

STAGE 1 PRELIMINARY UXO RISK ASSESSMENT

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Client: WSP
Project: Bulford Camp, Salisbury
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INTRODUCTION

The Stage 1 Preliminary Risk Assessment aims to identify potential sources of unexploded ordnance (UXO) that may impact the site. The assessment determines if further investigation through a Stage 2 Detailed UXO Risk Assessment is necessary. This desktop study follows the Construction Industry Research and Information Association (CIRIA) C681 Guidelines: ‘Unexploded Ordnance, a Guide for the Construction Industry’ (published in 2009). It incorporates multiple historical datasets, including available wartime records, Ordnance Survey (OS) mapping, aerial imagery and the Brimstone UXO Sources Database.

THE SITE

National Grid Ref: SU 18885 44410	What3Words: atlas.tilting.rant	
Location: Situated in Bulford, within the county of Wiltshire, within the confines of Bulford Camp.		
Site Composition: Recent satellite imagery indicates Site predominantly comprises undeveloped land. Hardstanding accessway intersects central extent. Vegetation present sporadically.		
Surroundings: Bound to the north by residential properties on an unnamed accessway, to the east by Sling Road and to the south and west by mature vegetation.		

THE PROPOSED WORKS

Site Investigation (SI) Works	Brimstone was not made aware of any upcoming SI works occurring on Site.
Development Works	Development works will consist of the construction of six to eight residential properties. Associated intrusive methods / depths of intrusions not provided at time of writing.

SITE HISTORY

Pre-WWII	Historic OS mapping (1923) indicates the Site comprised residential properties, labelled Sling Cottages, and associated garden / yard areas.
WWII-era	No notable changes.
Post-WWII	All structures cleared by 1970. Site has retained its current composition since this date. Clearance of structures likely to have disturbed WWII-era soil to shallow (1-2m bgl) depths. Subsequent landscaping likely to have disturbed WWII-era soil to very shallow (<1m bgl) depths.

ENEMY ACTION DURING WWI	
WWI German Bombing	No evidence to indicate Site area was affected by WWI-era enemy bombing.
ENEMY ACTION DURING WWII	
British District Bombing Density Statistics	The Site is situated in the WWII-era Rural District of Amesbury, which sustained 2.9 bombs / 1,000 acres, a very low bombing density.
Evidence of Bomb Strikes	Small-scale bomb maps for Wiltshire indicate numerous incidents occurring over wider Salisbury Plain Training Area (SPTA). HE bombing recorded in Site's vicinity in August 1940; precise locations of incidents not discernible at preliminary stage.
Evidence of Bomb Damage	WWII-era and post-WWII aerial photography do not display any immediately obvious evidence of significant bomb damage occurring on Site or in immediate surrounds. All structures appear to survive WWII externally intact.
Local Bombing Decoy Sites	None within a significant distance. The closest recorded decoy was approximately 2.8km east.
Local German Bombing Targets	Bulford Camp identified as a primary Luftwaffe bombing target. RAF Boscombe Down, approximately 3.5km south-west, also identified as a primary target. Infrastructure across the wider SPTA may have been identified as targets of opportunity.
BRITISH / ALLIED MILITARY ACTIVITY	
Potential Source of UXO	Details
WWII Home Guard (HG) Activity	Soldiers of the 7 th Wiltshire (Salisbury – Bulford) HG Battalion will have been active locally during WWII. Armed HG troops on patrol are unlikely to have accessed the Site or utilised it in any significant way due to its primarily developed nature.
Historic or Current Military Activity	Site situated in Bulford Camp, forming part of larger SPTA. No immediately obvious visual evidence of Allied activity specifically occurring on Site; practise trench identified immediately south in consulted historic imagery. Feasible that further activity occurred in vicinity due to military presence / historic usage. UXO contamination may have occurred in undeveloped areas of the Site as a result.
WWII Light and / or Heavy Anti-Aircraft (LAA and HAA) Batteries	Two permanent HAA batteries were active within range of the Site during WWII. LAA guns likely defended vulnerable points in the wider study area. Luftwaffe activity in the region was largely infrequent and as a result these guns are not anticipated to have fired a considerable amount of ordnance. Despite this, it is still possible that an unexploded AA shell struck the Site and penetrated to a shallow depth in the open ground.
UXO Finds	Numerous EOC tasks have occurred in the wider vicinity. Nearest plotted location approximately 1km north-east; two expended items of UXO recovered.
LIKELIHOOD OF UXB DETECTION	
Access Levels	Anticipated to have been regular owing to presence of undamaged residential properties and military presence.

Ground Cover	Primarily conducive to visual detection of UXBs i.e. residential properties, hardstanding. Undeveloped land may have presented unconducive conditions i.e. overgrown vegetation.
RISK MITIGATING FACTORS	
Likelihood of UXO Remaining	The risk associated with (any) very shallow / shallow buried UXO will have likely been partially mitigated. The risk associated with (any) deep buried UXO almost certainly remains unmitigated.
CONCLUSIONS	
German UXO: - No explicit evidence of bombing occurring on Site. Bombing incidents recorded in immediate and wider vicinity; precise locations not discernible at preliminary stage. - No immediately obvious evidence of bomb damage occurring. Structures appear to survive WWII externally intact. - Access levels / ground cover anticipated to have been largely conducive to visual UXB detection.	
British / Allied UXO: - Site situated within Bulford Camp, part of larger SPTA. No immediately obvious evidence of Allied activity occurring specifically on Site; practise trench present immediately south, indicating location of training. Further training may have occurred in immediate vicinity, potentially resulting in UXO contamination occurring on Site. Further research recommended to better determine likelihood of UXO encounter. - It is possible that an unexploded British AA shell struck the Site during WWII. Any such UXO could have penetrated the undeveloped ground on Site to shallow depths and may remain in situ.	
RECOMMENDATIONS	
SI Works	Brimstone was not made aware of any upcoming SI works occurring on Site.
Development Works	A Stage 2 Detailed Risk Assessment is recommended in order to further assess the risk to proposed works. In lieu of a Detailed UXO Assessment, Brimstone recommends on-Site support for any planned ground works.