

**FORMERLY USED DEFENSE SITES (FUDS)
REMEDIAL INVESTIGATION (RI) WORK PLAN TASK
CONTRACT NUMBER W912WJ-17-C-0014**

**STEWART AIR FORCE BASE, FUDS SITE NUMBER C02NY070401
SITE VISIT - OCTOBER 17, 2017, 11:30AM**

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SITE DESCRIPTION

The former Stewart Air Force Base (AFB), now Stewart International Airport, is located in Orange County, New York in the southwest portion of the State, approximately 2.5 miles west of Newburgh, New York and 35 miles northwest of New York City (Figure 1). The site is currently owned by the New York State Department of Transportation (NYSDOT). As illustrated on Figure 1, the Site bridges the boundary between two municipalities: Newburgh to the east and New Windsor to the south.

The airport is primarily covered with buildings and pavement, and functions as aircraft and ground vehicle maintenance facilities. These activities involve the use, storage, and disposal of hazardous materials. The areas under investigation, which are located in the southwestern portion of the property are generally wooded and grassy areas. The site is relatively flat with significant downward slopes to the south and east.

The remaining portion of the former Stewart AFB site is now the Stewart Air National Guard Base (ANGB). This portion of the site is not FUDS eligible; therefore, is beyond the scope of this project.

SITE HISTORY

In 1930, the property was donated to the City of Newburgh for use as a municipal airport. Prior to this, the land was primarily agricultural. Between 1939 and 1955, the US Army acquired ownership of 1,889.4 acres, plus a 163.49-acre easement in the area, including the municipal airport in 1941. In 1948, the US Army transferred much of the site to the USAF, and it was named Stewart AFB, with associated structures including runways, control towers, family housing, barracks, and other support facilities. Stewart AFB operated until approximately 1969, when the aviation facilities were turned over to the State of New York.

In the 1970s, the commercial side of Stewart AFB began operating as an airport. In 1983, the United States Air Force (USAF) reopened the military side of Stewart AFB, with the establishment of the 105th Air Lift Wing of the New York Air National Guard. Currently, both NYSDOT and ANGB activities operate at the property.

PREVIOUS INVESTIGATIONS AND AREAS OF POTENTIAL CONCERN

Soil, groundwater, surface water, and sediment samples were collected during several investigations at the site and within downgradient areas. Areas of potential concern within the boundary of the Stewart International Airport property include: the Former Southern Landfill, the Southwestern Fuel Farm (SWFF), and the former Aboveground Storage Tank Area (Figure 2).

The Southern Landfill and associated areas in the southern portion of the former Stewart AFB require additional investigation, particularly the bermed disposal areas and trenches discovered by Harza during their 2001 investigation.

It has been established that fuel from the SWFF and/or the AST area has contaminated the overburden in the southern portion of the former Stewart AFB. Odors detected in soils excavated during the construction of the Anheuser-Busch facility and during a sewer project along Breunig Road indicate that fuel contamination has occurred at least 400 feet downgradient. The New York State Department of Environmental Conservation (NYSDEC) has agreed that remediation of the soil is not required due to the low porosity. However, petroleum-related contaminants (benzene, ethylbenzene, xylene, and naphthalene) have been detected in groundwater. There is no record of resolution of the petroleum-contamination in groundwater.