



**US Army Corps
of Engineers
Fort Worth District**

Former Five Points Outlying Field

Arlington, Texas
April 2002

Congress established the Formerly Used Defense Sites (FUDS) Program in 1986 to clean up properties that were formerly owned, leased, possessed or used by the Army, Navy, Air Force or other defense agencies. The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers manages the FUDS Program.

The FUDS property known as the Former Five Points Outlying Field (OLF) was located at what is now the southwest corner of Harris and Matlock Roads in southeast Arlington, Texas.

The Corps' Fort Worth District manages the Former Five Points OLF FUDS project (also known as the Twin Parks Estates FUDS project).

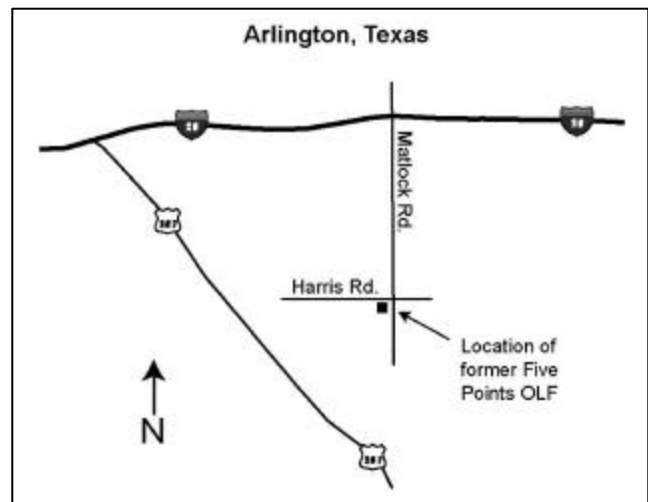
Site History

In 1940, the U.S. Government acquired 162.06 fee acres in Arlington, Texas, for the military's use. The U.S. Navy developed the property and designated it as "Five Points" OLF because of the pattern made by the criss-crossing runways. Aircraft pilots from Dallas Naval Air Station used the site to practice landings and take-offs. They later used the site as a practice bombing range.

At unknown dates, the Navy declared the site excess and transferred the property to the General Services Administration (GSA) for disposal. GSA sold the property to a private party on July 19, 1956. The property deed identified the former use as a bombing range and recommended the property's central 17.5-acre impact area (the bombing target) be restricted to surface use.

In 1983, a developer began constructing a mobile home park, now known as Twin Parks Estates, on a 35-acre parcel of the Former Five Points OLF. The developer halted construction when a subsurface practice bomb was found and later hired a private company to clear the site of ordnance. The company found approximately 3,000 practice bombs, and the Fort Hood Explosive Ordnance Disposal (EOD) unit disposed of the ordnance.

The remaining 127 acres of the site remained undeveloped until 1998, when development began on Southridge (also known as South Ridge Hills), a subdivision of single-family homes. People first moved into Southridge in 2000.



FUDS Program

The mission of the Corps' FUDS Program is safety and risk reduction. The FUDS Program is large in scope, with more than 2,500 properties nationwide requiring response actions and more than 1,300 projects in progress.

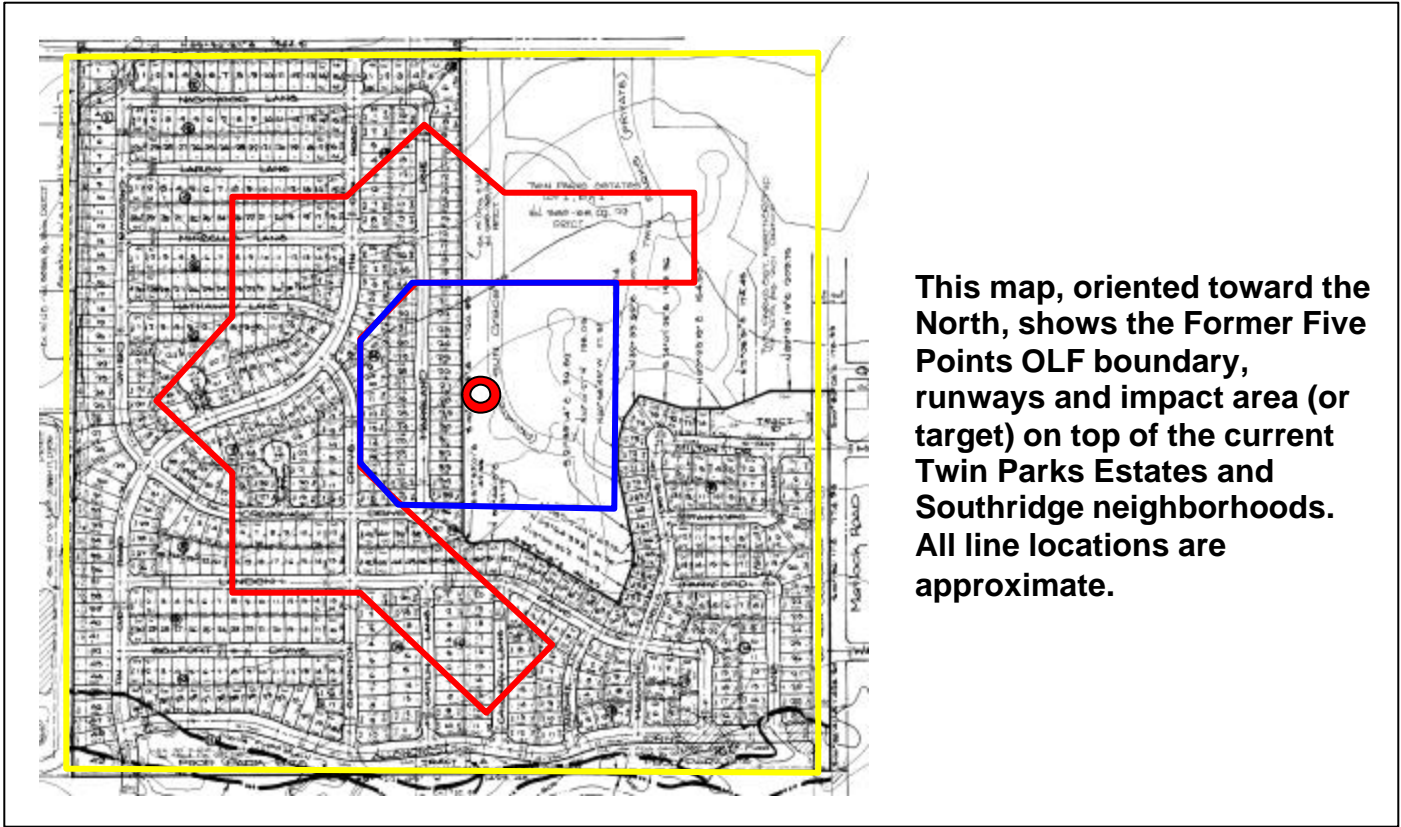
The type of response action required varies from property to property, and can include cleanup of hazardous, toxic and radioactive waste; removal of ordnance and explosives (OE); and building demolition and debris removal. The Former Five Points OLF is an OE project.

There are three basic steps to the FUDS process for OE projects.

1. Inventory: The Corps verifies that a property is eligible as a Formerly Used Defense Site; completes an Inventory Project Report (InPR), which evaluates the reason for concern (i.e., OE use); and writes an Archives Search Report (ASR), which includes historical documentation and a site assessment.

The InPR and ASR include a Risk Assessment Code (RAC) score. The Corps assigns a RAC score to FUDS properties across the country with OE contamination to help prioritize response actions. RAC scores vary from 5 (no Department of Defense action indicated) to 1 (highest priority).

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This map, oriented toward the North, shows the Former Five Points OLF boundary, runways and impact area (or target) on top of the current Twin Parks Estates and Southridge neighborhoods. All line locations are approximate.

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2. Investigation: The Corps uses the ASR to help develop an Engineering Evaluation/Cost Analysis (EE/CA), a study that determines the presence and extent of OE and includes a recommendation for a response action. The EE/CA investigation can include geophysical testing, soil sampling and chemical analyses. The Corps must obtain written permission (called a "right of entry") from property owners to enter their property to collect data.

Once the study data is generated for a site, the Corps analyzes it to develop response alternatives and recommendations. The response alternatives can range from no further action needed and institutional controls (such as public education programs) to surface removals and subsurface removals or a combination of the alternatives.

Once developed, a draft of the EE/CA is made available for a 30-day public comment period. The Corps will review any comments before making a final decision about which response alternative to pursue.

3. Response Action: With input from the public, the Corps selects and designs the response action for a site. The response action, sometimes called "cleanup," "removal action" or "clearance," is performed to minimize the risks posed by OE. The

response action varies in activity, cost and time schedule, depending on the site.

Once the Corps completes the response action, the Corps will review the site at least once every five years. This Recurring Review is a long-term risk management strategy designed to evaluate whether or not the response action previously implemented at the site remains effective in minimizing risk to the public and the environment.

Former Five Points OLF

The Former Five Points OLF FUDS project is at the end of the Inventory step/beginning of the Investigation step. The Corps completed the site InPR in 1996 and the final ASR in February 2002.

In the final ASR, the Corps assigned the Former Five Points OLF a RAC score of 1, which is "highest priority." The site is now one of ten RAC 1 FUDS sites managed by the Corps' Fort Worth District, which manages the FUDS Program for Louisiana and all of Texas except the Panhandle.

The Corps' FUDS Program for fiscal year 2002 did not originally include funding to investigate the Five Points OLF site because the site's previous RAC score was only 2. However, Congress recently appropriated additional funds for the FUDS Program, some of which will be used for the Former Five Points OLF site. The Corps will begin the EE/CA investigation this spring.

Public Involvement

Public involvement is an important part of the Corps' FUDS Program. The Corps may host public meetings (such as the one held Oct. 30, 2001, in Arlington), distribute news releases, print public notices in the newspaper, host a website, mail fact sheets and other information to interested citizens, and establish a Restoration Advisory Board.

To receive mailings, you can request to be added to the Former Five Points OLF project mailing list by calling the Corps' Fort Worth District Public Affairs Office at 817-886-1313 or sending an email to FUDSmailinglist@swf02.usace.army.mil. Be sure to include your full name and mailing address. You may also give your daytime and evening phone numbers

and email address. (You can be removed from the mailing list at any time by calling 817-886-1313.)

Restoration Advisory Board

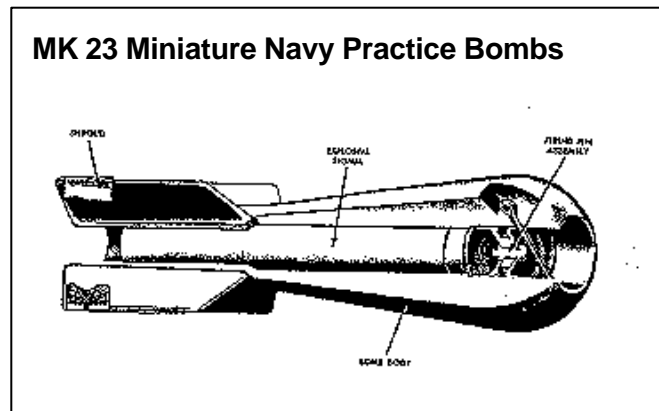
A Restoration Advisory Board, or RAB, is made up of interested community members who reflect the diverse interests of the local community as well as representatives of state, local and federal agencies. A RAB is designed to serve as a focal point for the exchange of information between the Corps and the community. If you are interested in participating in a RAB for the Former Five Points OLF FUDS project, contact the Corps' Fort Worth District Public Affairs Office at 817-886-1313.

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Ordnance Use. *The ordnance known or believed to have been used at the Five Points OLF site*:*

- MK 23-MOD-1 miniature Navy practice bombs:

These practice bombs were 8.3 inches long and 2.2 inches in diameter and were made of cast iron, lead or zinc alloy. They contained a spotting charge consisting of a 10-gauge shotgun blank, black powder and a red phosphorus pyrotechnic mix. The spotting charge enabled military personnel to see where the practice bombs landed. When the practice bombs hit the ground, the black powder and red phosphorus mix would ignite and create a visible puff of smoke. The spotting charge did not cause the practice bombs to detonate. These practice bombs may have penetrated the ground surface upon impact.



- M38A2 practice bombs: These practice bombs were 47.5 inches long and 8.1 inches in diameter with a light sheet metal body. They contained a spotting charge of about 3 pounds of black powder along with a 28-gauge shotgun shell blank to initiate the black powder charge. When the practice bombs hit the ground, the shotgun shell blank ignited the black powder, causing visible smoke, which enabled military personnel to see where the practice bombs landed. These practice bombs were filled with about 80 pounds of sand or water. Upon impact, these practice bombs would collapse on the ground surface like an accordion because of their light body.

- An unknown version of the M47 series chemical bomb: These bombs were 51.7 inches long and 8.1 inches in diameter with a body made of a thin sheet metal 1/16-1/32-inch thick. The military often used M47 chemical bomb casings filled with sand or water when M38A2 practice bombs weren't available. M47 series chemical bombs could have also been filled with white phosphorus (WP) or powdered rust. The filler materials enabled military personnel to see where the bombs landed during practice bombing runs. When the bombs hit the ground, the filler was released. The WP would have created a white smoke, and the iron oxide would have left a mark on the ground. Upon impact, these chemical bombs would have flattened like an aluminum can on the ground surface because of the thin body.

* **Note:** This ordnance information is based on Five Points OLF records. The Oct. 7, 1954, Report of Clearance lists "75, M-47 chemical bombs, 27, MK 23 Model [sic] I Navy bombs & 23, M38 practice bombs" as having been found on site. The Jan. 26, 1956, Certificate of Clearance does not list specific ordnance and states that the certificate supersedes the Oct. 7, 1954, certificate of clearance.

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Information Repository

The Corps has documents related to the Former Five Points OLF FUDS project that are available to the public. The information repository for these documents is the Arlington Central Library, 101 E. Abram Street, Arlington, Texas 76010. These documents are considered non-circulating reference materials, so they cannot be removed from the library. Currently, the documents at the library include the InPR, materials from the Oct. 30, 2001, public meeting and the ASR.

Questions?

If you have questions about this site and/or the FUDS Program, contact the Corps' Fort Worth District Public Affairs Office at 817-886-1313.

For questions of a more technical nature, you may contact the Corps' Fort Worth District FUDS project manager, Mr. Brian Condike, at 817-886-1482 or brian.condike@swf02.usace.army.mil.

Ordnance Finds

If you find any item you suspect might be ordnance, notify local law enforcement officials immediately. (In Arlington, call 911.) Note the

Former Five Points OLF Information Repository:

Arlington Central Library

101 E. Abram Street
Arlington, Texas 76010
817-459-6900

Hours of Operation:

Monday-Thursday 9 a.m.-9 p.m.

Friday-Saturday 9 a.m.-6 p.m.

Sunday – seasonal hours

Documents about the former Five Points OLF FUDS Project are located on the 2nd floor behind the Reference desk. Ask a librarian for assistance.

location of the suspicious item, but *never* touch, move or disturb the item. Ordnance, regardless of its age or physical shape, can be dangerous.

The Corps encourages communities to educate children about ordnance hazards including the proper procedures to follow if they find a suspected ordnance item.

Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs) about the Former Five Points Outlying Field

U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Fort Worth District • April 2002

Q1. When did the military use the site and what occurred there?

A1. The military used Five Points Outlying Field (OLF) in the 1940s and 1950s. The government purchased the 162-acre site in 1940 and sold it in 1956.

Personnel from Dallas Naval Air Station originally used the site to practice aircraft landings and take-offs. They later used the site as a practice bombing range.

Q2. What ordnance was used at the site?

A2. The ordnance known or believed to have been used at Five Points OLF was MK 23-MOD-1 miniature Navy practice bombs, M38A2 practice bombs and an unknown version of the M47 series chemical bomb.

Q3. Why is the Corps involved?

A3. The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers manages the Formerly Used Defense Sites (FUDS) Program.

In 1986, Congress established the FUDS Program to clean up properties that were owned, leased, possessed or used by the Army, Navy, Air Force or other Defense agencies prior to October 1986.

Q4. What will the Corps do?

A4. The Corps' Fort Worth District manages the Former Five Points OLF FUDS project. The district has worked with other Corps offices to research the military history of the site. Next, the district will investigate possible ordnance contamination at the site, which will determine if a response action is needed. The district has acquired funding to begin the investigation in spring 2002.

Q5. When will the cleanup occur?

A5. Before a cleanup (or other response action) can occur, the Corps must investigate and prepare the right documentation for the site. The Corps will begin this action in spring 2002.

Any response actions recommended by the investigation are dependent upon funding from Congress.

Q6. What should I know about ordnance to keep my family safe?

A6. Ordnance, regardless of condition and age, can be very dangerous. People who find something that might be an ordnance item should mark the location and call local law enforcement. (In Arlington, call 911.) People should never touch, move or disturb the item in any way.

The Corps encourages parents to educate their children about ordnance safety.

Q7. Will ordnance in the ground contaminate my drinking water?

A7. The Twin Parks Estates and Southridge (South Ridge Hills) neighborhoods are supplied with piped city water, so contaminated groundwater should not be a concern.

The chemical substances possibly used in ordnance at Five Points OLF included black powder, white phosphorous and powdered rust. None of these materials would contribute hazardous waste to groundwater.

Q8. What government agencies are involved with this site? How can I contact them?

A8. The Corps is working with the Texas Natural Resource Conservation Commission (Mr. Tim Sewall, 817-588-5815) and the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (Mr. Gary Miller, 214-665-8306).

Q9. I've heard the Corps can't clean up ordnance from under my home. What danger exists from it remaining in the ground below my house?

A9. Unexploded ordnance (UXO) is only dangerous if disturbed. Any UXO items under rigid structures such as concrete slabs, sidewalks, asphalt roadways, etc., are generally safe from disturbance and will remain stable. UXO is generally safe until some type of direct contact is initiated with it.

To initiate any of the ordnance items that were used at Five Points OLF would require a direct blow to the firing pin.

Q10. How will ordnance remaining in the ground affect lead levels?

A10. None of the filler materials in the ordnance used at Five Points OLF contained lead.

The body of one version of the MK 23 miniature practice bomb was made of lead, but such a large piece of lead is unable to leach significant quantities of metal into the ground.

The leaching ability of a metal is directly proportional to its surface area (i.e., the larger the surface area, the more leaching.) Because surface area is indirectly proportional to particle size (i.e., the smaller the particle size for a given weight of metal, the more surface area), a large "particle" of lead, such as a practice bomb body, has virtually no leaching ability. (In contrast, a similar amount of lead in powdered form has a much larger leaching capacity because the particle size is smaller and the surface area is larger.)

Q11. What will happen to the buried ordnance if there is an earthquake?

A11. For the ordnance used at Five Points OLF, it will take either a direct blow to the firing pin or extreme heat (like a fire) to make the ordnance function. Ground movement (like what occurs during an earthquake) should not cause the ordnance items at Five Points OLF to function.

In addition, earthquakes are not likely to occur in the Five Points OLF area. According to the Natural Resource Conservation Services, Arlington is an inactive seismic area with no expected ground motion.

Q12. I got a flyer on my door saying the EPA recommended I evacuate my Southridge home. Where do I go?

A12. The referenced flyer was not distributed by the EPA and contains erroneous information. No government agency has recommended an evacuation for the Former Five Points OLF site. If you have questions about EPA's guidance for this site, contact Mr. Gary Miller at 214-665-8306.

Q13. How do I find out if property I want to purchase was once owned by the military?

A13. Previous military ownership is usually identified in a title search. Other sources of information include the local library, government archives and older residents who live in an area.

Q14. I'm mostly concerned with the chemical bombs mentioned in that 1954 document. What happens if a person comes in contact with one of these chemical bombs? How dangerous are the chemicals? What will the chemicals do to a person?

A14. The M47 chemical bombs were likely filled with sand or water, although they may have been filled with white phosphorous or powdered rust.

Powdered rust is innocuous and won't hurt someone who comes in contact with it. White phosphorous is more dangerous.

Unreacted white phosphorous will ignite when it comes in contact with air, producing flame and dense smoke. Touching unreacted white phosphorous can cause severe burns.

Reacting white phosphorous can sometimes form a "skin," protecting itself from further exposure and reaction with air. Puncturing this "skin" will cause the unreacted material to ignite, producing flames and smoke.

Q15. How do I keep informed about what the Corps is doing?

A15. Public involvement is an important part of the Corps' FUDS Program. The Corps may host public meetings (such as the one held Oct. 30, 2001, in Arlington), distribute news releases, print public notices in the newspaper, host a website, mail fact sheets and other information to interested citizens, and establish a Restoration Advisory Board.

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Q16. I understand that when the Corps studies or cleans up the site, they'll need access to my land. Do I have to be home to let the Corps on my property? What if I don't want the Corps on my property?

A16. The Corps and/or its contractors will not enter any individual's property without written consent (called a "right of entry"). If a property owner signs a right of entry agreement, he/she does not have to be home when the Corps and/or its contractors do their work. (Depending on the type of work, sometimes the property owner *cannot* be home to ensure his/her safety.) If a property owner refuses to sign a right of entry, the Corps will *not* enter the land.

If you sign a right of entry and later change your mind about allowing the Corps access to your property, simply inform the Corps of your decision to disallow entry. The Corps' employees and/or contractors will leave if they are already present when notified of your change of mind.

Q17. What about property values?

A17. The Corps is not authorized to study property values associated with FUDS properties.

Q18. At the Oct. 30, 2001, public meeting in Arlington, the Corps said the 1954 clearance document (which lists chemical bombs) may have actually referred to another military site in Arlington. Please explain.

A18. The document referenced is the Oct. 7, 1954, Report of Clearance for Five Points OLF. The Corps first learned of the document in September 2001, and as of Oct. 30, was still trying to determine the report's credibility and significance. At the time, based on an error in the report, the Corps thought the report may have referred to Arlington Outlying Field, another outlying field in the Dallas/Fort Worth area.

Since then, the Corps has not found documentation to support the conclusion the report refers to the Arlington OLF site. Therefore, the ordnance listed on the 1954 report is believed to pertain to the Five Points OLF site.

Q19. The 1954 Report of Clearance states that all duds found on the Five Points range were recovered. The 1956 Certificate of Clearance states that Five Points was cleared of all dangerous and/or explosive material reasonably possible to detect. Why then are people still finding ordnance at the site?

A19. Based on experience at other Formerly Used Defense Sites properties, the Corps knows that 1940s-era ordnance and explosives (OE) clearances were very different than 21st-century OE clearances. It was standard practice to bury recovered ordnance items; many sites were in remote, undeveloped locations; and advanced technology for detecting subsurface ordnance was not available.

The 1956 Certificate of Clearance refers only to a visual surface clearance operation performed without the use of subsurface instrumentation. This would limit the clearance to surface only. Thus, any subsurface ordnance would not have been discovered during this action. Subsequent ground disturbances may have resulted in unearthing subsurface ordnance.

Q20. I read that Mr. Brian Condike with the Corps wrote in a Sept. 25, 2001, letter that the Corps has "no reason to believe that there are any hazardous substances on the property formerly known as Five Points Field that are the result of its use as a practice bombing range." Should I be concerned or not?

A20. Mr. Condike, the Corps' Fort Worth District FUDS project manager, wrote that in a letter to an individual as a follow-up to a telephone conversation. The sentence refers to hazardous substances (*not* conventional ordnance).

The Corps had only seen the 1954 Report of Clearance (which mentioned chemical bombs) two weeks earlier and was still trying to determine its credibility and significance. The Corps now knows white phosphorous may have been used in the M47 chemical bombs at Five Points OLF. (When the Corps begins the site investigation, it will collect soil samples for chemical testing to determine the presence or absence of any hazardous wastes that may exist as a result of this site's use as a practice bombing range.)

Mr. Condike has always maintained that conventional ordnance can be very dangerous. If someone finds something that might be ordnance, he/she should mark the location and call local law enforcement. (In Arlington, call 911.)