

# FORMERLY USED DEFENSE SITES (FUDS) PROJECT FACT SHEET

MARCH 1994

HNC REVISION: 12 JUNE 1997  
TAG REVIEW DATE: 25 JUNE 1997

1. **SITE NAME:** Camp Stoneman

**SITE NUMBER:** J09CA077300

**LOCATION:**

City: Pittsburg

County: Contra Costa

State: California

**PROJECT NUMBER:** J09CA077302

**CATEGORY:** OE

**INPR RAC:** 1

**ASR RAC:** 3

**TAG RAC:** 3

2. **POC's:**

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**ASR TAG REVIEW POC:**

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**3. SITE DESCRIPTION:** The former Camp Stoneman consisted of 2,841.54 acres 40 miles northeast of San Francisco in Contra Costa County, Pittsburg, California. The camp area extends four miles, east-west, through Pittsburg to West Pittsburg. The former main cantonment area is bounded by the Contra Costa Canal to the south, Highway 4 to the north, Belle Street to the east, and Railroad Avenue to the west. The camp's rifle range area is located one mile west of the main cantonment. The Camp Stoneman Wharf Facility is located directly north of the main cantonment area and is bounded by Third Street to the west, East Third Street to the south, and Harbor Street to the East. The main cantonment area now consists mainly of residential homes, schools, light industry, office buildings and Los Medanos College. State Route 4 and the Contra Costa Canal run east-west through the center of the camp. The southern section of the former base has been converted into an 18-hole public golf course. Other areas of the former rifle range have been developed into Stoneman Park. The Camp Stoneman Wharf Facility continues to function as a privately owned warehouse facility on the waterfront.

The site can be reached from San Francisco International Airport by traveling north on U.S. Route 101. Exit on Interstate 80 East on I-80 until State Route 24 East merges. Exit on Interstate 680 North and continue traveling toward Concord until State Route 242 is reached. Take Route 242 to State Route 4 East which leads to Pittsburg. Exit on Railroad Avenue and turn right.

The area has a marine-type climate characterized by mild and moderately wet winters and by dry, cool summers. The topography, as shown in the ASR site photos, is hilly to flat with grass on those areas which are not developed. Storm runoff drains to Kirker Creek and two unnamed creeks which flow through the site to San Francisco Bay.

**4. SITE HISTORY:** In 1942, the War Department acquired a total of 2,841.54 acres consisting of 1,831.41 fee acres, 5.61 easement acres, 0.33 license acre, 0.03 permit acre, and 1,004.16 leased acres. Of the fee acres, 17.07 were acquired from the City of Pittsburg and 1,814.34 were acquired from private owners. The easement acres were acquired from private owners. Of the license acres, 0.28 was acquired from Contra Costa County, and the remaining 0.05 was acquired from private owners. The 0.03 permit acre was acquired from the State of California, Division of Highways. Of the lease acres, 897.01 were obtained from private owners and the remaining 107.15 were acquired from the City of Pittsburg.

Construction of Camp Stoneman was authorized by the War Department on 3 January 1942 and completed by September 1942. The base served as the main staging area of the San Francisco Port of Embarkation. Troops were housed and trained at the facility while awaiting transportation for overseas duty. OE related training facilities at the camp included rifle ranges, chemical warfare instruction areas, a grenade range, and a rocket launcher range. Over a twelve year existence covering both WWII and the Korean Conflict, over 1,500,000 troops were processed and shipped through Camp Stoneman. At the conclusions of each war, the camp was converted into a separation center, the function of which was to ensure that returning soldiers could be sent home as quickly as possible.

Camp Stoneman was officially deactivated on 31 August 1954. After the facility was declared surplus to the needs of the Department of Defense, all property was disposed of. The 1,004.16 leased acres were terminated prior to 29 May 1958 with no indication of restoration. On 29 October 1954, a total of 1.46 fee acres were reported excess to General Services Administration (GSA) and were conveyed to the Pittsburg Unified School District by quitclaim deed on 20 January 1955. A total of 8.94 fee acres, used for a reserve center, were conveyed to GSA on 15 May 1964 and later turned over to private individuals by quitclaim deed. The remaining 1,821.01 fee acres were sold to various individuals and city and state agencies between 1959 and 1962. No information is available regarding restoration of fee acres.

**5. PROJECT DESCRIPTION:**

Size, Acres:	(See Paragraph 8 below)
Former Use:	Impact Areas
Present Use:	Golf Course;Park(Stoneman Park)
Probable End Use:	Golf Course;Park(Stoneman Park)
Ordinance Presence:	Confirmed
Type:	Mortar round described as training
Potential	
Type:	Grenades and Bazooka rounds

**6. CURRENT STATUS:** The Archives Search Report for Camp Stoneman was completed by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, St Louis District, in March 1994.

**7. STRATEGY:** RAC 3; EE/CA

**8. ISSUES AND CONCERNS:** The CEHNC Technical Advisory Group recommended a strategy of EE/CA, RAC 3 for this site. EE/CA applies only to the western part of the site extending south of the canal into the hills. The ASR does not provide the acreage or delineate the boundaries for this area: a map in the ASR Findings dated 18 March 1994 does show a 92 acre 2,000' by 2,000' area highlighted in yellow designated "area to be searched further" which is only part of the area to be included in the EE/CA acreage. The EE/CA acreage does not include the three rifle ranges, the pistol range, the former cantonment area, the wharf area and other areas identified in the ASR.

**HNC Safety Comments:** The Safety Specialist concurred with the strategy of EE/CA, RAC 3 in the ASR. He points out that the ASR was accomplished before the OE project summary sheet was written. He also remarks that the ASR indicated no CWM was left at the site and that the only chemicals verified were riot control and tear gas used in the gas chamber for training. An updated RAC Form with a RAC score of 3, dated 28 June 1994, is attached.

**Area of Potential or Confirmed OE presence:** There is a confirmed report (Appendix C-5 of ASR Findings) of a mortar round being found at the 5th hole of the golf course and a rumor of another unidentified round being found in the same area. One person told the site team that he had heard that artillery and tanks had been fired in the area. Documents indicate that pistols,

rifles, hand grenades, rifle grenades and bazookas were fired at the camp. However, the site authors were only able to find the locations of two rifle ranges and a pistol range in the western part of the site and one rifle range at the eastern side of the site.

**Areas with No OE:** The ASR team ruled out the presence of OE at all other areas of the site, many of which are now covered with schools, homes and the Los Medanos College: the cantonment area on the east side of the site, the wharf area, Building #311 (Gas Chamber), the sanitary fill area, Building #255 (Small Arms Ammunition), Building #256 (Chemical Warfare Warehouse, and the 1,000 inch small arms range on the east side of the site.

**Natural Resources:** Federally and State threatened species occur within the site area and are listed in para 4.5 on page 4-4 of the ASR Findings. 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.

**Historical Resources:** Para 6.4.4., page 6-7 of the ASR Findings indicate that there are Indian artifacts present in the hills above the golf course. Any intrusive measures taken within the area will require oversight by the State Historical Preservation Office (SHPO) and/or other like organizations.

**9. SCHEDULE SUMMARY:**

<u>Phase</u>	<u>Orig. Start</u>	<u>Sch. Start</u>	<u>Actual Start</u>	<u>Orig. Comp</u>	<u>Sch. Comp</u>	<u>Actual Comp</u>
EE/CA						

**10. FUNDING/BUDGET SUMMARY: For Official Use Only**