

About 200 yards to the east, three living sites were built with wooden or light brick huts. To the south side of the road first came the Airmen's camp with its Mess Halls. Next on the south side came another site of huts for the Officers, with their Mess Hall. On the north of the road surrounded by a fence was the Women's Hostel. At first, in 1916 civilian women were employed as cooks and cleaners. Some of these met before six each morning in Southampton to be transported by lorries to the airfield. Later, women were employed in the Fabric (Workshop fitting new linen on damaged aircraft wings, others as clerks and drivers. From 1917 women had their own hostel area and many were in uniform in the Women's Auxiliary Army Corps, W.A.A.C's. From 1st April 1918, with the R.F.C. and the RNAS amalgamated into the RAF, the ladies became WRAF's in a snappy blue uniform.

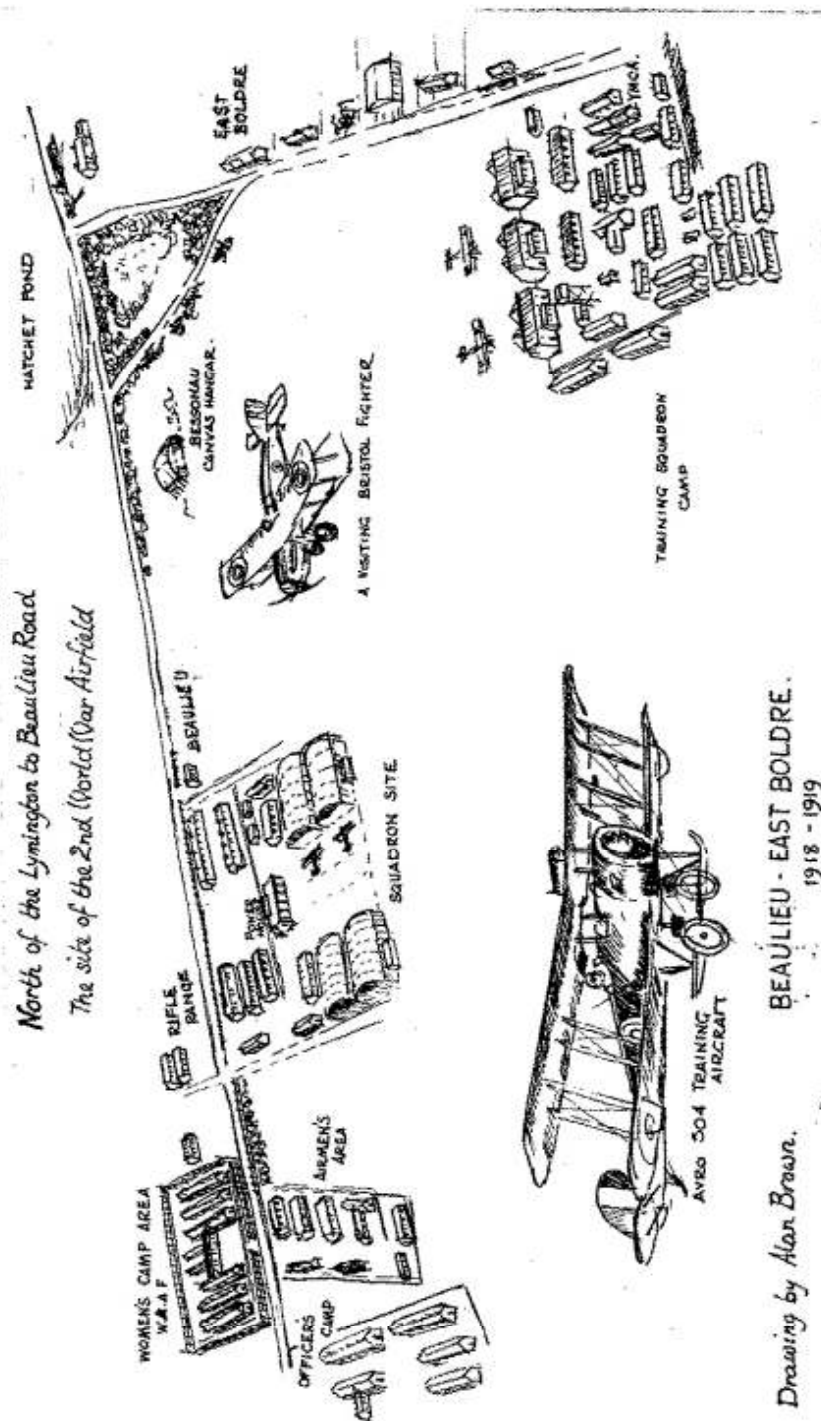


The Power House



The type of hut used in 1918

The area around the four big hangars and workshops was eventually called 'Squadron Site', but even before these new hangars were built the first Beaulieu squadron began to form in January 1917 at the Training Squadron Site.



BEAULIEU - EAST BOLDRE.
1918 - 1919

Drawing by Alan Brown.