

NORTH KILLINGHOLME AIRFIELD TODAY



The Second World War airfield today has a number of features remaining from the time it saw active service. Although the Royal Air Force was in residence for fewer than two years, the evidence of its presence remains sixty years on. Local area maps show the outline of the runways, and the original hangars remain in use, although for other purposes than for which they were intended. The North Killingholme Airfield Industrial Estate is in business. The uses to which the former airfield is now put include the storage of new cars, chicken farming, transport companies, general storage & varied business uses. Arable farming has returned to the site, and much of the area is back in the hands of local farmers.

Access to the public is limited, and this project was undertaken with the willing co-operation of a local farmer who was able to identify many of the features shown.



A purpose-built access road, aptly called Lancaster Approach, serves the Estate. This road runs adjacent to the old camp access road, with the grey granite Memorial Stone sited on the old road at the junction of Lancaster Approach and the main road between North Killingholme and East Halton.

The Memorial Stone was erected in the summer of 1982, and was unveiled by the first Commanding Officer of 550 Squadron, Wing Commander J. J. Bennett, D.F.C. and Bar. The stone is the scene of an Act of Remembrance each November and also during the annual reunion in July. A number of years ago the grass and posts at the Memorial were removed to facilitate maintenance and replaced by gravel.





Whilst the majority of the runways remain, their use has changed. The ranks of the huts of the chicken farms dominate the view, with many hundreds of brand new cars awaiting distribution line up in the distance.



The three hangers remain in use today.





This picket post stands, crumbling, between the perimeter track and the road to East Halton.



On the former Technical Site the Parachute Store still stands, but without its roof. Nearby are the Main and other Stores, still being used today.





Near to one of the hangars on the former Technical Site is what is left of part of an administration block, namely one of the Flight Offices, with evidence of stoves in the corner of some of the rooms.



Also nearby are the now partially roofless remnants of former workshops.

Further over on the same site are other buildings, the stores and workshops. The chimneys are the flare stacks at the oil refineries over half a mile away at the other side of the village.



The firing range at the far corner of the airfield is intact and is used today by local enthusiasts.

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