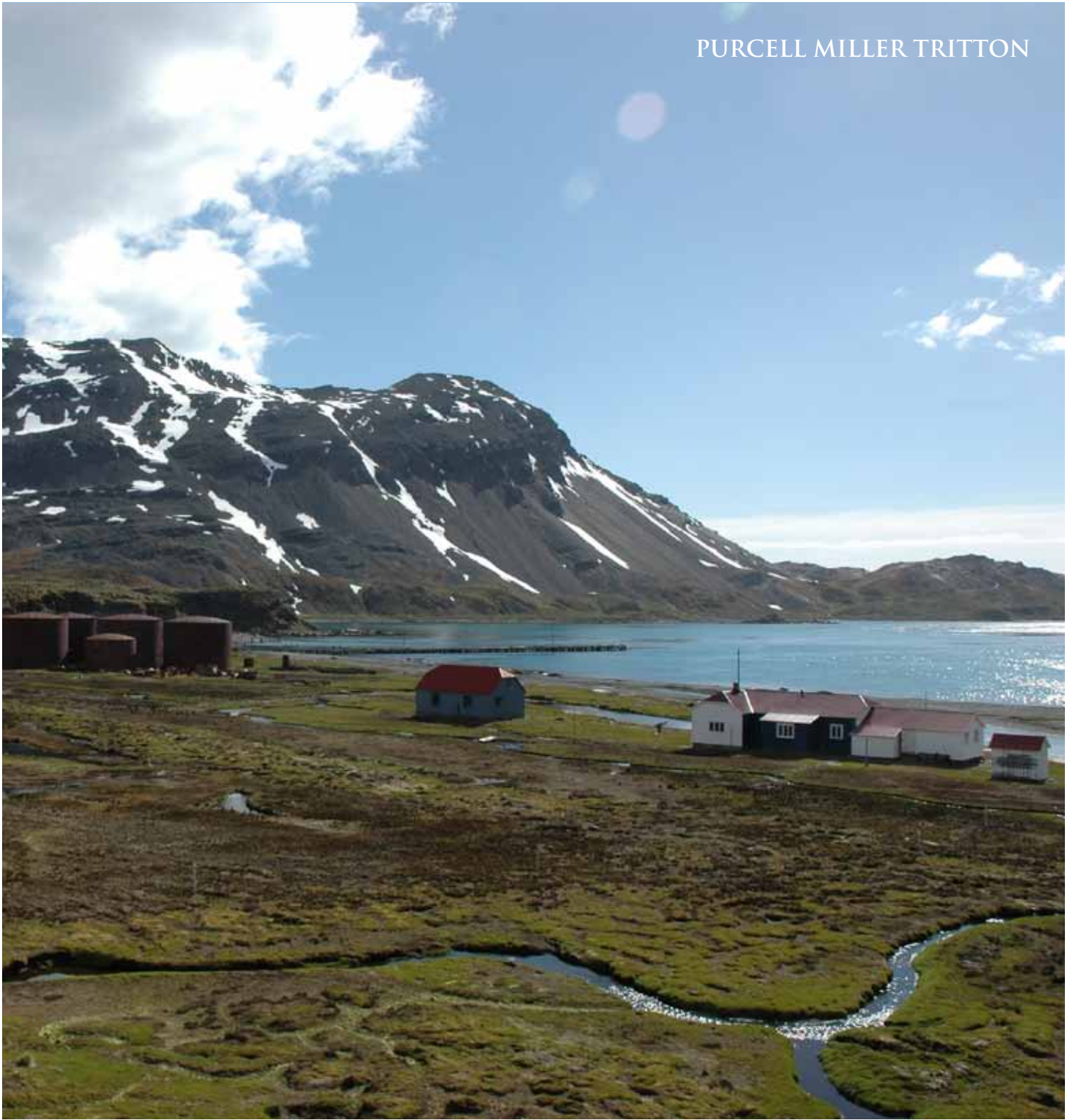


PURCELL MILLER TRITTON



DISUSED WHALING STATIONS

Husvik Harbour Gazetteer

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Gazetteer, July 2011

This gazetteer is prepared in conjunction with a general report into the condition of the disused whaling stations. This report was prepared following a series of inspections in late October and early November 2010. The report was prepared for the Government of South Georgia and the South Sandwich Islands (GSGSSI) who have original copies of the main report and the various gazetteers.

The gazetteers are not intended to be a comprehensive survey of the buildings and structures, but they do represent a snapshot of the condition of the sites at a particular moment. Additional photographs are available and have been deposited with the GSGSSI.

The survey team consisted of:

Pat Lurcock – Government Officer, GSGSSI
Dave Peck – Clerk of Works, GSGSSI
Tommy Moore – Thames Laboratories
Michael Morrison – Purcell Miller Tritton LLP

The surveys at each site were necessarily very brief and were intended to make a general assessment of the overall condition of the site and a specific assessment of the asbestos hazard. Thames Laboratories has reported specifically on the asbestos and their report is also lodged with GSGSSI.

The timetable for the visits was:

Grytviken – 29 October, 5/6 November 2010
Husvik – 30 October 2010
Stromness – 31 October, 4 November 2010
Leith – 1/2 November 2010
Prince Olaf – 3 November 2010

Generally the visits were made between 0800 and 1700 hours and the weather was uniformly good.

Please note that throughout the report the use of north, east, west and south should only be taken as approximate to indicate the side of the structure that has been photographed. This is to avoid the cumbersome usage of northwest, west northwest etc. Northwest, southwest etc., are only used when there would be confusion over which face of the structure is being referred to.



This location plan is taken from the appendices of the book 'The Shore Whaling Stations of South Georgia' published by Novus Press, 15 September 2004 (ISBN-10: 8270993948) by Bjorn L Basberg. The numbering system for all the structures and the names all replicate those in the book for easy identification and comparison.

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1 The Plan

The Plan still exists and is defined by the three cookery buildings despite their collapsed state. Some of the timber boarding, possibly a good deal of it, survives but the majority of the area is now under water. The stream which was contained to the north of the blubber cookery has burst its banks and now runs diagonally across the Plan, the majority of the water running through and around the blubber cookery, but with some running through the bone cookery area. The water has deposited a good deal of gravel on the Plan. There is also some vegetation growing between the boards. A number of winches and one small winch shed remain in position.



1.1 Detail of the Plan deck showing vegetation growth



1.2 General views of the Plan looking towards the Meat Cookery



1.3 Looking across the Plan towards the Bone Cookery and showing the stream now running across the area

2 The Plant

The area to the east of the main part of the meat cookery has been used as an area for extraction plant. A heavy concrete frame has been inserted into the area to provide a solid concrete deck at high level where the extractors are mounted. This has then been extended with a section of timber flooring supported on timber framing. To accommodate the extractors and to create a working area the roof has been modified with a raised section to the west. The roof generally through this area is very poor and one principal rafter has shattered through and collapsed and its neighbour is also fractured. Water has been pouring through this section of the roof and the timber floor at high level and the supporting timbers are all heavily affected with wet rot. This whole area is now in very poor order.



2.1 Fractured roof timber over the area



2.2 General view of the high level extractor area looking west

203 Meat Cookery

The meat cookery area stands in the eastern arm of the central building on the south side of the Plan. The cookery was not inspected in any detail as this area is very full of asbestos in poor condition. The building was timber framed with a corrugated iron roof. It is no longer clear how much of the area over the cookers had a floor as the area has fallen in and a tangle of timbers and corrugated sheeting lies on top of the cookers and the asbestos. Bjorn Basburgh notes that there are 20 cookers of three different types - presumably these are all still present under debris, certainly the first row of vertical cookers is still standing.

To the south of the main meat cookery area the building has been extended to the south with a lean-to to accommodate a further row of cookers. This lean to has also collapsed.



203.1 General view of the Meat Cookery north side

207 Bone Cookery

At the north end of Building No.2 is the bone cookery area. This is probably the most derelict area of the whole plant. Again it was not inspected in any detail as there were some concerns about asbestos and considerably more concern about the actual structural condition of the area. The structure around the bone cookers and supporting the bone loft were all of timber. The whole of the loft above the cookers has collapsed and the winch houses which were on the west side of the loft are on the point of collapse. These structures are supported on long poles and relied for stability on the floor of the bone loft. They are now on the point of collapse.

A stream of water has also been running through the Bone Cooker House for some time, entering through the northwest corner of the building and running down the length to the sea. This area is also likely to be heavily contaminated with asbestos and it will be impossible to clear this without first removing the remnants of the structure.

It seems to be impossible that any of the existing structure can survive this.



207.1 Looking east into the collapsed Bone Cookery



207.2 Collapsing winch house next to the bone loft



207.3 The northwest corner of the Bone Cookery showing the stream flowing into the area

208 Guano Factory

The guano factory was clearly built before the guano store and is a timber framed building with three rows of propping to the roof which is slightly more steeply pitched than the adjacent store. The propping also provides the structure for the floor above the cookers. The roof generally over this area of the plant is in poor condition.

A section of roof over the central raised floor is missing and the floor timbers and some of the structural timbers below this area are affected with wet rot. A large section of the roof on the west side has collapsed leaving a good deal of the fabric of the building dangling dangerously. There is also an area of collapse where the roof of the store meets the east wing which contained the whale line store. This section of the building still contains two of the rotary cookers and associated bagging equipment and augers and conveyors. A third rotary cooker has been withdrawn and is lying in the guano store shed, though its original location is clearly shown by its concrete base.



208.1 General view looking northwards of the Guano Factory showing one of the rotary cookers

200 Whale Line Store

To the east of the main section of the guano factory is a steel framed pitched roof shed which has been used as a whale line store. This is a steel framed building with doubled up channels used as columns and principals. The roof is tied at wall plate level and the roof trussed with steel angles. The purlins are in timber and the corrugated sheeting remain reasonable with the exception of the west end where it joins the main building.

The lean-to on the side of the main building next to and north of the whale line store has collapsed and has taken part of the roof and some of the wall sheeting of the whale line store. There are timber windows on the northeast and south sides though the frames are generally missing. There is a doorway for a pair of doors in the east wall, but the doors are missing. The area is currently being used to store bricks. Apart from the west end this building is solid.



200.1 Whale Line Store looking east



200.2 Whale Line Store looking west towards the Guano Factory

211 Guano Storage Area

This is a substantial steel framed 'L' shaped building with the main part running north/south but with a south section running off eastwards. The building is a propped portal steel frame with 100 x 250mm steel columns and principal rafters at 4m centres with braced knee joints and propping columns at the mid way position of the span either side. Purlins and wind bracing are in steel angle. The floor is in concrete and has a dropped section in the centre to allow the railway to run through the building. Walls and roof are covered in corrugated iron and are not lined internally. The majority of the sheeting is still sound but there is some damage around the dismantled or collapsed southern building and at the north end where the store joins the guano factory. There are doors on the east and west sides to allow the railway to pass through and a door on the south side and on the north side of the of the southeast wing - which is currently being used for storage of a large number of frozen whale meat boxes.

From the southeast corner of the Guano Store is a narrow pitched roofed building running off eastwards. This has been used as the plumbers shop and some boxes for fittings remain in place along with a collection of pipes, some stored on the tie beams of the roof. The building is timber framed with unlined walls and a concrete floor. Walls and roof are both covered in corrugated iron which appears to be in reasonable condition.

There has been a south wing to the Guano Store shed. All that now remains of this is the concrete base suggesting that it may have been taken down rather than collapsed. However, little has been done to attempt to make good the scars where the building has been removed and there is now a gaping hole in the south end of the guano store where the wall has gone and where the roof was previously hipped into the main building roof. In the southwest corner of this building has been a tractor shed. This is now partially collapsed with the roof lying over the materials previously stored in here.

To the east of the south wing there was a lean-to wire store. This has more or less completely disappeared. All that remains is some rotten timber on the floor and part of the east end wall. The removal or collapse of this building has left an area of damaged sheeting on the main building south wall.



211.1 The scarred south end of the Guano Store where a building has been removed



211.2 General view of the interior of the main store looking northwest



211.3 Boxes for frozen whale meat stored in the southeast wing of the building

203 Brick Store

Off the east side of the guano store there is a wing that has been used as a brick store. This has now almost entirely collapsed. The only section remaining in position is the east gable, the rest of the building being a tangled heap of timber and corrugated iron. The store still has a substantial number of refractory brick and some commons inside it. On the east side of the brick store is an extension to the building which appears to be a general store. This has a pitched roof and is timber framed and corrugated iron clad with a timber boarded ceiling which is sagging ominously. The building has had a timber floor but only sections of this remain in place. The east wall of the building is leaning outwards. This is really an integral part of the brick store structure and is likely to collapse when the east gable of the brick store finally comes down.



203.1 South side of the Brick Store



203.2 North and east sides of the Brick Store with the Guano Store in the background to the west

3 Blubber Cookery

Seen from the Plan the building still appears to be reasonably intact. The corrugated iron cladding of the east gable and part of the south wall is still present, as is the roof over the enclosed east end of the building. The sheeting has fallen away from the timber framed south wall but the conveyors are still present and the loft above the cookers appears to be intact.

It is, however, a different picture seen from the north and west. The west end of the building has now collapsed and the timber floor above the cookers is falling in. The north wall has lost its cladding and the timbers that frame up the building are starting to fall away. There are still vertical steel cookers inside the building on concrete piers. These are probably now the major support of the deck above the cookers.

To hasten the collapse of the building (which cannot now be far off) the stream is now running alongside the north face of the building and across the east end. A fair amount of water is no doubt now finding its way through the centre of the building.

The interior of the building was not accessed.



3.1 The west end



3.2 The south and east sides of the Blubber Cookery



3.3 The north wall of the building



3.4 The stream running across the east end of the building meeting water which has run through the building



3.5 The northeast corner of the building

4 Meat Extract Plant

This appears to be a later building than most of the others on the site. The building has a raised solid concrete floor and a support wall under the wall framing. The building is steel framed with columns out of 65x65mm doubled-up angle iron supporting an I-beam wall plate and principal rafters. Angle iron is used for purlins and bracing. The whole building is clad in corrugated iron that remains in good order. There are windows on the north/south and east sides of the buildings with top hung casements below and fixed lights above - the frames remain but no glass. The entrance door is in the northwest corner and again the frame remains but the door is now lying on the floor. The meat extraction plant remains in the building and appears to be in good condition and is supported by a substantial steel frame with a raised gantry to the east.

Outside to the east of the building is a steel mast supporting a flue with what appears to be a condensation chamber at its top.



4.1 The south elevation



4.2 Interior looking north

5 Separator and Glue Water Plant

This building has collapsed more or less completely with only a small section still standing at the south end. The majority is a heap of timbers and asbestos cement sheets which both walls and roof were clad in. The extractor plant, as far as one can see, appears to be still under the debris.

There is a large amount of asbestos cement fragments lying all around the area. There are also a large number of old pipes lying to the north and east of the building many still with asbestos lagging on them. They may have been pulled from the debris of the fallen building.



5.1 Collapsed north end



5.2 General view of the building

6 Laboratory and Store

A substantial rectangular building with a pitched roof running east/west. The Laboratory and Store is something of a composite with the principal framing being in steel but with the secondary members of the frame and the floor all being in timber. The timber floor joist in particular looking as though, in part at least, they may have been added later. Columns in 125 x 50mm channels and the rafter in 100 x 50mm channels. Substantial purlins above the columns and a framed up steel truss above. There are windows in either gable end and large doorways - doors and windows both missing and the floor condition is poor inside these openings where the rain drives in. The corrugated sheets of the walls and roof are generally sound apart from one loose sheet on the south side of the roof. This is still a substantial building.

Attached to the southeast corner of the main building is a single storey wing housing the Laboratory. This appears to be timber framed and is clad externally to walls and roof in corrugated iron which remains in good order. The laboratory benches remain in position, drawers and a sink. There is a substantial fume cupboard which still has a flue but the interior generally is in poor condition. Timber floor covered with linoleum.



6.1 Roof and storage loft over the main store area

7 Catcher Store

The Catcher Store is a substantial timber framed building clad externally in corrugated iron - no internal lining. The ground floor is currently being used by Elephant Seals as a moult area and the floor is now covered in the debris. The ground floor is timber and raised slightly above the adjacent ground level - but it feels as though the floor timbers are bearing directly on the ground. The first floor is held up by substantial floor joists of 150x150mm set at approximately 1 metre centres. These in turn are supported on timber posts which are taken through the first floor to support a substantial purlin at the collar level of the roof.

The lower floor equipment has been largely stripped out with a small amount of benching remaining on north and east sides. The first floor is set 1 metre down from the wall plate and accessed by a single stair at the southeast corner of the building. The first floor space has a pair of windows in the gable ends and a large 'cat slide' dormer on the east side with three casement windows. This area has been partitioned off to form an office and bedroom space. Opposite these partitions on the west side of the space are some enclosed spaces which appear to have been built to secure stores. There are substantial holes in the roof over the staircase and at the north end of the east dormer. The floor under the missing roof adjacent to the dormer is in poor condition.

The window openings remain but the frames have gone from the gable end windows and the floor is also in poor condition by the north gable end. There are three windows on the west side of the building at ground level, again with no casements remaining. A door and window on the south side both missing. There are three lean-tos against this building: that to the north is still in solid condition but those to the east and south have both partially collapsed.



7.1 South and west elevations



7.2 South and east elevations



7.4 South and west elevations



7.3 Interior of the first floor space looking south

8 Workshops

The Workshops are effectively two separate buildings. The eastern arm with a ridge running east/west houses the Foundry and Blacksmith's Shop. The much more substantial western arm, with a ridge running north/south, houses an engineering workshop. The eastern arm has two forges in it, both still present complete with hoods and flues, but it is in very poor condition with three of the principal rafters split and the roof partially collapsed. The north wall has been pushed out by the falling timbers and is leaning northwards. The rotation has also kicked out the south wall which has cracked. The roof is in imminent danger of complete collapse. At present the roof further west is in better condition but it is difficult to imagine that this can survive the collapse of the adjacent section of roof.

To the south of the main part of the building is a high single storey extension housing the welding shop. This is built in brick with a steel framed roof and steel windows in the south gable. The masonry north wall of the welding shop has, as noted above, been displaced by the rotation of the collapsing roof to the north and now has big cracks running through it. The collapse of the adjacent roof is likely to bring down at least part of this wall and it is unlikely that the remainder of the building will survive for long once this happens.



8.1 North elevation of the west wing



8.2 Interior of main Workshop looking north



8.3 Southwest corner of the main Workshop

The westernmost part of the building is a workshop and is steel framed with a high ground floor and windows on north, south and west sides. The ground floor is covered in end grain woodblocks set onto a solid floor. The space still has lathes and other machinery in position as well as some other that appears to have been brought here for storage. Steel columns support the first floor and are taken through it to prop the steelwork of the roof trusses which in turn support heavy purlins and vertical boarding under the corrugated iron roof covering. The first floor is approached by a steel stair and has been used for storage. There is a pattern makers store in the north end and a small area has been partitioned off as a bedroom. There are windows in both gable ends. In contrast to the eastern arm of this building the western part is substantial and in reasonable order.

The west wing of Building No.8 is a much more substantial building. The floor, what remains of it, is in end grain timber blocks. The high ground floor room has windows on three sides. The windows being steel framed, no glazing remaining in place. The whole building is steel framed with channel section floor beams with timber joists bolted to them and thick boarding spanning between the steels which are at approximately 6ft centres. The walls are lined out internally with vertical boarding which is probably 125mm tongue and grooved. The channels making up the columns are in pairs and are 50x125mm. On the first floor over the workshop the space has been used for storage with a pattern makers store at the north end, divided off from the southern end by a timber boarded partition. Windows in both gables and a small bedroom in the northeast corner. The steelwork continues to form the roof with the steel columns continuing through propping the steel principal rafters with angle tie where the props meet the rafters and hanger from the ridge to the centre of the tie. The roof has diagonal bracing in it and on top of the steel rafters are timber purlins 3"x5" 75x125mm centre with 200mm timber boards running vertically up and down the roof.

A number of machines remain in the lower workshop: two long lathes, a planer and what is probably a compressed air machine made by Gardner of Denver.

On the east end of the brick store there is a small building with pitched roof with a longer pitch to the south and to the north. This is a supplementary store and appears to be all pipe fittings. It has had a timber floor but this has decayed completely. There is a timber ceiling through here which is sagging ominously. The wall to the east is leaning outwards and the door is off its hinges. This building is an integral part of the adjacent brick store and is likely to collapse when the roof finally falls in with this building.



8.4 Interior of the collapsing east wing showing the Blacksmith's Shop

9 Paint and Lubricating Oil Store

The outline of the concrete floor and the base walls still remain but the building itself has entirely collapsed. All that remains is a heap of timber and corrugated iron.



9.1 The remnants of the building with the Catcher Store in the background

10 Main Store and Workshop

An 'L' shaped building with the stores in the east wing and the west wing as a workshop area. The east wing has a lean-to on the west side which is still standing but a further attached building to the west between Buildings Nos.10 and 11 has completely collapsed with only the north wall left standing. The building has a concrete floor throughout and walls of timber framing covered with corrugated iron but unlined internally. The pitched roof is also covered in corrugated iron and wall and roof cladding is generally sound at present.

There is a timber framed lean-to running the full length of the south side of the building with a low timber framed wall supporting the rafters of a mono-pitch roof with a wall plate roughly at the level of the first floor in the main building. Rafters are propped at mid span by timber posts. The main building has a continuous loft space over both store and workshop, accessed by a stair at the east end of the building; this is also racked out with shelving. Main doors were on the north side of the building but these are now missing. This building remains in reasonable shape.



10.2 North and east elevations



10.2 South elevation

11 Laundry and Slop Chest

This rectangular building contains the Slop Chest on the south end of the ground floor with first floor storage. The centre of the ground floor is the laundry with the north end being a drying room. The construction is of mass concrete walls up to first floor level, with ground and first floors of concrete, the ground floor being raised four steps above the ground level. The concrete upper floor is supported centrally on a concrete beam and columns. The first floor walls and the roof are timber framed with corrugated iron covering with no internal lining. The ground floor has an entrance door on the south end and timber casement windows, though some of these are missing and all are damaged. On the first floor there are only windows in the gable ends, otherwise the space is lit by plastic roof lights. The general condition of the exterior cladding is reasonable at present.



11.1 South and east elevations



11.2 The Laundry on the ground floor



11.3 The storage area over the Slop Chest and Laundry - apparently used by the Army/Navy as a dormitory area

12 Pump House

A two storey high rectangular building (though with no upper floor other than access gantry), built to house large tanks that run through to eaves level. Walls and roof are timber framed with principal rafters of the roof at 2m centres. The rafters have ties and collars and support purlins that in turn support the corrugated iron sheeting. The roof sheeting is all still present on the building though some are working loose. There is a missing sheet of corrugated iron to the west wall, two sheets are missing on the south side and sheets at the southeast corner need to be refixed. There are also some loose sheets to the south side of the roof.

The entrance door is on the northeast corner with only four small timber windows, two to the east, one to the west and one high in the south gable. There is a small lean-to building on the northwest corner of the main building which is now in a state of collapse. The main building looks solid enough at present - but the fact that sheets are starting to pull away from the walls suggest that deterioration is likely to accelerate.



12.1 The west elevation



12.2 South elevation

13 Cooper and Soap-Makers Shop

A rectangular timber framed building with a pitched roof running north/south; walls and roof all being covered in corrugated iron. The walls are generally unlined except in the southeast corner where some office space has been created with a suspended timber floor and walls lined out in hardboard. This space is now used as a dump for old radios parts. There is a first floor and an attic space; the first floor being strengthened by a timber beam mid span which is itself propped on a timber post. The upper floor has a bedroom in either end, each with a timber casement window in the gable, the bedrooms being lined out. In the central area there is a urinal fixed to the wall, but no traces of any other bathroom fittings. The first floor is reached by a steep timber companion stairway immediately inside the entrance door in the east wall - the door being missing. There are two timber casement windows to the ground floor, both in the east wall. The corrugated iron is rusty and there are some holes in the sheet to the walls - but other than this the building is still reasonably solid.



13.1 East elevation



13.2 North and east elevation



13.3 Interior ground floor main space



13.4 One of the first floor bedrooms

14 Boiler House

The Boiler House stood immediately to the west of the Bone Cookery. A tall single storey building constructed with a timber frame and timber pitched roof, all clad externally in corrugated iron. This building was not looked at very closely as it is in a state of collapse with its seven tall steel chimneys all having fallen across the roof. Only the south end of the building retains some of its roof though, even here, sheets are missing and the walls are bulging.



14.1 The north end of the Boiler House



14.2 The east wall of the Boiler House (left of the picture) looking northwards



14.3 The north end of the west face



14.4 General view of the south end of the west face of the Boiler House

15 Bath House

The walls up to the top of the windows are constructed in brickwork rendered externally; above this the walls are timber framed with a timber roof. The roof and upper sections of the walls are covered in corrugated asbestos cement sheeting. The building appears to have had a first floor in the roof space. The building was not entered as it is now in a state of collapse with the majority of the roof fallen in. A chimney stack remains at the west end but this is likely to be brought down as the roof collapses.



15.2 The north elevation



15.1 South elevation - the extension to the west can be clearly seen

16 Provisions Store and Bakery

A single storey building although there has been some use of the loft space. The provision store at the north end has a floor at wall plate level which is heavily propped with iron posts to the south and timber posts to the north. The upper floor here has been used for storage. The ground floor has been in concrete, but is now completely broken up. This area has probably had water flowing through it at some time. The south wall in corrugated iron is buckled and several of the timbers are cracked. The western section of the provision store has earth banked up around a masonry wall. The floor above this area is of heavy timber construction with cinders between the joists for insulation, the floor being propped with two rows of timber posts. The section of the wall on the north side has fallen in and there is plenty of loose corrugated iron here.



16.2 Detail of the collapsing south wall and the broken concrete floor



16.1 Exterior of south wall looking west



16.3 The south elevation

17 Office and Slop Chest

The lower floor is constructed out of solid masonry which has been rendered. A good deal of the render has fallen away leaving the brickwork exposed. An upper floor partially in the attic is entered through a porch and door on the north side. The upper walls are timber framed and corrugated iron clad, as is the roof. The corrugated iron appears to be in reasonable order. Windows in the gable ends light the upper floor together with low set windows on the north and south walls. The ground floor has windows in the east and west ends. The solid ground floor is covered in silt from water running through the area; the upper floor is in slightly better condition though there is a large rotten area of floor boarding immediately at the head of the staircase.

There is a lean-to extension on the south wall with walls and roof clad in asbestos cement sheeting. This is now failing and sections are missing.



17.1 East elevation

18 Barrack

This building has been altered and extended on more than one occasion. It is a two storey building, timber framed and clad externally in vertical timber boarding with a corrugated iron roof. Windows are timber casements and the building was entered by porches on the north side. The building has been severely affected by water with the concrete ground floor broken up, much of the lower timberwork of the walls rotted away, particularly on the north side. The walls are now bulging and the collapse of this building must now be imminent.



18.1 The north elevation



18.2 The east elevation

19 Craftsmen's Barracks & Hospital

The majority of this building has collapsed with only the two storey west end remaining substantially standing. This is built from vertical timber boarding over thick horizontal boarding as the primary structure. There has been a first floor partially in the roof space with windows in the gable ends. The ground floor has windows on the north, west and south sides with timber side hung casement windows, with both internal and external sashes. The entrance door is on the south side through a small porch. There has clearly been a good deal of water running through this building and the whole of the suspended ground floor timbers have rotted away and fallen into the void beneath which now has standing water in it. The corrugated iron roof is in reasonable order but the capping pieces to the bargeboards need attention. Unusually this building has had a gutter fitted though only a small section of this still remains.



19.1 The south elevation of the west end of the building



19.2 The north side of the collapsed building looking west

20 Ems Barracks

The whole of the roof of this block has collapsed. The building has been built in at least three phases with distinctly different builds and claddings. To the west there is a corrugated clad section. Next to this a section clad in vertical boarding with sprockets showing at the top of the wall and some early top hung casement windows. The east end is of thick horizontal tongued and grooved boards. The building is well beyond the point where it can be saved.



20.1 The east and north elevations



20.2 The south side of the building

21 Teie Barracks

This building was not inspected.

22 Orwell Barracks and Mess

This building seems to have been erected in at least three different builds and possibly more, the newer sections being at the west end. The kitchen at the east end of the building has now collapsed completely and the roof of the mess has collapsed over the east half of the space. The western half of the mess roof remains at present but it is likely to collapse soon.

The central section of the building has walls covered with vertical timber boarding and is in slightly better shape but it is suffering from some subsidence and there are missing sheets of corrugated iron from the roof and the later addition of the south passage wall is leaning outwards.

The newest section of the building at the west end is in the best condition, this is fully clad in corrugated iron which remains in reasonable order - but this section of the building has also been affected by water running adjacent to the wall. There does not seem to be any realistic prospect of saving this building.



22.1 The north face of the building looking east



22.2 The north face of the building west end



22.3 The passage along to the south side of the building



22.4 The collapsed kitchen seen from the remnants of the mess room

24 Cinema and Library

This building has been collapsed for a long time. Only the north end remains standing - the upper floor here may have been the library and reading room. The rest of the building is a heap of timber and corrugated iron.



24.1 The standing two storey section at the west end, seen from the northwest



24.2 The north and east faces of the west end



24.3 The remains of the Cinema looking eastwards

25 Pig Sty

The walls of the Pig Sty are in brick which has previously been rendered though much of the render has now fallen off. The Pig Sty appears to have been built in at least two, and probably more, phases. The timber roof is covered in corrugated iron which is generally still in reasonable condition with only one section missing on the north side. Flues and ventilators remain in position. There has been a lean-to extension to the building along the south side - this has collapsed. Other than this the building is reasonably upright.

Internally the building is in poorer shape with some subsidence and/or heave disruption and cracking to the floor and pens.



25.2 Collapsed lean-to on south wall



25.1 The north elevation

26 Cold Store and Barracks

This building has rendered masonry walls up to the first floor level and then a timber frame clad in corrugated iron above. The timber framed roof is covered in corrugated asbestos which is now badly damaged with perhaps 50% missing. The upper floor is reached by an external stair on the south end of the building and the barrack rooms are lit by casement windows, four to the east and four to the west. The solid ground floor is reached up steps and a door on the east side. The ground floor is full of polystyrene blocks and could not be inspected.



26.1 The west elevation

28 Carpenter's & Butcher's Shop

This is an 'L' shaped building with the Carpenter's Shop in the east wing. The building has timber framed walls and roof clad in corrugated iron. It has had a timber floor but at present the stream is running through the centre of the building both damaging the timber and undermining the footings. This has caused the south wall to start to fail and lean outwards and the roof slope is now distorted. This building is likely to collapse soon unless the stream course is altered.



28.1 The west side of the building



28.2 Shows the stream now running through the building

29 Whale-Meat Store

This building was probably always set below ground level for temperature control; however, it has now collapsed and the roof is still framed up and covered in corrugated iron but lying on the ground a little distance from its original location and the remnant of the store is full of water.



29.1 The surviving roof of the Whale Meat Store

30 Store

This small hut no longer exists.

31 Bridge

Not inspected.

32 Bridge

Not inspected.

33 Railway

The remnants of the railway system were not inspected in any detail. A considerable amount of the track remains in place as well as some of the bridges and old railway cars.



33.1 One of the few remaining railway trucks



33.2 Railway track from the main jetty part of the south end and into the catcher store (No. 7)

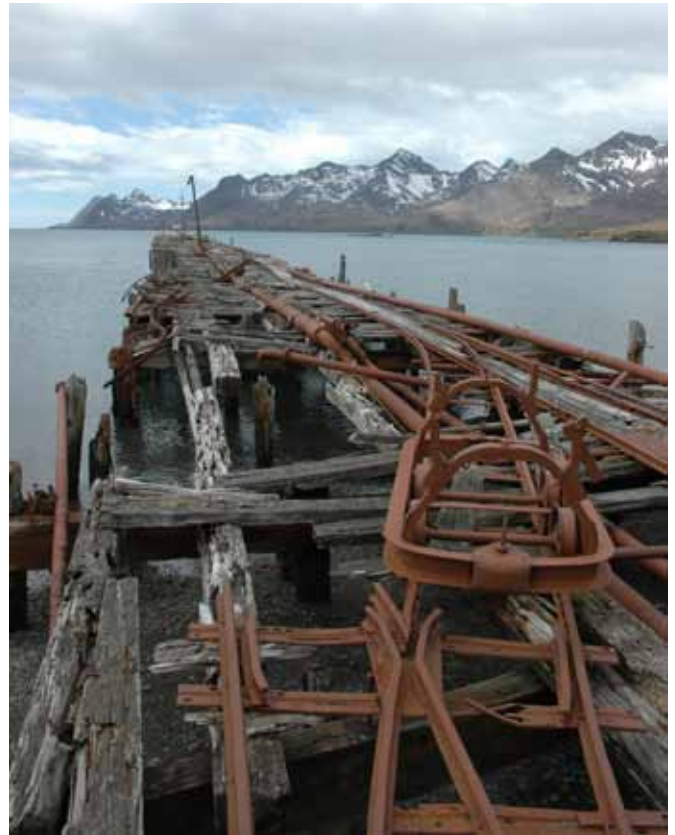


33.3 Bridge over the stream between Buildings No. 10 and 7

34 Main Jetty

This is a very long jetty as the sea bed here is shallow. The jetty is still attached to the land but most of the decking has now fallen in to the sea. There are a series of large iron buckets lining the land side of the jetty - possibly put in to reinforce the ground. The railway line still runs out the full length of the jetty as do the oil pipes. There are two modestly sized derricks on the end of the jetty.

This structure is not safe to be used without a great deal of rebuilding work.



34.1 The railway track remains in place



34.2 The south side of the jetty

35 Jetty

This jetty has collapsed with only a few timber posts indicating where it has been.



35.1 The remnants of the Jetty are behind the boilers. The long main Jetty can be seen in the background.

36 Jetty

This structure was not identified.

37 Jetty

This jetty has collapsed with only the timber posts and a few of the main timber cross pieces remaining in position.



37.1 The Jetty seen from the southwest

38-59 Tanks

The tanks were not looked at in any detail. Generally the tanks are in fair condition with no signs of major disturbance or any signs of imminent collapse. Specific problems were noted on a number of tanks.

Tank No.42 has one plate which is severely corroded and its neighbour above has corrosion starting. Above this, at the junction between the roof and the side walls, there is a line of corrosion showing as small holes which is introducing a significant weakness into this tank. Plates are also corroded on the south side at the same level. Possibly this was the level the tank was left filled.



38.1 General view of the Tanks taken from the high ground behind the Manager's Villa



38.2 The east side of the main row of Tanks looking northwards

The two tall tanks, Nos.45 and 46, have had wire stays to brackets at their top rim at some point in the past; these have failed and the tanks are now unstayed.

Tank No.47 has had a hole cut in its side, presumably for clearing out and its roof has fallen in.

The smallest tanks, Nos.49, 51 and 52 all have corrugated iron roofs on a timber framing. The roof covering to No.52 has partially blown off.

The tank in the worst condition is No.53 which has collapsed completely on itself with only the east wall standing and two large flapping sections of metal at present.

Adjacent to tanks Nos.49 and 51 is a barrel dump of 50 gallon drums now all considerably rusted. There are probably in excess of 400 drums in this heap.

There is a good deal of standing water around the tanks which is likely to accelerate their corrosion.



38.4 The heap of 50 gallon drums lying to the east of the Tanks



38.3 Detail of Tank 42

60 Store

A small corrugated iron lean-to shed clad externally and internally in corrugated iron. The door is missing.



60.1 The east front of the Store

61 Radio House

A simple rectangular building all apparently put up as a single building. The roof void has a common rafter spanning the full distance from wall plate to ridge. The ridge is propped by a simple trussing arrangement with a post to all the principal rafters and some diagonal bracing pieces. This must rely on the floor plate at attic floor level being propped by the walls below. Unusual construction: with principal rafters at approximate 1.5m centres, measuring 125x100mm wide, with a common rafter in-between the principals; the purlins passing over the back of the principal rafters and being nailed into the common rafter; purlin of 50x100mm at approximately 600x150mm centres. The roof is covered with galvanised iron corrugated sheeting.

There has been an internal lining of building paper fixed with timber battens though much of this has fallen away. The loft floor is boarded on floor joists some 175mm deep. This area is being used for storage of quite a large quantity of timber at present. At the south end there is a small boarded room with a window immediately under the gablet. This has been used as a bedroom. The original stair to the loft ran in an east-west direction; this has been replaced with a modern stair running west-east.



61.1 The west elevation



61.2 The north elevation



61.3 The east elevation

The ground floor is covered with timber boarding and has a central spine wall running down the centre of the building. The wall to the bedroom is fully lined out in horizontal 150mm tongued and grooved boarding with ceiling construction being the same. Some of the rooms at the south and east sides have been lined out with hardboard which has been painted. The ceilings have also been lined out with hardboard. These rooms have linoleum on the floor. Windows would appear to be original, as are the two doors on the east side. All glass remains in place.

There is a modest collection of furniture, most of it modern and of no significance but there is a pleasant table and benches. The ground floor is raised by three steps above the surrounding ground level.

External walls are clad in corrugated iron painted grey on timber stud frame. Roof covered in red painted corrugated iron with two small porches to the east side; gutters and short downspouts on the porches otherwise overhanging eaves but no gutters; ridge runs north-south with gablets at north and south ends.

The electric cables came in at the northwest of the building. There is the remains of the radio mast lying behind the hut.



51.5 General view of the interior



51.4 Surviving furniture

62 Bridge

This structure was not identified.

63 Out-House/Shed

Outhouse to the manager's villa. Rectangular building approx 4x2.5m with a pitched roof running north/south. External timber boarding on a timber frame. Ledged and braced door (later replacement) and top hung casement window. Earlier door located in southeast corner and a small window now blocked on south wall. There have been two wire tie-downs over the roof but both are now loose. This building appears to be in reasonable order.



63.1 South and east elevations

64 Villa: Manager's House

Built from a 100mm thick timber frame with a pitched roof running north/south with gables and hip at either end. There is a wing at the northwest end of the house which is probably original and then two extensions that are later, one at the south end that carries on the main block of the house though narrower and a lean-to on the west side. The house is raised on a rendered brickwork base with the main entrance on the east side through a small porch, with the floor raised five steps above the ground level. The walls are clad externally with feather edged boarding which is painted white on the seaward side and blue on the west side where it faces inland. Internally the walls are lined with vertical boarding though this is covered with hardboard in several rooms. The house has been extensively refurbished recently with a completely new pressed metal roof. Generally the timber windows remain but two on the east side have been replaced with UPVC. This building is in reasonably good order.



64.1 Workshop on the west side of the building



64.3 The west elevation



64.4 The north elevation



64.2 The main front - east elevation

65/66 Jetties

Nothing significant remains of these structures.

67 Foremen's Barracks

This building collapsed a long time ago. All that now remains is the concrete walls that would have supported the wall plates and floor. There is a remnant of a brick wall where the chimney stood.



67.1 The site of the building looking north

68/69 Gunpowder House & Store

Two small corrugated iron covered timber framed sheds. The southernmost being the Gunpowder Store with a mono-pitch roof and walls clad in corrugated iron and an entrance door on the east side. The building stands on a stone plinth. Apart from the corroding corrugated sheet this building appears to be reasonably sound.

The store to the north is in poorer condition. The sheeting on the east side of the pitched roof is damaged and the building is leaning to the northeast. This building looks likely to collapse in the near future.



68.1 The northeast face of Store No. 69



68.2 The southeast side of the buildings, the Gunpowder Store to the left

70 Catcher Barracks

The Catcher Barracks is a small timber framed two storey building on the scale of a small domestic house. It is built off a plinth of roughly laid rock picked off the adjacent area set in mortar - suggesting that this is one of the earlier buildings on the site. The building is clad in corrugated iron which is in reasonable order. There have been two hold down ties on the building but neither is now functional. Original timber windows and ledged and braced timber doors remain though in poor order. Internally there are series of small rooms with walls and ceilings lined out with tongued and grooved timber boarding. This building is in a condition where it could still be repaired.



70.1 The Catcher Barracks in the distance with the Mechanical Workshop in the foreground

71 Catcher Slipway

The slipway is still in remarkably sound condition. There are two of them, one of which now has Karrakatta sitting on it.



71.1 The slipway adjacent to the Karrakatta

72 Karrakatta: Whale Catcher

Karrakatta was not inspected.



72.1 South side of Karrakatta

73 Store

A small timber framed building built into the bank behind it. The walls and roof are covered in corrugated iron with holes in the back wall to the bank and in the roof. The door is missing.



73.1 The north and west faces of the building

74 Winch House

The back wall of the building has been built tight up against the bank behind it. The wall is now in very poor order and part of the west roof has collapsed. The east (front) wall of the building is moving away from the structure and the collapse of this building now looks to be imminent. The building is quite strongly framed which is the reason it has survived so long. There are still two large winches in this building.



74.1 The winches remain in position



74.2 The Winch House looking southwards

75 Mechanical Workshop/Plating Shop

A simple timber framed workshop with a large opening on the east side facing the sea, at times the whole of the east front appears to have been open but currently over half is blocked. There are two forges in the building, one large and one small, with their flues still in place. Various bits of machinery are still in place, anvil (or perhaps more properly a forging floor - a heavy cast iron raised flat floor with regular holes), bending machine, drill and hole punch. There are the remains of a pulley and axle system in the roof for driving the machinery. The timber framed and corrugated iron clad walls are built off a rough local stone plinth. The building has been widened with a lean-to along the whole line of the west wall. The framing of the building seems to be slender for a building of this size - but it remains serviceable and could be repaired.



75.1 The interior looking northwards



75.2 The east face of the Workshop

78 Cemetery

The cemetery stands to the southwest of the Manager's Villa. There is the remnant of a chain fence slung between steel posts and a pair of steel gates hung on concrete posts. The cemetery was inspected in detail by Pat Lurcock who has maintained it in good order over the last twenty years.



78.1 The Cemetery gates



78.2 General view of the Cemetery

79 Dam

Not inspected.

80 Meat Freezer - Foundation

Not inspected.

81 Dam

Not inspected.

82 Tank

Not inspected.

83 Ski Jump

Not inspected.

84 Shed

A small mono-pitched roof timber framed shed, roof and walls being clad in corrugated iron. Door in the east wall also clad in corrugated iron and off its hinges. The walls are unlined, Timber slatted floor surrounding a large pump.

