



Two World War II Air Raid Shelters: Graffiti Jewry Street Winchester

Historic Building Recording



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TWO WORLD WAR TWO AIR RAID SHELTERS: GRAFFITI

HISTORIC BUILDING RECORDING

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TWO WORLD WAR II AIR RAID SHELTERS: GRAFFITI

JEWRY STREET, WINCHESTER

HISTORIC BUILDING RECORDING

SUMMARY

Hampshire County Council commissioned Oxford Archaeology to record the graffiti within two World War II air raid shelters. These are regarded as listed curtilage structures, as they are located beneath the car park of the Grade II Winchester Library. The library is to be extended resulting in the partial loss of the air raid shelters. These structures have previously been recorded by Context One Archaeological Services (1998) and Oxford Archaeology were commissioned to record the graffiti photographically in accordance with English Heritage guidelines (2004). A further 30 images were identified resulting in a total of 105 pieces within the two shelters, all of which have been recorded by Oxford Archaeology. The graffiti were drawn by ordinary citizens in wartime Winchester and were significant in providing a personal snapshot depicting conditions in the shelters, as well as popular culture and political views of the period. As part of the recording programme an interview was also conducted with Mr Ford, who as a Winchester resident during wartime provided a valuable social insight. As a result of later archaeological excavation following the photographic recording shelter construction details were also recorded.*

1 INTRODUCTION

1.1 LOCATION AND SCOPE OF WORK

1.1.1 Oxford Archaeology (OA) has been commissioned by Hampshire County Council (HCC) to record the graffiti within two Second World War air raid shelters at the west side of Jewry Street, Winchester (centered on NGR SU4801 2976) (Fig. 1). The brief for the programme of archaeological recording was set by WCC and HCC (2005), and this was developed by OA in the Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI) (2005).

1.1.2 The site comprises a Grade II* Listed Building, currently comprising a library (1843) and surrounding tarmacked car park (c. 0.3 hectares remain), beneath which two World War II shelters remained extant (1939) (Fig. 2) (Plate 1). These later buildings are regarded as listed curtilage structures. English Heritage recently reviewed the importance of the shelters, and while the Senior Archaeologist of Hampshire County Council and the Winchester City Council Archaeologist felt they were of national importance, English Heritage felt that their current protection and status was sufficient. The wartime graffiti within the shelters forms the focus of this report.



- 1.1.3 The development of this area consists of a large extension to the library which is partly terraced into the hill slope, which will result in the partial demolition of the northern shelter and some of the southern shelter. The remainder of the southern shelter would be back-filled, with examples of graffiti protected and a small section retained for future access. The air raid shelters have been the subject of two previous archaeological assessments (Marter & McConnell 1999 and Context One Archaeological Services 1998). These identified 75 separate pieces of wartime graffiti drawn on the gallery walls.
- 1.1.4 Investigations by Oxford Archaeology have identified an additional 30 items of graffiti. They appear in both shelters, but are concentrated along the northern and eastern walls of the northern shelter. Structurally the shelters consist of interconnecting galleries, the northern is rectangular in plan and the southern is considerably larger and more complex (Fig. 2). These include initials, portraits, doodles and notices drawn in pencil, chalk and lipstick. However the most significant pieces reflect the political climate current at the time with sketches of Mussolini and Hitler, and captions such as '*Hitler loves Musso*'. These images required recording following advice laid down English Heritage guidelines '*Military Wall Art: guidelines on its significant, conservation and management*' (2004). An analysis of the deterioration of the graffiti was also a requirement of the WSI These images were recorded using a combination of digital, 35mm and medium format photography.

1.2 ARCHAEOLOGICAL AND HISTORICAL BACKGROUND

- 1.2.1 By the late 1930s it was becoming increasingly obvious that war with Germany was likely and the government began establishing a defence programme for the civilian population. At this time Winchester was categorised as of class 'B' importance which is of '*considerable size and importance*', reflection of its high population density. Winchester's civil defence was provided by the City Council, and as war loomed a separate 'Air Raid Precautions' (ARP) Committee was created to deal with the problem of protecting the civilian population during airborne attack. During 1938 many trenches were dug as temporary shelter, although at this time there was scepticism about the need for such protection, in particular following the Munich Agreement (1939). Nevertheless construction of more permanent shelters began, and the two shelters at Jewry Street represent some of the earliest (as well as those at St Thomas Street Car Park, Abbey Gardens and Norman Road) (Marter and McConnell 1999).
- 1.2.2 The shelters had to adhere to strict Government guidelines, and were supplied by the Trussed Concrete Co. Ltd in London. Those built at Jewry Street are purpose built 'covered trench shelters' constructed by William Landsdell contractors in 1939, and appear to conform to the standard format of this period (CBA 1998, pg. 67). They were constructed in a 'square type' design with pre-fabricated reinforced concrete sections, which are concave in profile. The original access points have been infilled and access is now gained through a series of manholes, that previously acted as emergency exits (Marter & McConnell 1999) (see 4.2.2). The shelters remained largely forgotten until early 1998, when deteriorating conditions promoted Winchester Museum Services to commission an archaeological survey (Context One 1998).



1.2.3 There are 105 pieces of graffiti within the shelters (75 recorded by Context One in 1998) and these include references to Mussolini and Hitler, and well as drawings of swastikas, battleships, aeroplanes and parachutes. In addition to the political imagery the graffiti also reflects the cultural environment of the period, with drawings of Snow White and Pinocchio (the films were released in 1937 and 1940 respectively). Conditions in the shelters are depicted through the physical evidence of the extant shelter rules in the north and south shelters, as well as bold signs such as '*Please Keep Tidy*'. The graffiti reflects the political and cultural current of the period and places the shelters in their historical context. The shelters are a physical legacy of the war, providing a personal snapshot and communicate an episode in history.

2 AIMS AND OBJECTIVES

2.1.1 **The overall aim:** to mitigate against the disturbance/ destruction caused to the air raid shelters as a result of the Winchester Cultural Centre development. A photographic record of the graffiti prior to the development is therefore required in accordance with the *Planning Policy Guidance Note 16: Archaeology* and *Planning and Planning Policy Guidance Note 15: Planning and the Historic Environment*. Documentary research and a comprehensive programme of building investigation and recording has previously been undertaken by Context One (1998), and therefore this was not a requirement of the current programme of archaeological works.

2.1.2 **The photographic record:** this was undertaken in accordance with the English Heritage publication '*Military Wall Art: Guidelines on its significance, conservation and management*' (2004). This requires that wall art is recorded with a minimum requirement of a good quality 35-mm, or 6-9 Megapixel digital SLR. This states that the ideal requirement is a medium format, SLR or 4x5 large-format camera using a film or digital back.

2.1.3 **The written record:** this is to support the photographic archive, and consists of photographic record sheets detailing each item of graffiti (Appendix I). It includes the unique number/filename of each image so that this is assimilated with the photographic record. It includes a description of each item of graffiti, the type of camera used in recording and the film and/ or digital photograph number. A key-plan complements this (Figs. 3 & 4) and illustrates the location and orientation of each image within the two shelters. Written notes and drawings will be made as necessary to substantiate the photographic recording.

2.1.4 The written record consists of a report including the description of the methodology used, a brief description and interpretation of the graffiti and a condition comparison with the 1998 survey.

2.1.5 **To create an ordered archive:** The other main aim was to create an ordered archive of the work, which will be deposited with Winchester Museums. This will include a copy of the report, as well as an accompanying archive of the photographic record including digital images on CD-Rom. A copy of the report and a set of photos on CD Rom will also be deposited with Winchester Sites and Monuments Office and Hampshire County Council.



3 **METHODOLOGY**

3.1 **SCOPE OF ANALYSIS**

3.1.1 The photographic record was undertaken in accordance with English Heritage guidelines (2004). The northern shelter was recorded on the 2nd December 2005 by Jane Phimester and Andy Miller, and the shelter on the 5th January 2006 by Jane Phimester and Jon Gill. External conditions were fair, although there was considerable rain on the 2nd December which caused some shallow flooding, especially within the area of the sub-station.

3.2 **FIELDWORK METHODS AND RECORDING**

3.2.1 The shelters are a confined space, and therefore a support crew was required to meet health and safety specifications. Access was provided via man-hole covers in the south-west of the northern shelter, and at the east of the southern shelter. A winch was set up and attached to those entering the shelter. A ladder (not a primary feature) was attached to the wall of the northern shelter, and a ladder was lowered into the southern shelter to facilitate access. The shelters were monitored for gases prior to and during the investigation, and breathing apparatus was carried at all times. The confined spaces support team were also present throughout the investigations.

3.2.2 The shelters were illuminated using three florescent strip lights which provided clean white light. These were powered by a generator located externally from the air raid shelters.

3.2.3 **The Drawn Record**

3.2.4 Plans of the northern and southern shelters at a scale of 1:50 and 1:100 respectively were traced on to archivally stable permatrace. Hand measurement techniques were used to locate the graffiti and the height of each image was recorded on the photographic record sheet. Each individual piece of graffiti was given a unique reference number which was recorded on the drawn plans as well as the photographic record sheets. Sketch drawings of an image were also recorded on the plans or photographic recorded sheets to provide clarity as appropriate.

3.2.5 During the subsequent archaeological excavation elements of the shelters had to be removed. During this process drawings of surviving concrete components were made as well as notes on their construction.

3.2.6 **The Photographic Record**

3.2.7 The photographic recording was undertaken using a combination of digital, medium format and SLR (35mm) cameras. A tripod and champagne filters were used to counter-act the florescent light as required. A flash was also on occasion used to illuminate dark areas in the digital and SLR (35mm) photography. The individual pieces of graffiti were taken 'square on' featuring an appropriate scale where possible (the damp and water on the walls at times made it impossible to secure a scale to the concrete). General views were also taken of the external locality of the shelters, as well as the internal galleries.



- 3.2.8 *Digital*: these were taken using an Nikon D70 6 Megapixel digital camera with flash (as appropriate). The digital photograph number was recorded on the photographic records sheet.
- 3.2.9 *Medium format*: colour pictures were taken with a Mamiya 645 Pro TL, using Provia 100 speed colour film. Pictures were taken without use of a flash, and a tripod was used at all times.
- 3.2.10 *SLR (35mm)*: photographs were taken using 35mm film (black and white prints, colour slides). A combination of flash lighting and the florescent lighting was used to illuminate the images, and a tripod was used as necessary.
- 3.2.11 **The Written Record**
- 3.2.12 This consists of photographic record sheets detailing each item of graffiti. This detailed the unique number/ filename of each image so that this could be assimilated with the drawn record. This record also includes a description of each item of graffiti, the type of camera used in recording and the film and/ or digital photograph number. Additional analytical and descriptive notes were taken as appropriate to complement elements of the record.

4 DESCRIPTION

4.1 GENERAL FORM

- 4.1.1 The plans of the northern and southern shelters differ (Fig.2). The southern shelter is more extensive and complex in layout. They consist of units of interconnecting corridors or galleries (Plate 2). The northern shelter is a simple rectangle in plan, in contrast to the southern which is much larger with a series of inter-linking galleries. These were constructed in a 'square type' design with pre-fabricated reinforced concrete sections, which are concave in profile. The roof is made from similar sections laid flat across the gallery walls. The original access points have now been infilled and access is now gained through a series of manholes, that previously acted as emergency exits (Marter & McConnell 1999) (Plate 3).

4.2 CONSTRUCTION

- 4.2.1 The shelters had to adhere to strict Government guidelines, and were supplied by the Trussed Concrete Co. Ltd in London. They are of a similar construction to many other air raid shelters built around England in 1939 and 1940. They were intended to be splinter-proof, blast-proof and usually gas proof, but would not have provided any protection against a direct hit. The southern shelter was built to hold 400 people, and a further 150 were housed in the northern shelter (Cyber Heritage website & Context One 1998).
- 4.2.2 The shelters are *covered trench shelters* and are constructed on a *square type* design. Trenches were dug and lined with reinforced concave concrete sections, these were made to standard dimensions and measure 2.02 m by 0.39 m. The sections were joined with a strip of reinforcement put across their tops



after being placed in position prior to the floor being levelled with concrete. The roof was constructed from the same concrete sections which were laid flat across the top of the gallery walls. Fig. 5 is a third angle projection of a concrete roof block illustrating the construction and position of iron struts. Lintels were used to support the roof at the end of each gallery. Finally, the gap between the trench and the concrete walls and the area over the roof was backfilled with earth to protect against a blast (Context One 1998 7).

- 4.2.3 The galleries are between 1.80 m and 1.85 m wide and vary in length between 3.11 m to 21.87 m. Floor to ceiling heights vary between 1.90 m and 2.00 m. The depth between the shelter roofs and the existing ground surface is c.0.85 - 0.92 m but increases over the galleries connecting the western and eastern units of the southern shelter to 1.23 m (Context One 1998 7).
- 4.2.4 Today the main entrances to the shelters have been infilled and access is only possible by the old emergency exits which are set into the roof of the shelter against the gallery walls. These have now been replaced by modern inspection covers and the steel ladders have also been removed or replaced. Previously, the main entrances would have been along the side galleries in each principal unit, and accessed by ramps leading down from ground level. The original shelter plans show the positions and lengths of the ramps which were c.9.3 m long. There would have been mains electricity and chemical toilets. Original plans show that between the shelters was filled a large cycle shed positioned against the western boundary wall bordering Staple Garden (Marter & McConnell 1999).
- 4.2.5 Conditions inside would have felt very confined and cramped. Narrow wooden benches were bolted to the wall and floor of the galleries, leaving a narrow walkway in between. These were evenly spaced at 1.80 m except towards the gallery intersections where they are spaced to fit precisely (Context One 1998 8). Today, these chairs have been removed but it is still possible to see the metal fittings which have been hammered flat, and bolts extant in the floor (Plate 4).
- 4.2.6 Most shelter entrances had an airlock, which was a curtained area to guard against possible gas attack. Blast walls would also have been sandbagged to protect against flying debris. The shelters were largely maintained by volunteers, and many of the civil duties, such as provision of fresh drinking water, was carried out by local women, most of whom were members of the Housewives Brigade (Cyber Heritage Website).

4.3 GRAFFITI

4.3.1 General

- 4.3.2 Military wall art is defined as '*any decoration deliberately applied to, or executed on, the surface of a building or site in the context of its military use of occupation*' (English Heritage 2004). The graffiti at Winchester is drawn in chalk, pencil and lipstick. The images clearly demonstrate that they were drawn by ordinary people, including children illustrating the demographic of those using the shelters. Much of the graffiti is therefore not visually impressive, in contrast to the large colourful murals found in military establishments, such as Upper Heyford Airbase. The significance of this

graffiti is its ability to capture a snapshot of time, and communicate the lives in everyday people in Winchester.

4.3.3 The graffiti would have been done for a number of reasons; but primarily it was a reaction to the war, and most especially to confinement, it provides insight into the physical conditions experienced by those using the shelters over 60 years ago. Casual graffiti served to alleviate a very prominent aspect of life in the shelters: boredom. Graffiti would also have been used as a way of establishing boundaries between individuals sharing ownership of space. It was used to personalise tightly controlled areas, and particularly in the northern shelter there are many pieces of graffiti giving people's names and the date.

4.3.4 Description

4.3.5 Context One recorded 75 images within the air raid shelters at Jewry Street (1998), the OA investigation identified a further 30 items of graffiti. Therefore a total of 105 items were located in both shelters; 74 in the northern shelter (most predominately on the northern and eastern walls) and 30 in the southern shelter (Fig. 3, 4 and Appendix I).

4.3.6 Much of the graffiti reflects aspects of the conflict of World War II as experience by those using the shelters. The most artistic depictions are of the vehicles of war and these are all located in the northern shelter. These consist of drawings in pencil and chalk of aeroplanes, ships and a parachute (image nos. 22, 27, 28, 29, 30, 46, 56) (Plate 5). The most interesting of these is a crashed aeroplane drawn in pencil with '*Hitler reviews his Air Force*' beneath (no. 56) (Plate 6). Further symbols of the war include groups of swastikas (nos. 60 and 91) and flags (no. 26) (Plate 6). Two images in particular provide an insight into the political sentiments at the time. One states '*Hitler loves Musso*' with a heart drawn above in pencil (no. 33). Another shows Hitler's head drawn in pencil with '*Hell to Hitler and Musso*' (no. 54) (Plate 7) and a further one portrays Hitler saluting (no. 61) (Plate 8).

4.3.7 Popular culture of the period is also reflected in the graffiti, and prominent images include Snow White and Pinocchio (the films were released in 1937 and 1940 respectively). Pencil drawings of Pinocchio's head and torso are common (nos. 48, 49, 51) (Plate 9). It is probable that these are largely child's drawings, and written above one is '*An apple for teacher*' (no. 47), which was a popular song of the period. Artistic pencil drawings of Snow White are also evident (nos. 58 & 59). Many of these are of a similar style and suggest that they belong to the same artist. Further doodles and sketches include houses (nos. 37 & 50) and a cartoon of '*Indian Joe*' (no. 55, and perhaps a reference to a famous base ball player and military figure of the period). Some sketches are less child like and also drawn in lipstick suggesting an adult artist. These include a lipstick drawing of a face (no. 94) (Plate 10), a portrait of '*Mad Muller*' smoking a cigarette (no. 77) and a portrait of '*Bill*' in a flat cap (no. 84) (Plate 11). Soldiers in World War II were commonly referred to as '*Bills*' or '*Tommies*'. There are also various lip stick marks and it is probable that these are the remnants of previous drawings that have deteriorated with time and wet conditions (see 5.1.1).



- 4.3.8 The shelter's rules were extant and well preserved in the northern shelter (no. 4) (Plate 12) and evident in the southern shelter (no. 89), although wet conditions has caused the deterioration of the latter. These serve to clearly establish behaviour that is acceptable within the shelters, one rule states a person will not: *'smoke, sing or play any musical instrument in the shelter'*. Whether this clearly reflects the actual conditions and behaviour during their use is another issue when we consider that one rule states a person shall not *'wilfully make any mark on, or affix any bill, placard or advertisement to any part of the shelter'*. In another location someone has seen fit to reinforce another rule by boldly writing *'Please Keep Tidy'* (no. 23) (Plate 13).
- 4.3.9 In the southern shelter there is an interesting reference to *'The Sunken Road/Hell Fire Corner'* (no. 96) (Plate 14). It is possible that this is a reference to the sunken shelter (comparing the galleries with roads) and the battle outside. It is also possible that the sunken road is a reference to the sunken road within no mans land at the Battle of the Somme, and Hell Fires Corner was a common term for the Western Front. However, south-east Kent was commonly referred to as *'Hell Fire Corner'* during World War II and this is possibly a more likely interpretation.
- 4.3.10 Many of the drawings are less significant but are symbolic of the conditions within the shelters and simply served to alleviate boredom. Mathematical workings are a common theme, as additions and divisions were worked out in pencil on the wall (no. 12, 49, 62 and 100, 103 & 104) (Plate 15). Games of naughts and crosses are also extant, especially in the southern shelter (64, 66 and 67). Many of the drawings consist of sketches and scribbles, presumably by children (nos. 11, 24, 52, 63, 73, 82, 83, 93).
- 4.3.11 There are 13 examples of dates being recorded (only 9 were recorded in the 1998 assessment). Ten examples are from 1939, two from 1940, and two are unknown (Plate 16). Times were also recorded although curiously all three separate recorded times are at 1.30pm. Lunch hours were commonly between 1pm and 2pm which may explain this coincidence, as described more fully below (section 5.1.3). Initials are also a common theme, and there are numerous examples in chalk and pencil (nos. 1, 3, 13, 44, 86, 74, 87 & 88). One particular example states *'Patricia Ivy Philips, 68 High Street, Winchester - Done by me!'*.

5 SOCIAL HISTORY

- 5.1.1 As part of the programme of recording an interview was undertaken with Mr. R.J Ford on the 7th March 2006. Mr R.J Ford was a local resident of Winchester during the war and remembers the two air raid shelters and regularly took refuge in the northern shelter. Mr Ford was able to provide valuable insight regarding conditions in the shelters and general life in the Winchester community during the war.
- 5.1.2 Mr Ford worked as an ARP Messenger, which entailed going to locations where incidents had occurred to take messages as appropriate. He described how overall the sentiment in Winchester was pro-war and anti-Nazi, although sometimes this became confused with anti-German sentiments.



- 5.1.3 The shelters at Winchester were public shelters used by anyone in the area if an air raid siren was activated. Regularly those using the library would take shelter there, passers by in the street and viewers from the near-by cinema (the latter may account for the drawings of the popular film characters Snow White and Pinocchio). For this reason the shelters were most frequently used during the day as many would have Anderson or Morrison shelters¹ for use at home. The demography of those in the shelters was therefore very varied. They would have most frequently been used by local people from Winchester, but troops were also common, in particular Canadians. In periods such as the build up to 'D' day the military presence was particularly strong and they may have been responsible for the drawings of female profiles and figures or 'pin ups', as they were known in the day. Evacuees were not particularly common at Winchester although a small number were present, as well as children from Portsmouth Grammar School. These pupils attended the local school in Winchester and for this reason class days were divided half way between the Portsmouth and Winchester pupils.
- 5.1.4 Conditions in the shelters were often claustrophobic and crowded. Numbers in the shelters varied depending on the time of day in which the alarm sounded from being nearly empty to full. In wartime Winchester shops closed between 1-2pm, and during this period many would take their lunch break. As a result people would be out in town and therefore if the siren sounded the Jewry Street shelters would be used. It is possible that this accounts for the number of times being recorded at 1.30pm (as detailed in 4.3.10). One of the most prominent memories of the shelters is the lack of clean air and smell which was related by Mr Ford, but is also detailed in contemporary reports (<http://www.spartacus.schoolnet.co.uk/2WWmorrisonshelter.htm>). Chemical toilets attributed to the problem and the lack of ventilation. Mr Ford described how there were tubes leading externally but these did not wholly alleviate the problem.
- 5.1.5 Fear, for obvious reasons, characterised people's attitudes towards the shelters, in particular at the beginning to middle of the war when the sound of planes and guns was at its height. Over time people became more accustomed to the sounds of warfare, and the call of the air raid sirens became familiar. Winchester was not badly hit during the war as efforts were concentrated more on Southampton and the coastline. An urban myth in Winchester was that Hitler wanted to be crowned in the city and therefore he had ordered that it not be bombed! There may be some truth in this as Winchester has strong connections with the Anglo-Saxons; King Alfred was crowned in Winchester Minster and it is the burial site of several Anglo-Saxons Kings. Although fear was always constant, over time a feeling of excitement was also felt when the sirens were activated especially amongst younger male population. Such feelings were also coupled with guilt at the thought of those fighting overseas.
- 5.1.6 The graffiti was one means of alleviating the fear, as well as boredom. It gave those in the shelters an activity that helped to release nervous energy and take thoughts away from the external environment. The other motivation for making graffiti was to alleviate boredom (as detailed in 4.3.3), long periods

¹ Anderson shelters were made from six curved sheets bolted together and half buried in the ground. In 1941 Morrison shelters were introduced which looked were for internal use and looked much like a table and constructed from heavy steel.



would be spent in the shelters and it was possible that you could spend several episodes during a night in the shelter. There were no lights, although people often brought a torch. Reading and knitting also helped to pass time. Graffiti was not permitted according to the rules (Plate 12), and therefore an element of risk and excitement would also have been a motivation.

- 5.1.7 Air raid shelters were monitored by wardens, to maintain their condition as well as to enforce the rules (Plate 12). Wardens would also ensure that black outs were adhered to. Whilst some rules were enforced (such as the sanitary regulations) others lapsed, in particular one regulation states a person should not '*smoke, sing or play any musical instrument in the shelter*'. At Winchester this was not enforced and singing was often used as a means to pass time. Graffiti was also used as a means to define space (as discussed in 4.3.3) and this was particularly true of shelters used by the general public. Regular users would try to retain their same favourite seat, and graffiti was a means of distinguishing this. Arguments would often ensue as a result of conflicts over space.
- 5.1.8 The historical research (undertaken by Context One 1998) that detailed the construction of the shelters is correct. Mr Ford described the benches as being supported on iron fixtures with wood bench seats running the length of the shelters. The sloping entrances which are no longer extant, were to ensure that accidents would not occur as people entered the shelters. Many would be in a state of panic and it was feared rushing down steps would result in injuries. Mr Ford recalls the metal emergency exit ladders and hatch, gas curtains and the bike shed situated between the shelters. The location of the shelter (and all shelters) was indicated with a large 'S' and 'HERE', and at Winchester this was positioned close to the men's toilets.

6 **CONDITION**

- 6.1.1 Investigations in 1998 (Context One) concluded that large areas of the walls were constantly wet. Ingress of water and condensation has caused the rusting of steel reinforcement in the prefabricated sections, which has resulted in the shattering of the concrete. Investigations by structural engineers from Giffords in January 2005 confirmed these conclusions. This process has been accelerated since 1998, which ultimately has had a negative impact on the graffiti. The recording work by OA found that the walls are very damp with droplets of water clearly visible on the elevations. During the investigations of the northern shelter there was heavy rainfall and the location of the sub-station in particular was subject to shallow flooding. As illustrated through the photographic recording many of the pencil drawings are now very faint. In some examples pencil and lipstick marks are evident, these are likely to indicate areas of graffiti which have deteriorated beyond recognition.

7 **DISCUSSION AND INTERPRETATION**

- 7.1.1 The two Second World War shelters at Winchester are purpose built '*covered trench shelters*' constructed by William Landsdell contractors in 1939 and appear to conform to the standard format of this period (CBA 1998, pg. 67). Post-war urban development has resulted in the loss of many shelters



nationally, and potentially many more remain undiscovered. These are the only known examples to survive in Winchester and because the shelters remain largely untouched have additional value in creating a 'capsule in time'. This is enhanced by the extant graffiti, which depict political and cultural attitudes of the time placing the structures in their historical context.

- 7.1.2 Oxford Archaeology identified a total of 105 pieces of graffiti within the shelters, a further 30 than the 1998 investigations. These include references to Mussolini and Hitler, as well as drawings of Snow White and Pinocchio reflecting aspects of the popular culture of the period. The required conditions in the shelters are shown through the extant shelter rules, as well as bold signs such as '*Please Keep Tidy*'. As a whole the graffiti reflects one constant theme, that of boredom.
- 7.1.3 The history and archaeology of warfare often focuses on battle lines, heroes, artillery and trophies of war. In contrast the unique quality of the Winchester shelters reveal something of the everyday lives of 'normal' people in a wartime city in England.
- 7.1.4 The construction of the new cultural centre has provided the chance to re-examine these hidden structures and images from a very significant period in recent history. Some of the pieces were rescued during initial archaeological works and will be passed as part of the archive museum.

8 ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

- 8.1.1 Oxford Archaeology would like to thank Mr and Mrs R.J Ford who provided a very valuable social insight into the shelters, as well as wartime Winchester.



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- Military history: <http://www.spartacus.schoolnet.co.uk/2WWmorrisonshelter.htm>

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- Hampshire Chronicle 2nd December 1939, 18th November 1939 and 28th October 1939



10 SUMMARY OF SITE DETAILS

Site name: Two Second World War Air Raid Shelters, Winchester

Site code: WINLIB05

SU4801 2976**Type of evaluation:** Building Recording

Date and duration of project: December 2005 - February 2006

Location of archive: The archive is currently held at OA,
Janus House, Osney Mead, Oxford, OX2 0ES.

List of Archived Items:

Two films of 35mm photographic negatives (black and white prints)

Two sets of black and white photographic prints (contact sheets)

Two films of 35mm colour slides

A copy of the current report

Original site drawings to permatrace

Descriptive notes

Image no. Digital	Type of film			SLR Black & White	Description	Height from floor to centre of image (m)
	Medium format	SLR Colour	SLR Black & White			
NORTHERN SHELTER						
GRAFFITI						
1 1		F1, P 1			H' in chalk	1.9
2 2	F1, P 1 & 2*	F1, P 2 & 34	F1, P 1		EAM 22/10/1939' in chalk	1.9
3 3-4		F1, P 3	F1, P 2		'HN' in chalk	1.57
4 5-6	F1, P 3 & 4	F1, P 9 & 10	F1, P 3 & 4		Shelter rules	1.51
5 7		F1, P 16	F1, P 10		Arrow in chalk	1.3
6 8-9	F1, P 11	F1, P 11	F1, P 5		'KT 22/9/39' in chalk	1.74
7 10		F1, P 4	F1, P 6		'MB 1939' in chalk	2
8 11					Pencil scribble, possible child's drawing	1.03
9 12-13		F1, P 5	F1, P 7		Remnants of drawing - lipstick and chalk markings	1.07
10 14-15		F1, P 6	F1, P 8		Bunny rabbit or bomb? - in chalk	1.41
11 16-17		F1, P 15	F1, P 9		'W.L. 1939' in chalk	1.98
12 18-22		F1, P 7			Mathematical workings - "3146/ 46' in pencil with chalk scribble below	1.22
13 23-25		F1, P 8	F1, P 10		K'???' and drawing of face of parachute? in chalk	1.17
14 26		F1, P 17	F1, P 11		'Keep in' in chalk	1.2
15 27-28		F1, P 18	F1, P 12		Drawing of aeroplane in chalk	1.93
16 29-30		F1, P 9	F1, P 13		'AB 1939' in chalk	1.97
17 31 & 214-219		F1, P 10			'JC 1939' in chalk	1.9
18 32-33 & 214-219		F1, P 11			"CJC 1939' in chalk	1.4
19 34		F1, P 12	F2, P 29 & 30		'MFB 1939' in chalk	1.4
20 35-36		F1, P 13			'HAT? 22/10/1939' in chalk	1.85
21 37-38		F1, P 14			HT 1939' in chalk	1.9
22 39-45	F1, P 5 & 6	F1, P 15			Two ships drawn in pencil	1.01
23 46-48	F1, P 7 & 8	F1, P 20	F1, P 8		'Please keep tidy' in white chalk	1.45
24 49-50		F1, P 16			Smiling face drawn in pencil	0.95
25 51-52		F1, P 17			Two smiling faces with swastikas in pencil	0.96
26 53 & 56		F1, P 19	F1, P 16		Three flags drawn in pencil	0.94

APPENDIX I

WINCHESTER AIR RAID SHELTERS

27	54 & 57	F 1, P 9	F1, P 20 - 22	F1, P 14	Two planes and a ship drawn in pencil	0.14
28	55 & 58	F 1, P 9	F1, P 23	F1, P 17	Battleship drawn in pencil	1.35
29	59-61		F1, P 24		Parachute? - drawn in pencil	1.08
30	62 & 63	F 1, P 14	F1, P 25	F1, P 20	Three planes and a ship drawn in pencil	1.2
31	64				Rabbit drawn in pencil	1.23
32	65-67		F 1, P 27	F1, P 21	Female face drawn in pencil	1.42
33	68-70		F 1, P 26	F1, P 18 & 19	'Hitler loves Musso' with heart above drawn in pencil	1.28
34	71				Drawing of face in pencil?	1.38
35	71				Pencil markings with lettering, not possible to read	1.25
36	72				Lipstick mark	1.67
37	73-75			F1, P 22	House drawn in pencil	1
38	76-77		F 1, P 28	F1, P 23	'Patricia Ivy Philips' written in pencil	1.1
39	78-79		F 1, P 29	F1, P 24	'Patricia Ivy Philips, 68 High Street, Winchester - Done by Me!' written in pencil	1.4
40	80-81		F 1, P 30	F1, P 25	'?? 21 August 19??/ 1.30pm' written in pencil with chalk above	1.04
41	82		F 1, P 31		Lipstick markings	1.83
42	83		F 1, P 32		Lipstick markings	1.14
43	84-85		F 1, P 33	F1, P 26	'Panther 1.30pm/ 21st August 1940' written in pencil	1.38
44	86		F 1, P 34	F1, P 27	'AH?KFNN'?? Written in pencil	1.3
45	87-88	F 2/ P 6	F 1, P 35	F1, P 28	'FAPHICKS 24 Aug 1.30pm' written in pencil	1.3
46	89		F 1, P 36	F1, P 29	Plane drawn in pencil	1.5
47	90-95	F 2/ P 4 & 5		F1, P 30	Pinocchio drawn in pencil with 'An apple for teacher' written above	1.22
48	97		F2, P 2	F1, P 31	Pinocchio's and woman's head drawn in pencil	1.17
49	97		F2, P 1	F1, P 32	'Pinnocho' written in pencil with a half body below	1.25
50	98-100	F 2/ P 2 & 3	F2, P 3-4	F1, P 33	House with four figures and a bubble with caption 'Where?' drawn in pencil	1.17
51	101-103				Vertical drawing of two female heads and Pinocchio's head with 'PA Muriel' written above	1.17
52	104		F2, P 5-6	F1, P 34	latter	1.49
53	105				Pencil scribble	1.34
					'ABCDE' written vertically in pencil	

54	106-108			F2, P 7 - 8	F1, P 35 & 36	Hitler's head drawn in pencil with 'Hell to Musco' written below	1.06
55	109-112	F 2/P 1		F2, P 9	F2, P 1	Indian head drawn in pencil with 'Indian Joe' written below	1.3
56	113-115	F 1/P 1		F2, P 10 & 11	F2, P 2 & 3	Crashed aeroplane drawn in pencil with 'Hitler reviews his Air Force' written below	1.08
57	116-117			F2, P 12	F2, P 4	Drawing of face in pencil	1.37
58	117-121	F 1, P 15		F2, P 13 & 14	F2, P 5	Snow white drawn in pencil	1.23
59	122-125			F2, P 15	F2, P 6 - 7	Three pencil drawings: (a) snow white's face crossed out (b) profile of face (c) profile of face	(a) 1.26 (b) 0.97 (c) 0.75
60	126-128			F2, P 16	F2, P 8	Three images (a) lipstick body (b) lipstick markings (c) swastikas	(a) 1.37 (b) 1 (c) 1.07
61	129-132 & 136			F2, P 17 & 18	F2, P 9-10	Drawing of Mussolini in salute in pencil	0.98
62	134	F 1, P 10-13			F2, P 11	Scribbles in pencil, possible numbering/ lettering	1.59
63	135				F2, P 12	Scribbles in pencil, possible star/ flag	0.88
64	155-156			F2, P 19	F2, P 13	Naught and crosses drawn in pencil	1.24
65	158			F2, P 20	F2, P 14	Hand drawn in chalk	1.2
66	159			F2, P 21	F2, P 15	Five sets of naughts and crosses in pencil	0.86
67	160-162			F2, P 22	F2, P 16	One set of naughts and crosses in pencil	1.2
68	163-164			F2, P 23	F2, P 17	French horn player drawn in pencil	1.44
69	165			F2, P 24	F2, P 18	Face drawn in pencil	1.37
70	166-167			F2, P 26	F2, P 19	Fork drawn in chalk overhead	NA
71	168			F2, P 25	F2, P 20	Lipstick marks	1.2
72	169-175			F2, P 27	F2, P 21	Lipstick marks	1
73	176			F2, P 28 & 29	F2, P 22	Pencil dinosaur	2
74	177			F2, P 30	F2, P 23	'Salter' written in white chalk	1.5
INTERNAL PHOTOGRAPHS							
	137-141 & 143					South view of east gallery and substation	NA
	142					North view of east gallery showing rules <i>in situ</i>	
	144-145					East view of blocked entrance in east gallery	
	146-147					East view of termination of east gallery	
	148-153			F 3, P 1-4	F3, P 3 - 5	North view of east gallery	
	154					West view of termination of north gallery	

178					East view of south gallery substation	
179-183					East view of south gallery	
184-186					Chair fittings along south gallery	
187					Light fittings in south gallery	
190-191					East view of south gallery	
192					West view of termination of south gallery	
193-194					North view of west gallery	
195					West view of termination of north gallery	
196-199					Chair fittings along north gallery	
200-201					Ceiling in west gallery	
202					North view of west gallery	
203-204					West view of termination of north gallery	
207					Chair fittings along west gallery	
208-213					South view of west gallery	
EXTERNAL PHOTOGRAPHS						
	220-226				North view taken during demolition of substation	
	227-228	F2, 31-32		F 2, P 24 & 25	North east view of area of shelter	
	229			F2, P 26	North view of area of shelter	
	230			F2, P 27	North west view of area of shelter	
	231-232	F2, 33		F2, P 28	North view taken during demolition of substation	
SOUTHERN SHELTER						
75		F 4, 23 - 25			Square box with circle in the middle draw in pencil	1.36
76		F 4, 21 - 22			Shelter rules	1.5
77	50-51	F 4, 10 - 12	F 3, P 6		Drawing of male face, smoking with 'Mad Muller' written to the side in pencil	1.42
78	52	F 4, 13 - 15			Drawing of a male face smoking, possibly Hitler, drawn in pencil	1.48
79		F 4, 19	F3, P 7 & 8		Drawing of female face with '76' written next to it	1.47
80	49				Mathematical division markings in pencil	1.37

APPENDIX I

WINCHESTER AIR RAID SHELTERS

81	40-42				F4, P 4 - 6		Drawing of female figure in checked dress with a very big nose	0.95
82	43						Drawing/ scribble, possibly and aeroplane? in pencil	0.74
83	44				F4, P 4 - 9		Drawing/ scribble, possibly boxes? in pencil	0.74
84	37-39				F4, P 1 - 3		Male face in cap with arrow face entitled 'Bill' drawn in chalk	1.52
85							Female face drawn in chalk	1.44
86	2				F 6, P 2 - 5		Initials 'CW/ WF/ RG' written in a column in chalk	1.6
87	3-5				F 6, P 3 - 8		Initials 'SW/ HV/ EY/ 4' written in a column in pencil	1.5
88	6				F 6, P 9 - 11		Initials 'FH/ DW/ AW/ HO/ MG' written in a column in chalk	1.6
89	7-9				F 6, P 15 - 17		Shelter rules	1.4
90	10-11				F 6, P 18 - 20		'Hello' in block capitals written in pencil	1.4
91	12-15				F 6, P 21 - 23		Group of three swastikas drawn in pencil	1.52
92	16-20				F 6, P 24- 26		Drawing of face in chalk. There are also some lipstick marks on the wall between images 92 & 93.	1.22
93	21						Pencil scribble, not possible to decipher	1.78
94	22-23			F 3, P 2-5	F 6, P 27 - 29		Female face with curly hair and long lashes drawn in lipstick	1
95	31						'Aolmeral Walk HeLiofu'?? written in pencil	1.5
96	27-30				F 6, P 33 - 35		lipstick	0.5
97	32				F 6, P 36 - 38		Drawing of duck or face in chalk	0.52
98	33-34						Chalk markings/ writing, not possible to decipher	1.47
99	35-36						Lipstick markings, not possible to decipher	1.53
100							Maths puzzles in pencil	1.5
101					F 4, P 35 - 37		Female face drawn in pencil (same style as image 95).	1.5
102					F 4, P 29 - 31		Face with 'shelter' or 'scallier' in chalk	1.5
103					F 5, P 1 - 3		Mathematical additions in pencil	1.5
104					F 4, 26 - 28		Mathematical additions in chalk	1.3
105	24-26				F 6, P 30 - 32		Drawing of male head with writing beneath 'RA'? in lipstick	0.5

APPENDIX I

WINCHESTER AIR RAID SHELTERS

INTERNAL PHOTOGRAPHS									
						F 5, P 4 - 9			
								South view of central gallery	

* F - film

* P - plate



Scale 1:25,000

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Figure 1: Site location

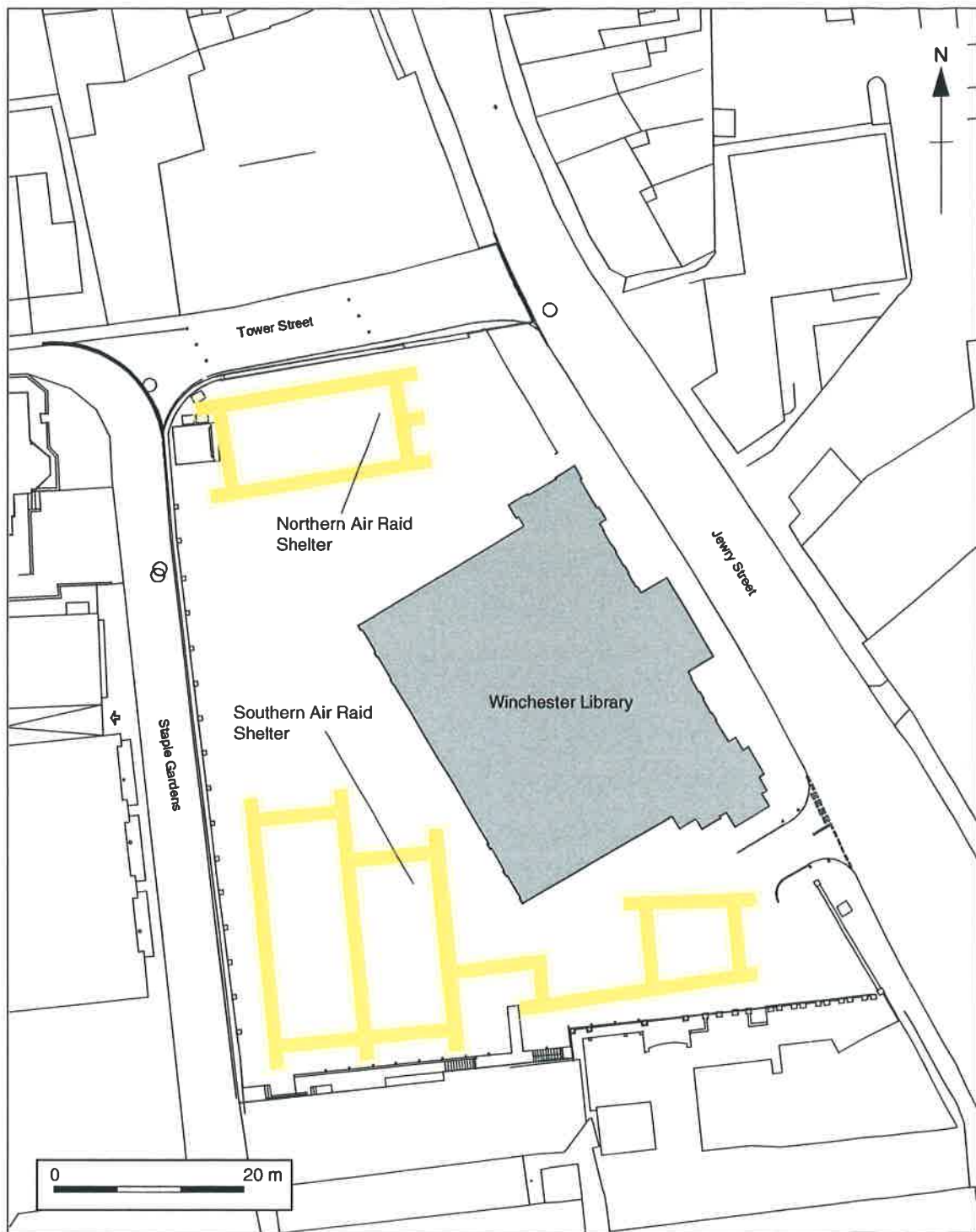
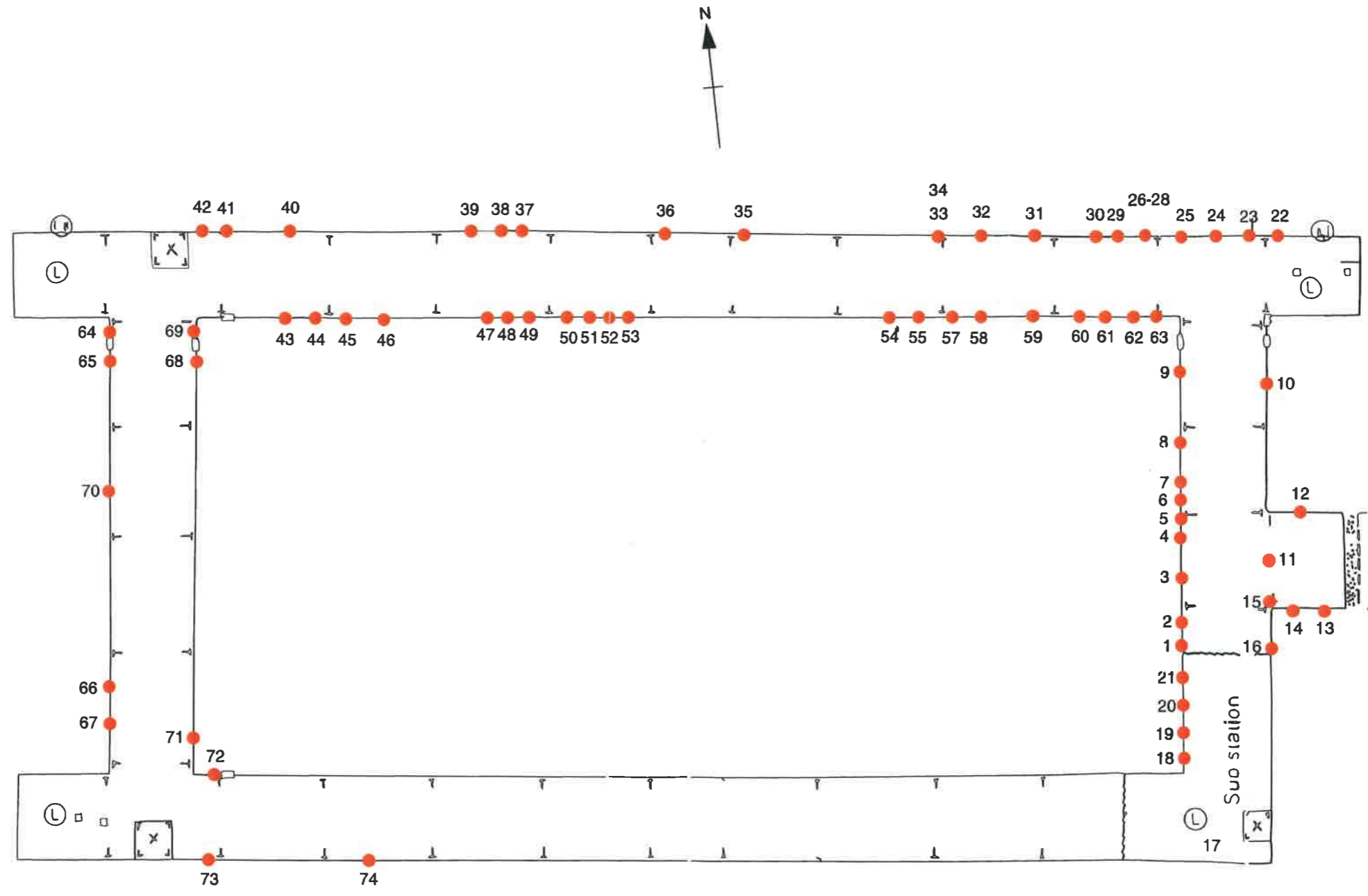


Figure 2: Site plan



Key:








- 1 Indicates graffiti image number and location
-  Emergency exit
-  Blocked entrance
-  Air vent
-  Fitting holes
-  Spacers
-  Bench fitting
-  Latrine

Figure 3: Northern Air Raid Shelter (Baseline survey reproduced from Context One, 1998)

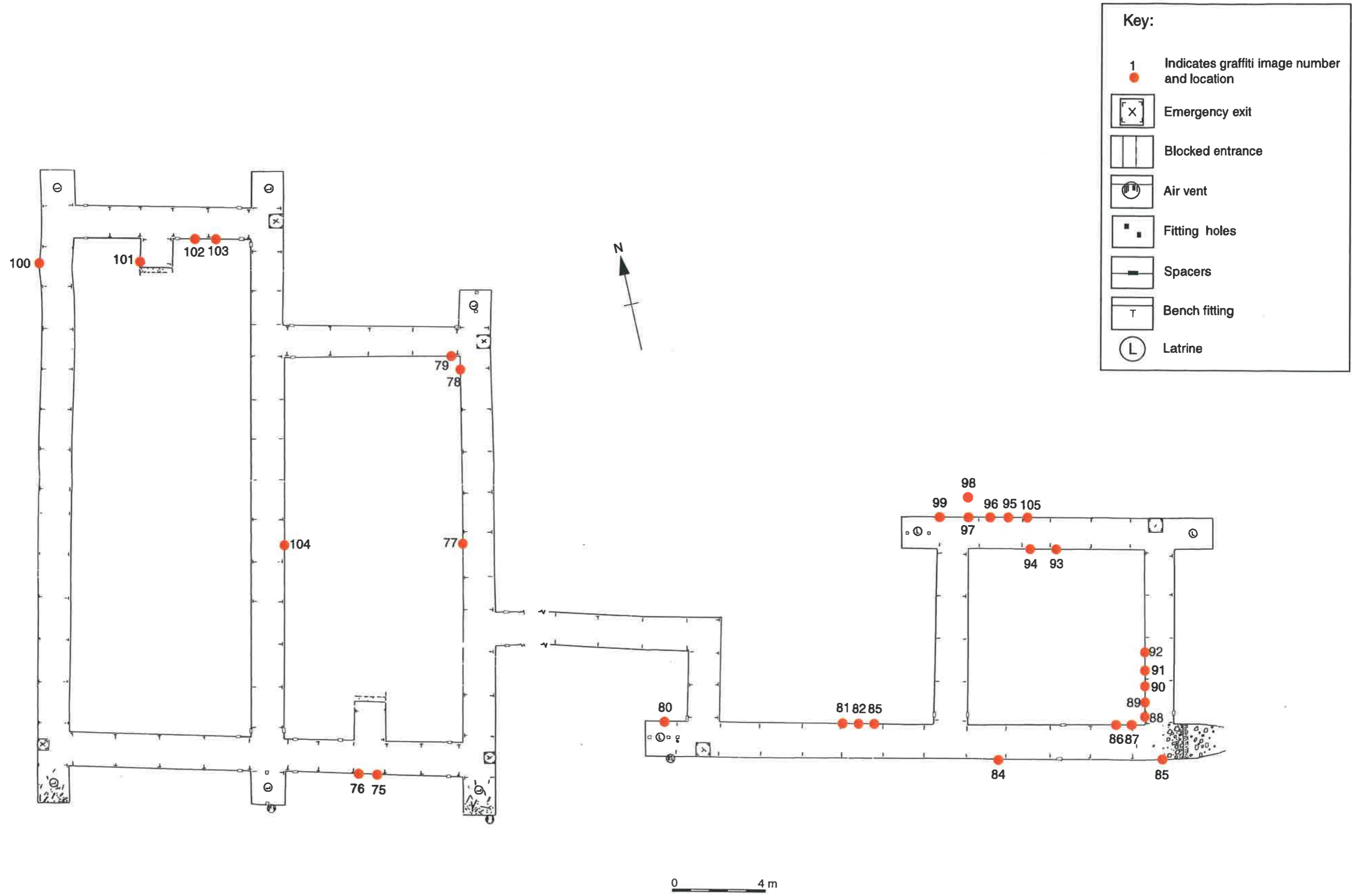


Figure 4: Southern Air Raid Shelter (Baseline survey reproduced from Context One, 1998)

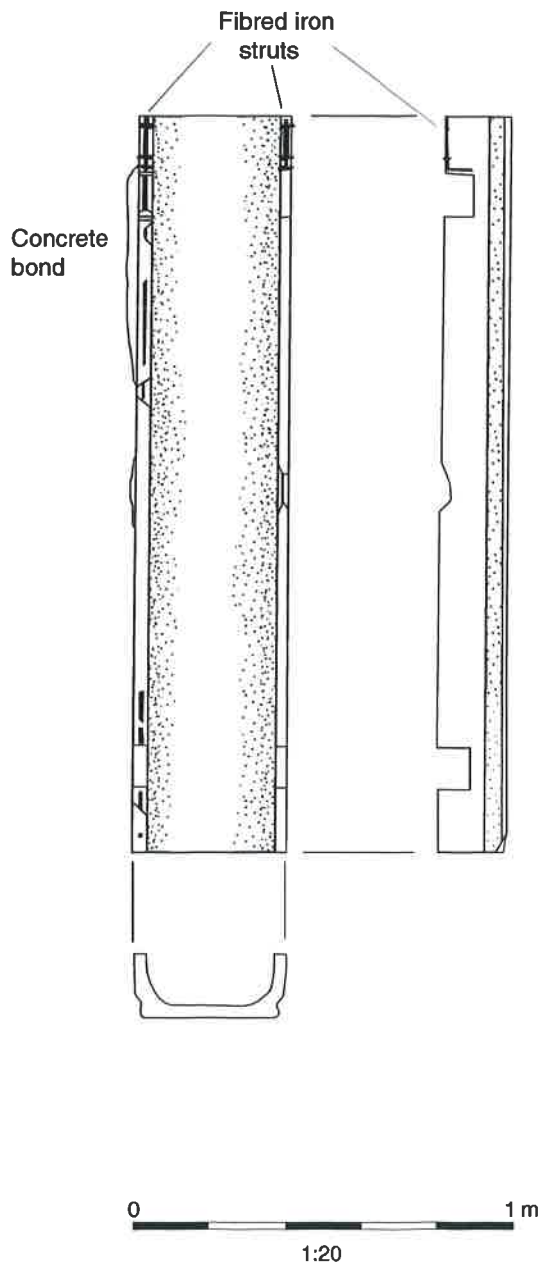


Figure 5: Third angle prjection of pre-fabricated concrete roof block



Plate 1: External north-east view of northern shelter and library.



Plate 2: Northern shelter, north view of east gallery.



Plate 3: Northern shelter, infilled entrance.



Plate 4: Northern shelter, metal chair fittings.



Plate 5: Image 30, pencil drawing of two planes and a ship.



Plate 6: Image 56, pencil drawing: 'Hitler reviews his airforce'.

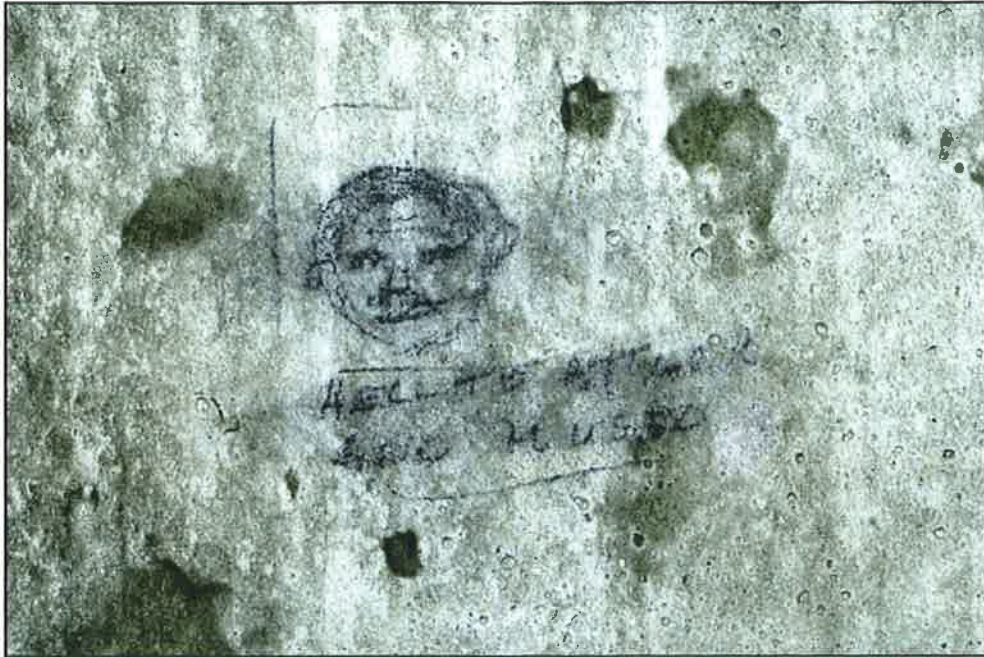


Plate 7: Image 54, pencil drawing of Hitler's head stating 'Hell to Hitler and Musso'.

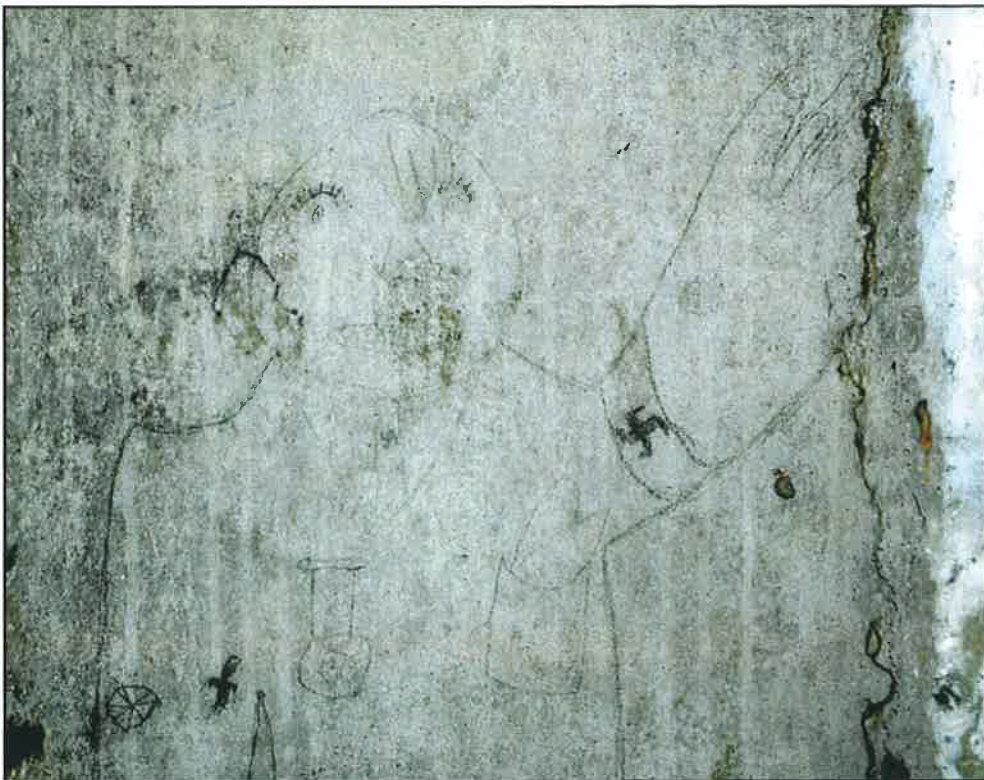


Plate 8: Image 61, pencil drawing of Hitler.



Plate 9: Image 48, pencil drawing of Pinocchio's head.



Plate 10: Image 94, lipstick drawing of female head.



Plate 11: Image 84, chalk drawing of 'Bill' in flat cap.

PUBLIC RULES

The Regional Commissioner for the Southern Region, in pursuance of the power conferred on him by a delegation under paragraph 5 of Regulation 27 of the Defence (General) Regulations, 1939, conferred on him by a delegation under paragraph 6 of that Regulation by the Minister of Home Security, hereby makes the following rules with respect to all public shelters.

PART I Provisions applying to all Shelters

1. A person shall not enter a shelter after being informed by a shelter warden that persons to the number determined by the local authority under paragraph 1(a) of Regulation 23A.B. of the Defence (General) Regulations, 1939, are already in the shelter.
2. A person shall not enter or remain in a shelter in contravention of any directions, not being directions determining the number of persons by whom the shelter may be used, given by the local authority under paragraph 1(a) of the said Regulations as to the use of the shelter.
3. A person shall not—
 - (a) wilfully disturb any other person in entering or leaving or in the proper use of the shelter;
 - (b) enter or remain in a shelter if he is drunk or if his person or clothing is offensively unclean or is verminous;
 - (c) spit upon or wilfully and improperly soil any part of a shelter or anything therein;
 - (d) by forceful or improper means enter or seek to enter any sanitary convenience in or adjacent to the shelter, or knowingly intrude upon the privacy of a person using such a convenience;
 - (e) leave litter in a shelter; provided that it shall not be an offence to leave litter in a litter basket or other proper receptacle;
 - (f) give or receive any money or valuable thing as consideration for keeping or reserving or making available any place in a shelter; or
 - (g) take into a shelter any loaded firearm.
4. A person shall not—
 - (a) wilfully make any mark on, or affix any bill, placard, or advertisement to, any part of the shelter;
 - (b) wilfully interfere with any notice or notice board, or with any light or means of lighting, or with any means of ventilation or of heating or with any barrier or gas-proof door or shutter;
 - (c) smoke, sing or play any musical instrument in a shelter;
 - (d) beg, or collect money, or sell or offer for sale any article, or distribute any printed or similar matter, or distribute any article for the purpose of advertising;
 - (e) take into a shelter any dangerous or offensive article, or any apparatus for heating (except hot water bottles) or cooking; or
 - (f) take into a shelter any animal or bird, or any perambulator or other vehicle, or any article of furniture or bedding (other than portable stools or covering or cushions).

PART II

1. A person who suspects that a person who is in a shelter is suffering from a contagious disorder shall inform the shelter warden of the fact.

2. A person who is in a shelter shall not—

- (a) spit upon or wilfully and improperly soil any part of the shelter or anything therein;
- (b) by forceful or improper means enter or seek to enter any sanitary convenience in or adjacent to the shelter, or knowingly intrude upon the privacy of a person using such a convenience;
- (c) leave litter in a shelter; provided that it shall not be an offence to leave litter in a litter basket or other proper receptacle;
- (d) give or receive any money or valuable thing as consideration for keeping or reserving or making available any place in a shelter; or
- (e) take into a shelter any dangerous or offensive article, or any apparatus for heating (except hot water bottles) or cooking; or
- (f) take into a shelter any animal or bird, or any perambulator or other vehicle, or any article of furniture or bedding (other than portable stools or covering or cushions).

PART III General

18. Subject to any instructions given by the local authority a shelter warden may, with respect to any shelter under his control, authorise on such conditions as he sees fit a relaxation of the provisions of Rule 4 thereof.
19. Nothing in these rules shall render unlawful the performance of his duty by any person acting under the instructions of the local authority.
20. Nothing in these rules shall render unlawful the entry into or use of a shelter in respect of which a direction under paragraph 1 of Regulation 23 of the said Regulations is in force, by anyone who would have had a right to enter or use the premises or part of the premises if no such direction had been given.
21. In these rules the expression—
 - “sanitary convenience” includes a water-closet, urinal, earth-closet, privy, chemical closet and any similar conveniences;
 - “shelter” means a public shelter as defined in paragraph 7 of Regulation 23A.B. of the said Regulations.

10. A person by whom or in respect of whom such an undertaking has been given shall not enter or remain in a shelter, so long as he is in an infectious or contagious state.

11. When a medical officer is satisfied that a person who is in a shelter is offensively unclean or is verminous he may require the person to cleanse himself and his clothing within a specified period or may require him for that purpose to present himself within the specified period at some place at which suitable arrangements for cleansing are available and to submit himself and his clothing to cleansing.

12. A person who has been required under the preceding paragraph to take any action shall not, unless he has complied with the requirement enter or remain in a public shelter after the expiry of the period specified in the requirement.

13. When a person authorised by the Medical Officer of Health for the area within which a shelter is situated is satisfied that any bedding blanket or other property in a shelter is soiled, or otherwise dangerous to health he may require the owner or other person having charge thereof to take the bedding blanket or other property to his home or some other specified place and to permit it to be removed for cleansing under any arrangements made for the purpose by the local authority within whose area such home or other place is situated.

14. When a person authorised by the Medical Officer of Health for the area within which a shelter is situated is satisfied that any bedding blanket or other property in a shelter is offensively unclean he may require the owner or other person having charge thereof to clean the bedding blanket or other property within a specified period or may require him for that purpose to deliver it within the specified period for cleansing at some place at which suitable arrangements for cleansing are available.

15. The Medical Officer of Health for the area within which any shelter is situated or any registered medical practitioner authorised by him in that behalf, if he suspects that the presence of children in the shelter or that the presence of particular children in the shelter may involve a risk of injury to the health either of themselves or others, may require all or any of the children using the shelter or those particular children as the case may be, to undergo medical examination and for that purpose may require the parent or guardian of any such child to submit the child for examination, at such time and place as he may specify, by a registered medical practitioner.

16. Where any requirement or direction made or given under these rules relates to a child the parent or guardian of the child shall do all such things as are necessary for the purpose of securing or facilitating the fulfilment of the requirement or direction and shall comply with any reasonable requests or instructions given for that purpose by or on behalf of the registered medical practitioner concerned.

17. For the purpose of these rules—

- (a) the expression “child” means a person who has not attained the age of 14 years;
- (b) the expression “guardian” in relation to a child includes any person having for the time being the custody, charge or care of the child;
- (c) the expression “medical officer” in relation to any shelter means the Medical Officer of Health for the area within which the shelter is situated, or any registered medical practitioner authorised by him to act as medical officer for the purpose of these rules, or who, under arrangements made by or on behalf of a local authority is available for attendance at that shelter;
- (d) the expression “shelter” means a public shelter as defined in paragraph (7) of Regulation 23A.B. of the said Regulations.

18. Subject to any instructions given by the local authority a shelter warden may, with respect to any shelter under his control, authorise on such conditions as he sees fit a relaxation of the provisions of Rule 4 thereof.

19. Nothing in these rules shall render unlawful the performance of his duty by any person acting under the instructions of the local authority.

20. Nothing in these rules shall render unlawful the entry into or use of a shelter in respect of which a direction under paragraph 1 of Regulation 23 of the said Regulations is in force, by anyone who would have had a right to enter or use the premises or part of the premises if no such direction had been given.

21. In these rules the expression—

- “sanitary convenience” includes a water-closet, urinal, earth-closet, privy, chemical closet and any similar conveniences;
- “shelter” means a public shelter as defined in paragraph 7 of Regulation 23A.B. of the said Regulations.



Plate 13: Image 23, chalk writing stating 'Please keep tidy'.



Plate 14: Image 96, lipstick writing stating 'The Sunken Road/ Hell Fire Corner'.



Plate 15: Image 80, pencil division sum.



Plate 16: Image 36, initials and date in chalk 'AB 1939'.



Plate 17: Mr R.J. Ford reviewing graffiti.



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