Archaeological excavation at
Prisoner of War Camp 85 Victoria,
Eriswell 2 Site Extension Scheme,
A1065, Eriswell, Suffolk

Excavation Report

June 2016

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Archaeological excavation at Prisoner of War Camp 85 Victoria at Eriswell 2
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Archaeological Excavation

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Summary

A small archaeological excavation was carried out on 1-14th of March 2016 at Eriswell 2 Site Extension Scheme, A1065, Eriswell, Suffolk prior to development by Anglian Water. The purpose of excavation was to further analyse the remains of WWII Prisoner of War Camp 85 Victoria located in the footprint of the proposed development following on from an earlier evaluation.

The excavation recorded the foundations and associated services of several structures comprising possible living huts, shower/drying room and kitchen. An inner perimeter fence separating the prisoners' and the guards' compounds was also located. An interview with two local residents and a search of the National Archives were conducted as part of the social history research for the site.
1 INTRODUCTION

1.1 Location and scope of work

1.1.1 An archaeological excavation was conducted as part of the Eriswell 2 Site Extension Scheme off A1065, near Eriswell, Suffolk (TL 736 768, Fig. 1). This excavation was based on the previous evaluation (Tsybaeva, 2016) and was completed prior to a development of an Ion Exchange building by Anglian Water.

1.1.2 This archaeological excavation was undertaken in accordance with a Brief issued by Rachael Abraham of Suffolk County Council Archaeological Service (SCCAS), supplemented by a Specification prepared by OA East (Tsybaeva and Mortimer, 2016).

1.1.3 The work was designed to assist in defining the character and extent of any archaeological remains within the proposed redevelopment area, in accordance with the guidelines set out in National Planning Policy Framework (Department for Communities and Local Government March 2012). The results will enable decisions to be made by SCCAS, on behalf of the Local Planning Authority, with regard to the treatment of any archaeological remains found.

1.1.4 The site archive is currently held by OA East and will be deposited with the appropriate county stores in due course.

1.2 Geology and topography

1.2.1 The site lies on a bedrock of Holywell Nodular Chalk Formation and New Pit Chalk Formation which is overlain by alluvium, clay, silt, sand and gravel (BGS).

1.3 Archaeological and historical background

1.3.1 The archaeological background is based on a Suffolk CC Historic Environtment Record (HER) search (9181247)

1.3.2 Multi-period find scatters have been recorded from the area directly adjacent to the site (ERL 017). These finds range in date from the Bronze Age to Anglo-Saxon periods (MSF1552, MSF7865, MSF7866 and MSF7867). Finds ranging from Mesolithic to Iron Age in date have been uncovered at Hurst Fen Neolithic settlement (SAM1006065, MSF163, MSF20321, MSF9486, MSF9487), 300m to the west. Approximately 500m to the south-west, a scatter of Mesolithic flakes have been found (MSF8924). A dense burnt flint patch has been observed 500m to the north-west of the site (MSF11547). Bronze Age and Roman finds are known from the area to the south of the site (MSF7881, MSF7493, MSF7838). A group of barrows, two of which have been scheduled (SAM1018345), are also known to the north of the development area (ERL001, ERL 028 and 034). There are earthworks of unknown date at Codson Hill (MSF19002) to the east of the site.

1.3.3 The site is located in the north-western part of a WWII Prisoner Of War (PoW) camp (ERL 233). Camp 85 Victoria was a purpose-built camp of 'standard' issue, initially for Italian and later German prisoners between 1939 and 1948.

1.3.4 An earlier evaluation (Tsybaeva, 2016) found that the camp has been completely demolished above ground (except for two huts to the east of the development area) with just post holes, service and foundations trenches surviving (Fig. 3). The two huts which remain standing are currently used for storage by the farmer.
1.4 Acknowledgements
1.4.1 The author would like to thank Anglian Water who commissioned and funded the archaeological work. The project was managed by Richard Mortimer. Thanks are also extended to Dave Browne who assisted with the fieldwork. The project was monitored by Rachael Abraham of Suffolk County Council. The machining was undertaken by Jamie Fendley of Anthill Plant Hire.
2 AIMS AND METHODOLOGY

2.1 Aims

2.1.1 The original aims of the project were set out in the Brief and Written Scheme of Investigation (Abraham, 2016, Tsybaeva and Mortimer, 2016).

2.1.2 The main aims of this excavation were

- To mitigate the impact of the development on the surviving archaeological remains. The development would have severely impacted upon these remains and as a result a full excavation was required, targeting the areas of archaeological interest highlighted by the previous phases of evaluation.
- To preserve the archaeological evidence contained within the excavation area by record and to attempt a reconstruction of the history and use of the site.

2.1.3 The aims and objectives of the excavation were developed with reference to National, Regional and Local Research Agendas (Thomas, 2003).

2.2 National Research Aims

2.2.1 Very little research as been done on the World War II PoW camps in Britain. Further work is needed to establish the history and function of any particular camp:

- To find how, where, and when prisoners were held.
- To determine what constituted a Prisoner of War Camp.

2.3 Regional Research Aims

- To establish the importance of PoW labour to food production, and the wartime and post-war economy.
- To evaluate the role played by PoW camps in the reconciliation and 'de-nazification' process.
- To assess the educational opportunities provided to PoWs.

2.4 Site Specific Research Objectives

- To establish the influence of PoW Camp Victoria on the social history and development of Mildenhall and Eriswell.

2.5 Methodology

2.5.1 The methodology used followed that outlined in the Brief (Abraham, 2016) and detailed in the Written Scheme of Investigation (Tsybaeva and Mortimer, 2016).

2.5.2 Machine excavation was carried out by a tracked 360 type excavator using a 2m wide flat bladed ditching bucket under constant supervision of a suitably qualified and experienced archaeologist.

2.5.3 Spoil, exposed surfaces and features were scanned with a metal detector. All metal-detected and hand-collected finds were retained for inspection.

2.5.4 All archaeological features and deposits were recorded using OA East's pro-forma sheets. Trench locations, plans and sections were recorded at appropriate scales and colour and monochrome photographs were taken of all relevant features and deposits.
2.5.5 Due to the modern nature of the site features were excavated only as far as to understand their nature. Excavation ceased in some features due to the presence of asbestos.

2.5.6 No environmental sampling was undertaken as no suitable deposits were found.

2.5.7 Daria Tsybaeva undertook the site survey.

2.5.8 The site conditions were mostly overcast and rain but the site was well-drained.
3 RESULTS

3.1 Introduction
3.1.1 The results of the excavation show only one phase of activity present on site. All features were dated to the POW camp’s period of occupation (1939-1948) while most finds appeared to come from the post-camp period. Some features were not excavated as they contained fragments of decaying corrugated roof asbestos. All features have been grouped together based on the structures they formed (Fig. 2).

3.2 Perimeter fence 192
3.2.1 In the eastern half of excavation area were a series of large post holes and a ditch that formed the northern and western sides of a substantial perimeter fence.

3.2.2 Three of the post holes were excavated and all were of similar depth and profile (Plates 8-10). On the northern side post hole 189 was sub-rectangular in plan, 0.98m long and 0.8m wide. It had vertical sides and a concave stepped base and was 0.78m deep. The basal fill (190) was a mid greyish brown sand, 0.58m thick, with part of a wooden post still surviving to a height of 0.2m and about 0.2m wide. Secondary fill (191) was a mid yellowish brown silty sand, 0.54m thick, with crushed chalk and occasional small stones, fragments of brick and metal. The final disuse fill (210) was a mid brownish grey silty sand, 0.2m thick.

3.2.3 On the western line of the fence post hole 145 was sub-rectangular in plan, 1m long and 0.8m wide, with vertical sides. Its base was slightly concave, 0.8m deep. It contained a postpipe (161) that was a dark brown silty sand, 0.4m thick. The primary backfill (166) was a light brownish yellow chalky sand, 0.3m thick, with moderate inclusions of small chalk fragments. Secondary fill (163) was a mid reddish brown silty sand, 0.2m thick. Upper disuse fill (160) was a mid yellowish brown chalky sand, 0.3m thick, with occasional inclusions of chalk, yellow sand and flint.

3.2.4 Post hole 141 was also sub-rectangular in plan, 1m long and 0.8m wide. It had vertical sides and a concave base, slightly shallower than the rest at only 0.6m deep. Primary fill (156) was a mid orangey brown sand, 0.5m thick, with occasional fragments of cement. Secondary fill (155) was a mid brown sand, 0.3m thick. Final disuse fill (154) was a light greyish brown silty sand, 0.15m thick.

3.2.5 Further south the fence line was defined by palisade/fence trench 146 (151) which ran on the north-south alignment. It had vertical sides and a slightly concave base, measuring 0.9m wide and 0.9m deep. Its primary fill (147) was a dark reddish brown silty sand, 0.4m thick. It was overlain by a light greyish yellow sand and crushed chalk (148), 0.76m thick. The final fill (149) was a dark greyish brown silty sand, 0.3m thick, with occasional fragments of ceramic building material (CBM). The trench (151) was not fully excavated at the southern end of excavation but the slot shows the outline of another postpipe (153) within it.

3.2.6 Post hole 229 still contained a concrete block used to support the wooden posts of the fence. A slot excavated along its edge showed the concrete block to be 0.8m in length and in width and 0.5m thick. The concrete would have been poured around the wooden post which left a circular hole in the concrete, about 0.2m in diameter.

3.3 Fence 195
3.3.1 A line of 10 smaller post holes on an east-south-east to west-north-west alignment form a second, lesser fence line. One post hole (187), second from the east, was excavated.
It was circular in plan, 0.38m in diameter, with steep sides and a flat base at 0.16m deep. It contained a dark greyish orange silty sand (188).

3.3.2 A further 8 post holes formed two more possible parallel rows south of the first row. All were similar in shape and size; some still contained fragments of the wooden posts.

3.4 Water systems 193 and 110

3.4.1 Two structures associated with the drainage of water were found within the fenced off area of the camp, on the eastern half of the excavation. Both consisted of one sub-rectangular pit filled with fragmented freezer block and clinker, another one or two pits that were backfilled with rubble from the camp and a drain or a pipe that joined them.

3.4.2 The southern structure 110 (Plate 5) had a gully running from one pit into another, possibly as part of an overflow system. The first pit was sub-circular in plan and contained building rubble; it was not excavated. The next pit (143) was sub-rectangular in plan, measuring 1.45m long and 1.3m wide. It had vertical sides and a stepped base reaching the depth of 0.24m and 0.4m. The pit was filled with small to medium fragments of blueish black clinker and slag. An iron pipe on the east to west alignment ran from the east up to the structure and was possibly associated with it.

3.4.3 The northern structure 193 (plate 11) had a sub-rectangular pit filled with breeze block and clinker that was located next to a steep-sided, sub-circular pit 185, 1.3m long and 1.1m wide. The latter was only partially excavated due to presence of asbestos. It contained a mid yellowish brown sand (186) with fragments of cement blocks, iron drainage grid, asbestos roof tiles, a tin can, bricks and a door handle with preserved bakelite knobs and a lock mechanism. The structure included the remains of a ceramic drain aligned to the north-east and a water pipe running into pit 185 from the eastern edge of excavation.

3.5 Building 223

3.5.1 At the north-western corner of excavation a row of five post pits aligned north to south formed one side of possible building foundations. All pits were similar in shape and size on the surface and only one was excavated (Plate 13).

3.5.2 The southern-most pit (121) was sub-circular in plan, measuring 1.04m long and 0.88m wide. It had gradually sloping sides and a flat base, 0.14m deep. It contained a dark brownish grey silty sand (122) with moderate inclusions of stones, CBM and cement fragments. The pit also contained part of a late 20th century plastic doll's leg.

3.6 Building 100

3.6.1 Remains of a possible building comprising 5 foundation pads were located in the south-eastern corner of excavation (Plates 1-3). One of the foundation pads still retained a concrete block measuring 0.8m long and 0.7m wide.

3.6.2 Pit (103), in the north-western corner, was excavated and was found to be sub-rectangular in plan, 1m long and 0.75m wide. It had steep convex sides and a flat base, measuring 0.25m deep. The pit contained a red-brownish sand (102), 0.25m thick, sloping against the southern side. It was overlain by a dark blackish grey sand (101), 0.25m thick.

3.7 Building 194

3.7.1 A series of post holes forming several parallel rows aligned north to south with more post holes filling the spaces in between formed foundations of one or possibly two structures. Some of the post holes contained the remains of wooden posts (Plate 12).
3.7.2 Post hole 183 was sub-circular in plan, 0.57m long and 0.52m wide. It had vertical sides and a flat base, 0.34m deep. Its fill (184) was a dark greyish orange silty sand.

3.7.3 Post hole 181 was sub-circular in plan, 0.58m long and 0.36m wide, with vertical sides and a flat base, 0.4m deep. Its fill (182) was a dark orangey grey silty sand and contained fragments of CBM and a wooden post.

3.7.4 Post hole 175 was circular in plan, measuring 0.25m in diameter. It had gradually sloping sides and a concave base, 0.12m deep. It contained a dark blackish orange silty sand (176).

3.7.5 Post hole 179 was square in plan; its sides were steep, measuring 0.54m long. It had a flat base, 0.24m deep. It contained a dark orangey grey silty sand (180) with fragments of CBM, metal and glass. Next to it was a shallow possible post pad 177 with no stratigraphic relationship to post hole 179. The post pad was sub-square in plan with gently sloping sides, 0.54m long and 0.48m wide. It had a flat base, 0.06m deep. Its fill (178) was dark reddish grey silty sand with fragments of CBM.

3.8 Building 104

3.8.1 Three out of four possible foundation pads/pits were excavated (Plate 4).

3.8.2 Pit 106 was sub-rectangular in plan with gradually sloping sides, measuring 0.6m long and 0.5m wide. Its base was flat, 0.05m deep. It contained a dark greyish brown silty sand (105).

3.8.3 Foundation pad 108 was sub-rectangular in plan, measuring 1.3m long and 1m wide. It had gradually sloping sides and a flat base, 0.05m deep. It contained a dark greyish brown silty sand (107).

3.8.4 Foundation pad 109 was sub-rectangular in plan, 1.2m long to the baulk and 0.8m wide. It had steep sides and a flat base, 0.15m deep. It was filled with a mid greyish blue silty clay (142).

3.9 Pits

3.9.1 Several pits found across site could not be associated with any possible structure.

3.9.2 Pit 119 was sub-rectangular in plan aligned east to west with gently sloping sides, 2.3m long and 0.9m wide. It had a flat base, 0.06m deep. It contained a mid greyish brown silty sand (120), fragments of CBM, 17 screws and one nail.

3.9.3 Pit 117 was sub-square in plan with gradually sloping sides, 1.08m long and 0.96m wide. It had an uneven, ribbed base, 0.08m deep. It contained a mid greyish brown silty sand (118) with fragments of iron and glass.

3.9.4 Pit 135 was sub-rectangular in plan aligned east to west with gradually sloping sides, 2.5m long and 0.74m wide. It had a mostly flat base, 0.18m deep, and contained a dark greyish brown silty sand (136) with fragments of iron and CBM.

3.9.5 Pit 174 was sub-rectangular in plan aligned north-west to south-east, measuring 0.6m long and 0.5m wide. It had gradually sloping sides and a flat base, 0.04m deep. It contained a dark greyish black silty sand (209) with fragments of clinker.

3.9.6 Pit 173 was sub-rectangular in plan, partially covered by the baulk. It had gradually sloping sides, 0.8m wide, and a concave base, 0.2m deep. It contained a dark greyish brown silty sand (136) with fragments of iron and CBM.

3.9.7 Pit 221 was sub-square in plan with near vertical sides and a slightly concave base, 0.15m deep. It measured 0.8m in length and 0.7m wide. It contained a dark brown sand
(222). Six red bricks were laid out at the base, 1 brick wide and 2 bricks long, possibly serving as a foundation for a post.

3.10 Drainage ditches
3.10.1 Ditch 112 (114) was aligned north to south and measured 0.6m wide. It had gradually sloping sides with a concave base at 0.1m depth. It contained a dark reddish brown sand (111, 113) with occasional fragments of CBM, flint and chalk.

3.10.2 Ditch 116, aligned north to south, had gradually sloping sides measuring 1.1m wide. Its base was concave, 0.1m deep. Its fill (115) was a dark greyish brown sand.

3.10.3 Ditches 116 and 112 (114) ran parallel in the southern half of the excavation area but disappeared possibly into topsoil in the northern half. The ditches could be associated with drainage either during or post-camp period.

3.11 Service trenches
3.11.1 An iron water or gas pipe was picked up in the terminus of ditch/trench 131 aligned east to west along the southern edge of excavation (Plate 7). Its terminus was square in plan and had vertical sides, 0.54m wide. The base was not reached and excavation stopped at the depth of 0.84m when the pipe was located. The ditch contained several layers of deliberate backfill. The lowermost excavated layer (231) was a light yellowish grey crushed chalk with larger chalk fragments, 0.06m thick. It was followed by a dark greyish brown silty sand (232), 0.26m thick. This was followed by several more layers of crushed chalk (233, 132 and 134) overlain in turn by more layers of silty sand (234 and 133), each measuring on average 0.12m thick. Occasional fragments of CBM, metal and glass were found in fills 133 and 134. The iron pipe came up to the surface.

3.11.2 Trench 211 was aligned north to south and had near vertical sides, 0.54m wide. It was excavated to a depth of 0.4m when the iron pipe was found. It seems possible this trench is the continuation of trench 131. The lowest excavated fill was a dark reddish brown silty sand (212), 0.22m thick, with occasional fragments of CBM. It was overlain by a light yellowish grey crushed chalk (213), 0.12m thick. A parallel trench to the east of trench 211 was partially excavated to reveal another iron pipe.

3.11.3 Trench 211 was hidden by a demolition layer (128) which was a light greyish brown silty sand, 0.04m thick, with moderate small stones, CBM and cement. The demolition layer 128 also obscured a possible drainage ditch (129, 217) and a row of five post holes (214, 216) along the drain.

3.11.4 Drainage ditch 129 (217) was L-shaped in plan aligned from east to west before turning to the south and out of the excavation area. It had gently sloping sides and a slightly concave base measuring 0.76-0.86m wide and 0.10-0.16m deep. It contained a dark brownish grey silty sand (130, 218) with occasional stones and fragments of CBM, metal and glass.

3.11.5 The post holes (214, 216) were sub-circular in plan and seemed to follow the L-shape of drain 129. They had steep sides and flat bases measuring approximately 0.5m in diameter and 0.28m in depth. Post hole 214 contained a mid brownish grey silty sand (215) with frequent inclusions of small to medium stones, fragments of charcoal and clinker. Post hole 216 was too obscured by demolition layer 128 to determine its fill.

3.11.6 On the west side of the excavation ditch/trench 171, aligned north to south, had a square-shaped terminus and near vertical sides, 0.8m wide. It was excavated to a depth of 1.1m. A ceramic drain branched off the north-south aligned drain and ran into the terminus of 171. The lowest excavated fill of trench 171 was a light yellowish grey
chalky sand (201), 0.25m thick. Above it was a light greyish brown sand (200), 0.65m thick which was overlain by a light yellowish grey chalky sand (199), 0.4m thick, with occasional CBM. The next layer of backfill was a light brown sand (198), 0.10m thick, followed by a light yellowish grey chalky sand (197), 0.12m thick. The final fill (196) was a light brownish grey sandy silt, 0.10m thick.

3.11.7 Just east of trench 171 was a parallel trench 172 with a rounded shallow terminus. It had near vertical sides, 0.8m wide, and a base that sloped gradually to the south, to 0.5m deep. Its primary fill was a light yellowish grey chalky sand (207) 0.2m thick. It was overlain by a dark greyish brown silty sand (206), 0.3m thick, with occasional lenses of crushed chalk. The final backfill was a light brownish grey chalky sand (202), 0.25m thick, with medium fragments of chalk.

3.12 Structure 125

3.12.1 Another service pipe, aligned north-east to south-west, was found in the western part of excavation (Plate 6). It branched off at a straight angle towards a possible drainage structure (158). The ditch (159) that carried the pipe had vertical sides, 0.7m wide, but was not fully excavated. The pipe was located at 0.46m deep. The ditch had several sloping layers of backfill, the lowest being a dark greyish brown silty sand (169). This was overlain by a light yellowish grey crushed chalk (225) with larger chalk fragments which was followed by more layers of silty sand (226 and 228) separated by another layer of crushed chalk (227).

3.12.2 The ditch (159) was truncated by a pit (158) which was rectangular in plan, 0.8m long and 0.66m wide, and aligned north-east to south-west. It had steep sides and a slightly concave base, 0.26m deep. It contained dark blueish black fragments of clinker and slag (168) which probably served for drainage.

3.12.3 Ditch 170 with ceramic pipe cut over the top of pit 158. It had gradually sloping sides and a flat base, 0.54m wide and 0.08m deep. Its fill was a dark greyish brown silty clay (224) with frequent small fragments of cement and, in places, remnants of the ceramic pipe.

3.12.4 A small gully 123, aligned north to south, joined pit 158. The outline of the gully showed that it previously contained a pipe. The gully had gradually sloping sides and a concave base, measuring 0.30m wide and 0.09m deep. It contained a mid greyish brown sand (124) with frequent small fragments of chalk.

3.13 Boundary ditch

3.13.1 Ditch 126 aligned north-east to south-west was found on the south side of the excavation area. It could represent either an earlier or potentially a later boundary as it was out of alignment with other features of the camp that are either aligned north to south or east to west. The ditch had gradually sloping sides, 1.8m wide, and a flat base, 0.24m deep. It contained a dark reddish brown silty sand (127) with occasional fragments of CBM, stones and yellow brick which was not found anywhere else on the site.

3.14 Finds Summary

3.14.1 Sub-samples of Ceramic Building Materials, glass and metal, including a door hinge and a door handle have been retained to show a range of finds from the site. All finds were photographed but have not been retained (Plates 15-26).
3.15 Environmental Summary

3.15.1 No environmental sampling was undertaken as no contexts with potential for waterlogged or charred remains were encountered.
4 DISCUSSION AND CONCLUSIONS

4.1 Structure of the camp

4.1.1 The main camp initially housed Italians and these were later joined by Ukrainian and German prisoners. In March 1946, it is known that the Italian prisoners were getting ready to be repatriated from the camp (Appendix F, NA, 2016). The headquarters were located at Mildenhall and the Eriswell camp also included two satellite camps at Ely and Cranwich (later reduced to a hostel) and several hostels at Woodcock, Cheveley, Soham, Histon, West Tofts and other billets. Camp 26 at Ely was only attached to Camp 85 Victoria around October-November 1947. The numbers of PoWs stationed at the camp and in the associated hostels ranged from under 200 to nearly 2000 prisoners within a few months of 1947 (Appendix F, NA, 2016).

4.1.2 Camp 85 Victoria was described as being a purpose-built 'standard' issue camp (Thomas, 2003). All PoW camps have been classified white, grey or black according to their political views, black being those prisoners who held views most closely aligned to National Socialist Party ideology. This camp was generally described as grey with strong white leaning (Appendix F, NA, 2016).

4.1.3 A 'standard' camp would have comprised a guards' compound, prisoners' compound, prisoners' garden plots, recreation ground and a sewage disposal works (Thomas, 2003). The prisoners' compound and recreation ground would have been enclosed by a wire fence supported by concrete posts. Part of this inner perimeter fence (192) with substantial concrete pads for wooden posts was found during the excavation (Fig. 4). A smaller fence (195), possibly of barbed wire, could have been a later addition after the camp expanded. The water system (193) appears to cut over the top of where perimeter fence 192 would have been, and building 194 is very close to the fence as well so it appears that fence 192 was taken down and replaced with the smaller fence 195. There is a mention of the removal of barbed wire from the hostels in January 1947 and it is likely that changes to the fencing of the main camp also happened at varying points (Appendix F, NA, 2016).

4.1.4 Inside the prisoners' compound there would have been living huts, a cook house, latrines, dining huts, recreation huts, showers and other ancillary buildings. The living huts would have been Ministry of War Production (MoWP) standard huts build in ten six-feet long bays out of pre-cast reinforced concrete frames and wall panels with windows on alternate bays (Thomas, 2003). Two such huts can still be seen outside the development area to the east (Plate 14). Foundations of another two have been revealed by the excavation as buildings 100 and 104 (Plates 1-4).

4.1.5 One MoWP hut (building 104) was possibly replaced by building 194 which was raised up above the ground on wooden posts. Its position above the ground as well as two water management systems (193 and 143) that provided drainage and water supply, imply that building 194 was either a shower/drying room or a latrine block (Plates 5, 11-12).

4.1.6 Outside the inner perimeter fence 192 would have been a guards' compound which can be clearly distinguished to the west of the prisoners' compound on the 1945 aerial photograph (Plate 27). It would have contained separate accommodation quarters, administration offices, detention block and sometimes a water tower. It is possible that building 223 would have formed part of these administration buildings (Plate 13). The drain 129 and service pipe 131 would have formed part of the services to another building within the guards' compound, however no visible foundations survive.
4.1.7 The structure 125 (Plate 6) that had a ceramic drainage pipe as well as two other pipes 123 and 159 (supply of fuel and water?), was possibly part of a kitchen/canteen for the guards.

4.1.8 It is quite possible that while PoWs were housed in MoWP huts, the officers and administration buildings were in a different type of huts that left no visible trace in the ground. Local residents remember Nissen huts located near Mildenhall (Appendix C).

4.1.9 Ditches 171 and 172 running parallel to the main road have probably formed part of the camp’s outer defences and served as drainage ditches as well.

4.2 Life in PoW Camp Victoria

4.2.1 Analysis of the camp inspection reports (Appendix F, NA, 2016) and an interview conducted with two local villagers from Mildenhall (Appendix C) allows us a glimpse into what the life of a PoW would have been like within the camp.

4.2.2 The prisoners were Italian to begin with, then mainly Ukrainian later replaced with German prisoners. Their accommodation was in huts heated by two cast iron pot-belly stoves (Thomas, 2003). During the day all PoWs worked on the farms and were taken to and from work in lorries. It seems that prisoners had friendly relations with their employers. In some cases after being released former prisoners have taken over or even inherited the farm they were working on. Outside of work they were free to move around and many PoWs chose to come into Mildenhall for tea to Shreblins restaurant. This is well remembered by the interviewees. It appears that on the whole the prisoners had good relations with the local population and were in regular contact.

4.2.3 After the war local resident Mrs Pam Fritz married a German PoW from the camp by the name of Walter Fritz, she was interviewed as part of the background research for the project (see Appendix C). Pam remembers a Ukrainian PoW who made her a ring out of a silver coin. Another prisoner, Arthur Misch, was in regular contact with Sunday school teacher and Methodist preacher, Bessie Finchin. The only recorded conflict between the local residents of Mildenhall and the PoWs was recorded in July 1947 after extra freedoms granted to the prisoners (Appendix F, NA, 2016).

4.2.4 The camp and its satellites were screened on a regular, sometimes monthly basis. With every visit the morale and political ‘progress’ of the PoWs was analysed. The inspection reports (Appendix F, NA, 2016) tell us that heavy agricultural labour promoted apathy towards politics. Any digressions from good morale and balanced political views, as well as any conflicts arising between PoWs, local population and officers were strictly monitored and resolved. British staff and appointed leaders within the camps were encouraged to promote that “we in Britain desire peace with all countries” (Appendix F, NA, 2016).

4.2.5 To help the well-being and encourage political progress of the PoWs towards their repatriation (turning “white”), the prisoners were offered religious practices, educational and entertainment facilities such as drama, sports festivals and college courses. English language teaching was encouraged and closely monitored with regular proficiency exams taking place. They had access to and were involved in English and German newspapers, library, organised lectures, discussion groups, radio programmes, films, press reviews, camp magazine and information room. It seems that every camp and hostel had at least one classroom with a blackboard, provided with electricity and stoves for heating (Appendix F, NA, 2016).
4.3 Post-War and Present Significance

4.3.1 In the post-war period after the repatriation of those prisoners who could, and wanted to return home, Mrs Fritz remembers that some of the relocated and displaced British families, including those from London, were housed in the Nissen huts at the camp. Some of the PoWs, those who had jobs, chose to stay in England.

4.3.2 When the camp stopped functioning, most of the structures were taken apart by local villagers and farmers, partly to free up precious agricultural land and partly to re-use the building materials. Two standing MoWP huts are still well used and maintained by the present day farmer.

4.3.3 Camp Victoria is one of only two known PoW camps of 'standard' issue in Suffolk, both long demolished (Thomas, 2003). Despite their recent history, PoW camps in Britain are poorly recorded and understood. The camp and its occupants are still remembered by some of the local residents. It has been found to form part of the local identity and social history of the people and the area, and has become part of the local “sense of place”.
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© Oxford Archaeology East     Page 24 of 52     Report Number 1928
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APPENDIX B. INTERVIEW TRANSCRIPT

This interview was conducted by Daria Tsybaeva and Dave Browne from Oxford Archaeology East on Wednesday, 09/03/2016

Local residents: Pam Fritz and Colin

(Colin) So maybe, do I need to introduce you?. Pam, her husband was a PoW at Victoria Camp, along with Arthur who at the moment is in Mab’s Hall next door to the Lloyd’s Bank - residential home. But these two prisoners were mates together and when you met... but you didn’t meet Walter until he was...

(Pam) Yeah he was from the prison camp, he went to work for Major Beattie in Newmarket, in the stables. But he didn’t like it there so then he moved to Beatram Derris up north and that’s where I met him.

(OA East) So when he was in the camp you didn’t know him?

No I didn’t know him when he was in the camp. But I knew he was with Ken... Ken Bullard. He was the guard who used to look after them. And he was very good. Walter used to say that he looked after them well...

So do you, do any of you actually remember the camp itself when it was active? Did people know it was there? Well, I assume they knew it was there...

Yeah, we used to go by the camp...the big old huts...

...huts. And I think when I went there, I think, when a previous prisoner came over, 23 years ago, and this Arthur Misch, I used him to translate. This ex-prisoner have come over with his grandson and stayed at the Bell but he knew his way around here because he used to go to tea at the old cottage hospital in Mildenhall with Bessie Finchin in Kings Way...but anyway... he used to come out on a Sunday to visit Bessie Finchin. She was Sunday School teacher and such like, Methodist. He would then go to chapel with her at Hollywell but also Mildenhall.

So when he came over, 23 years ago, when he looked in the chapel of Mildenhall, “ah the organ used to be over there” on the left and years it’s been on the right...anyway... we, other boys, I’d been too young to [remember].

I can remember the front of it [the camp]. We used to walk up that way then, didn’t have cars back then.

I remember 23 years ago when this prisoner did come and I think there were about couple of huts up there... still up there?

Yes

Two still up there?

Yes, two huts

Oh I though they were all gone

There are still two huts standing, I think the farmer uses them for storage but they are still standing.
No I didn't know him [Walter] when he was prisoner, when he was at the camp. I knew a Ukranian who used to be there. They [the prisoners] used to come into town to the Shreblins. My mother used to be a waitress in there...remember my mum?

Shreblins restaurant, Shreblins, one near the war memorial, that is Shreblins where the car park at the front and the railings now but was...

But that's where a lot of prisoners used to go for their afternoon tea.

.........

So they were allowed the freedom of going to town?

Oh yeah, they used to come in to Mildenhall but when they went to work they had to go by lorry... Down in lorries, used to take them to where they work and pick them up and take them back, but evenings or afternoons when they were free they were allowed to come into Mildenhall. And I got to know a Ukranian worker, well a lot of them because my mum worked there...you remember my mum don't you? And... well I remember, he made me a ring out of a silver coin. I've still got it somewhere. I was about maybe 12 or 13.

That's lovely. And you still have it?

I've still got it, I've got it in my jewellery box down there... But they [prisoners] made lots of lovely things. They were quite clever, weren't they?

They made bits and pieces here and in West Row

So they were very clever, lots of them... things they used to make...

So I don't know when Pam actually met Walter, maybe he was... Walter was like a forman there at the dairy and her [Pam's] sister and brother, who died 2-3 years ago, Steve Vile, he used to come to the chapel and Shirley, his wife, and they all used to work at the dairy.

But anyway, this Arthur who's in the Mab's Hall well he's perhaps had a stroke but he's not able to converse so well now, speech is affected.

.........

We're getting a bit older now. Not many of them about. Arthur in Mab's Hall, he's 90 anytime now, he was picked up when he was about 17 or 18... by the Americans. See he was a dispatch rider and had a puncture, tried to fill his punctured tyre with hay to get the message back to the Germans and the Americans said, no you are gonna come with us... no I've got to take this message... you are coming with us...

Pam will say Walter was from the east part of Germany so he didn't want to... go back. I think his brother perhaps went back but if they were under the influence of the Russians...

But anyway, this Ken, the guard Sergeant, who used to be up at the Victoria Camp, he married a local girl, one of the Thompsons, Regina?

Oh, Peggie?

.........

So Walter didn't... Well, when did he have the opportunity to go back to Germany?

Well they had a choice when they were released.

When they were... when were they released, do you know?

Well I met Walter in... can't remember, I was... fifteen... Trying to think what year it would be 1953-5, must be [19]45 because I didn't know Walter till then, because he came to the
dairy then. He was twenty. He went to Newmarket first. They had to get a job or they went back so he wasn't gonna go back to Germany anyway because he came from East Germany. Russia took over East Germany and he decided to stay so he went to Newmarket to work for Major Beattie. He wasn't very long there because Beattie kept saying to him “you've got to call me Major” and he [Walter] said “I ain't calling you Major”. Anyway he wasn't there long. Then he came to Mildenhall and so he worked for Mr Barker. Then I left school at fifteen and I started to work there and that's how I met Walter.

Walter was quite a tall, good looking fella. I used to know...

**Well there's photos of him**

But he was a paratrooper was he?

Yeah he was a paratrooper. He got shot down, I don't really know where but then when he got captured he had a choice to go to Russia or England. And he told me all this. He had a choice. He thought, well he's not going back to Russia so he said I am going to England. He said he got from Germany over to England by track otherwise [to] Russia they'd have to walk so I say we go over to England. And I think he was 20 when he came here. He had to go join up when he had to at... was that 17? And then he was captured when he was 19, that's right.

**Where about was he captured do you know?**

It was in Germany. I don't know where. He probably did say but I didn't take notice, yeah and he stayed here ever since.

**So he was released around 1945?**

Yeah

**Do you know if that's when the camp stopped working? Or did it carry on for a bit longer?**

**No it wasn't long after was it? Because I think they all sort of went their way.**

**Camp just slowly kind of stopped working?**

Yeah

I know that the other part of the camp which is across the road from Thetford Road...

Yeah that's right, you go left...

They used to be straight crossroads but then they made it stagger... anyway that then became, it was tin huts...Nissen huts.

**That's right, I remember, round like that they were ones, weren't they?**

There were a lot of local families or displaced from London or whatever... Petkanski was it?

**Yeah because they put them in there when the prisoners of war went, didn't they? If you came down from London, you went in there.**

So I should think mid to late 40s they were filled up with... [people] Robinson's family was in there. Rosie Harris... Bill Harris.

**Yeah a lot of them went in there.**

So they were, places they've been in burnt down or whatever.

******
There were Italians there [main camp] first, then there was brought a load of Ukrainians. And then I think the Germans were the last to get in there.

Was it a case of the Italians were still there when the Ukrainians turned up and then the Ukrainians were still there...

Well they weren't there very long, I think they moved off to another camp or something. I know the Italians were the first lot, I know the Ukrainians were round for quite a while but there weren't a lot of Germans.

No, well the Italians would be captured from North Africa. A lot of them shipped back over here but I think some of the Germans went out as far as Canada.

Yeah a lot of them did.

But the Italians once they changed sides...

Yeah I remember, I think, a lot of them went back. And a lot of the Germans didn't because this has got to be East Germany and that has been taken over [by] Russia, and that's why Walter never went back. I mean he had him and his brother but his brother said to him “what you gonna do? Are you going back?”. And he [Walter] said no but his brother said, “oh no I am going back”. And he went back and he was on the East Germany side then, and it was years before we met up because they wouldn't let you in.

........

So do you know if quite a few people decided to stay then after the camp?

Here? Not really, I knew Arthur Misch, one or two, there weren't many Germans here. What were here I think they just moved.

And the Italians went back?

Oh yeah, Italians I think they all went home, but yeah in Germany it wasn't very good to go back at the time then anyway.

There was one who used to work for Banks... Eric...

What about? Fritzmische? There was Fritzmische... He was always another one with Walter. There was three of them, there was Arthur, Fritz and Walter. Yeah there was three of them what's stayed. There weren't many stayed in Mildenhall out of Germany.

Do you know how big the camp was? How many people stayed there approximately? Are we talking a hundred men?...

No, bigger than that, three or four hundred I would have thought.

........

So even that truck which used to bring the prisoners out to West Row, be one of there covered airforce crew buses, quite you know as long as this, covered over and full of prisoners, used to drop them off. They might have even worked at Elveden estate possibly.

Yeah they went all over the place, didn't they?

........

When I lived at West Row, Toby Reaves' grandparents had a German prisoner... well Italian prisoner. I think he was a paratrooper, a tall good looking fella, charming. But Mrs... grandfather's wife came out with a tray dinner time and a plate of well, a roast dinner, and she set it on the barn's scales and he would draw a chair up. And that was like a midday meal. They used to look after them prisoners very well, they were like members of the family.
Yeah they were very respected.

And Arthur, who is in Mab's Hall now, he worked for George Markson... I don't know what his... but anyway Mr and Mrs Markson down towards the speedway... They hadn't any children. So he was working for them and I think he had a caravan down there and eventually he was left their farm and no children so that suited him, and he was you know, he was a good servant to them, and he obviously... well he must have had family back in Germany, I don't quite know...

.........

Well I think Ken, the guard Sergeant, who were able to get to meet this Wilhelm [visiting former PoW], he'd been shot down in a JU88, shot down over the hill somewhere. Anyway Ken Bullard well know here.

He is a local man.

He used to work for Haggis Bakers, didn't he?..

.........

Well Walter was probably foreman there at the dairy?

He worked his way up. He started at the dairy and then he ended up in, well director, one of them in the end. He was started right there when he was 22 because he was at Newmarket [before] and he stayed there till he retired at 70. Never been ill and two years after that he died. Never been ill, never been off sick. Quick as that. And he'd do anything for anybody. Never had an enemy in this world.

.........

So they [PoWs] have been working during the day and then they could go into town, have tea, wander round... Did they have a certain curfew? When they had to be back do you know?

I don't know, they could have done because they weren't about in the evenings. Had to be back, they were never walking about town in the evening but they always went to the Shreblins for their tea.

.........

That was, it [Shreblins] it was a little up market, used to be lovely.

.........

So did they have the money to spend then?

Well if they worked, they've earned a little bit of money, you see they used to do that.

They would get paid by the farmers.

Yeah I think the farmers paid them their money... Obviously they didn't have a lot, but pocket money I suppose.

Enough to get some cleaned up for Saturday night. Shall we say the Americans on a Saturday night or weekend whatever, they'd perhaps go out to Norwich or something like that but I don't think...

Oh they [PoWs] weren't allowed.

As far as... they'd only got bicycles and this Wilhelm who used to come in call at Bessie Finchin's and have tea but then he was expected to go to chapel on the Sunday night.

That's why he got his free cup of tea and coffee and hot chocolate or something.

.........
My last question, do you remember what happened with the camp when it stopped working? Did it remain standing for a while or was it taken apart?

Yeah that was there for several years, weren't it?

I think so. Could you see the huts from the road, you can't now because the trees are there but...

You could see them...just trying to think, I should think they were like that 2-3 years or maybe...

Who took it over?

Well did that go back to the old farmer?.... Elveden Estates that was it.

........

After the war like a lot of things were sold off but huts and such like, they came in just right for farmers, and any sort of building so they used to bid so much and take them away.

Thank you very much Colin, and you too Pam, it's been lovely talking to you, it's not often we get to speak to people who were actually involved in the archaeology we're digging up.
## APPENDIX C. HER SEARCH RESULTS

### Suffolk County Council Archaeological Service Sites and Monuments Record

18/02/2016

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<td>Dale Hole Round Barrow MSF7832</td>
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<td>ERL 007</td>
<td>Roman artefact scatter of pottery and metalwork, including coin and finger ring. MSF7838</td>
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<td>ERL 010</td>
<td>'The Pimples' MSF7857</td>
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<td>ERL 017</td>
<td>Findsport of a Bronze-Age bronze penannular ring. (BA) MSF1552</td>
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<td>Bronze penannular ring of a type called 'ring money', 2cm in diameter, was found in a field with a metal detector.</td>
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<td>Centred TL 7286 7677 (285m by 603m)</td>
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<td>Findsport of a handmade Iron-Age pottery sherd. (IA) MSF7865</td>
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<td>S of Dalehole Plantation (Rom) MSF7866</td>
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<td>Anglo-Saxon artefact scatter of coins. (Sax) MSF7867</td>
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<td>Bronze-Age artefact scatter of pottery found within an area of a larger Roman scatter. MSF7881</td>
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<td>Bronze Age pottery found (S1), within area of larger Rom scatter, ERL 007.</td>
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<td>Ref</td>
<td>Site Name</td>
<td>Period</td>
<td>Summary Description</td>
<td>NGR</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
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<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ERL 053</td>
<td>Findspot of a Bronze-Age bronze awl. MSF7493</td>
<td>BA</td>
<td>Bronze awl, two and five-sixteenths inches long.</td>
<td>Centred TL 7318 7638 (10m by 10m)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ERL 056</td>
<td>Iron-Age artefact scatter of pottery and coins, including 2 gold staters - Iceni double crescents and a few Iceni silver and 2 cast potin coins. (IA) MSF9484</td>
<td>IA</td>
<td>‘2 gold staters - Iceni double crescents’ (Mack 397-9?) and a few Iceni silver and two cast potin coins (said by finder to be ‘Thurrock’ type).</td>
<td>Centred TL 7250 7745 (10m by 10m)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ERL 056</td>
<td>Findspot of an Anglo-Saxon Offa penny. (Sax) MSF9485</td>
<td>Sax</td>
<td>‘Offa (AD 757-796) penny of unrecorded type found in area of IA coins’ (S1).</td>
<td>Centred TL 7250 7745 (10m by 10m)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ERL 056</td>
<td>Large Roman artefact scatter of pottery and metalwork, including a coin. (Rom) MSF9791</td>
<td>Rom</td>
<td>Late Rom scatter of metalwork &amp; pottery located some years earlier ‘on either side of drove’ (S1).</td>
<td>Centred TL 7250 7745 (10m by 10m)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ERL 113</td>
<td>Codson Hill MSF19002</td>
<td>Un</td>
<td>Sub-square (square with rounded corners) enclosure, circa 280m long sides enclosing circa 8.5 hectares.</td>
<td>TL 7367 7661 (point)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ERL 233</td>
<td>Prisoner of War Camp 85 &quot;Victoria Camp&quot; MSF27408</td>
<td>Mod</td>
<td>The site of a Second World War prisoner of war camp at Codson Hill called Victoria Camp</td>
<td>Centred TL 7307 7672 (429m by 331m)</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>ERL 240</td>
<td>OUTLINE RECORD: Eriswell 2 Site Extension Scheme, A1065 (EVAL) OAE MSF4456</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>TL 7310 7660 (point)</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>MNL 014</td>
<td>Hurst Fen Neolithic Site (Neo) MSF163</td>
<td>Neo</td>
<td>Scheduled site of partially excavated extensive Neo settlement &amp; typesite for Mildenhall Ware.</td>
<td>Centred TL 7250 7687 (409m by 446m)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MNL 014</td>
<td>Hurst Fen (IA) MSF20321</td>
<td>IA</td>
<td>78 Sherds of early Iron Age or Neolithic pottery. Scheduled</td>
<td>TL 7250 7680 (point)</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>MNL 014</td>
<td>Hurst Fen Neolithic site (Mes) MSF9486</td>
<td>Mes</td>
<td>Mesolithic finds from Hurst Fen Neo site.</td>
<td>Centred TL 7255 7685 (100m by 100m)</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>MNL 014</td>
<td>Hurst Fen Neolithic site (BA) MSF9487</td>
<td>BA</td>
<td>Bronze Age finds from Hurst Fen Neolithic site.</td>
<td>Centred TL 7249 7687 (408m by 451m)</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>MNL 106</td>
<td>Prehistoric artefact scatter of flakes. MSF8924</td>
<td>Preh</td>
<td>‘Honey coloured flakes found’ (S1)(R1).</td>
<td>Centred TL 7250 7635 (10m by 10m)</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>MNL 237</td>
<td>The Trout Pond MSF9207</td>
<td>Un</td>
<td>Possible moat or pond.</td>
<td>Centred TL 7223 7682 (10m by 10m)</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>MNL 282</td>
<td>Dense burnt flint patch of unknown date. MSF11547</td>
<td>Un</td>
<td>Dense burnt flint patch, not visible on surface but revealed when large hole excavated by farmer, in 1970s (?).</td>
<td>Centred TL 7242 7708 (10m by 10m)</td>
<td></td>
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<td>Ref</td>
<td>Site Name</td>
<td>Period</td>
<td>Summary Description</td>
<td>NGR</td>
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<td>-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------</td>
<td>---------------</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>MNL 482</td>
<td>Defined area of (repeated?) illegal metal detector activity reported by Forest Enterprise. MSF15494</td>
<td>Un</td>
<td>Defined area of (repeated?) illegal metal detector activity reported by Forest Enterprise.</td>
<td>Centred TL 7210 7673 (10m by 10m)</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>MNL 485</td>
<td>Mildenhall Warren (PMed) MSF16090</td>
<td>PMe</td>
<td>Single (clearly double in places) earthwork bank surrounding most of Mildenhall Warren, running for approximately 4.5km (minimum).</td>
<td>Centred TL 7236 7524 (3120m by 2469m)</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>MNL 485</td>
<td>Mildenhall Warren (Med) MSF16091</td>
<td>Med</td>
<td>Earthwork bank/s surrounding most of Mildenhall Warren (see MNL 553), running for approximately four and a half kms minimum.</td>
<td>Centred TL 7297 7583 (100m by 100m)</td>
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<tr>
<td>MNL 489</td>
<td>Hurstfen Drove MSF16692</td>
<td>Un</td>
<td>Small rectangular cropmark to the south-west of MNL 014.</td>
<td>Centred TL 7205 7655 (100m by 100m)</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>MNL 553</td>
<td>Mildenhall Warren; Mildenhall Woods MSF22219</td>
<td>Med</td>
<td>Mildenhall rabbit warren, established by 1247-8?</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MNL 701</td>
<td>Bombay (1880s); Mildenhall Woods MSF27491</td>
<td>Un</td>
<td>Somewhat sinuous large bank earthwork forming very large (circa 700m N-S) irregularly curving enclosure (3 sides only survive) boundary on north, west and south of 'Bombay', with entrances in centre west and possibly the south-west.</td>
<td>Centred TL 7189 7643 (786m by 760m)</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>MNL Misc</td>
<td>Bush Heath (Med) MSF17845</td>
<td>Med</td>
<td>Nov/Dec 1997: Metal detector find of unidentified long cross penny (S1).</td>
<td>Centred TL 7265 7575 (100m by 100m)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
APPENDIX D. BIBLIOGRAPHY


Websites consulted:
British Geological Survey (BGS), http://mapapps.bgs.ac.uk/geologyofbritain/home.html consulted on 22/02/2016
**APPENDIX E. WRITTEN SCHEME OF INVESTIGATION**

**Specification for Archaeological Evaluation**

*Oxford Archaeology Ltd is an Institute of Field Archaeologists Registered Organisation and follows IFA By-Laws, Standards and Policy.*

**Site Name:** Eriswell 2 Site Extension Scheme, A1065, Eriswell  
**Site Code:** ESF23496  
**County (Grid Ref):** Suffolk (TL 736 768)

**Project No.:** 19219  
**Project Type:** Excavation  
**Event No.:** ESF23496  
**Planning App. No.:** N/A  
**Client:** Anglian Water  
**Date:** 24/2/2016  
**Author:** Daria Tsybaeva and Richard Mortimer

### 5.1 General Background

#### 1.1 Circumstances of the Project

This specification (Written Scheme of Investigation) has been prepared on behalf of Anglian Water in response to a request by Suffolk County Council Archaeological Services (SCCAS/CT). This specification conforms to the principles identified in English Heritage’s guidance documents Management of Research Projects in the Historic Environment, specifically the Morphe Project Manager's Guide (2006) and PPN3 (Project Planning Note 3): Archaeological Excavation.

#### 1.2 The Geology of the Site

The site lies on a bedrock of Holywell Nodular Chalk Formation and New Pit Chalk Formation which is overlain by alluvium clay, silt, sand and gravel (BGS).

#### 1.3 The Proposed Development

This development will involve the construction of an Ion Exchange building covering a total of c. 2500 sqm within the footprint of a known WWII PoW camp and in an area of high potential for earlier archaeological periods.
6 2 Archaeological Background

3.1 Multi-period find scatters have been recorded from the area directly adjacent to the site (ERL 017). These finds range in date from the Bronze Age to Anglo-Saxon periods (MSF1552, MSF7865, MSF7866 and MSF7867). Finds ranging from Mesolithic to the Iron Age in date have been uncovered at Hurst Fen Neolithic settlement (SAM1006065, MSF163, MSF20321, MSF9486, MSF9487), 300m to the west. Approximately 500m to the south-west, a scatter of Mesolithic flakes have been found (MSF8924). A dense burnt flint patch has been observed 500m to the north-west (MSF11547) of the site. Bronze Age and Roman finds are known from the area to the south of the site (MSF7881, MSF7493, MSF7838). A group of barrows, two of which have been scheduled together (SAM1018345), are also known to the north of the development area (ERL001, ERL 028 and 034).

3.2 There are earthworks of unknown date at Codson Hill (MSF19002) to the east of the site.

3.3 The site is located in the north-western part of a WWII Prisoner Of War (POW) camp (ERL 233). Camp 85 Victoria was a purpose-built camp of 'standard' issue, initially for Italian and later German prisoners between 1939 and 1948. The evaluation (ERL240) carried out in February 2016 found that the majority of the camp has been demolished but foundation trenches and postholes survived throughout the development area. Two truncated prehistoric ditches (of as yet uncertain date) were also uncovered by the evaluation trenching.

7 3 Aims and objectives

3.1 Research frameworks

3.1.1 This excavation takes place within, and will contribute to the goals of Regional Research Frameworks relevant to this area:


3.2 Aims of the excavation

3.2.1 The main aim of the investigation will be to preserve the archaeological evidence contained within the excavation area by record and to attempt a reconstruction of the history and use of the site.
3.2.2 Based on the results of the evaluation, however, more specific aims and research questions can be formulated:

- to understand the preservation and development of the site during the prehistoric period.
- to understand the structure and organisation of the PoW camp Victoria of 'standard' issue.
- contribute to understanding of WWII PoW camps in Suffolk and Britain.

8 4 Methods

4.1 Background Research

4.1.1 A suitable level of documentary research has been undertaken in order to determine the expected archaeological character of the site. Existing information from historical sources and previous archaeological finds and investigations in the vicinity will be collated and presented in the final report. The archaeological background is based on a Suffolk CC Historic Environment Record (HER) search (9181247). Further documentary research will be undertaken following excavation to gather whatever documentary information that exists on Camp Victoria.

4.3 Aerial Photographs

Aerial photography is not required at this site. However, an aerial photograph from Google Earth 1945 has been viewed and will be included in the final report.

4.4 Geophysical Survey

Geophysical survey is not required at this site.

4.5 Excavation method

4.5.1 All fieldwork will be undertaken in accordance with the requirements of the OA Field Manual (ed. D Wilkinson 1992), and the revised OA fieldwork manual (publication forthcoming). Further guidance is provided to all excavators in the form of the OA Fieldwork Crib Sheets – a companion guide to the Fieldwork Manual. These have been issued ahead of formal publication of the revised Fieldwork Manual.
**Pre-commencement**

4.5.2 Before work on site commences, service plans will be checked to ensure that access and groundworks can be conducted safely.

4.5.3 In order to minimise damage to the site and disruption to site users, Oxford Archaeology will agree the following with the client/landowner before work on site commences:
- the location of entrance ways
- sites for welfare units
- soil storage areas
- refuelling points for plant (if necessary), and the extent of any bunding required around fuel dumps
- access routes for plant and vehicles across the site

4.5.4 Excavation areas will be set out by a Leica survey-grade GPS fitted with "smartnet" technology with an accuracy of 5mm horizontal and 10mm vertical. Before excavation begins, the perimeter of each excavation area will be scanned to check for live services entering or leaving the area by a qualified and experienced operator using a CAT and Genny that has a valid calibration certificate.

**Soil stripping**

4.5.5 Excavation areas will be stripped by a 360 tracked excavator operating under close and continuous supervision by a suitably qualified and experienced archaeologist. Topsoil and subsoil will be removed in a controlled manner using a toothless ditching bucket (1.8-2.0m wide) to the top of the first geological horizon, or to the upper interface of archaeological features or deposits, whichever is encountered first. Overburden will be excavated in spits not greater than 100mm thick. The overburden will be metal detected prior to and during removal and all non-ferrous objects, and ferrous objects of intrinsic interest, will be retained.

4.5.6 The area will need to be excavated in two halves as there will be insufficient room to store all the spoil within the development area. The southern half (approximately 80m x 15m) will be stripped and the soil bunded to the south, outside the development area. This area will be excavated, recorded and signed off by the representative from Suffolk County Council, and then the northern half will be stripped and the spoil bunded on the cleared southern half. This area will then be excavated, recorded and signed off prior to both areas being backfilled.

**Hand excavation**

4.5.6 All excavation areas will be cleaned as necessary to facilitate the identification of archaeological features and horizons. All features will be planned, either by hand (1:50 or 1:100) or using a GPS, as appropriate.
4.5.7 There will be sufficient excavation to give clear evidence for the period, depth, and nature of any archaeological deposits predating World War II. Any archaeological remains dating to World War II period will be recorded by plan and photograph unless otherwise archaeologically important or of interest (such as waste dumps); these will be excavated and recorded as normal.

4.5.8 Spoil will be scanned visually and with a metal detector to aid recovery of artefacts.

4.5.9 If exceptional or unexpected feature are uncovered, the SCC Archaeological Service will be informed, and their advice sought on further excavation or preservation.

4.6 Recording and Sampling

4.6.1 Records will comprise survey, drawn, written and photographic data. The drawn record will comprise an initial plan (scale 1:50 or 1:100) for the area. Thereafter, single context and/or excavated feature plans will be produced for all exposed and excavated features. Trenches and features will be tied in to the OS grid. Sections will be drawn at 1:10 or 1:20 as appropriate. The written record will comprise context descriptions on OA East pro-forma context sheets. The photographic record will comprise monochrome of trenches and excavated features, and colour slides supplemented by colour and digital photographs.

4.6.2 All pre-WWII features will be investigated and recorded to provide an accurate evaluation of archaeological date, function, etc.

4.6.3 Bulk samples will be taken by the excavator and in consultation with the English Heritage Regional Scientific Advisor and the projects environmental specialist where practicable, to test for the presence and potential of micro- and macro-botanical environmental indicators. These samples will be 40l in volume or full context (whichever is smaller). The result of any analysis will be incorporated in the evaluation report.

4.7 Human Remains

4.7.1 If Human remains are encountered, the relevant authority and the client will be informed. No further excavation will take place until removal becomes necessary, this will only be carried out in accordance with all appropriate Environmental Health regulations and will only occur after a Ministry of Justice licence has been obtained. Excavation may be required where the remains are under imminent
threat or dating/preservation information is required for costing purposes. Due to the wide range of variables costs of excavation, removal and analysis of human remains are not included in any statement of costs accompanying or associated with this specification.

4.8 **Metal Detecting and the Treasure Act**

4.8.1 Metal detector searches will take place at all stages of the excavation by an experienced metal detector user. Both excavated areas and spoil heaps will be checked.

4.8.2 Metal detectors will not be set to discriminate against iron.

4.8.3 If finds are made that might constitute 'Treasure' under the definition of the Treasure Act (1996), they will, if possible, be excavated and removed to a safe place. Should it not be possible to remove the finds on the day they are found, suitable security will be arranged.

4.8.4 Finds that are 'Treasure' will be reported to the Suffolk County Coroner within 14 days, in accordance with the Act. The Suffolk Finds Liaison Officer from the Portable Antiquities Scheme will also be informed.

4.9 **Report, Archive and OASIS record**

4.9.1 A report on the results of the evaluation will be completed within 6 months of the completion of fieldwork. A draft report will be submitted for comment and approval before a final hard and digital copy are issued.

4.9.2 An Oasis number has been obtained and a digital copy of the report will be submitted on completion of excavation.

4.9.3 All artefactual material recovered will be held in storage by OA East and ownership of all such archaeological finds will be given over to relevant authority to facilitate future study and ensure proper preservation of all artefacts. In the unlikely event that artefacts of significant monetary value are discovered, and if they are not subject to Treasure Act legislation separate ownership arrangements may be negotiated. It is Oxford Archaeology Ltd's policy, in line with accepted practice, to keep site archives (paper and artefactual) together wherever possible. All archives will comply in format with MAP 2 recommendations. The archive will be deposited with Suffolk CC.

5 **Timetable**

5.1 Stripping and excavation is expected to take approximately 2 weeks to complete. These figures do not allow for delays caused by bad weather. Working days are based on a 5-day working week, Monday to Friday.
5.2 Post-excavation processing and assessment tasks will commence shortly after excavation commences, to inform the excavation strategy, and minimise time required to prepare the final report after excavation is completed.

5.3 Post-excavation processing and production of the final archive report will be completed within a maximum 6 months of completing fieldwork.

5.4 The project archive will be deposited following delivering the final report, unless the County Archaeologist requires further excavation on the site.

10 Staffing and Support

6.1 The following staff will form the project team:

1 x Project Manager (supervisory only, not based on site)
1 x Project Officer/Supervisor (full time)
1-2 x Site Assistant (full time)
1 x Finds Assistant (part time, as required)
1 x Illustrator for post-excavation work (part time)

6.2 The Project Manager and Project Officer/Supervisor will be core staff of OA East. Names, qualifications and experience of key project personnel will be communicated to the relevant authority before the commencement of fieldwork. All Site Assistants will be drawn from a pool of qualified and experienced staff. The Contractor will not employ volunteer amateur or student staff, whether paid or unpaid, to fulfil any of the above tasks except as an addition to the stated team

6.3 Specialists will be employed for consultation and analysis as necessary. It is anticipated that the site at Eriswell may produce multi-period remains and there will be sampling of environmental remains. Sarah Percival/Matt Brudenell will assess any Prehistoric pottery, Alice Lyons/Steve Macaulay will be asked to comment on any Roman pottery and Dr Paul Sperry will be asked to assess any Saxon/medieval pottery. Jane Phisterm of OA South will be asked to comment on WWII remains. Environmental analysis will be carried out by OA East staff in consultation with Val Fryer and the results will be conveyed to the English Heritage Regional Scientific Advisor. Faunal remains will be examined by Ian Baxter/Chris Faine. Conservation will be undertaken by Colchester Museums. In the event that these specialists are unable to undertake the work within the time constraints of the project or if other remains are found specialists from the list at Appendix 1 will be approached to carry out analysis
11 7 Further Considerations

7.1 Insurance

OA East is covered by Public and Employer’s Liability Insurance. The underwriting company is Allianz Cornhill Insurance plc, policy number SZ/14939479/06. Details of the policy can be seen at the OA East office.

7.2 Services, Public Rights of Way, Tree Preservation Orders etc.

The client will inform the project manager of any live or disused cables, gas pipes, water pipes or other services that may be affected by the proposed excavations before the commencement of fieldwork. Hidden cables/services should be clearly identified and marked where necessary. The client will likewise inform the project manager of any public rights of way or permissive paths on or near the land which might affect or be affected by the work. The client will also inform the project manager of any trees subject to Tree Preservation Orders within the subject site or on its boundaries.

7.3 Site Security

Unless previously agreed with the Project Manager in writing, this specification and any associated statement of costs is based on the assumption that the site will be sufficiently secure for archaeological work to commence. All security requirements, including fencing, padlocks for gates etc. are the responsibility of the client.

7.4 Access

The client will secure access to the site for archaeological personnel and plant, and obtain the necessary permissions from owners and tenants to place a mobile office and portable toilet on or near to the site. Any costs incurred to secure access, or incurred as a result of withholding of access will not be OA East’s responsibility. The costs of any delays as a result of withheld access will be passed on to the client in addition to the project costs already specified.

7.5 Site Preparation

The client is responsible for clearing the site and preparing it so as to allow archaeological work to take place without further preparatory works, and any cost statement accompanying or associated with this specification is offered on this basis. Unless previously agreed in writing, the costs of any preparatory work required, including tree felling and removal, scrub or undergrowth clearance, removal of
concrete or hard standing, demolition of buildings or sheds, or removal of excessive overburden, refuse or dumped material, will be charged to the client, in addition to any costs for archaeological evaluation already agreed.

7.6 Backfilling/Reinstatement

Backfilling/reinstatement of trenches will be undertaken as agreed with the client.

7.7 Monitoring

The relevant planning authority will be informed appropriately of dates and arrangements to allow for adequate monitoring of the works.

7.8 Health and Safety, Risk Assessments

7.8.1 A risk assessment covering all activities to be carried out during the lifetime of the project will be prepared before work commences, and sent to the SCC Archaeological Service. This draws on OA East’s activity-specific risk assessment literature and conforms with CDM requirements.

7.8.2 All aspects of the project, both in the field and in the office will be conducted according to OA East’s Health and Safety Policy, Oxford Archaeology Ltd’s Health and Safety Policy, and Health and Safety in Field Archaeology (J.L. Allen and A. St John-Holt, 1997). A copy of OA East’s Health and Safety Policy can be supplied on request.

7.9 Invoicing

7.9.1 Unless otherwise agreed in writing, an invoice for 50% of the agreed costs of the project will be presented on the project’s initiation. This will normally be payable before further works take place. The remaining balance of the fees for the project will be invoiced to the client on completion of the project and presentation of the final report.

7.9.2 It is expected that payment will be received within 30 days of invoicing. If payment is not made within this time interest will be charged at base rate. After a period of three months Oxford Archaeology Ltd employs a debt collection company to recover unpaid invoices and any costs incurred during this process will be passed on to the client.

8 Bibliography


**Websites consulted:**

British Geological Survey (BGS),
http://mapapps.bgs.ac.uk/geologyofbritain/home.html consulted on 22 February 2016
## APPENDIX: CONSULTANT SPECIALISTS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>NAME</th>
<th>SPECIALISM</th>
<th>ORGANISATION</th>
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<tr>
<td>Allen, Leigh</td>
<td>Worked bone, CBM, medieval metalwork</td>
<td>Oxford Archaeology</td>
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<tr>
<td>Allen, Martin</td>
<td>Medieval coins</td>
<td>Fitzwilliam Museum</td>
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<td>Anderson, Sue</td>
<td>HSR, pottery and CBM</td>
<td>Suffolk County Council</td>
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<td>Bayliss, Alex</td>
<td>C14</td>
<td>English Heritage</td>
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<td>Biddulph, Edward</td>
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<td>Bishop, Barry</td>
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<td>Blinkhorn, Paul</td>
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<tr>
<td>Boardman, Sheila</td>
<td>Plant macrofossils, charcoal</td>
<td>Oxford Archaeology</td>
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<td>Bonsall, Sandra</td>
<td>Plant macrofossils; pollen preparations</td>
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<td>Booth, Paul</td>
<td>Roman pottery and coins</td>
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<td>Boreham, Steve</td>
<td>Pollen and soils/ geology</td>
<td>Cambridge University</td>
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<td>Brown, Lisa</td>
<td>Prehistoric pottery</td>
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<td>Cane, Jon</td>
<td>Illustration &amp; reconstruction artist</td>
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<td>Champness, Carl</td>
<td>Snails, geoarchaeology</td>
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<td>Cotter, John</td>
<td>Medieval/post-Medieval finds, pottery, CBM</td>
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<td>Crummy, Nina</td>
<td>Small Find Assemblages</td>
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<td>Cowgill, Jane</td>
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<td>Darrah, Richard</td>
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<td>Dickson, Anthony</td>
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<td>Donelly, Mike</td>
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<td>Doonan, Roger</td>
<td>Slags, metallurgy</td>
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<td>Druce, Denise</td>
<td>Pollen, charred plants, charcoal/wood identification, sediment coring and interpretation</td>
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<td>Drury, Paul</td>
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Radiocarbon dating is normally undertaken for Oxford Archaeology East by SUERC and by the Oxford University Accelerator Laboratory.
Geophysical prospection is normally undertaken by Cranfield University, Geoquest, and Geophysical Surveys, Bradford.
Title: 85 Working Camp, Victoria Camp, Mildenhall, Suffolk
Order number: RC1028916
Catalogue reference: FO 939/165
Accessed on 15/03/2016
ENGLISH INSPECTOR'S REPORT.

Major R.L.S. Raffles

DATE OF VISIT 23/3

**CAMP No.** 85

**ADDRESS**

**VICTORIA CAMP**

**BRANDON ROAD,**

**MILDENHALL,**

**SUFFOLK.**

**TELEPHONE:**

**MILDENHALL**

2134

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**COMMANDANT:** Lt. Col. T.N.G. Tucker

**LAGERSPRECHER:** Ukrainian

**No. OF HOSTELS:** 1 German

**STRENGTH OF MAIN CAMP:** 25 Germans

**GERMANS/AUSTRIANS:**

**STRENGTH OF HOSTELS:** 159 Germans

**總 STRENGTH:** 184

**P/p/w. ACCOMMODATION IN MAIN CAMP:** No. IN TENTS

**No. IN HUTS.**

**No. IN BUILDING.**

**WELFARE FUND:** £ 219

**LONDON TERMINUS:** Liverpool St.

**STATION OF ARRIVAL:** Bury St. Edmunds

**DISTANCE FROM STATION TO CAMP:** 12 miles

**COMMUNICATION FROM STATION TO CAMP:** W.D. transport

**ACCOMMODATION:** MILLION HOTEL. "Bird in Hand", Mildenhall (Food good)

**ENGLISH CLASSES**

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<th><strong>No. of</strong></th>
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<td>Royals</td>
<td>Classes</td>
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<td>Received</td>
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<td>Readers</td>
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**REG**

This Camp is mainly Ukrainian. The 25 Germans are employed for the most part on clerical work.

**INT**

No organized English teaching. Most of the men know English well.

**ADV**

Proficiency & Intermediate Examinations. Corrected papers and list of candidates enclosed.

(Already seen by Mr. Hamilton).

**MISC**

**TOTALS**

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<tr>
<th><strong>No. of</strong></th>
<th><strong>Tents, Huts or Building</strong></th>
<th><strong>Lighting System</strong></th>
<th><strong>Heating</strong></th>
<th><strong>Blackboards</strong></th>
<th><strong>Accommodation for Lectures, etc.</strong></th>
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<td><strong>No. of Classrooms</strong></td>
<td><strong>No. BLACKBOARDS</strong></td>
<td><strong>No. OF ENGLISH</strong></td>
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**TO BE SENT AGAINST PAYMENT**

| Copy Books | Pencils | Chalk | Pans | Ink | Paper | No. of English Books in Library | No. of "ENGLISH FOR ALL" |

**REMARKS**

No. of GOS. Dictionaries, etc., required —

Newspapers, Books, etc., required —

Purchase authorized by:

P.T.O.
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<th>NAME</th>
<th>PW. No.</th>
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**HOSTELS**

Greenwich

SCHNEIDER, F. 8348859

Particulars already recorded.
### HOSTELS

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<tr>
<th>Name of Hostel and Native Village</th>
<th>Mile from Camp</th>
<th>Berenreh</th>
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<th>Mile from Camp</th>
<th>Branch</th>
<th>Notes, Tests, etc.</th>
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**REMARKS:**

Reception: Co-operative.

SCHULTE, the teacher at Cranwich hostel, had a class of 5 or 6 men until repatriation has reduced them to two.

He has promised to carry on until his repatriation.

Sgd. R.I.S. Raffles
Obw. GANSBAKER, E. (B/22) aged 35, S.A. 1933, previously C.S. Cheveley, strong opportunist past. T.C., fairly intelligent, feels strongly about re-educating young PwW.

Sold. TRIBBLE, M. (B/21) aged 23, T.C., bank clerk, selected as leader of discussion group, keen, quick in uptake, refreshing personality.

Sold. SCHUBERT, G. (B/22) aged 23, lived in Switzerland all his life, foreign correspondent, publishes camp magazine, painstaking, takes great interest in improving the paper.

5. MORALE:

Fairly good on the whole. Captain has worked hard after the PwW's recreational activities. PwW's have been contented. Information received from other less isolated camps; however, has lately created an atmosphere of frustration and dissatisfaction because of lack of civic contacts. Certain PwW's of group 23 have never ceased to complain about the fact that they were "deprived" of their "legitimate" pay for services rendered as S.F. in Italy. The situation in Palestine prevails some covert anti-Semitic sentiments. Views of this kind are aired in the discussion group. The dismantling of German industries is generating heated debates among PwW. At a conference of re-educationists I noticed, however, that some informed and moderate opinions exist. The intake of about 300 PwW true camps of differing standards has a disturbing effect on the intellectual level of PwW.

6. POLITICAL PROGRESS:

No marked improvement can be reported. Heavy agricultural work causes physical and mental tiredness and a good deal of apathy towards problems of German reconsitution is noticeable. However, a great many PwW whom I interviewed expressed balanced views.

5. YOUTH:

There is no special problem. Diffidence towards Allied policy is on the increase. A careful choice of topical lectures is desirable.

6. RE-EDUCATIONAL ACTIVITIES:

No concentrated efforts have been made during the last two months. Some activities are being continued and might increase for two reasons. Firstly, the isolation of the camp (Cranwell) will be strongly felt in the coming months and secondly the return of T.C. PwW will strengthen the hand of the camp Study Leader SCHUBERT.

Newspapers:

The supply of English papers is satisfactory. 70 copies are being sent to this camp daily. All dailies with the exception of the Daily Worker are received. Transport difficulties, however, have sometimes made deliveries irregular. I suggested new arrangements. 15 to 20 German papers reach the camp weekly.

Library:

My suggestion to supply more fiction has been accepted. The camp has now 1500 books.

Lectures:

No lecture has been given in this camp for a month. Mr. Wagner's lecture "On Cultural Rehabilitation of Germany" was attended poorly. The title was described to me as unattractive. I should like to emphasise that the title should appeal to the imagination of the PwW. A lecture by Mr. Bloch on the Jewish problem would benefit this camp.
Discussion Group: A group exists and meets fortnightly. SCHERER shows great interest. Topics like Russia, the food position in Germany, Palestine etc. are being discussed. The attendance is small and greater effort is necessary to make the group a success. I discussed the situation with all re-educationists and chose a number of suitable guards. STEIN: Better for their future discussions. The response was good.

Films: The camp has no projector. BBC films shown weekly.

Wireless: Satisfactory.

Camp Magazine: SCHADEL who was.2 has tried to improve the technical and political quality of the paper. So far he has been successful in the former only. More original and varied contributions are required. The habit of 'lifting' full length articles from other papers is very obvious. I discouraged this as a serious publishing abuse.

Press Review: In view of the great number of newspaper readers no reviews have been held so far. Daily short roll news summaries are published.

Information Room: The exhibition, "Britain, Country and People" has just been returned. The PwS showed great interest.

7. OTHER CAMP ACTIVITIES:

Religion: Oeffr. SCHIFFHAUSEN, R.O. padre, about whom I submitted a special report dated Sept.1, 1947, will never inspire worshippers. Comments on his remain extremely unfavourable. OFFs. 3/21, aged 22 holds a weekly Catholic circle.

Education: Latin, Mathematics, French, Civics and Drawing are being taught.

Entertainment: A sports festival with all kinds of competitions took place on the Sept. 27th. Five PwS companies were represented. Theatre and orchestra have both suffered by repatriations but it is hoped to take up those activities as soon as possible.

8. CONCLUSIONS:

- The British staff pays attention to re-education problems. The good intentions of Capt. Oeffr. have not always been adequately expressed. The German staff is keen although not every PwS is as active as he would like to make one believe. I suggested that Capt. Baura the Interpreter Officer should visit Hostel Crowlinch and Satellite camp Ely weekly and pay attention to specific problems I discussed with him. (Agreed)

9. RECOMMENDATIONS:

a) That a comprehensive exhibition be sent to this camp.

b) That Mr. J. G. should give a lecture on the Jewish question.

c) That films of the Central Office of Information be sent.

Action slip attached.
OUTSIDE CONTACTS.

Visits made to outside Institutions:

Pte/A visited R.D.C. Mildenhall at regular intervals.
Pte/A will visit the Magistrates Court at Mildenhall.
Pte/A were admitted to W.E.A. Ranford (Suffolk), where they attend a course on English literature. The C.O. agreed to change the date of his parade, so that Pte/A now may attend this course.
I arranged a visit of the city of Norwich, where Pte/A were introduced into historic and civic aspects by a guide.

Visits made to the camp:

A sports festival was arranged for Pte/A, 5 Pte/A coy’s attended. The very isolated location of this camp does not allow of many contacts. However, I discussed the question with the C.O. and he promised to approach R.D.C. Brandon.
**CONFIDENTIAL**

**Date of Visit**
- 1.11.47

**Report handed in**
- 3.11.47

**Object of Visit**
- Re-educational Survey

**No. of Visitors**
7th (First by this TA)

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<td></td>
<td>712 at HQ</td>
<td>A 436 in camp hostel</td>
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<tr>
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<td>A 465</td>
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**Personnel:**

- O.C. (Maj. Gen.): G. NICKER
- Interpreter (Capt.): MEIJER
- Camp Leader: Maj. M. WITENSE
- Deputy O/C: None
- German M.O.: Dr. KRÖMER (D4/19)
- Dental: Dr. E. JURMIER (D4/22)
- Hostel Leader: Mo. Hostel: M. KITZ
- Hostel Leader: M. Hostel: M. KITZ (D4/23)

1. **RELATION**

Very friendly, Capt. Jones O.C. Camp 42, is keenly interested in improving the intellectual standard of Pa/W and tries to give them every opportunity of political information. He is actively co-operating. As a result of his survey, a re-education scheme has been set up, unfortunately, not on the scale Col. Sturt and St. Col. wished for the camp while I was there. This report is a supplement to my last report on Camp 35 because this camp has become attached to Camp 35 since my last visit there.

2. **STELIIL CAMPS SITUATION**

There has been no change. No 2 has been appointed to a re-educational position with the exception of O.C. Killian, M. (Sr.) group 21, aged 21, Swedish, Östasiatische Jugendorganisation (S.O. youth organization) very keen, intelligent, subordinated, up to now librarian, I selected him as a study leader at 11-21.
In my opinion, the situation is much better now. The British have been most helpful and the conditions are improving. There are about 250 Russian Volkspolizei in this camp who are spreading discipline among the G/G. Many have not yet received news from home and they are very anxious about their future. I visited several by the new G/G, and they were very happy to hear that the situation is improving. They are now being allowed to go out to work and are enjoying better living conditions. The response was very positive. The situation seems to be improving.

5. COMBATANT PROGRAM

This was a first visit to the camp. After hearing previous reports, I was concerned about the situation. It appears that the guidance of the British staff has improved. The British staff has made several visits to the camp, and during these visits, they have given the prisoners a better understanding of the situation. The prisoners have been given more freedom to express their opinions and allow for more active participation. The response was very positive. The situation seems to be improving.

6. RE-SIMULATION ACTIVITY

A comprehensive program is being implemented in this camp. The prisoners are being encouraged to express their opinions and participate in discussions. They are being given more freedom to work and express their ideas. The response was very positive. The situation seems to be improving.

Newspapers: All daily newspapers are received in this camp. The prisoners are encouraged to read them and discuss their opinions. The supply of German newspapers is sufficient.

Library: The library is well stocked and the new weekly issue of books is available.

Lectures: Mr. Bloch has given a lecture on "The political development of Germany" and on "The Iron Curtain". The audience was enthusiastic and the lectures were well received. The prisoners have been given more freedom to express their opinions and participate in discussions.

Discussion Groups: The prisoners are encouraged to discuss current affairs and exchange ideas. The groups are attended by 50 to 60 prisoners and subjects discussed include "Human Rights", "Youth Education", "Programs of Action" etc.

Films: The prisoners are being shown films. The camp has its own projector and the films are being shown.

Wireless: The wireless is satisfactory. All German stations are tuned in and the G/G are interested in receiving German broadcasts.

Press Reviews: I am satisfied with the reviews of Press Reviews at Schwab and was surprised that these will be continued.

In my opinion, the situation is much better now. The British have been most helpful and the conditions are improving. There are about 250 Russian Volkspolizei in this camp who are spreading discipline among the G/G. Many have not yet received news from home and they are very anxious about their future. I visited several by the new G/G, and they were very happy to hear that the situation is improving. They are now being allowed to go out to work and are enjoying better living conditions. The response was very positive. The situation seems to be improving.
Gramp Magazine: (Wir und die Welt) is a lively paper and the number of its contributors is satisfactory. The vitality of readers is demonstrated by the reaction to a statement of Mr. Molony's in a lecture when he reprinted the notion of a "noble Ariadne" (Athenaire). One contributor considered this an attack on Germany in general and expressed this view in a letter to the paper. In the successive number however, another contributor calls this criticism "Albinoentische" (a personification of an old operator). This correspondence was closed with a letter by Mr. Molony who will require the explanation of this B.Q. magazine "Der Krieg" and "is die Welt". I suggested that the matter of the "Krieg" may be transferred to this camp if this event takes place. This was refused to.

7. OTHER CAMP ACTIVITIES

Religion: Opeha, Spiros, described in the last report, has established himself as a popular religious minister. His services are now less needed and he enjoys good scenes done in discussions. M/F ethical church in various denominations.

Education: Main activities in this direction take place in outside institutions.

Entertainment: There is a good orchestra which is well known by its broadcast. The camp has been in contact with various churches, some of football matches and table tennis competitions have been arranged with civilians. The orchestra is looking forward to a Christmas broadcast.

8. CONCLUSIONS

The camp has lost its previous O.C. and the very efficient S/Lieut. It is therefore bound to pass through a period of transition under the new O.C. The new officers appear to be generally determined to keep up the fine record of this camp. The German camp staff should be of great assistance.

9. RECOMMENDATIONS

That Mr. Molony be sent to this camp with a new lectured.

OUTSIDE VISITS

Outside visits already made to My Fellow Court.

Visits to Quarter Sessions at Billy:

127 M/F/visit English language classes at My Fellow Institute. M/F/are admitted to French and Bookkeeping classes in the Institute. A course of economics and on modem British drama is attended by F/U arranged by the WRA.

The orchestra has given various concerts for charity with good financial success. (cf. Nursing Association, Red Cross Association etc. There is a "K" Club Game 36". Dances are arranged on Sunday evenings.

Contacts made by T.A.:

I contacted Father Prichard who promised to organize an R.O. dance in the camp. By calls on the clerics of the R.O. and C.O. were unsuccessful because lack of accommodation prevents the attendance of meetings by the public and F/U alike.

I had a talk with the Police Superintendent of Billy who promised to arrange a talk on British police work with discussion in this camp. All my suggestions were accepted by the O.C.

Jr.
Proposed scheme for discussing the human problem of war.

Cultural. To attend sessions at the following:
- A secondary School
- Technical College
- Art School

Visits to Castle Houses, Hendon and Ralwood Hall, with good guides to explain the historical associations of the collections.

Visits to Nursery School; and if possible to follow up to the Primary School.

A Session at the AW Class and any other class running at the time.

Industrial.
Visit to the office of the Boot & Shoe Operators' Union, to see the method in use.

Visit to a shoe factory, Faulkner & Slater or Southall, with factory manager and, if possible, a Director, along with an official of the Shoe Union, in order to effectively portray the democratic method of dealing with matters in dispute.

Visit to an engineering works (Lancashire & District) and to Glossop Works, again in association with the works' management and the trades unions concerned. Also to see the method of work done, and a sample of an agenda.

Visit to the Electricity Works, with explanations of the lines between the management and the Committee on the one hand and the various sections of employees on the other.

Visit to the Labour Exchange, Rehabilitation Office and the Assistance Board.

Cultural.
Visit to the Church of England, St. Paul's Cathedral, a Non-Conformist Church and the Salvation Army, to show the various services given for their respective missions without friction or friction, i.e., a visit to the Cathedral, both when a service is in progress and such other time as convenient for a full explanation of the building and its historical associations.

Controversy.
To hold an organized debate between two protagonists, say, Conservative and Labour, with all the seriousness which a debate of this kind would carry, but with the usual friendliness between the personalities taking part, to show that however keen we are to oppose each other on the political issues, we would never dream of allowing this to develop into a vendetta, and that we can accept defeats on the political battleground with grace, whichever party is in ascendancy.

General.
To instill into the minds of the German people that we in Britain desire peace with all countries and will never agree to wage an aggressive war. That we would welcome close association with the Germans, as with all other people, in a crusade for international understanding, with a purpose for each country's traditions and manner of life, but with an overall conception of unified action and co-operation on this economic and social fields.
ENGLISH INSPECTOR'S REPORT.

CAMP No. 85
ADDRESS: VICTORIA CAMP, GRANDEUR ROAD, MILTON HALL, SUFFOLK.

TELEPHONE: MILTON HALL 213L/5.

COMMANDANT: Lt. Col. J. R. Black
LAGERSPRECHER: Backard.
No. OF HOSTELS: 2 German
STRENGTH OF MAIN CAMP: Ukrainians.
GERMANS/AUSTRIANS
TOTAL STRENGTH: 582.

PYIW. ACCOMMODATION IN MAIN CAMP: No. IN TENTS.
WELFARE FUND: £ 250.
LONDON TERMINUS: Liverpool St.
STATION OF ARRIVAL: MILTON HALL.
DISTANCE FROM STATION TO CAMP: 2 miles.
COMMUNICATION FROM STATION TO CAMP: W.B. tpt.
ACCOMMODATION: MESS, HOTEL.

ENGLISH CLASSES

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<th>No. of Lessons per Week</th>
<th>Lessons Taught in GOS</th>
<th>Total GOS in Main Camp</th>
<th>No. of Readers</th>
<th>No. of Dictionaries</th>
<th>Other Books, etc., used for Teaching, No.</th>
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**NOTES:**
- THE OFFICIAL TRAINING STATION FOR THIS CAMP IS MILTON HALL, WHICH HAS AN EXCELLENT RAIL SERVICE. A TACTFUL REQUEST FOR TRANSPORT FROM BURY ST. EDMUNDS IS SURE TO BE GRANTED BY CAMP. (14 MILES).

ENGLISH CLASSES:

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<th>BRG</th>
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<th>ADV</th>
<th>MISC</th>
<th>TOTALS</th>
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- No. of Classrooms
- Tent, Huts or Building
- Lighting System
- Heating
- Blackboards
- Accommodation for Lectures, etc.

TO BE SENT AGAINST PAYMENT

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<th>Pencils</th>
<th>Chairs</th>
<th>Pens</th>
<th>Ink</th>
<th>Paper</th>
<th>No. of English Books in Library</th>
<th>No. of &quot;ENGLISH FOR ALL&quot;</th>
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Remarks:

- No. of GOS, Dictionaries, etc., required:
- Newspapers, Books, etc., required:

Purchase authorized by: P.T.O.
### Hostels

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**Notes**

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<td></td>
<td>No English instruction. Hostel to be closed in the near future.</td>
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**Remarks**

- Reception: Co-operative and hospitable. Auxiliary mess. List of candidates and papers enclosed.
- Cranwich Satellite camp is being reduced to the status of a hostel.
- Organised instruction in English is at a low ebb in Cranwich. Owing to the examinations, there was no time to investigate matters at this hostel, which I hope to do next visit.

Sgd. R.L.B. Moffles Maj.
I paid a short visit to this camp for three reasons. Firstly, I wanted to check up on the development of morale in Woodcock Hostel as indicated in my special report dated Aug. 4th 47, secondly to visit and brief the successor of staff leader who were posted to T.G. and lastly to examine complaints about the conduct and political attitude of M.C. Pahou Sedifflawon.

WELL

Has improved at Woodcock. The military authorities have obviously appreciated some of my observations at my last visit. No particular emphasis has been laid on military rules since I saw the hostel last time and relations between P.o.W and C.O.I have become more harmonious. There was general agreement that previous cases of "hard" treatment have not been repeated and the movements of P.o.W when walking out have not been interfered with. No complaint was made. However, there remains much to be done to revive re-educational activities on the basis of these improved conditions.
CHANGES IN PERSONNEL

Uffe, Michel, M. (2) group 21, aged 26, Protestant, agriculturist, kept out of all party organisations for religious reasons, but criticises Pastor Miroslav for his militaristic past, genuine personality, intelligent and ambitious, C.S. and Army leader at Chevalley, succeeding Caruso.

Saul, Fantamovl, M. (3) group 21, aged 21, Protestant, Reformer, acquainted with re-educational work at camp 1001, intelligent, pleasing personality, should be given a chance as an instructor in Scotook, succeeds Rosset.

I visited both P.A.W. with great care and took notes of both men might be useful for our re-educational team in this difficult camp. All aspects of re-educational activities have been discussed with them.

COOHERS ABOUT R.C. PAUL SCHIFFHAUS

S/Pauln, Schiffhaus, M. (3) group 30, aged 30, R.C. padre at camp 30, was considered by me as a good type when I met him the first time. Since then, however, numerous complaints about this R.C.W. have induced me to make some investigations. He has been criticised for anti-British, nationalistic and anti-Semitic statements as well as for his general conduct. I have interviewed several R.C. P.A.W. and discussed the matter with British officers in different hostels. As a result of my inquiries, I am satisfied, that to a certain extent, these criticisms are justified. I submit a special report about the nature of my investigation. In view of the difficulties in this camp about which Mr. Young and myself have submitted several reports during the last three months, I recommend putting this padre on a well-established camp in another command where the average R.C.W. can yield up to his harmful influence.

X.B.
CONFIDENTIAL

Date of Visit: 29.7.-1.8. 1947

Report handed At: 1. 8. 1947

No. of Visitors: 6

Mr. Hamilton

Address:
Brandon Road
Midleton
Suffolk

Tel: No. 1
Midleton 2164

Object of Visit:
Pre-educational Survey

Strength: Officer 1

Screening Figures:

A: 30
B: 146
B+: 597
B-: 341

Total: 1153

Personnel:
O.C.: Lt. Col. G.R. Black
Interpreter: Capt. M. Howard
 Personnel M.O.: Ass.Lt. Dr. Stellner (1) 26
 Medico-Legal: Dr. Beckard (1) 27

Examined on: 20th June 1947

1. Teutonism

The C.G. remains interested in political re-education and assisted
me in many ways. He is a strict disciplinarian, and certain measures in the past
though called for, have had an adverse effect on morale and political re-education.
Two 1/6 appointments will work similarly. The adjutant also was very helpful.
Concerning the C.G., a special report was handed in on June 20th, 1947.
It has been trying to comply with suggestions made by Mr. Young and me in the past.
There is only a skeleton staff of 15 at HQ.

2. CAMP STAFF

Lt. Dr. Stellner, (1) aged 35, excellent type, twice before court mar-
tial in Weimar, genuine personality, will take part in political re-education.
Now C.O. in Grondach, although no inspiration for Pa.W., he tries hard to do the
job, should be carefully watched and guided.
Off. Geppcke, (3) group 21, aged 25, O.C. 1936, keen sociologist,
fairly intelligent, efficient, O.C. at Cheveley.
Uffz. Gottke, (2) group 29, aged 36, described in report of June 20th 1947.
Good type, is doing a thankless job in a difficult h.Q.

The following Pa.W. have been appointed to re-educational positions:

Off. Reeve, E. (2) group 38, aged 26, under-produce in Pol. economy, R.G.
background, facing a bad atmosphere at Woodcock, study leader, intelligent but
very resentful.

Osn. von Vrakel, E. (3) group 21, aged 25, 7th Training Course Course, remarkably
intelligent, identifies himself with men of July 20th. 1944, anti-militaristic,
but essentially anti-German, no fear of arrogance, might be a good leader of
human relations if carefully saddled, will start at Woodcock in September.

Uffz. Pauli, W. (1) group 19, aged 36, clerk in circuit production, Party 1934,
optimistic, unemployed, industrialist, looks "the king" with socials (grafites).

O/Off. Jager, W. (1) group 18, aged 36, editor of Zenser Zeitung, Reichsver-

tuscherer 1933, Party 1932, fair education, very intelligent, will give a hand at
issuing of camp paper.
Sold. Schoonker, M.B. group 22, aged 22, 7th course T.C. very good type. I have selected him to succeed Novak, who is to be repatriated shortly, intelligent, self-critical and sincere, study leader at Groenrock.

W.O. Groenrock, M.B. group 21, aged 22, 9th course, I selected him as study leader on my last visit. Unfortunately going to be a millitant. I suggested Traico as his successor at Chevaley, O.C., agreed.

3. GENERAL

Groenrock and Chevaley, Lie at Woodock. The relaxation of restrictions has been received with appreciation. However, these have not been implemented everywhere in a happy way. Certain happenings at Woodock have caused bad feeling among civilians at Lichtenau who have objected to a number of privileges for P.O.W. in their town. (P.O.W. may only occupy certain rooms in the town, the permission for living had to be withdraw.) On the other hand Chevaley and Groenrock have excellent recreational facilities, and their relations with their civilian population are good, as far as their isolated location permits. At Woodock P.O.W. have aired many of their grievances, the nature of which is described in the attached report. The P.O.W. have become rather "nearly" and over-emphasised any important fact of alleged "injustices". The atmosphere has slightly improved in the last weeks and I have tried to establish a sense of proportion among them. Very few have reached the woodcock this was not helped by the disciplinary measures brought about by military events not helped matters.

I had two long talks with the O.C. on this problem and tried carefully to put across my point of view, as closely connected with a positive atmosphere in a camp. The O.C. assured a sympathetic ear, that he knew what his real reactions will be.

4. MILITARY SITUATION

Chevaley has improved since the last trench fight very well. The selection of Schoonker who has been working with Novak for the last two months has left its mark on this sector. Chevaley has kept up its good line of balanced political running. For this Schoonker can take the credit. Woodock is definitely stagnant and no changes can be expected before September in view of agricultural work, especially the harvest. The situation is estimated grey.

5. YOUTH

I interviewed a group of young P.O.W. to ascertain their morale and was satisfied that no special harm was done by conditions in Woodock. I submitted a list of young P.O.W. for camp 165. No special problems arise.

6. RE-HUMANISATION ACTIVITIES

The relaxation of restrictions, fine weather and better agricultural work, have interfered with the existing comprehensive programmes. Woodock has been "demonstrating" inactivity and all attempts to build up a discussion group, promised to several T.A.'s, have been unfulfilled. Considerable hardships have led to a disruptive effect. I suggested forcibly confining all the youth leaders under the chairmanship of Cpt. Howell, and idea which has favourably impressed all concerned because it might make for better morale. The O.C. agreed.

Newspapers and Magazines (See Appendix B. 

Newspapers: 

103 English daily and non-daily remain at the disposal of the P.O.W. after a certain reduction. This service is satisfactory. The supply of German newspapers has however been very poor.

Library: 

Books are 600 German books, 230 of which are of an educational character and the remainder consists of political and satirical matter. Fiction is urgently required and it is suggested that some of the non-fiction may be exchanged. (Action slip attached.)
Lectures:

Dr. Bäumer spoke on "Erfahrungen als Richter", attendance was poor. It appears that arrangements coincided with pay parades a.s.o. Discussion after lecture was almost nonexistent because the topic was non-controversial. The intellectual level is moderate and a strong element of apathy is noticeable at Woodcock.

Discussion Groups:

Woodcock: In spite of the difficulties mentioned in the introductory paragraph, I tried to persuade Zipits and Reeper to start a new group in September. The Camp Speaker Bradeh will help.

Chevalley: Gruber has proved a success. He has given several talks to Pa.W. with ensuing discussion (Training Centre, Society of Friends, Das Kommunistische Manifest a.s.o.). Average attendance has been 30 Pa.W.

Grund: Schonmae has been leading a group every fortnight, (Individuum und Staat, Deutsche Geschichtsausstellung), Die Partei in Deutschland, Capt. Gardner has been carrying on with English conversation and questions of an ambitious political character have been put to him (Pressefeyer, Germany, a.s.o.)

Films:

Satisfactory. No relaxation of restrictions has helped a great deal. Some films and Travellers' Ltd films are still appreciated.

Wireless:

Woodcock claims a great interest in this respect. A Pa.W. has been inaugurated to organise listening, taking into consideration different interests of Pa.W. Wireless lectures are announced in good time.

Camp Magazine:

Paul edits "Das Ring", the paper is good to look at, but often not so good to look into. Numerous stylistic and grammatical errors occur which are due to the fact that this magazine is in fact a one man paper. I have selected Zipits and urged Reeper to co-operate with Paul, so as to avoid shortages in the future. Chevalley is an excellent draughtsman. 350 copies are issued monthly. More contributors are required.

Press Review:

Are held twice weekly in Chevalley. Woodcock publishes about once every day. Grund has never started review because English papers are generally read and wireless is listened to in an organized way.

English Instruction:

Appendix A. A supply of NO "English for All" appears to be on the general list. No would benefit.

Information Rooms:

Are very poor. There is practically no incident in any of the hostels. However, Grund has shown a slight start, the visit of a W.3. Inspector would do good.

7. OTHER CAMP ACTIVITIES

Religious interest is negligible. The number of Pa.W. attending divine service is below the average. 3/60 ofr. Schiff- hanssen F. (2), group 25, aged 34, R.C. padre, attends hostel every third week. Good type. Considered mental preparation for worship very slight and attributes the atmosphere at Woodcock partly to the influx of "American Pa.W. who have never forgotten their disappointments about the alleged promise of being sent home."
Education: A variety of courses are being held. (Maths, building, cities, drawing, driving, French a.m.o.)

Entertainments: There is a theatrical group consisting of 12 actors at Grantham. "Der Meister des Zaubereis" is in preparation. An orchestra also exists, sports are popular.

8. CONCLUSIONS

The new O.C. is appreciative of our work, but has been confronted with a rather disorderly camp at Woodbrook. He emphasizes military discipline strongly and some Pa.W. take his attitude as an excuse for not co-operating in re-educational work. The German education staff is very small and only a few Pa.W. show keenness and leadership. The transfer of recommended Pa.W. to the Training Centre should be treated as urgent because replacements are necessary. This visit might help to prepare a new atmosphere because I have tried to acquaint both sides with the questions at issue.

9. RECOMMENDATIONS:

a) To transfer Lt. (J.C.S. Anstee, 225868)坞den and 501667 Greeningterer to Training Centre. (Action ship attached.)

b) To supply more German papers and to provide German fiction (perhaps by exchange for non-fiction) Action ship attached.

c) To release English for All" to 300 copies.

d) To send a P.M.T. to this camp and to provide a comprehensive exhibition. Action ship attached.

Visits made to outside institutions:

a) Cambridge colleges were visited by 35 Pa.W.
b) 51 Pa.W. attended Hilleshead R.D.C.
c) A party of Pa.W. visited Norwich.

Visits outside beyond the camp:

Rev. Wiggins (Nolton) has been visiting Chesham for the past 6 months, giving English talks on subjects suggested by Pa.W. He mainly dealt with British institutions.

Contacts of T.A.:

I have contacted the Town Clerk of Evesham. He will introduce Pa.W. to questions of local government. 12 Pa.W. will attend every forthcoming Town Council meeting. The O.C. agreed.
Mr. Hamilton

Address
Brandon Road
Mildenhall
Suffolk

Tel. No.
Mildenhall 2184

Date of Visit
28-31 May 1947

Hall of Visitor
M. A. O. Young

Objective of Visit
Program Report

Strength

2
C.A's.
996
TOTAL: 998

of which:
156 at Greenhill (satellite camp)
88 at Chervil
30 at Woodcock
156 at Hillehous

Screening Figures:

A
35

B
905

C
58

No. of appeals pending
124

No. of appeals heard by O.A.

No. of Ft./W. repatriated to date
962

Personnel:

O.C.
Lt. Col. Block

O.C., Satellite: Capt. Cator V.C., M.M.

Interpretor: Capt. Maxwell

Grenier M.C.: Ass/Art. Stieldor (A)

Hostal Leaders: as in report.

REMARKS

The Comendant (without P/W experience) has just taken over. He is interested in re-education and was most helpful, but it remains to be seen how he will develop; there are portents of strongly militarist tendencies. Capt. Cator V.C. (in charge of the satellite camp for over a year) has always shown the greatest interest in our work, but lacks background, and at times expresses manifestly wrong opinions. He is helpful but not a re-educationist.

2. GERMAN OFFICER STAFF

Hostal Leaders are: Greenhill: Vernon (A). He was upgraded a month ago when he must have revealed qualities which he successfully concealed from me. A regular soldier since 1938 he is a disciplinarian and a typical P with no interest whatever in re-education. Capt. Cator, under whom he has been C.A. for about a year, stands by him and as he is about due for repatriation I leave him for his few remaining weeks, pointing out his faults to those concerned, in order that they may not recur in his successor. It would be advisable to check up on his successor about a month hence as the Comendant is still an unknown quantity and I am without confidence in Cator's judgment.
Choveley: Gonzague (B). 35 years old, he is an excellent type, keen and sound and already an asset in our work. Appointed 1st March '47.

Woodcock: Ketton (A). Well up to the "A" grading and ready and able to do all he can until his repatriation.

3. MORALE

Good. There is an attitude of fatalism towards repatriation, all being seemingly reconciled to departure with their groups. All PwW are employed on farm work. Friendly relations exist with employers. It is regretted that so few civilian contacts are possible in this sparsely populated area. The hearing of appeals in April helped morale considerably, but the acuteness depression exists amongst 65 billeting graded "O" (including some in groups 1 - 12), all of whom were missed.

4. POLITICAL PROGRESS

Choveley is the best hotel. I agree with the description of Cromwell (by last T.A. visitor) as "having a Sunday School atmosphere". But this is improving under the efforts of Rosellen (the Studies Leader) though interfered by the stolid indifference of the Camp Leader - interested in nothing but his (now due) repatriation. There has been a spate of further appeals following the success of the first appellants and I estimate that a general re-screening would produce upwards of 80 A's. The 28 C's should be re-screened - and quickly.

5. YOUTH

They present no special problem and their segregation is neither contemplated nor advisable.

6. RE-EDUCATIONAL ACTIVITIES

There has been complete dislocation at H.Q., whence all PwW were a few days ago suddenly transferred to other camps to make room for 700 Ukrainians; the Camp Parliament and Democratic Working Group were dissolved, their members dispersed. The Editor of the camp magazine (Paul B), the Studies Leader (Repor B), and the Camp Artist (Bechare B), all good workers, non, just managed to escape the fate of their colleagues - fortunately for re-education prospects. The general standard is good, with reasonably capable men eager to organize further progress. Much will depend on how the new Commandant develops and on the coming replacements for the H/Q Leaders at Cromwell and Woodcock. Welfare can meet reasonable demands. Accommodation is satisfactory excepting Choveley where a small additional hut is essential for lessons, discussion groups etc.

Wochenpost and Ausblick: See Appendix B.

Newspapers:
The service is exceptional; 219 daily (taken each day) and 50 weekly and monthly being purchased through welfare. I have suggested some curtailment of this £25 a month expense. Routine requests for more German papers.

Library:
Satisfactory; with efficient interchange service. Education in camp strength has helped matters. Political books in German are earnestly requested by Rosellen, Studies Leader at Cromwell.

Lectures:
Schults (Swiss) gave reception for his talk "Applied science - its impact on Culture"; discussion at Woodcock bore no relation to this theme, dealing mainly with the link between Swiss and German economy. This was probably due to Wolff having taken practically the same subject for weeks previously.
Von Waldheim: Unanimously the most popular lecturer.

Késtortzis, on Hunsruck, had a mixed reception. There was general resentment at his persistent references to "Hitler, your Führer!"; "Your Führer at the time" would have been more appropriate (everyone).

Talks dealing with reconstruction are conveying some measure of hope are requested - particularly if given by German speakers rather than by first-hand impressions. Attentions are fair, outside influences not being as much in evidence in these comparatively isolated hostelries. All lecturers are recommended for keeping their material at E/Y level and not talking above the heads of their listeners.

Discussion Groups:

There has been such disagreement everywhere through Western (and O.N.B.T.) and complete disruption at H.C. through displacement by Ukrainians.

Jockeck: The H/L asked to resume political discussion this week; the subject will be decided after Lord Ebbisham's announcement has been analysed.

Gervais: There is a monthly meeting at which various aspects of camp life (but little politics) are discussed. Politics are now to be introduced, the H/L leader taking the first group.

Cumnor: Josselin (A), Students Leader, spoke on European Economic Problems on 21st April, with 50 present. Capt. Gator has held a weekly group in English during the past 12 months, with attendances varying 30. Questions are invited on any subject and Capt. Gator usually manages to supply the answers. Questions in German (and discussion) are now to be encouraged.

In all cases Leaders have been urged (and have agreed) to send reports on their activities to the Camp magazine, Notices headed 'From Discussion' and telling why these voluntary groups are being resumed, are going up on Notice Board.

Films:

Travelling Film Company, Ipswich started showing English films on 17th May and will continue fortnightly; entrance charge 5/-, the 1/-/- 'Western' (not being recovered through Isntoist a/w). E./I.C.A. shows fortnightly through 3/- operator and cheap projector. G.R. stopped four weeks ago. E./I.C.A. films are preferred because in German. See Appendix C.

Wireless:

Satisfactory, excepting at Cheveley where there is no electricity and consequently (though not serious) battery and accumulator troubles. Leipziq, Hamburg and BBC programmes are taken regularly at Jockeck by Buchmani (A), and occasionally at the other hostels. Leipziq is described as one-sided and never criticizing the G.R.D.: "Hamburg, criticizing all Parties in return." There is interest in coping with the handling of news by the different transmitters.

Stop Press:

Editor's Paul (B): a monthly of 29½ foolscap pages with a print of 200. The journal is well balanced, with commendable political sections. The duplicator has been broken down and the Commandant and I.O. have been impressed with the urgency for immediate replacement a/cm. officer has agreed the charge.
Press Review: The avalanche of English papers received (and read) makes spoken reviews unnecessary. The BBC 22.00 review is generally heard and there is the greatest interest in the Wochenpost News Service and the Spiegel. It is earnestly requested and recommended that two additional copies of each be sent, enabling each hostel to receive and retain a copy. Interest centres on the current position of the situation, but most of all on the object indicated, "She is not so strong as her attitude indicates".

English Instruction: See Appendix A.

Information Room: This has never been "built up" and remains the Reading Room it was when Doughty saw it a few weeks ago. Posters (British Parliament) were shown in the dining hall end of last year and have since been returned to COE. The Tennessee Valley material was not used by the Experimental studies leader, nor by his recent successor, Hopper. E.G. (with Ukrainians in) is now out of the question but there is room at Cromwell. I suggest the withdrawal of the T.V. material and its replacement by something more interesting. The camp artists should be able to handle anything once he has basic material.

7. OTHER CAMP ACTIVITIES

Religion: The resident E.C. padre, Schiffenasser holds services also in other camps; a Protestant padre (Richard) visits regularly from 260 camp. Both have good influence and confine themselves to religion. Attendance at local churches, interest in religion is waning.

Education: Generally good, 68 taking classes at Cromwell, 25 at Chevalay and 5 at Woolcock. (Details of all classes with names of teachers included in Appendix A - to English Section).

Entertainments: The Theatre Group integrated on the Ukrainian invasion. There had been a recent elaborate, fully costumed, rendering of Himma von Barnholz. Interest centres on football many local sides suffering terrific defeats by camp teams.

8. CONCLUSIONS:

The reappointment of the late Commandant by an officer whose attitude towards re-education will be clearer from his actions during the coding months, makes the situation difficult to assess. The general standard of the Egs and the keenness of those conducting re-education, indicate that progress should continue.

9. RECOMMENDATIONS

1. The Camp to have a detailed visit one month hence to check up on the development of the new Commandant's attitude towards re-education and to clarify the question of the hostel leaders at Cromwell and Woolcock.

2. The 58 C's to be re-screened without delay.

3. Advice in purchase of a duplicator be given, if necessary after reference to camp.

4. Information Room, as detailed under heading.

5. A few political books in German to be sent, addressed to Rosellen, Studies Leader at Cromwell.

6. Two additional copies each of the Wochenpost News Service and the Spiegel to be supplied in future. (3 in all).

F.D.
Camp No. 65  Mildenhall.

Visited  28-31.5.1947

T.A.  T.A.R. Young.

Organised visits already being made to outside institutions etc.

Nothing. Few civilian contacts are possible in this sparsely populated area. The Rev. Thetraw, Methodist Minister, has interested himself in the hostel at Woodson. He has placed a rest and reading room at the disposal of Pa/W, in the church building.

Visits already made to camp by outside bodies.

Nothing.

Contacts made by T.A.

Mr. F. Dampett, Clerk to the Mildenhall Rural District Council was approached and arrangements are well in hand for selected Pa/W to attend the Council meetings which take place every third Thursday in the month. Mr. Dampett is wholly sympathetic to the idea which is being referred to the Committee this week for their approval. No difficulties are anticipated and the Commandant, who has promised his every support, has been informed of the position.

Mr. Gallissin, Secretary of the Mildenhall British Legion is exploring the possibility of British ex-service men contacting Pa/W through the Legion. It is a small organisation and with the possibility of some narrowness in outlook on the part of members, I am not hopeful of results.

Many of the more intelligent men are keen to see areas of the Cambridge colleges. The Commandant is prepared to do all he can to arrange transport and the Secretary of the Cambridge Board of extra-mural Studies has given me the address of Miss L. Conyngham (69, Grange Road, Cambridge) who has already arranged such trips and conducted them. We are in touch with her.
ENGLISH INSPECTOR’S REPORT.

DATE OF VISIT 14.1.48

CAMP No. 85
ADDRESS VICTORIA CAPT., MILDENHALL,
WILDFIRE

TELEPHONE MILDENHALL 2194.

TYPE: Working.
COLOUR: grey.

COMMANDANT: Lt. Col. G.R. Black
LAGERSPRECHER: Wronilian
No. OF HOSTELS: 2 Germans
STRENGTH OF MAIN CAMP: Ukrainians, GERMANS/AUSTRIANS
TOTAL STRENGTH: 1043
STRENGTH OF HOSTELS: 149 & 230 Milestone
PwW. ACCOMMODATION IN MAIN CAMP: No. IN TENTS.
WELFARE FUND: £ 230
LONDON TERMINUS: Liverpool St.
STATION OF ARRIVAL: MILDENHALL
DISTANCE FROM STATION TO CAMP: 2m.
COMMUNICATION FROM STATION TO CAMP: W.O. transport.
ACCOMMODATION: MESS, HOTEL.

ENGLISH CLASSES

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REMARKS

No. of GOS, Dictionaries, etc., required:

Newspapers, Books, etc., required:

Purchased authorized by:

P.T.O.
Having waited a whole day waiting for transport to this place, I endeavoured to reach it on 21st Jan, but was unable to visit it, owing to transport breakdown.

A talk was not given at Granwich, as only 3 men presented themselves.

Note: 1. The former German satellite camp at Ely is now occupied by Ukrainians.

2. Two requests for examination in English were received at Granwich. I told them to submit names to English Teaching Section and that it would be advisable to submit more than two.

Sgd. R.L.S. Beilby.
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**Remarks:**
- Being transferred to Ukrainians next week.

Reception: Co-operative.


Date: 21.1.43.

The Main Camp is now Ukrainian, except for a staff of 20 Germans. There is no organised English teaching amongst the Germans. The majority have a good knowledge of the language.

**Cranwich Hostel:** There is considerable apathy here regarding English, or indeed to any other form of study. The one thought is "Home".

The study-leader and the teacher of English do not impress me favourably. The former might usefully be replaced by somebody with more "drive" if such can be found.

The teacher Trabec will be repatriated shortly and his place will be taken by SCHRIDER, who seems more promising and is in 25 Repatriation Group.

It is possible that when Nos. 20 and 21 Repatriation Groups have gone, more interest may be shown in education generally.

**West Tofts Hostel:** was not visited, as the Germans are leaving this week.

continued over/...
COMMANDANT: Lt Col H.S. Gill (Retiring - successor appointed).
LAGERSPRECHER: Pfreterkorn 0. 1/2 Satellite: Capt. Cator, VC 100
No. of HOSTELS: 1 satellite, and 2 hostels.
STRENGTH OF MAIN CAMP: 598
GERMANS/LEIPZIGANS
STRENGTH OF HOSTELS: 879
P/VY. ACCOMMODATION IN MAIN CAMP: No. in TENTS: No. in HUTS: all No. in BUILDING:
WELFARE FUND: £ 85
LONDON TERMINUS: Lit St.
STATION OF ARRIVAL: Dury St. Edmond:
DISTANCE FROM STATION TO CAMP: 12 miles.
COMMUNICATION FROM STATION TO CAMP: W. D. transport.
ACCOMMODATION: "Bill", Barton Hills; nr. Winkelhall. (good)

### ENGLISH CLASSES

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<th>Level</th>
<th>No. of Pupils</th>
<th>No. of Classes</th>
<th>No. of Lessons per Week</th>
<th>Level Reached in GOS</th>
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<th>No. of Readers</th>
<th>No. of Dictionaries</th>
<th>Other Books, etc., used for Teaching, No.</th>
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**TOTALS:** 62, 2, 4, 60

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<th>No. of Classrooms</th>
<th>Tents, Huts or Building</th>
<th>Lighting System</th>
<th>Heating</th>
<th>Blackboards</th>
<th>Accommodation for Lectures, etc.</th>
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**TO BE SENT AGAINST PAYMENT**

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<th>Copy Books</th>
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- No. of GOS, Dictionaries, etc., required: -

**REMARKS:** 220

Newspapers, Books, etc., required: -

Granwich Satellite asks for copies of "Hansard" if available.
For books asked for, see attached list.

Purchase authorized by: P.T.O.
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Remarks:

Reception: Co-operative.

There has been a slump in English Teaching at the Main Camp. Prefferkorn, who was teaching, has had to throw it up on being appointed Camp Speaker; however, I got Prefferkorn, the two English teachers and the study leader together and gave them a pep talk on the subject.

A drive for more pupils is to be made forthwith.

At the Satellite and the two hostels, things are somewhat better.

At Cranwigg Satellite the G.1/0 Capt. Gaylor, V.C., a fine type of officer, takes part himself in English teaching and until recently the Rector of Wethersfield, a retired Harrow Master, has done the same.

This gentleman is unfortunately leaving the district.

Another factor which has not improved prospects of E.S. English teaching in this part of England, is the very hard work put in by Pw/" in fighting the floods. Men have been tired out and in consequence disinclined for study.

I hear S.S.R. praise for their efforts on all sides.

At Cheveley hostel, Knebel, although not a brilliant English scholar, does his best.

He receives great assistance from the Rev. Wingless, Congregational Minister at Wattleton.

Mr. Wingless visits the hostel weekly and in addition to spiritual ministrations, gives instruction in English. His visits are greatly appreciated by Pw/". I called on him, but he was not at home.

continued over/...
MILDENHALL 2184

| Strength | Officers: 1 | O.Rs: 1942 | TOTAL: 1943
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<td>Detectors</td>
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Screening figures:
- Repatriated from 15-7-45 / 17-1-1947
- 294 "A" and Groups
- 58 Unit
- 10 Timber Workers
- 362

No. of appeals pending: 307

1. Reception

As friendly as ever. However the only officer who now takes an active and personal interest in re-education is Captain Ostery, in charge of the satellite camp at Cranwich. The interests of the IO lies elsewhere.

2. German Camp Staff

The new spokesman is painstaking and conscientious, if not very intelligent. He now understands the functions of a camp parliament better than he did (see Special Report dated 18.12.45) and is making proper use of it. As a result his relations with the Commandant and with his staff have improved considerably.

HERBSTLAND (A), the new director of studies, has better judgment and far more drive than his predecessor ROSELIEN (B) who is at present at the Training Centre. Although he has been in the camp only a short time, he has had a very good influence, particularly on the political study group.

3. Morale

Slightly better than at the time of the last visit. Morale in the main camp is still lower than in the hostels, mainly owing to the fact that new intakes, often consisting of three-outs from other camps, are usually absorbed at HQ. Scarcely which affect morale in all hostels and in both camps are:

(a) Steps taken at the time of the last visit seem to have had some effect. (See Special Report dated 18.12.45, paras. 1 and 2.)

(b) Relaxation of non-fraternization rules.
(c) Removal of barbed-wire. (Main camp remains fairly deeply enmeshed.)

(2) An article in a Luxembourg paper giving depressing and completely erroneous details of the repatriation programme. (Copy passed to Repatriation Desk for corrective action.)

(10) The volunteer coal miners have still not been repatriated; thus is having a disabling effect since miners in neighbouring camps left months ago.

The 600 P.M. from 667 Coy. mentioned in the last report have now left, having discharged none of their rather clamorous feelings of superiority, and having contributed a good deal to the cultured life of the camp during their stay.

POLITICAL PROGRESS

2 hostels, Woodcock and Chevelay now seem more advanced politically than their screening figures indicate. In the case of Woodcock (where the average attendance at the political study group meetings is over 50% of the total strength) this is due to the efforts of the last spokesman (now repatriated) and in Chevelay to the efforts of Hirsch (A) (ex 74 Coy) who has done much through work in a hostel full of NOV’s which used to be much blanker than it is. In the remaining hostel and in the main and satellite camps, there has been little change in political complexion.

YOUTH

The proportion has risen since the last visit. The young P.M. are well represented on the camp staff, but the most urgent problem in this connection is that of re-screening. A high proportion of the blacks are under 25 and they have all appealed against their gradings. The return of some young teachers from the Training Centre should help, but re-screening is essential in order to dispel the sense of grievance under which many of them labour.

EDUCATIONAL ACTIVITIES

Progressing as well as can be expected in view of the situation prevailing before Christmas. (See last report.) The main camp is still backward compared with the hostels for reasons outlined in para. 5. At Granville the Commissar’s efforts and painstaking efforts to encourage re-education, although well-meant and fully appreciated, have created a “Sunday-school” atmosphere of goodwill, but have not caused the P.M. to make any real mental effort for themselves.

Transfers from the main camp of Granville (69) and of Rosebery (B) when he returns from the Training Centre, should result in a much-needed intellectual shake-up. However, a healthy feature of the progress of re-education at Granville is the large number of factory workers who have invited the P.M. to their houses.

Press

(a) 1 x Times
12 x Telegraph, Mail, Herald, Express, Graphic, Mirror, Chronicle.
About 300 copies of weeklies including Picture Post, Leader, Punch, Illustrated etc.

(b) Occasional supplies of “Die Welt”, “Die Zeit”, “Telegraf”, “Hamburger Volksstimme”, “Luebecker Freiheit” etc...
A considerable improvement on the previous situation. Manchester Guardian is to be added to the list of daily newspapers bought.

Library

Still too small but growing steadily.
Lectures:

Dr. Alexander's lecture on "Civic Rights in England and Germany" was well received, and a further lecture on the legal procedures in the 2 countries would be welcome. The TWA exhibition is now at the camp and a lecture on this subject would be welcome and opportune.

Discussion Groups:

Regular meetings in the main camp and in Woodcock and Cherry Valley hostels. The group in the main camp is now more Catholic in its choice of subjects and in its membership and is altogether healthier than at the time of my last visit.

Phlora:

Supplies are adequate but there are complaints that COCA and TCA films are sometimes so old that it is hard to understand what is going on.

Phlora:

Adequate facilities everywhere. The main camp is still not satisfied however and is trying to find materials to make up a camp broadcast system. Equal interest in BBC and German stations.

Camp Magazine:

Has improved greatly. The editor Pauk (b) is not well-educated but determined to build up his paper. He has collected a good editorial committee and now requires regular contributions from his hostels. On the other hand, supplies of paper and stencils from COCA have now ceased altogether and no further issues can be printed until these are restored. (Paper and stencils cannot be obtained locally in sufficient quantity.) This magazine has only recently started, and has improved immensely since its first issue. The failure of paper supplies has done at a particularly unfortunate moment.

 Ezra Review:

Daily presentation of "headline news" on all notice-boards. A more comprehensive weekly review will be started shortly produced by members of the political study group.

 English Instruction:

See Appendix A.

Inforamation Room:

Cramped but popular and a useful method of re-education in this camp, particularly among the younger F/N.

7. OTHER CAMP ACTIVITIES

Religion:

No resident F/N padre, Richter, The SC padre from 600 has some influence on the religious life of the camp, and his advice and guidance have been sought on secular as well as religious matters. Not an inspiring man but has done much for this camp as well as for his own. Good liaison with local churches.

Education:

(Please copy attached page.)

Entertainments:

An active theatre group and choir in the main camp.
CONCLUSIONS

In general the re-educational situation is now improving gradually after a
severe setback following the repatriation of the whites, but as long as this
camp is frequently called upon to absorb and despatch large batches of E/W
required for casual or seasonal labour, the situation at the HQ camp will
remain uncertain. The peculiar and in many respects unhealthy situation
prevailing at the satellite camp presents the most urgent problem at the moment.

RECOMMENDATIONS

1. Appeals to be cleared as soon as possible.
2. Paper supplies for camp magazine to be restored.
3. Lectures to be arranged as indicated in para. 6.
4. Inaccurate report in Luenburg paper to be dealt with in Wochenpost
   and in Germany. (See para. 3 d.)
5. That fresh action be taken, by writing to Eastern Command or the W.O.,
   to ensure that the volunteer miners are repatriated.
REPORT OF VISIT TO CAMP NO. 85
AT MILLENDALL
ON 19th to 29th Sept. 1945
BY T.R.D. Cooper, C. O'Regan, O. F. Nash
COMMANDANT: Lt. Col. G. H. Gill
INTERPRETER: Lt. J. MacRae
CAMP LEADER: F.G. Krause (A)
REP. CAMP LEADER: Reinhard (A)
CAMP STRENGTH: 1,456

1. ANALYSIS OF SCREENING:
(i) COMPLETE CAMP (Incl. Hostels and Barracks)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>(a) During this visit (Incl. Re-screenings)</th>
<th>(b) Proceeding without and not proceeding</th>
<th>(c) Final status of arrivals</th>
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<td>13</td>
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<td>7</td>
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<td>G-</td>
<td>355</td>
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<tr>
<td>C+</td>
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<tr>
<td>C-</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>-</td>
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<tr>
<td>not known</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Totals</td>
<td>135</td>
<td>233</td>
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</table>

Number of P.O./V. Uncarded: NLI
Number of Billettes: 162

2. CAMP RECEPTION

We were well received by the P. L/C Major Joffre, and his staff. The C.O. was on leave. The I.C. Capt. MacRae is interested in re-education and in harmony with O. G. Aims. Arrangements for screening were announced by the urgent demands of Governor A. B. for immediate re-education.

3. GERMAN CAMP STAFF

The present H.O. Camp Leader is about to be replaced. The present Leader, Mr. P. P. P. G. W. (A) has the A. T. W. 335 for professional reasons. German school teacher in Germany from 1936 until called up in 1940, captured 1943, member of P. M. A. Staff, has been working very well and successfully on re-education.

M. G. Dr. C. C. C. (A) Subst. German, very pleasant type and taken good impression.
Kimberley Hostel Leader


Interrogator

Wm. Richard LEIGHT, age 35. Party member 1934 to 38, left because of the revolt and shooting of Gregor Strasser made him realize that the party was neither democratic nor socialist. Honest. Intelligent.


Bella Paddock Leader 2y., Peter KAISER (2y.), age 26, Mechanic from Rhineland called up April 1938, captured in 1944, very cheerful type. In said to have turned coat only recently. Definitely of no positive re-educational value.

1. POLITICAL COMPLIANCE

The complexion of this camp is grey with quite a strong leaning to the left. Apart from the 10% A's, who were immediately sent to repatriation camp even during our stay, the 10% B's include many older men who just could not make the grade. Their influence on the younger ones has been very noticeable and there are few really Nazi minded youngsters; the C's are really only grocers and mostly respectable. FBI and Gestapo questions have been very effective and democratic camp and studies leaders are well placed with the political influence. The Nuremberg trial has had a great effect on F.M. (I'm not aware of Nazi methods). Bella Paddock Hostel (Hannover) differs from the rest of the Camp, 10% there are really young and a strong Nazi element exists. The C's were found there and a canteen manager whom I graded C and who, according to reliable white information was having a bad influence, he has been removed to R.Q. and sent to work. At this Hostel anti-Nazi feelings are based mainly on the failure of the Nazi government and the unhappiness they brought to Germany.

There is no occasion of any importance at this camp. Many PW cases from USA through Belgium and much cynical feeling in USA to the loss of most of their belongings in Belgian camps.

P.D.
ENGLISH INSPECTOR'S REPORT

CAMP No. 85
ADDRESS
VICTORIA CAMP, BRANDON ROAD, MILDENHALL, SUFFOLK.

DATE OF VISIT 29 Nov

TELEPHONE: MILDENHALL

- 2184.

COMMANDANT: Lt. Col. Gill.
LAGERSPRECHER: Horesmann
No. OF HOSTELS 4
STRENGTH OF MAIN CAMP 663 + 185 GERMANS/AUSTRIANS

TOTAL STRENGTH: 1948.

STRENGTH OF HOSTELS 1095
P/A/W. ACCOMMODATION IN MAIN CAMP: No. IN TENTS

No. IN HUTS. No. IN BUILDING.
WELFARE FUND: £ 105.
LONDON TERMINUS Liverpool St.
STATION OF ARRIVAL Bury St. Edmunds. (There is a station at 70 MILES FROM LONDON 70)
DISTANCE FROM STATION TO CAMP: denhall - 2 miles, but it is practically useless.
COMMUNICATION FROM STATION TO CAMP: transport.
ACCOMMODATION: Mess, Hotel Bull, Barton Mills (Good).

ENGLISH CLASSES

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<tr>
<th>Level</th>
<th>No. of Pupils</th>
<th>No. of Classes</th>
<th>No. of Lessons per Week</th>
<th>Lesson Reached in GCS</th>
<th>Total GCS in Main Camp</th>
<th>No. of Readers</th>
<th>No. of Dictionaries</th>
<th>Other Books, etc., used for Teaching, No.</th>
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<td>200 privately</td>
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TOTALS

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<th>Heating</th>
<th>Blackboards</th>
<th>Accommodation for Lectures, etc.</th>
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TO BE SENT AGAINST PAYMENT

| Copy Books | Pencils | Chalk | Pens | Ink | Paper | No. of English Books in Library | No. of "ENGLISH FOR ALL"
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REMARKS 200

Newspapers, Books, etc., required:

Purchase authorized by: 1949.

P.T.O.
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<td>Bells Paddocks, New Market</td>
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<td></td>
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<td>30.11.45</td>
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**Hostel References**

- **Co-operative.**

**Reception**:

On my visit, unfortunately, coincided with that of a GOGA lecturer, who was delivering five lectures at the main camp and hostels.

- On Nov. 30th, there were two cinema shows and a funeral.

In view of these circumstances, the transport situation was not too good and the usual talk proved an impossibility.

- From the rather cursory inspection that I was able to carry out, it appeared that interest in learning English was not very great.

- The Camp Leader, who naturally has much to do, is the only teacher at the main camp, but efforts are to be made to find some help for him in teaching.

- The two teachers at Cranwich satellite know the language well, but do not seem to attract many pupils.

- Again, at Bells Paddocks, the teacher is an intelligent man and obviously interested in his subject, but pupils are not very numerous.

- Possibly the posting of one or two new teachers might infuse new life.

- The suggestion was again made that an issue of say 12 copies of a play would prove an attraction.

- There would be read in an organised class.

(Note: An extra day should be allowed for my next visit.)

- The Rev. Norman Telford (Methodist Minister), Kingsway House, Kingsway, Mildenhall, Suffolk, already visits the main camp where I met him. He assists with bible-classes, has certain Pa/W in his own chapel for services, gives talks on religious matters and takes part of camp services every Sunday. He is learning German and has preached his first sermon in that language to Pa/W. A young man and would be willing to assist in any way.

Sgd. H.L.S. Raffles, M.A.
ENGLISH CLASSES

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<th>Class</th>
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No. of Classrooms: 2

To be sent against payment:

- Copy Books: No
- Pens: No
- Ink: No
- Paper: No
- Blackboards: No
- Accommodation for Lectures, etc.: No

English for ALL.

No. of GSE, Dictionaries, etc., required:

- 100 copies of “ENGLISH FOR ALL”
- 25 copies of “Everyday English” (Cheverley Hostel)
- 2 copies of Commercial English (Brandt's)
- 5 copies of Spanish Grammars
- 5 copies of French Grammars

Purchase authorized by: S.E. Gill, Lt. Col., Comdt.
### HOSTELS

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**REMARKS:** All teaching is suspended for the duration of the harvest. The two teachers in the main camp are not of good type and obviously disgruntled about re-patriation - a feeling which underlies most N.H/W after reading English Press articles and News from Home. This was confirmed by Camp Leader, although they are not disatisfied with their treatment in camp.

**Granville Hostel:** Commandant specially asks for a quantity of paper sufficient to run a camp newspaper. He is interested in re-education and co-operates as far as possible, but the camp lies very far from Mildenhall main camp. Despite the great distances of this and Kimberley Hostel, I managed to visit both, later inspecting Cheveley and Bella Paddocks. Lessons have ceased everywhere for the harvest time except at Woodcock, where remedial classes are held. On the whole, the type of teachers is very good. They promise resumption of lessons later.

Sg.t. J.R. Dagnall.
1. EXCEPTION.

Excellent. Commandant was on leave when I arrived but his officers were most kind and helpful. The Interpreter, Lt. A. BARNETT, is not especially interested in re-education at the moment because his chief work is still dealing with Italians.

2. HISTORY OF CAMP RE-EDUCATION.

The camp consists of one German Hostel with total strength of 26 Sgta., and Corporals. Some of them have been prisoners for a very long time. The Camp Leader was captured in 1940.

3. MORALE.

Fairly good. Spring weather has made a lot of difference. The food situation in Germany is giving the greatest concern and the POW have the deepest suspicions, some of which I tried to allay, of the Allied Government's intentions, where Germany is concerned. One PW, indeed, said that in his opinion the Allies were turning Germany into one large concentration camp.

4. POLITICAL PROGRESS.

12 POW had not been screened and were found in the main fairly typical NCO's on whom our attempts to re-educate had made only a limited impression. They are no longer ardent Nazis but they remain nationalists and reactionaries.

5. YOUTH PROGRAM.

Only 15 POW are under 25 and they constitute no special problem.

6. RE-EDUCATIONAL ACTIVITIES.

The camp has a fairly full curriculum. 37 learn English and every POW who has any qualifications at all teaches something or other, from mechanical drawing to French conversation.

NEWSPAPERS: four British newspapers are delivered daily. It has now been arranged that more should be purchased. German and Swiss papers arrive from time to time and can usually read.

LIBRARY: there are no recreational books, and the library of 50 volumes consists entirely of school books.
LECTURES: none so far from PTD. Various FW have given talks but none on political subjects.

DISCUSSION GROUPS: none.

FIILMS: none.

RADIO: one battery set in dining hall which has a fairly good range.

CAMP MAGAZINE: none.

PRESS REVIEW: the Interpreter (German) holds a press review every two days. About half the camp attend.

ENGLISH INSTRUCTION: 37 pupils. 17 beginners and 14 advanced and 6 conversational. There is a shortage of dictionaries, writing paper.

Camp Activities.

RELIGION: there are 15 R.C.'s and the remainder are Protestant. I received a request thatFW might be permitted to attend services at the local church as there is no German padre of any kind within the range of the camp.

THEATRE: does not rise above variety shows, which is not surprising in view of its size.

ORCHESTRA: there are no instruments but there is a certain amount of talent.

7. CONCLUSIONS.

It seems a pity that there should have to be such a thing as a camp composed entirely of R.O.'s, as under such conditions the Prussian military spirit fosters itself. More attention will of course be given to this camp when the Italians go and more Germans arrive.

8. RECOMMENDATIONS.

1. that an English dictionary, some paper and a few simple English readers be sent.

2. that one or two musical instruments be made available to the camp.
HOSPITAL:

Very friendly and hospitable.

A record percentage of teachers - 90% - was obtained, one of them secured a record percentage for his German test - 94%, and the number of dictionaries bought in, I think, proportionally, also a record. I was able to get 10 new follows' C.S., B.G. dictionaries for 35 pence.

The above figures testify to the extraordinary keenness of this essay, which, today, consists of one B.G. Italian class, and one German hostel. Somerton and Stoke hostels have now been transferred to 3/250 and 3/225 respectively.

HOSPITALS:

Lecture in English on 'English Language Relationship to German' to whole hostel.

Teachers tested in written examination. Seven out of ten passed, the average being 75%. Instructional lecture given to teachers.

Inhumane, Camp Spokesman and English teacher is a very forceful personality.

The Chief was ill in a Newmarket Hospital, so I did not see him.

(sgd) W. Dudley Potter.
The Commandant,
Camp No. 35,
Brandon Road,
Hildenham,
Suffolk.

25th October, 1947.

I am enclosing diplomas for the successful candidates in the English examinations held in your Camp by Maj. Raffles, our English Inspector, on 21st October, 1947.

**Proficiency:**

| A 55377 | SCHREINER, J. | Good (Grade 11). |
| A 49592 | MAYER, E.   | Good (Grade 11). |

**Intermediate:**

| A 578415 | SCHONER, W.   | Good (Grade 11). |
| 655545   | THIER, H. J.  | Good (Grade 11). |
| B 548899 | SCHNEIDER, J. | Good (Grade 11). |
| A 518615 | SCHMEISER, A. | Pass (Grade 11). |
| AA 123428 | ALCHE, L.    | Pass (Grade 11). |

It is regretted that the remaining candidates failed to pass the examinations.

L. HAMILTON,
Executive, English Teaching Section.
April 8th 1948,

The Commandant,
Camp No. 85,
Victoria Camp,
Mildenhall,
Suffolk.

Dear Sir,

Herewith diplomas for the successful candidates in the English examination held in your camp on March 23rd by our English Inspector, Major Rafflin.

The following are the names of the successful men:

Johann SCHNEIDER ...... Proficiency Grade II (Good).
Kurt GANSANKE ...... Intermediate " III (Pass).
Wilhelm JOSEPH ...... " III "
Gerhard WECKE ...... " III "
Josef MÜLLER ...... " III "

It is regretted that Heinz-Werner Kaus (Proficiency) failed to pass.

Yours faithfully,

L. HAMILTON,
Executive,
English Teaching Section.
Appendix G. OASIS Report Form

All fields are required unless they are not applicable.

Project Details

OASIS Number: oxford3-245827

Excavation of POW Camp 85 Victoria at Eriswell Site Extension 2 Scheme, A1065, Eriswell, Suffolk

Project Dates (fieldwork)

Start: 01-03-2016

Finish: 14-03-2016

Previous Work (by OA East)

Yes

Work: No

Project Reference Codes

Site Code: ERL240

HER No.: ESF23496

HER/OASIS No.: oxford3-242305

Type of Project/Techniques Used

Prompt: Planning condition

Please select all techniques used:

- [ ] Field Observation (periodic visits)
- [ ] Part Excavation
- [ ] Salvage Record
- [ ] Full Excavation (100%)
- [ ] Part Survey
- [ ] Systematic Field Walking
- [ ] Full Survey
- [ ] Recorded Observation
- [ ] Systematic Metal Detector Survey
- [ ] Geophysical Survey
- [ ] Recorded Survey
- [ ] Remote Operated Vehicle Survey
- [ ] Test Pit Survey
- [x] Open-Area Excavation
- [ ] Salvage Excavation
- [ ] Watching Brief

Monument Types/Significant Finds & Their Periods

List feature types using the NMR Monument Type Thesaurus and significant finds using the MDA Object Type Thesaurus together with their respective periods. If no features/finds were found, please state "none".

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<th>Period</th>
<th>Object</th>
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<td>Hinge</td>
<td>Modern 1901 to Present</td>
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<tr>
<td>Drain</td>
<td>Modern 1901 to Present</td>
<td>Milk bottle</td>
<td>Modern 1901 to Present</td>
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<tr>
<td>Boundary fence</td>
<td>Modern 1901 to Present</td>
<td>Brick</td>
<td>Modern 1901 to Present</td>
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Project Location

County: Suffolk

Address (including postcode if possible)

District: Forest Heath

Parish: Eriswell

HER: Suffolk

Study Area: 0.2 ha

Grid Reference: TL 736 768

Project Originators
**Project Archives**

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**Digital Media**

- Database
- GIS
- Geophysics
- Images
- Illustrations
- Moving Image
- Spreadsheets
- Survey
- Text
- Virtual Reality

**Paper Media**

- Aerial Photos
- Context Sheet
- Correspondence
- Diary
- Drawing
- Manuscript
- Map
- Matrices
- Microfilm
- Misc.
- Research/Notes
- Plans
- Report
- Sections
- Survey

**Notes:**
Figure 1: Site location
Figure: Structures within the camp

Key:
- Limit of excavation
- Ramps
- Buildings
- Gates
- Fence lines
- Archaeological deposit
- Archaeological feature

N

Building 10
Building 100
Building 19
Fence 195
Fence 192
Fence 19
Building 12
Building 110
Building 22
Structure 10
Structure 105

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Report Number 1928
Plate 1: Structure 100, view from the west.

Plate 2: Structure 100, view from the north.
Plate 3: Detail within structure 100, view from the north.

Plate 4: Foundation pad 109 within structure 104, view from the north.
Plate 5: Water management structure 110, view from the north.

Plate 6: Structure 125, view from the east.
Plate 7: Service ditch terminus 131, view from the west.

Plate 8: Post hole 189, view from the east.
Plate 9: Inner perimeter fence 192, view from the west. Concrete block 220 in the foreground.

Plate 10: Concrete block 220, view from the north.
Plate 11: Water management structure 193, view from the east.

Plate 12: Rows of post holes related to building 194, view from the south.
Plate 13: Building 223, view from the north.

Plate 14: Standing MoWP huts to the east of the development area, view from south-east.
Plate 19: Screw top of a salt bottle, from topsoil.

Plate 20: Fragment of glass from ditch 101.

Plate 21: Examples of painted plaster from the site.

Plate 22: A butter knife, unstratified.
Plate 24: Example of concrete floor surface.
Plate 25: A range of finds from the site.
Plate 26: A range of finds found on site.
late 2 : 19 5 aerial photograph of o Camp ictoria © oogle Exacavation area sho n in red
Director: Gill Hey, BA PhD FSA MCIFA
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