

**SITE SURVEY SUMMARY SHEET**  
**FOR**  
**SUFFOLK COUNTY AAF BOMBING AND GUNNERY RANGE**  
**WEST HAMPTON, NEW YORK**  
**SITE No. C02NY071300**  
**11 June 1991**

**SITE NAME:** Suffolk County AAF Bombing and Gunnery Range

**LOCATION:** West Hampton, New York; see site maps attached

**SITE HISTORY:** The property of 1,635.42 acres fee and 10,235.70 acres lease was acquired by a purchase, declaration of taking, and negotiation from the County of Suffolk between February 1943 and December 1948 as a gunnery training range for fighter pilots and instructors.

Between June 1946 and September 1947 leases on 9,036.06 acres lease were cancelled by the Department of the Army. On 6 March 1947 War Assets Administration assumed accountability for 1199.64 acres lease. On 30 June 1947 the WAA cancelled all leases on the 1199.64 acres.

On June 1946 The Federal Farm Mortgage Corporation assumed accountability for 982.46 acres fee. By quitclaim deed dated 29 July 1946, 652.96 acres fee were conveyed to RCA Communications, Inc. Said deed did not contain any restrictive, restoration, or recapture clauses.

Currently the site is owned primarily by several private individuals and is mostly abandoned. Exceptions to this are several residential houses; 609 acres owned by the State of New York; 23 acres owned by the Tule Corp. Inc.; and small plots owned by BB&S Lumber Co. Inc. and by Wooden Environments Co. Inc. There is no evidence of unexploded ordnance or hazardous wastes resulting from DoD use of the site.

**SITE VISIT:** A site visit was conducted on 5 June 1991 by Mr. William Mullery, Mr. Constancio Labeste, and Mr. Yuri Prizel from Engineering Division, New York District. Their site visit revealed that the current owners have in most areas, in conjuncture with the county authorities, set aside the site as a natural preserve. They have expressed no complaints of contamination. There was no visual evidence of any contamination or unsafe conditions resulting from DoD use of the site. Conversation with Mr. Ronald Brown, who lives in the area and who collects old ammunition casings as a hobby, revealed that he had never found anything except bags filled with sand and black powder which had been used for target practice. The black powder/sand mixture has by now caked and presents no danger.

CATEGORY OF HAZARD: Possible OEW hazard.

PROJECT DESCRIPTION: There is one potential project at this site.

- a. OEW: In a telephone conversation with Mr. Nore of the Huntsville Division we described the results of our site inspection at the Suffolk County AAF Bombing and Gunnery Range. Although no evidence of OEW hazard was detected during our site investigation, Huntsville Division recommends that a preliminary remedial investigation be conducted on the 4,500 acres comprising the Suffolk County AAF Bombing and Firing Range.

AVAILABLE STUDIES AND REPORTS: None.

NEW YORK DISTRICT POC: Yuri Prizel, 212-264-6070.



DEFENSE ENVIRONMENTAL RESTORATION PROGRAM  
FOR FORMERLY USED SITES  
FINDINGS AND DETERMINATION OF ELIGIBILITY  
SUFFOLK COUNTY AAF BOMBING AND GUNNERY RANGE  
WEST HAMPTON, NEW YORK  
SITE No. C02NY071300

FINDINGS OF FACTS

1. The property of 1,635.42 acres fee and 10,235.70 acres lease was acquired by a purchase, declarations of taking, and negotiation between February 1943 and December 1948.
2. The site was used by AAF as a bombing and gunnery training range for fighter pilots and instructors.
3. Between June 1946 and September 1947 leases on 9,036.06 acres lease were cancelled by the Department of the Army. On June 1946 The Federal Farm Mortgage Corporation assumed accountability for 982.46 acres fee. By quitclaim deed dated 29 July 1946, 652.96 acres fee were conveyed to RCA Communications, Inc. Said deed did not contain any restrictive, restoration, or recapture clauses. On 6 March 1947 War Assets Administration assumed accountability for 1199.64 acres lease. On 30 June 1947 the WAA cancelled all leases on the 1199.64 acres. Currently the site is owned primarily by several private individuals and is mostly abandoned. The exceptions are 609 acres owned by the State of New York; 23 acres owned by the Tule Corp. Inc.; and small plots owned by BB&S Lumber Co. Inc. and by Wooden Environments Co. Inc.

DETERMINATION

Based on the foregoing findings of fact, the site has been determined to have been formerly used by DoD. Therefore it is eligible for the Defense Environmental Restoration Program for Formerly Used Defense Sites established under 10 U.S.C. 2701 et seq.

Recommended for Signature:

15 August 1991  
Date

/for/

R. M. DANIELSON  
COL, EN  
Commanding

Approval:

20 Oct 1991  
Date

GERALD C. BROWN  
Brigadier General, USA  
Commanding

**PROJECT SUMMARY SHEET  
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DERP-FUDS OEW PROJECT No. C02NY071301  
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WEST HAMPTON, NEW YORK  
SITE No. C02NY071300  
11 June 1991**

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**PROJECT ELIGIBILITY:** Records indicate that the site was used by AAF as a bombing and gunnery range.

**PROPOSED ACTIVITIES:** It is recommended that a preliminary investigation, beyond the scope of this PA, be performed at the site.

**RAC:** RAC can not be performed because of insufficient information.

**NEW YORK DISTRICT POC:** Yuri Prizel, 212-264-6070.