

Case Study

Client Redrow Homes Southern Ltd
Thattham Depot, Berkshire

Project date 2000 - 2004
Area 28 Ha

Case Study date March 09
Budget £150 K fees

Project: Reclamation of former Military supplies depot for housing.

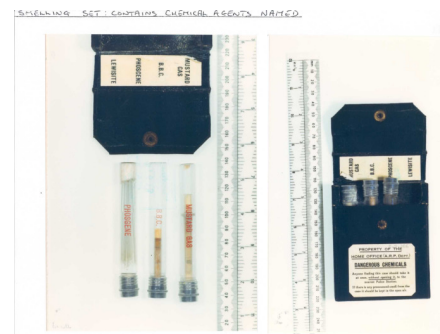
Services provided: Environmental Consultants; Civil Engineering Consultants; Geotechnical Consultants; Asbestos Consultant; Health and Safety Consultants; Project Management Consultants; Site Supervision Consultants (Resident Engineers/ Clerk of Works).

Project description: The site, having an area of 28ha, was built as a tobacco storage facility in the late 1930's. It was requisitioned by the War Ministry at the outbreak of the Second World War and thereafter used for storage of military materials. It was known that the depot was operated by US Army Ordnance during the war and thereafter it was in MoD use until the mid 1990s.



The site was suspected to have been used for the storage and or testing of chemical warfare agents (CWA) and radioactive substances. Decontamination buildings were present on the site. In addition there was documentary evidence of CWA having been buried at unknown locations somewhere on the site. The site was originally offered on a caveat emptor basis by the owner and Merebrook assisted the purchaser in negotiating a sale contract which placed all risks with the purchaser except that of removing, treating or

destroying any CWA. This revised sales offer allowed the purchase to proceed.



Prior to design of remediation works a high definition physical investigation was carried out on the site with technical input on CWA from MoD staff from Porton Down. Comprehensive analysis for contaminants including CWA was carried out. A fully detailed site remediation scheme was designed which required the excavation and inspection of all made ground on the site. A remediation specification was tendered to contractors and a suitable contractor was selected. The remediation was fully supervised by Merebrook site operatives and undertaken to programme and within budget. The remediation identified areas of buried CWA and these were isolated for later removal off site and disposal at Porton Down.

