges, the other door furniture is also of brass. The interior of the roundhouse is lined by galvanised sheet metal which has obscured any constructional details. The building is lit by small lights around the top of the wall, some of retain wartime blackout paint. Artificial lighting is provided by 'Maxlume' lights mounted on the outside of the windows with the attendant wiring encased in thin metal pipes.

A raised service tunnel formerly entered the roundhouse from the north, from building 483. The porch joining it to the roundhouse survives, although the passage is now sealed by the galvanised metal lining.

THE ROYAL GUNPOWDER FACTORY - WALTHAM ABBEY		
NUMBER OLD SERIES 494	RCHME NUMBER	N.G.R. TQ 37870 99495
NAME/FUNCTION Guncotton stove Explosives Store	START DATE 1892	END DATE
NO PHOTOGRAPHY AVAILABLE		
CARTOGRAPHIC DEPICTION	DOCUMENTARY REFERENTIAL TO THE TOTAL TO THE TOTAL TO	
PHOTOGRAPHY HISTORIC	PHOTOGRAPHY RCHME 2)BB92 26252 Guncotton view from East BB92/26253 Interior view from West BB92/26254 Guncotton stove etail of Crown Post	
RELATIONSHIPS WITH OTHER MONUMENTS ASSOCIATED WITH: Overlies M351		
CONDITION POOR		

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DESCRIPTION

1) CONSTRUCTIONAL MATERIAL

Timber

2) ROOF MATERIALS AND STRUCTURE

Galvanised sheet metal, rafters supported by a crown on top of a central post.

- 3) POWER SOURCE
- 4) DIMENSIONS i) L
- ii) W
- iii) HT

iv)DIA

5)

The roudhouse is surrounded by a high earthen traverse revetted by brick in the centre. The roudhouse is entered from the south through a brick vaulted passage formerly closed by double doors at the entrance. The passage is lined with a parquet flooring and a shoe box is provided at the inner end of the passage. The roundhouse rests on a raised platform separated from the revetting wall by a gully 0.8m in width. The roundhouse is of timber construction consisting of sill beams attached to the platform with an internal frame capped by a wall plate, the members of which were individually numbered during construction. The wall plate is braced by a number of horizontal joists set into the surrounding wall. The roundhouse is clad in weather board. The interior is lined with soft board probably a replacement of the original material. The floor is parquet lined. The interior is lit by a series of small windows around the top of the wall.

The roof is supported by a central post to the top of which is atttached a bronze? crown to which supports the rafters. The roof is a composite feature consisting of an internal galvanised metal lining fixed to the roof boards that are protected on the exterior by roofing felt. The roof like the internal walls has been relined using softboard. The roof is drained by sheet metal guttering attached to the exterior of the roundhouse.

A red notice by the entrance to the roundhouse reads 'TNT store bldg 494 Limit 15 000 lbs for RDX section' notice screwed to it reads ZZ 2.500.

NUMBER	OLD SERIES	RCHME NUMBER	N.G.R.
NAME/FUNCTION		START DATE	END DATE
NO PHOTOGRAPHY AVAILABLE			
CARTOGRAPHIC DEF	PICTION	DOCUMENTARY REFER	ENCES
PHOTOGRAPHY HISTORIC		PHOTOGRAPHY RCHME	
RELATIONSHIPS WITH OTHER MONUMENTS ASSOCIATED WITH: PART OF: CONSISTS OF: CUTS: CUT BY: ABUTTS: ABUTTED BY: OVERLIES: UNDERLIES:			

DESCRIPTION 1) CONSTRUCTIONAL MATERIAL a) BRICK b) CONCRETE c) BRICK AND CONCRETE d)TIMBER e) CAST IRON f) CORRUGATED IRON				
2)	ROOF MATERIALS AND STRUCTURE a) SLATE b) TILE c) BRICK d) CONCRETE e) TIMBER AND SHEETING f) CORRUGATED IRON			
3)	POWER SOURCE a) MUSCLE b) WATER	c) STEAM o	i) GAS e) ELI	ECTRICITY f) COMBUSTION ENGINE
4)	DIMENSIONS i) L	ii) W	iii) HT	iv)DIA
5)	FREE TEXT			

