



US Army Corps
of Engineers

Formerly Used Defense Site Program

Pinecastle Jeep Range

Orlando, Florida

Fact Sheet

July 2007

Current News

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers is conducting an environmental investigation on a former WWII training facility previously known as Pinecastle Jeep Range. You are receiving this fact sheet because your property is located within or near the boundaries of this former military site.

The Corps has completed a draft Site Inspection Report and will present information to the community at a public availability session on Tuesday, July 24 at 6:30 p.m. at the North Lake Park Elementary School. The report has been submitted to the Florida Department of Environmental Protection for review.

Environmental Investigation

An Archive Search Report/Preliminary Assessment was previously completed. The

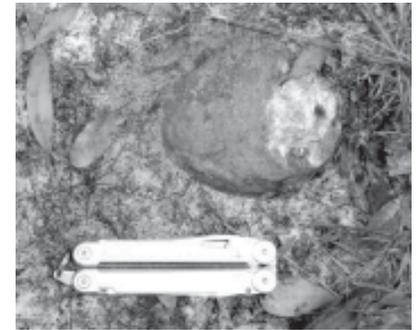
report documents research of historical records and aerial photographs to determine if any hazards may still exist from previous military activities. This report formed the basis for the Site Inspection.

During the Site Inspection, soil samples were collected at 16 sites to test for the presence of munitions or explosive materials. Three of the soil samples found traces of nitroglycerin, a chemical compound used in explosives.

The Site Inspection identified the most heavily used areas for target practice on the property. The former Pinecastle Jeep Range is currently privately-owned property. The Corps of Engineers is in the process of obtaining approval to remove or clear the area of ordnance this Fall.

Safety Precautions

Safety is always the Corps' top priority. Recently, there have



This is an example of ordnance used by the military during target practice.

been reports of unexploded ordnance remaining on the site. Even after 60 years, a piece of ordnance can explode if touched and can cause serious injury.

It is vitally important that anyone who discovers potential ordnance items follow the simple "3 Rs" of safety:

- **Recognize** the item may be dangerous;
- **Retreat** and do not touch it;
- **Report** its location to the local Sheriff's Office immediately.

Public Availability Session
Tuesday, July 24
North Lake Park
Elementary School
9055 North Lake Parkway
6:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m.
Presentation - 7:00 p.m.

For more information, contact:
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
Jacksonville District
Public Affairs Office

(904) 232-1576 or toll-free
1-800-291-9405
www.saj.usace.army.mil

Documents are located in the
Information Repository:

Orlando Main Public Library
101 E. Central Blvd.
Orlando, FL 32801
407-835-7323

A Piece of History

In 1943, the U.S. government leased 12,483 acres of land in Orlando (Orange County) for use as a gunnery and demonstration range for testing and training troops. The range was an off-post site of the Pinecastle Army Airfield.

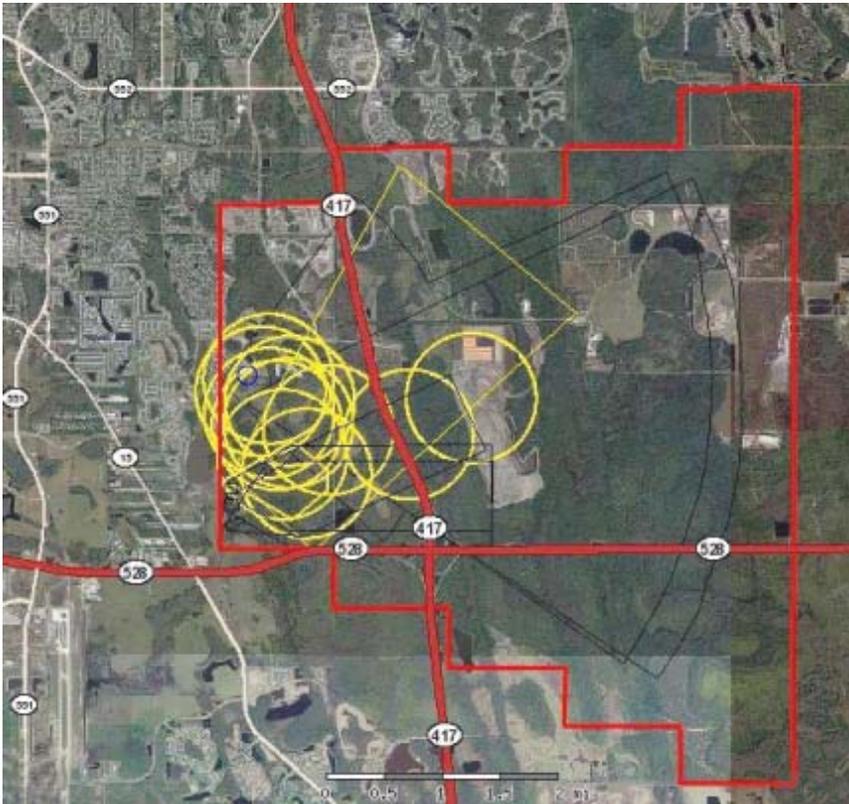
The facility included small arms firing, air tactics evaluations and training demonstrations of strafing, practice bombing, air-to-ground rocket firing and high explosive bombing.

The Pinecastle Jeep Range was used for visual demonstrations of equipment and tactics taught to soldiers in

the classroom. Ordnance was dropped from aircraft on ground targets.

Demonstrations were held regularly during WWII from 1944 through October 1945. In 1946, Pinecastle Jeep Range was declared surplus property and all leases were terminated by December 1947.

The property is currently owned by local government and private individuals for residential, school, highway/expressway, landfill and undeveloped pasture uses.



The boundaries of the former Pinecastle Jeep Range are outlined in red. Located approximately 5 miles east/northeast of the Orlando International Airport, the western portion of the former Pinecastle Range was used by the military primarily for target practice during WWII. The yellow circles indicate the target areas on the former Pinecastle Jeep Range.

Boundary Map of Former Pinecastle Jeep Range

U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Jacksonville District
701 San Marco Boulevard
Jacksonville, FL 32207-8175