

**RESTORATION INFORMATION MANAGEMENT SYSTEM
FORMERLY USED DEFENSE SITES (FUDS)
PROJECT FACT SHEET
NOVEMBER 1995
TAG REVIEW DATE: 12 JUNE 1997**

1. SITE NAME: Glasgow Army Air Field

SITE NUMBER: B08MT000200

LOCATION:

City: Glasgow
County: Valley
State: Montana

PROJECT NUMBER: B08MT000203

CATEGORY: OE

INPR RAC: 4

ASR RAC: 3

TAG RAC: 3

2. POC's:

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3. SITE DESCRIPTION: The former Glasgow Army Air Field (AAF) is situated on 2,798 acres adjacent to the city of Glasgow (population: 8,239) in northeastern Montana, not far from the Canadian border. Prior to DOD ownership, 605 acres of this land were used as a municipal airport and the rest for agricultural purposes. Currently, the former Glasgow AAF is used as a municipal airport, a light industrial park and for agricultural purposes.

4. SITE HISTORY: Glasgow AAF, also known as the Glasgow Satellite Airfield, was activated on 10 November 1942. It was one of three satellite fields of Great Falls Army Air Base which accommodated a bombardment group. There were four Bomber Squadrons within this group, one located at the Great Falls Army Air Base and one at each of the three satellite air fields at Lewistown, Glasgow and Cut Bank. The 96th Bombardment Squadron of the Second Bombardment Group arrived at Glasgow Army Air Field on 29 November 1942. Heavy bomber squadrons of the time usually consisted of 8 B-17s with 37 officers and 229 enlisted men.

The satellite field was used by B-17 bomber crews from the Second Air Force during the second phase of their training. Actual bombing and gunnery training was conducted at the airfield's associated sites, Glasgow Pattern Bombing Range and the Glasgow Pattern Gunnery Range, though other training sites within the bombardment group were probably also used. The target-towing aircraft assigned to the Fort Peck Aerial Gunnery Range were also stationed at Glasgow.

The last unit to complete training at Glasgow Satellite Field was the 614th Bombardment Squadron of the 401st Bombardment Group, which left for England in October 1943. On 1 December 1944 a German prisoner-of-war camp was established at the site. On 15 July 1946 the Glasgow Army Air Field was classified surplus and it was subsequently transferred to the War Assets Administration on 18 November 1946.

The types of ordnance actually known to have been used at Glasgow Army Air Field were small arms consisting of .30 caliber rifle and .45 caliber pistol ammunition. Additionally, 100-lb general purpose practice bombs, .30 caliber and .50 caliber machine gun ammunition were stored at the airfield for used on the nearby Glasgow Pattern Bombing Range, Glasgow Pattern Gunnery Range and Fort Peck Aerial Gunnery Range.

An ordnance storage area was constructed at the northeast corner of the airfield. This area consisted of one small arms magazine (20' by 52') and a pyrotechnic storage building (20' by 52'). There was a skeet range just to the southeast of the cantonment area with its associated structures. There was also a rifle range on site.

5. PROJECT DESCRIPTION:

AREA "1"

Rifle Range

Size, Acres: Approximately 5.7 (500' by 500')

Former Use: Rifle Range

Present Use: Farm, Pasture

Probable End Use: Farm, Pasture

Ordnance Presence: **Confirmed**

Type: ASR Team found 40mm practice grenade cartridge case, shrapnel from M57 81mm mortar, 2.36-inch or 3.5-inch practice rocket fuze (too mangled to distinguish caliber) and various small arms (including 5.56 mm) with head stamps between 1944 and 1973

6. **CURRENT STATUS:** A draft Archive Search Report was completed by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, St. Louis District, in November 1995.

7. STRATEGY:

1. At the recommendation of HNC Office of Counsel, ASR will be returned to St. Louis to gather further information on who is responsible for Post-WWII OE contamination.

2. OE EE/CA with cost to be shared by whomever is responsible for contaminating this site after it had been turned over to local authorities.

8. ISSUES AND CONCERNS:

FOR THE PROJECT MANAGER: The only area broken out in the ASR is the Rifle Range. The remainder of the site is assumed to be uncontaminated by OE. Three areas are identified on Plate 2 as a disposal area, a possible disposal area and a probable disposal area. At least one area appears to be in the middle of a harvested wheat field. Randal Curtis was asked why they did not consider the disposal areas to be contaminated. He stated that, while the potential is always present for OE, the items (junk) the St. Louis team observed appeared to have been disposed after DOD ownership of this site. The project manager should consider whether or not to include these areas.

Post-WWII OE Contamination: During the active period of Glasgow AAF, only small arms were used on the site. The bombs stored at Glasgow AAF were used at its associated ranges. Based on the types and ages of munitions found during the ASR site visit, it is evident the military, perhaps a National Guard or a Reserve unit, used the rifle range at the former Glasgow

AAF after it had been turned over to the local authorities. A Glasgow airport manager (1962-1987) indicated that the Montana National Guard had used the rifle range many years ago. However, while the ASR Team did conduct some interviews with representatives from the National Guard, both current and retired, no one could or would confirm their use of ordnance at Glasgow AAF. Several suggested that any number of different reserve components may have used the site such as the Army Reserve or the Marine Corps Reserve. The ASR lists no interviews with representatives from the reserves. No additional information was provided to identify who is responsible for the OE debris found by the ASR team at Glasgow AAF.

Site Acreage: The INPR states that Glasgow AAF consisted of 1,847.19 acres based on a real estate map dated 24 April 1947. The 2,798 acre figure used in the ASR is substantiated by other real estate maps of the era, including a real estate map called the “final project map” by the Chief of Real Estate for the Corps of Engineers. For a complete explanation of the determination of site acreage, see Paragraph 5.1 on page 5-1 of the Findings.

HTRW: The ASR also identified a potential for containerized hazardous and toxic waste at the site. Omaha District is managing further investigation and work for the fuel storage tanks and associated fuel system at Glasgow AAF. (Project numbers B08MT000201 & B08MT000202)

Ecology: There are known Federally- and State-listed species occurring in the site area, including the piping plover, the mountain plover, the peregrine falcon and the bald eagle. An on-site inspection by appropriate State and Federal personnel may be necessary to verify the presence, absence or location of listed species, or natural communities.

9. SCHEDULE SUMMARY: For Official Use Only

10. FUNDING/BUDGET SUMMARY: For Official Use Only