

**RESTORATION INFORMATION MANAGEMENT SYSTEM
FORMERLY USED DEFENSE SITES (FUDS)
PROJECT FACT SHEET
TAG REVIEW DATES: 15 MARCH 1995
30 AUGUST 1995**

1. SITE NAME: Independence Army Air Field

SITE NUMBER: B07KS022700

LOCATION:

City : Independence
County: Montgomery
State: Kansas

PROJECT NUMBER: B07KS022702

CATEGORY: CWM

INPR RAC: 3

ASR RAC: 5

2. POC' S:

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3. SITE DESCRIPTION: Independence Army Air Field, located southwest of Independence, Kansas was constructed on 1434 acres of what was slightly rolling farmland. The former Independence Army Air Field acreage is under the ownership of the city of Independence. The city of Independence currently uses the former installation as a municipal airport and an industrial park.

4. SITE HISTORY: The Independence municipal airfield came under government control from the city of Independence, Kansas in early 1942. The announcement came in May 1942 that Independence Army Air Field would be constructed. Construction period was from 1942 and continued until April 1943.

Formal activities started in October 1942, with the mission of a basic flying school. Training at the facility included flight training (practice landings, cross country flights, and night navigation); classroom training (aircraft instruments, navigation, radio communications, weather and aircraft recognition); and other types of training (physical, chemical, ordnance, medical, radio, signal, and quartermaster).

Training continued until January 1945. In March 1945 Independence Army Air Field was placed on standby. From April 1945 until the fall of 1947 the Army used the facility as a storage depot for World War II aircraft.

5. PROJECT DESCRIPTION: The former Independence Army Air Field could be divided into the following potential contaminated areas:

Area "A"

Size Acres: 30 acres
Former Use: Gas Instruction Building (T-1060)
Present Use: Undeveloped Land
Probable End Use: Same
Confirmed Ordnance: None
Types: N/A
Potential Ordnance: None
Types: N/A

Area "B"

Size Acres: 1 acre
Former Use: Small Arms Storage (T-1010)
Present Use: Undeveloped Land
Probable End Use: Same
Confirmed Ordnance: None
Types: N/A
Potential Ordnance: None
Types: N/A

Area "C"

Size Acres: 1 acre
Former Use: Pyrotechnic Magazine (T-1012)
Present Use: Undeveloped Land
Probable End Use: Same
Confirmed Ordnance: None
Types: N/A

Potential Ordnance: None
Types: N/A

Area "D"

Size Acres: 1 acre
Former Use: Chemical Storage (T-1013)
Present Use: Undeveloped Land
Probable End Use: Same
Confirmed Ordnance: None
Types: N/A
Potential Ordnance: None
Types: N/A

Area "E"

Size Acres: Unknown
Former Use: Pistol range
Present Use: Undeveloped Land
Probable End Use: Same
Confirmed Ordnance: None
Types: N/A
Potential Ordnance: None
Types: N/A

Area "F"

Size Acres: Unknown
Former Use: Skeet Range
Present Use: Undeveloped Land
Probable End Use: Same
Confirmed Ordnance: None
Types: N/A
Potential Ordnance: None
Types: N/A

Area "G"

Size Acres: 10 acres
Former Use: Burial Site
Present Use: Undeveloped Land
Probable End Use: Same
Confirmed Ordnance: None
Types: N/A
Potential Ordnance: Yes
Types: MI Gas Identification Kits

6. CURRENT STATUS: The ASR was completed by the St. Louis District in June 1994. The ASR generated a RAC 5 for the entire site. This recommendation was not concurred upon by the HNC Safety review.

7. STRATEGY: Buildings T-1010 and T-1012 were used for the storage of small arms ammunition and pyrotechnics. The buildings were located near the chemicals storage structure, T-1013, in the north east area of the airfield. The buildings have been torn down and no munitions have been discovered at these sites. The installation had a pistol range and skeet range located in the southeast corner of the site. No evidence of ordnance located or recovered from these areas exists. A gas instruction building, T1060, was located in the northwest corner of the site. The building has been demolished and no evidence of remaining chemicals has been uncovered. The area north of the gas instruction building is a known burial site for medical waste and other unwanted military items. No documents were found to indicate that any chemical warfare agents were used, or stored, at the Independence Army Air Field; however, the base did use M1 gas identification kits for training and had two sets on-hand at the end of World War II. The final disposition of these kits is not known; however, an acceptable method of disposal was burial and the closeness of the gas instruction building to the dump site gives rise to concern that these sets could be buried there.

An abbreviated EE/CA is recommended for the military dump site only. The remaining areas require no further action. The EE/CA should be non-intrusive with the provision of implementing institutional controls at the dump site.

8. ISSUES AND CONCERNS: The U.S. Fish and Wildlife service has listed sixteen protected or candidate species of protected or endangered species at this site. 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 if remedial action is recommended as part of the final ASR.

The recommendations will be presented to the TAG for decision/resolution prior to project start. A determination of the time, cost, and effort needed to characterize this area must be well thought out given the nature of concern and degree of risk involved.

9. SCHEDULE SUMMARY: EE/CA

10. FUNDING /BUDGET SUMMARY: For Official Use Only

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