

# Farnborough Aerospace Heritage Sites



1



## R133 Transonic wind tunnel - O'Gorman Avenue

Originally constructed in 1939-42, it was modified in 1951-56 to become a transonic 8' x 6' tunnel. A unique wind tunnel capable of speeds up to 1100 mph (Mach 1.4), where the model can be observed through glass walls. This groundbreaking work put the RAE firmly in the lead on the world stage, culminating in the Concorde project.

2



## Portable airship hangar (Formerly buildings R51 and Q65) - Pinehurst Road

This 1911 Balloon Hangar is once more rebuilt close to its original location on the former RAE Factory site, now part of Farnborough Business Park. The conservation and re-erection of the airship hangar was one of the earliest FAST proposals in the mid-1990s. As a result of a major investment by SEGRO (formerly known as Slough Estates), it is now a magnificent iconic structure, a symbol of the reborn RAE Heritage Quarter.

3



## Ann Burns' brass plaque on the long building between O'Gorman Avenue and Fowler Avenue

This plaque was laid in memory of Ann Burns, British aeronautical engineer and glider pilot, who undertook research at the RAE and contributed so much to British aviation safety.

4



## Q121 24ft wind tunnel - Hall Road

In the middle of the Farnborough's historic aviation site, now Farnborough Business Park, there are three listed buildings. These are historically important in themselves but equally importantly, they contain five wind tunnels, all of which played a central role in the development of aviation in the UK.

5



## R52 1916 timber wind tunnel - Hall Road

This wind tunnel was built in 1916 to house two 'seven foot' wind tunnels, the 'five foot' tunnel added in 1931 being the prototype for the Q121 tunnel built in 1934-5. The Small Tunnels (as the tunnels in R52 were known) were used for aero-elasticity experiments, the testing of Mitchell's Supermarine 'S' series of high-speed aircraft. It is one of the world's earliest surviving wind tunnel buildings, standing in close proximity to the later examples, and thus makes a major contribution to the unique grouping of wind tunnel buildings on this internationally-important site.

6



## Q120/Q146 remnant of sea plane testing - Hall Road

Built in 1930, this is oldest test tank in the UK and unique to its dedication to flying boats.

7



## Trenchard House (FAST museum) - Farnborough Road (entrance RAE Road)

No other single location in the world has contributed so much to the development of aeronautical science over such a long time as Farnborough. From the first airborne cameras and flying clothing to high altitude space suits, night vision aids, head-up cockpit displays and the first carbon fibre experiments - the list of Farnborough's aerospace contributions is endless. Trenchard House is thought to be the world's oldest aeronautical building and is named after Hugh Trenchard, a British Army officer, turned aviator and hugely influential in the establishment of the RAF in 1918.

8



## G29 the Black Sheds - Trenchard Way

This is the sole survivor of the extensive groups of hangars that were built before the First World War at Farnborough. Typically for this early period of design for aircraft sheds, they are designed as side-opening sheds and are not provided with the lean-to annexes for accommodating workshops and spare parts etc. that later became a standard element of hangar design.

9



## Samuel Cody first flight plaque - Farnborough Road

This plaque was installed in 2016 to mark the take-off point of Samuel Cody's first flight in the UK in 1908.

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## F49A the man-carrying centrifuge - Centrifuge Way

The Farnborough Centrifuge was home to the Institute of Aviation Medicine and became operational in 1955, training fast jet pilots by exposing them to high 'G' force in a controlled environment.



