

What next for Sculthorpe?

When the USAF had no further use for a Standby Base at Sculthorpe, because money for Flintlock and the Air National Guard had run out, they then had to decide what to do with the place. Presumably there was still some time on the lease.

In the early 1990s huge concrete slabs were placed around some buildings like blast walls. In the end these turned out to be slabs for emergency repairs for the runway, they were eventually taken away. Then a strange thing happened to an airfield which was no longer needed, plans were made to install hardened aircraft shelters (HAS) and eventually a site plan was produced but that is as far as it went.

Finally there was a plan to bring in the 5th Space Surveillance Squadron (5 SSS) with their golf balls but they went to Feltwell, which is close by both Mildenhall and Lakenheath. Other non-military uses were considered but the road access to the airfield rendered it too isolated. In time the housing stock was sold off, some at a knock-down price. The rest was sold off piecemeal and the Army took control of the airfield for training, sharing it with the RAF and USAF. The 'T' hanger and some other post-war buildings were taken down because of concerns with Asbestos.