

WASC 2339

THE HOMEFRONT (1914-18)  
and ITS LEGACIES

— WASC 2339-01  
PILOT HANDBOOK (PDF)

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FINAL REPORT (PDF)

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# The Home Front (1914-1918) and its Legacies:

A Pilot Study for a national public archaeology recording project of First World War Legacies in Britain: 2014-2018

## Pilot Handbook



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Project 6113

Prepared for English Heritage by the University of Bristol & University of York:  
Dr Nicholas Saunders, Dr John Schofield and Emily Glass

## Summary

At present, the archaeological record of the remaining built heritage and material culture of Britain's First World War heritage is poorly understood in terms of its extent, survival and current condition. With the forthcoming centenary of the 1914-18 conflict, it is timely that the comprehension of this period is improved. This pilot project intended to stimulate and facilitate public interest in the build up towards the wider national coverage that will accompany the anniversary from 2014.

The Home Front (1914-1918) and its Legacies pilot project was undertaken between August 2012 and May 2013. It served as a small-scale but focused pilot to create a methodology for researching and recording traces of the First World War in the Lea Valley and Staffordshire. The project involved a series of visits across these areas to assess potential sites, engage volunteer groups and examine local as well as national archive holdings – including the five Historic Environment Record (HER) offices which span the study areas.

This pilot was designed to test the co-ordination and use of volunteers who systematically identified, researched and recorded relevant sites in their own locales. The methodologies used to do this will be outlined in this document. The results were compiled into a MIDAS Heritage Standard database, ready to be imported into the English Heritage National Record of the Historic Environment (NRHE) database and relevant HERs where they would complement and enhance the existing AMIE resource.

This Pilot Handbook completes the submissions to English Heritage in accordance with an agreement set out in the Pilot Project Design (Glass 2012) and should be examined in conjunction with 'The Home Front (1914-1918) and its Legacies' final report (Saunders *et al* 2014). This work laid the foundation for a UK-wide recording project led by the Council for British Archaeology (CBA) and English Heritage which was designed to coincide with the 2014-18 centenary years of the First World War.

Domestic dwellings were used during the First World War by middle-class ladies who chose to do their bit for the war effort by undertaking group activities that would aid those who were fighting abroad. In 1915 a Miss Edwards registered her Newcastle-under-Lyme house (Figure 2) as a War Hospital Supply Depot to co-ordinate parties of workers, mostly ladies, who carried out war work. These places were devoted to creating garments, roller and triangular bandages, swabs, dressings, knitting and cutting patterns.

## 2.2 Industrial

Many First World War industrial structures that were created or appropriated during the conflict have been lost through the more recent modernisation or relocation of processing and manufacturing. Through extensive research, Dr Jim Lewis has explored the important wartime role played by industries in the Lea Valley. In addition to well-known industrial complexes, such as the Enfield Royal Small Arms Factory, he has highlighted a wealth of archive material and a rich physical legacy pertaining to industries that contributed a range of products and services to the war effort (Lewis 1999, 2001, 2009a, 2009b, 2010a, 2010b).

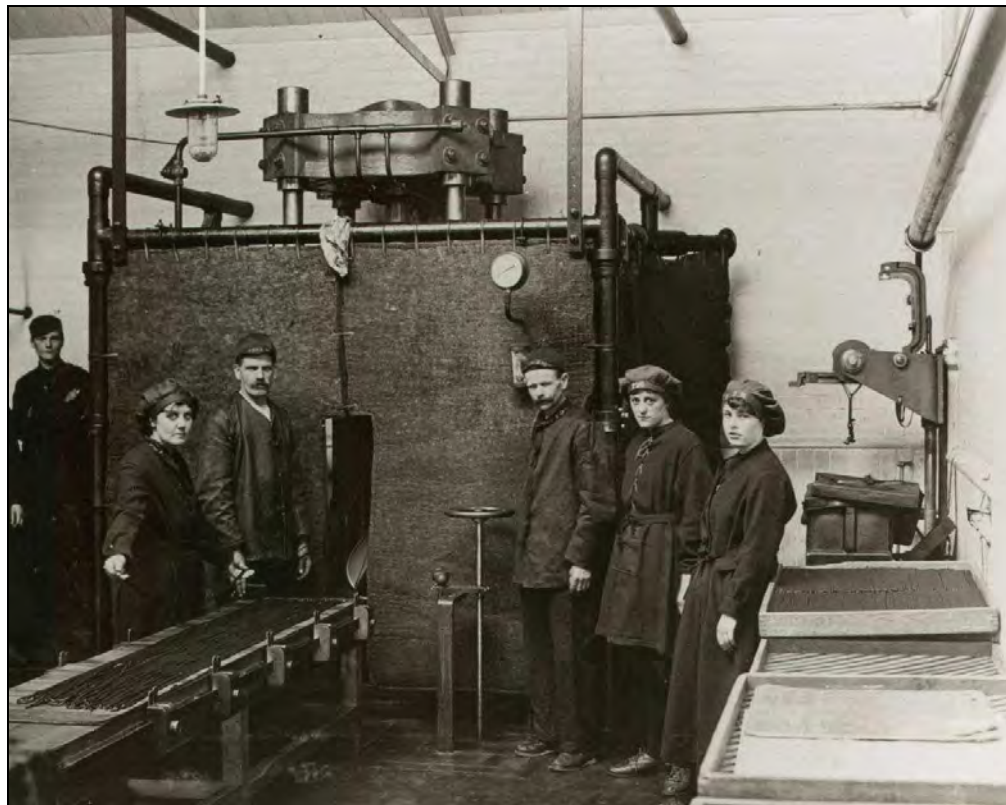
The redevelopment of large complexes and individual buildings over time has highlighted the importance of documenting the function and location of these places. It is in this way that a sense of the Home Front industrial landscape can be created and what remains today can be assessed. Examples of industrial-related Home Front sites available for recording would include:

- Industrial structures and associated new settlements. This includes new factories and workshops as well as existing ones that increased or adapted their production during the war years and hence had an altered architectural footprint
- Factories related to the chemicals, ammunition and gas industries or communications technologies and associated welfare facilities
- Industrial workers accommodation or housing created as a direct response to the increased need for workers at e.g. a munitions factory
- Weapons, military equipment or machinery factories, including those who had previously manufactured non-conflict related items

- Buildings where named persons lived who contributed in a demonstrable way to the industrial war effort e.g. workers or management personnel of factories or other war-related industries

### 2.2.1 Case Study: Cordite Incorporating House, Royal Gunpowder Mills, Waltham Abbey

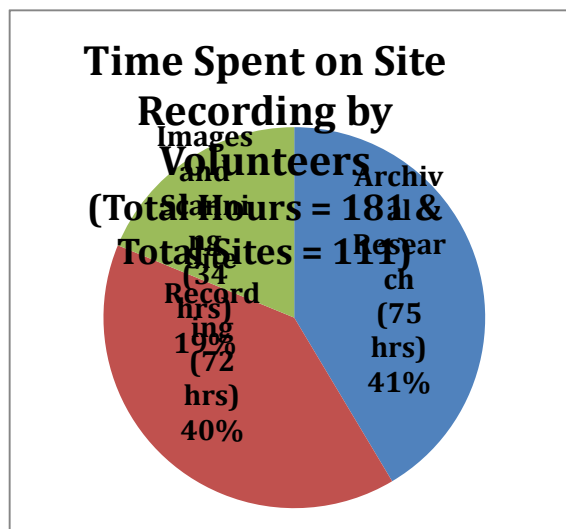
The footprint of the Royal Gunpowder Mills Factory at Waltham Abbey contains a multitude of buildings relating to industrial technologies that were developed before and during the First World War. By examining large facilities such as this it is possible to highlight the technological advancements and associated societal change that occurred during the conflict. The demand for cordite was substantially increased during the First World War which led to a massive expansion of the Cordite Factory area at the Royal Gunpowder Mills. With a diminished male workforce during wartime, the number of female staff hired at the factory was significantly increased in order to meet this intensified manufacturing output (Figure 3).



**Figure 3:** Male and Female workers inside No. 2 Cordite Incorporating House in 1917, Royal Gunpowder Mills (Ref: WASC 1655/28)

### 3.6 Time Estimates for Recording First World War Sites

The pilot participants estimated how much time was spent undertaking research, recording sites and downloading/numbering images or documents. The combined total hours for each task were averaged across the total number of sites (Figure 9). It is worth noting that the research and field recording used the same proportion of time, whereas the image work was roughly half of that amount. This breakdown can be used to provide approximate timescales for research groups when planning their Home Front site recording.

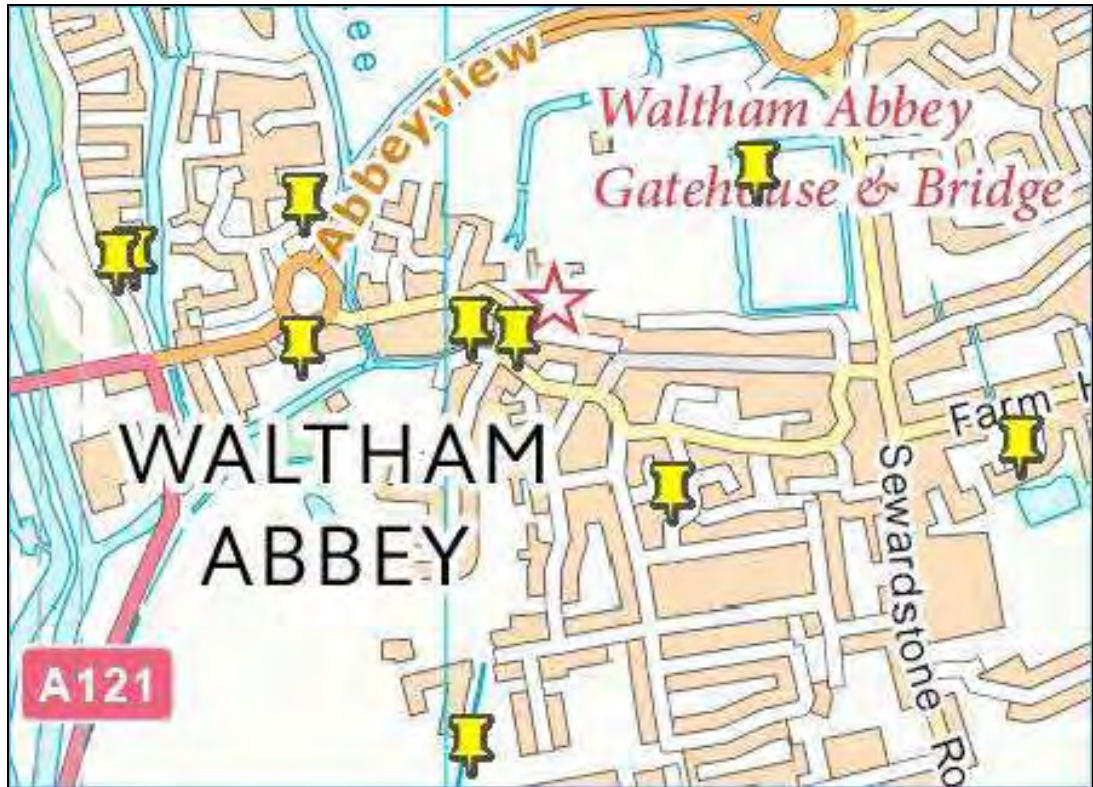


**Figure 9:** Chart showing breakdown of site recording time by volunteers

### 3.7 Mapping

Once the information on the Site Report Forms is inputted into the Access database, the 12-figure NGR for each record can be used to generate a site atlas (Figure 10). This would be composed of spatially located pins over a map which could be clicked by the user to show some of the information recorded for that

particular First World War site, such as Site Type and description. This type of map would enable the user to view the typological range and spatial relationships of the sites that have been recorded. The atlas (if saved as a .kml file) could be opened using Google Earth or converted to an ESRI shapefile for use in another programme.



**Figure 10:** Map of Home Front sites in Waltham Abbey contains Ordnance Survey data © Crown Copyright and database right 2013

The creation of an accurate map with clickable pins to represent the buildings, places and spaces that have been recorded would be an invaluable interpretation tool for examining the Home Front landscape. The map could be divided into separate Site Type layers that can be switched on or off to examine different Home Front themes. This map would also identify Home Front activity hot-spots and draw attention to those areas which were affected to a much lesser degree by the First World War. This map should be accessible online and updated as the site documentation progresses to act as a visual tool for participants who can examine the results of their recording work. Overall, mapping the Home Front in this way would demonstrate the impact of the conflict on the landscape and communities of Britain by highlighting the physical and social re-organisation that was required.

A thesaurus can be poly-hierarchical. That is to say, a broad term can appear in more than one hierarchy and under more than one class.

eg. **FACTORY**

**EXPLOSIVES FACTORY**

**EXPLOSIVES MANUFACTURING SITE**

**EXPLOSIVES FACTORY**

**EXPLOSIVES FACTORY** appears under two separate hierarchies.

In the creation of hierarchies it is sometimes necessary to use a term to group archaeological event types together but that grouping term itself is not intended to be used to index with. This is referred to as a non index term and is identified in the attached listings as a non-bold, capitalised term (eg. AIR DEFENCE SITE) whilst an index term is identified as a bold, capitalised term (eg. **ANTI AIRCRAFT BATTERY**).

### **2.1.3 The Associative relationship**

Terms can be associated with each other but not necessarily connected by a hierarchy. This means that one site type can be associated with another which comes under a different broad term but where the two site types are similar in concept. These are referred to as “related terms”. Such terms are often used as an aid to help enquirers find terms similar to the initial term which are not always immediately obvious.

eg. **CORDITE FACTORY**

RT **GUNCOTTON FACTORY**

A **CORDITE FACTORY** is similar to a **GUNCOTTON FACTORY** and vice versa, so the related term is another term that should be looked at if the enquirer wants to broaden their original search.

## **2.2 Class**

The terms within the thesaurus are grouped by classes and not the broadest noun term (Top Term). These groupings have been used to aid search and retrieval but are not part of the hierarchy of terms.



## First World War Project Thesaurus Quick Reference:

### GUNPOWDER WORKS

### Your 'Site Type' – taken from the Thesaurus list

- UF** Gunpowder Factory  
Gunpowder Mill  
Powder Mill
- SN** A site used for the manufacture  
of gunpowder
- CL** INDUSTRIAL
- BT** GUNPOWDER MANUFACTURING  
SITE
- NT** BREAKING DOWN HOUSE  
DUSTING HOUSE
- RT** SALTPETRE WORKS

#### **UF = USE FOR**

Indicates the NON-PREFERRED TERM(S) covered by a PREFERRED TERM;

eg. **ENGINEERING WORKS**  
UF **Engine Manufactory**  
**Engine Works**  
**Traction Engine Works**

#### **SN = SCOPE NOTE**

A limited definition of a term and/or guidance on its use

#### **CL = CLASS**

The highest term within a HIERARCHY. These terms are used as grouping terms to aid retrieval and as such are NON-INDEX TERMS.

#### **BT = BROADER TERM**

A term that represents a parent to a term or other terms within a CLASS. The Broader Term (BT) is super-ordinate to its subordinate NARROWER TERM (NT). The relationship between a broader term and a narrower term is usually generic.

One term may have many narrower terms, and in turn, each narrower term may itself have narrower terms, thus allowing the thesaurus to be MULTI-LEVEL:

eg. **COMMEMORATIVE MONUMENT** is the broader term of **COMMEMORATIVE STONE**, which is the broader term of **DATE STONE**.

#### **NT = NARROWER TERM**

A term that represents a child to other terms within a CLASS;

eg. **CANNON BORING MILL** is a Narrower Term of **BORING MILL**. A Narrower Term can have more than one BROADER TERM (BT), eg. **CANNON BORING MILL** is also a Narrower Term of **ARMAMENT MANUFACTURING SITE**.

#### **RT = RELATED TERM**

A RELATED TERM is a PREFERRED TERM which can be linked to another PREFERRED TERM conceptually but not hierarchically.

eg. **ORDNANCE FACTORY** and **ARSENAL**.

The thesaurus allows for terms to be related in the *same* hierarchy when a particularly strong link occurs

If a Site Type is listed in BOLD TYPE, this means it is the PREFERRED TERM to be used for your site. This should be used instead of a NON-PREFERRED TERM, listed in non-bold type, eg. For **Gunpowder Mill** USE **GUNPOWDER WORKS**.

# The Home Front (1914-1918) and its Legacies:

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## Final Report



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## **Inside Summary**

### **Summary**

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This pilot was designed to test the co-ordination and use of volunteers who systematically identified, researched and recorded relevant sites in their own locales. The results were compiled into a MIDAS Heritage Standard database, ready to be imported into the English Heritage National Record of the Historic Environment (NRHE) database and relevant HERs where they will complement and enhance the existing AMIE resource.

This document forms the final report submitted to English Heritage in accordance with an agreement set out in the Pilot Project Design (Glass 2012). In addition, a Handbook was created to assist volunteers to choose, research and record suitable sites for the pilot. Both of these will lay the groundwork for a future recording project led by the Council for British Archaeology (CBA) and English Heritage. This expansion is subject to funding, but would widen the scope of this recording work across a national level to coincide with the 2014-18 centenary years of the First World War.

### **Contributors**

This pilot project was managed by Dr Nicholas Saunders (University of Bristol) and Dr John Schofield (University of York) with Emily Glass (University of Bristol) as Project Officer. Valuable additional support was given by Jim Pimpernell (University of Bristol) who created the pilot database and facilitated the site mapping.

### **Acknowledgements**

This project has been indebted to the English Heritage Project Lead Wayne Cocroft, who has provided invaluable advice, direction and knowledge towards the successful completion of this pilot. The patience and assistance of Paul Adams, Phil Carlisle and Matthew Reynolds of the English Heritage Data Standards Unit has also been crucial during the course of the pilot.

## 1.5 Pilot Areas

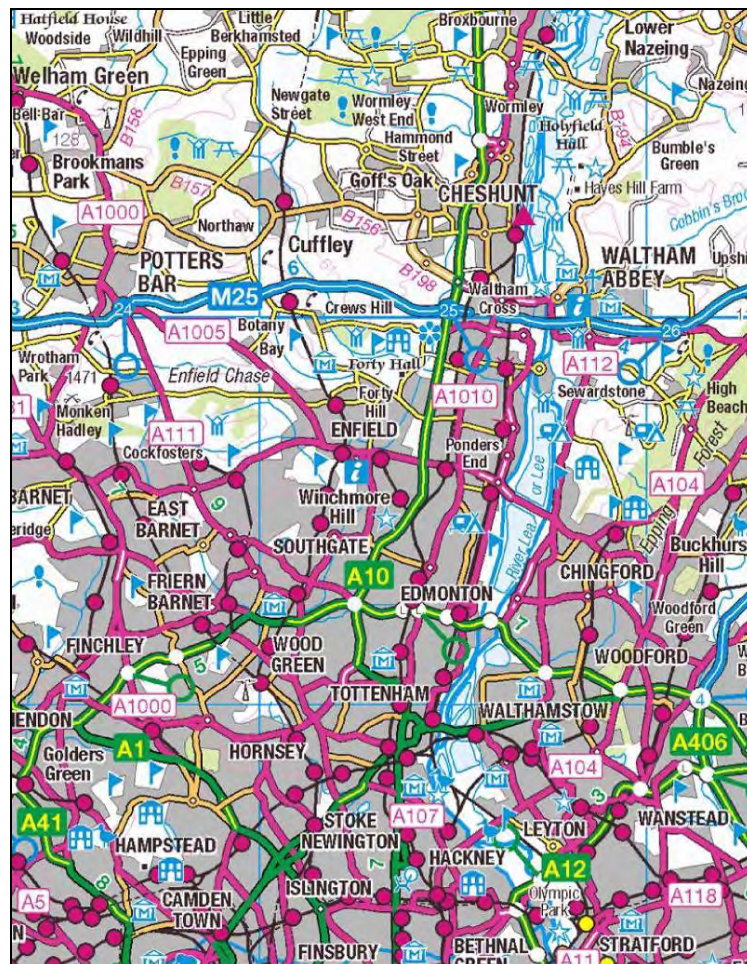
The pilot study was undertaken in the Lea Valley and Staffordshire (Figure 3). These represent places where First World War archaeological research has already been undertaken and the HER officers and local groups are familiar with this period. Additionally, there are well documented First World War links between these areas: both were subjected to aerial bombardment, Staffordshire less so than the Lea Valley, and the German aircrew of two 1916 airships downed in the Lea Valley area (the SL11 shot down at Cuffley and the L31 which crashed at Potters Bar) were transferred post-war to the German Cemetery at Cannock Chase in Staffordshire.



**Figure 3:** Map of UK showing location of pilot areas – Staffordshire and Lea Valley. ©Digimap - ©Crown Copyright / Database Right 2009, Generated in ©ArcGIS (©Author)

The Lea Valley (Figure 4) in north-east London denotes an area centred on the River Lea around Harlow and Epping Forest in west Essex, south-east Hertfordshire and the Greater London boroughs of Enfield, Waltham Forest, Hackney and east Haringey. This area has a great diversity of extant physical evidence available as it was a key industrial and innovation area and was one of the first areas to experience the world's first Blitz. The Lea Valley also takes in the Royal Gunpowder Mills heritage site, the Royal Small Arms Factory at Enfield Lock and air, water and land transport developments. The Lea Valley landscape was also transformed during the conflict as a result of the increased requirement for home grown food due to German U-boat attacks on supply ships.

Previous work on First World War remains in this area has been undertaken by the Great War Archaeological Group (GWAG) who investigated the archaeological potential in 2005 (Faulkner and Durrani 2008), and Dr Jim Lewis who has published extensively on the diverse industrial and social heritage of the Lea Valley (Lewis 1999, 2001, 2009a, 2009b, 2010a, 2010b).



**Figure 4:** The Lea Valley pilot Area. ©Digimap - ©Crown Copyright / Database Right 2009, Generated in ©ArcGIS (©Author)

### 3.2.1 Site Type Sampling Strategy: Royal Gunpowder Mills Volunteer Group

An example of how to choose and record a suitable range of Site Types for the pilot project was supplied by volunteers at the Royal Gunpowder Mills in Waltham Abbey (Figure 12).



**Figure 12:** Les Tucker and Len Stuart of the Royal Gunpowder Mills volunteer group, one of the eight groups who participated in the First World War pilot

The volunteers operated exclusively within the footprint of the original factory, utilising their knowledge of the history and condition of the complex to create eight separate First World War recording groups. These categories enabled a range of extant and destroyed factory buildings to be recorded by researching if they were constructed before 1914 or built during the conflict. Particular attention was drawn to sites that relate specifically to the production of cordite and to those which have been adapted for re-used since the war.

1. Built in the First World War (FWW). Extant. Within cordite factory (3 Sites)
2. Built Pre-FWW. Converted to cordite. Employed in FWW. Extant. Within cordite factory (4 Sites)
3. Built Pre-FWW. Employed in FWW. Extant. Ancillary to cordite factory (2 Sites)
4. Built Pre-FWW. Employed in FWW. Demolished (1 Site)
5. Built in the FWW. Demolished (4 Sites)
6. Built Pre-FWW. Employed in FWW. Within nitroglycerine factory. Production of base product for cordite. Extant, but derelict (2 Sites)
7. Built in FWW. Extant. In adaptive re use (1 Site)
8. Built Pre-FWW. Employed in FWW. Extant. In adaptive re use (1 Site)

The Royal Gunpowder Mills Factory is an expanse of industrial heritage that has been in existence for over 300 years. The current factory footprint is much reduced however there is ample First World War potential available across the site. Much of the area has already been documented nationally and is listed on the Essex HER. The site has been a subject of research for many years resulting in numerous publications, e.g. Cocroft (2000), which document historical and material aspects of the factory. The Royal Gunpowder Mills volunteers combined their pilot recording with copies of a 1994 condition survey for 15 of their recorded sites and used the opportunity to highlight the potential demolition threat to the First World War cordite production areas.

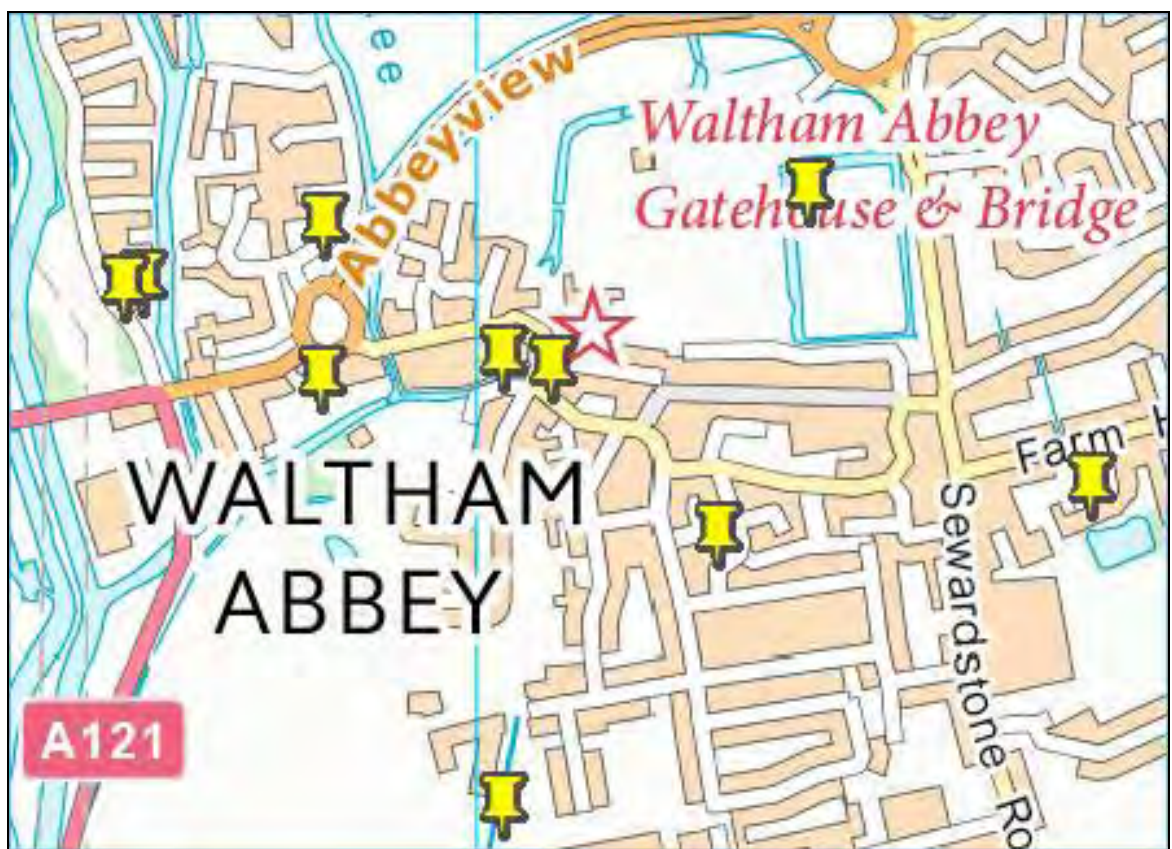
### 3.3 Thesaurus and Database

The First World War specific thesaurus of Site Types was created by extracting relevant terms from pre-existing English Heritage Monument Type and Defence of Britain thesauri. Further terms were subsequently added to cover the range of sites that were encountered and recorded by the pilot volunteers. Figure 13 shows the recorded pilot sites divided into their English Heritage thesaurus CLASS types.

The Access MIDAS standard database was constructed so that the Site Type field was mandatory. Therefore each record required the input of at least one term from the First World War thesaurus. In some cases, a record was cross-indexed with multiple Site Type terms to represent its full First World War use or uses. For example, Eley's Cartridge Works (SRN: 902) at Ponders End was recorded using

### 3.4 Site Mapping

Once the information recorded by the pilot was inputted into the Access database, the 12-figure NGR for each record was used to generate the site atlas (Figure 15). This was composed of spatially located pins on a map which could be clicked by the user to show information recorded for that particular First World War site, such as Site Type and description. An atlas such as this can enable the user to view the typological range and spatial relationships of the sites recorded during the pilot. The atlas was saved as a .kml file which can be opened using Google Earth or converted to an ESRI shapefile for use in another programme. This has been supplied to English Heritage and HERs on the same DVDs as the photographs.



**Figure 15:** Map of Home Front sites in Waltham Abbey contains Ordnance Survey data © Crown Copyright and database right 2013



During the First World War an air raid shelter was constructed within the gardens of Waltham Abbey (SRN: 300) for use by the watercress bed workers. A brick shelter currently exists south of the precinct wall, backing onto Darby Drive and it was this structure that had been assumed to date from the First World War. However, research conducted by the Waltham Abbey Historical Society for this pilot project conclusively proved that the brick shelter was a Second World War construction. A contemporary photograph exists in the collection of the Waltham Abbey Historical Society showing the earlier air raid shelter (Figure 23). The group had previously identified the female figure in the image as Mrs Julia Pryor who was from a family of market gardeners in Waltham Abbey and who died in 1948. The Waltham Abbey Historical Society used this photograph to identify and record the true location of the First World War shelter and note that no remains of the structure are visible today.



**Figure 24:** SRN: 514 - Royal Gunpowder Mills air raid shelters near Main Office. Image dated to 14<sup>th</sup> November 1918 (RGPM Collection Ref: A.96)

At the Waltham Abbey Royal Gunpowder Mills, a series of 7ft high overground air raid shelters (SRN: 514) were constructed to protect factory staff during the First

World War (Figure 23). Although these structures were dismantled soon after the conflict, their location has been identified as being adjacent to the main office.

### 3.5.4 Industrial

Almost 20 percent of the sites recorded during the pilot were industrial facilities or factory buildings that produced items for use during the First World War. These were all recorded within the Lea Valley area, although clearly Staffordshire contains many well-established manufacturing companies that adapted their output to suit the needs of the nation. The pottery industries in Staffordshire catered for an increase in chemical and ammunition production by manufacturing moulds, acid stoneware tanks, nitrating pans and industrial sized chemical resistant containers. The production of finer tableware at the potteries continued to a lesser degree and in some cases adapted production to reflect the austerity and attitude of the times. The Grimwade's factory at Stoke produced a range of pottery pieces bearing propaganda messages on food economisation and cartoons by the British author and humorist Bruce Bairnsfather depicting his 'Fragments from France' drawings (see: [http://www.brucebairnsfather.org.uk/index\\_files/page0006.htm](http://www.brucebairnsfather.org.uk/index_files/page0006.htm)).

Many factories received war contracts to modify or increase their existing production to supply the increased number of soldiers with clothing and equipment. Staffordshire housed a number of boot and shoe industries who fulfilled war production contracts to supply footwear for the army. In the Lea Valley a contract was given to Alexander Findlay's Genotin Blouse Factory in Enfield (SRN: 807) to produce 40 dozen, or 480, shirts for soldiers per month. This factory building has since been demolished, the land cleared and the site is awaiting redevelopment.

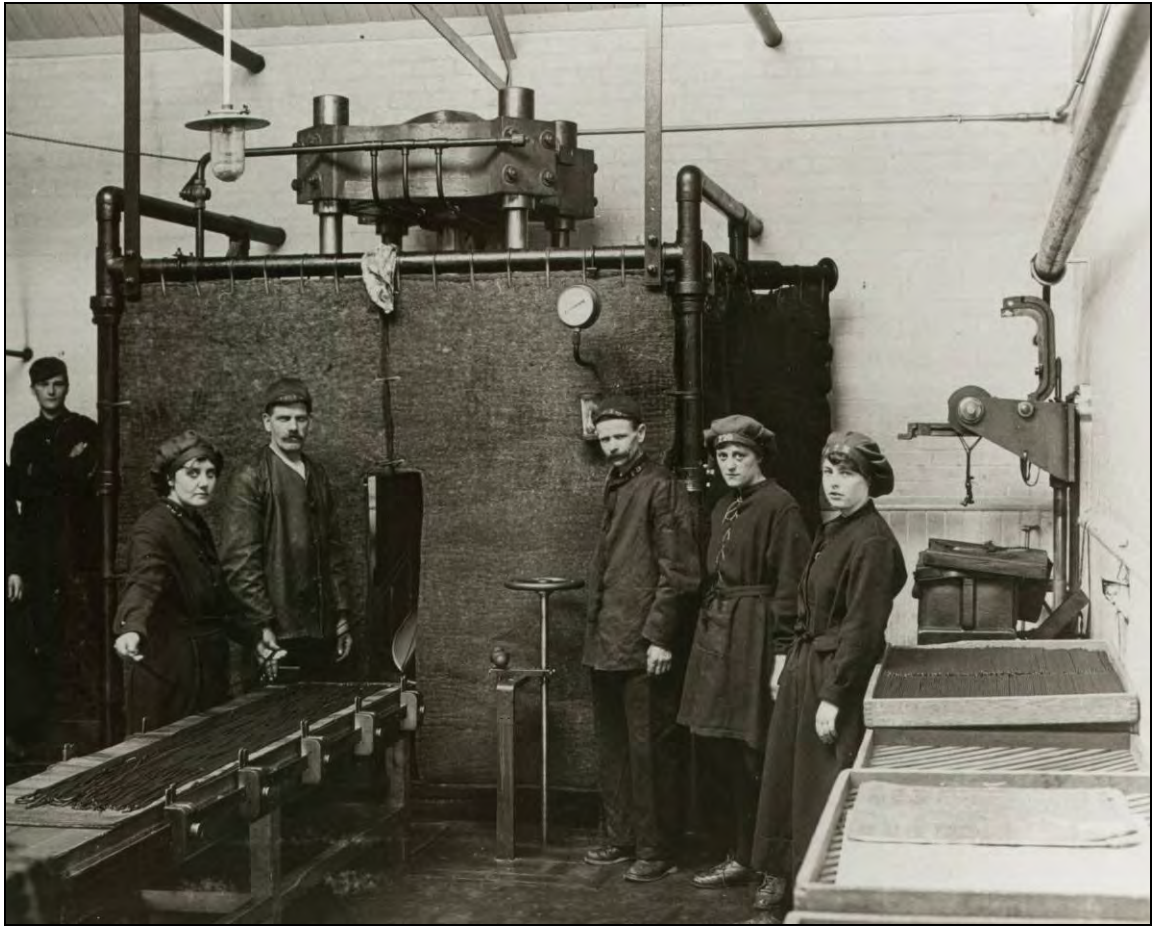
The First World War led to a substantial increase in the production of ammunition. This was reflected through the construction of new and enlarged industrial facilities, some of which were recorded during the pilot project. In 1916 the Ponders End Shell Works in Enfield (SRN: 903) was constructed as a direct response to the increased demand for shells on the Western Front. The factory employed 6,000 people, including a large female workforce, on day and night shifts. The works closed in 1919 and many of the buildings within the vast complex were sold off or demolished. A second ammunition factory was recorded in Enfield at Angel Road, known as Eley's Cartridge Works (SRN: 902). This factory was built in 1894 and produced 209 million .303 cartridges during the First World War. Eley's closed in 1921 and all production was transferred to the Nobel's Factory in Waltham Abbey (SRN: 301) which was recorded as having supplied munitions for war contracts (Figure 25).



**Figure 25:** SRN: 301 – Workers from Nobel's Factory, Waltham Abbey in 1915 (WAHS/Ray Sears)

Within the footprint of the Royal Gunpowder Mills Factory at Waltham Abbey, 19 sites were recorded during the pilot by the Royal Gunpowder Mills Volunteers. They investigated buildings utilised during the First World War by exploring those which had existed pre-war as well as those constructed during 1914-18. Through this it was possible to highlight technological advancements and social changes that occurred during the conflict.

Many of these buildings related to the production of Cordite, for which there was a substantial increase in demand during the First World War. This requirement led to a massive expansion of the Cordite Factory area to accommodate this increased manufacturing output. The pilot recorded two Cordite Incorporating Houses which were constructed before (SRN: 504) and during (SRN: 501) (Figure 26) the First World War. This was also the case for two Cordite Press Houses which were recorded as dating to pre-war (SRN: 505) and to 1916 (SRN: 502) (Figure 27). Additional Cordite Factory buildings were recorded as: Mineral Jelly Store (SRN: 503), Cordite Dough Store (SRN: 506), Cordite Tray Magazine (SRN: 507), Reel Drying Stove (SRN: 508), Guncotton Stove (SRN: 509), Corning House (SRN: 512), Wet Guncotton Magazine (SRN: 513), Hydraulic Accumulator Tower (SRN: 517) and a Power House (SRN: 518).



**Figure 26:** SRN: 501 – Workers inside No. 2 Cordite Incorporating House in 1917, Royal Gunpowder Mills (Ref: WASC 1655/28)



**Figure 27:** SRN: 502 – Present condition of Cordite Press House No. 5, Royal Gunpowder Mills

Of the thirteen structures recorded that related to Cordite production, eleven remain extant in varying states of preservation. Seven of these were recorded as being in a 'Fair' condition, one as 'Bad' and three as 'Good'. Two of the buildings recorded as being in a good state of preservation currently have an adaptive re-use function and as such have been renovated. Many of the Cordite Factory buildings are in such a condition that they would require funding in order to preserve and maintain them. There is the possibility that these buildings could be considered for adaptive reuse as workshops. However this idea has not yet succeeded in moving forward, so the future of these facilities is uncertain at present.

Two sites relating to the production of Nitroglycerine were recorded, both were constructed pre-war and were documented as being in 'Very Bad' condition. A Nitroglycerine Nitrator (SRN: 515) and a Nitroglycerine Washing House (SRN: 516). Figure 28 shows the exterior view of SRN 515, the 'Nitrating House Edmonsea' in 1897, which can be compared with Figure 29 showing the same structure in its more recent form.



**Figure 28:** SRN: 515 - Nitroglycerine Nitrator in 1897 (RGPM Ref: No.91/Neg. A.40)



**Figure 29:** SRN: 515 – Recent condition of Nitroglycerine Nitrator, Royal Gunpowder Mills

Not all of the structures recorded at the Royal Gunpowder Mills related to industrial production. On-site welfare facilities for male factory workers, known as Sandhurst Hospital, had been constructed in 1894 (SRN: 510). However in 1916, due to the increased numbers of women munitions workers, it was necessary to create a new hospital for female employees only (SRN: 511) which was built adjacent to Sandhurst Hospital. Both of these buildings were demolished sometime after the RCHME survey of 1993.

Many industrial structures created and utilised during the First World War period have been lost through the modernisation or relocation of industrial processing and manufacturing. Through extensive research, Dr Jim Lewis has explored the important wartime role played by industries in the Lea Valley. In addition to well-known industrial complexes, such as the Enfield Royal Small Arms Factory, he has highlighted a wealth of archive material and a rich physical legacy pertaining to industries that contributed a range of products and services to the war effort (Lewis 1999, 2001, 2009a, 2009b, 2010a, 2010b). The redevelopment of large complexes and individual buildings over time has highlighted the importance of documenting the function and location of these places. It is in this way that a sense of the Home Front industrial landscape can be created and what remains today can be assessed.

The pilot recorded a few places with good potential for further investigation work through geophysical survey and/or archaeological excavation. This could only be realised at places where open space is available and therefore the below-ground potential can be accessed to answer questions. Any geophysical results could be ground truthed with trenches to see if the results tally with the research. Sites that would be suitable for this include country houses and estates where hospitals and military training camps were established, military installations for attack and defence, and civilian air raid shelter locations. Prior to any actual excavation being undertaken, researchers should consult their local Historic Environment Record (HER) officer to acquire the most up to date information on the site in question and comprehend the logistics of such an operation. After which it would be recommended that an in-depth archaeological Desk Based Assessment with map regression was conducted to fully comprehend the landscape changes that have occurred at the site in question.

The following sites recorded during the pilot have the most potential for archaeological examination:

- The recently demolished Sewardstone Hall building and grounds (SRN: 319) which were used by the Royal Navy in support of RNAS Chingford. The land is now used for camping and is therefore accessible.
- Beech Hill Park mansion and grounds (SRN: 415), where a battalion was billeted and trained. This area is now used as a golf course and club house, however it is unclear how much landscaping occurred to facilitate this.
- Folly Farm (SRN: 401) was a multi-use site. Prior to the war it functioned as a pig farm and pleasure garden with rides and a large tea room. It was requisitioned during the conflict for military training and parades and was the location of a peace party after the close of the war. This area was subsequently built on for housing and a Secondary School which has retained some green space that could be investigated, possibly as a school centenary project.
- Training trench locations at Nazeing (SRN: 109), reported to have been in the field below the church. This could be tested by survey and excavation.
- The women's hospital (SRN: 511) of the Waltham Abbey Royal Gunpowder Mills was built during the First World War as a direct response to the increased female workforce. A longer established male hospital (SRN: 510) also existed at the factory. Both buildings were demolished sometime after

1993, but may provide an opportunity for a unique investigation into gender, welfare and industry through comparative analysis of the two sites.

Some of the places recorded in the pilot are still extant and would be suitable for further research combined with standing building recording and, if present, an analysis of any graffiti. Potential sites for this would include:

- Barnet Court House (SRN: 405) which was constructed in 1916 during the war with a built-in air raid shelter in the basement.
- Alexandra Palace (SRN: 307) which first functioned as a place of sanctuary and later for internment.
- Air raid shelters that still stand, such as the railway viaduct arches at Edmonton Green (SRN: 806).
- In addition, there are large numbers of private houses and public or religious buildings which were requisitioned as hospitals that would be interesting to record and examine to a deeper level.

Any investigation work would need to take into account that the First World War conflict was a relatively short-term event in history with a devastating aftermath that continues to impact the present. The landscape in some First World War locations was severely affected, whereas in others modifications due to the conflict were (and still are) barely noticeable. To counteract this discrepancy, a research agenda comprising archive research with an associated field examination of the landscape should be followed to create the most beneficial results. The next section in this report contains selected examples of current and planned First World War projects on local and national scales to illustrate the range of potential present in the UK.



## 5 Other First World War projects

Any future national recording project would need to utilise effective communication to co-ordinate its study and engagement aims with other planned initiatives, thereby avoiding an overlap of research efforts or duplication of data. This chapter will briefly outline a few key First World War projects planned in each pilot study area and highlight other national centennial plans and organisations. This selection is by no means exhaustive and predominantly reflects those projects that were encountered during the pilot study.

### 5.1 Lea Valley pilot area

The Lea Valley lies within the boundaries of a project proposed by The Battlefields Trust to investigate the aerial bombardment of London and the south-east 1914-18. This 'First Blitz Project' plans to raise awareness of the German bombing campaign against Britain during the First World War with an emphasis on how this impacted the local population. This is to be achieved through close working with community groups and local services but also by undertaking a series of commemorative events. Within the remit of this project there will be buildings and places investigated that have the potential to be recorded utilising the pilot study methodology. These may include the locations of searchlights, anti-aircraft guns, bomb sites, crash sites and aerial warfare training facilities. Collaborative working opportunities were discussed between the pilot project and the Battlefields Trust Chairman, Frank Baldwin and the London and south-east Chairman Harvey Watson. Subsequently, an outline of this 'Legacies' pilot was presented at the initial 'First Blitz Project' meeting in January 2013. The Battlefields Trust have since advanced their project plans and examined the Site Report Forms for use in the future. See their webpage for further information and contact details: <http://www.battlefieldstrust.com/page110.asp>

At Waltham Abbey the 'Women at War' photographic exhibition is currently on display at the Royal Gunpowder Mills. This contains selected First World War images from the Imperial War Museum which show the range of roles undertaken by mostly un-named females within Home Front industries. It has been proposed that this exhibition be expanded and updated as part of the Royal Gunpowder Mills centenary plans, potentially housing it inside the 1915 Cordite Press House if sufficient funds can be acquired to restore the building.

In Hertfordshire, the 'Herts at War' project is a community-led project to commemorate the role of the county during the First World War. It aims to highlight and preserve the diverse experiences of Hertfordshire residents on the fighting and home fronts for future generations. Throughout the 2014-18 centenary the group

## APPENDIX C

### List of Groups & Researchers contacted:

#### **Lea Valley:**

- Chingford Historical Society
- Epping Forest District Museum
- Enfield Archaeological Society
- Enfield Local Studies Museum and Archives
- Friends of the Royal Gunpowder Mills, Waltham Abbey Volunteers
- Great War Archaeology Group (London)
- Loughton and District Historical Society
- Lowewood Museum, Hertfordshire
- Nazeing History Workshop
- The Enfield Society
- Vestry House Museum, Waltham Forest
- Waltham Abbey Historical Society
- West Essex Archaeology Group

#### **Staffordshire:**

- East Staffordshire Community and Voluntary Services
- Friends of the Museum of Cannock Chase
- Friends of the Nicholson War Memorial, Leek
- Newcastle-under-Lyme Museum and Art Gallery
- North Staffordshire & East Cheshire Western Front Association
- Staffordshire Regiment Museum

SRN	Town	County / UA	Site Recorded	Thesaurus Term	EH Thesaurus Class	NGR (E/N)
302	Waltham Abbey	Essex	Peace Party celebrating end of FWW	HISTORICAL SITE (Street Party)	COMMEMORATIVE	538025/20 0170
303	Waltham Abbey	Essex	Peace Party celebrating end of FWW	HISTORICAL SITE (Street Party)	COMMEMORATIVE	538232/20 0429
304	Waltham Abbey	Essex	Event of Gathering and Departure of Yeomanry to Front and Yeomanry Local HQ & Storage Depot	STORAGE DEPOT, MILITARY HEADQUARTERS & EMBARKATION POINT	MILITARY DEFENCE AND FORTIFICATION	538072/20 0587
305	Waltham Abbey	Essex	Waltham Abbey Town Hall used as Military Hospital in FWW	AUXILIARY HOSPITAL, REQUISITIONED BUILDING & MILITARY HOSPITAL	MILITARY DEFENCE AND FORTIFICATION	538023/20 0598
306	Waltham Abbey	Essex	Wounded Soldiers from SRN: 305 on an outing and being entertained	HISTORICAL SITE (Concert)	COMMEMORATIVE	538590/20 0475
307	Haringey	Greater London	Alexandra Palace - Reception Centre for Refugees AND later POW camp	RECEPTION CENTRE, DISPLACED PERSONS CAMP, REQUISITIONED BUILDING & PRISONER OF WAR CAMP	MILITARY DEFENCE AND FORTIFICATION	529610/19 0071
308	Waltham Abbey	Essex	House - Official residence of RGPM Superintendent	OFFICIAL RESIDENCE	DOMESTIC	537849/20 0578
309	Waltham Abbey	Essex	House - Official residence of Assistant Superintendent of the RGPM	OFFICIAL RESIDENCE	DOMESTIC	537853/20 0725
310	Waltham Abbey	Essex	Domestic hospital used in FWW as Military Hospital	MILITARY HOSPITAL & HOSPITAL	MILITARY DEFENCE AND FORTIFICATION	540452/20 0251
311	Waltham Abbey	Essex	Gravestone	GRAVESTONE	RELIGIOUS RITUAL AND FUNERARY	538529/20 0071
312	Waltham Abbey	Essex	Gravestone	GRAVESTONE	RELIGIOUS RITUAL AND FUNERARY	538529/20 0071
313	Waltham Abbey	Essex	Gravestone	GRAVESTONE	RELIGIOUS RITUAL AND FUNERARY	538529/20 0071
314	Waltham Abbey	Essex	Gravestone	GRAVESTONE	RELIGIOUS RITUAL AND FUNERARY	538529/20 0071

SRN	Town	County / UA	Site Recorded	Thesaurus Term	EH Thesaurus Class	NGR (E/N)
416	Barnet	Greater London	St Pauls Church Room opened by locals for soldiers who were isolated by their billeting. Play quiet games, tea and buns served, songs sung, letter writing, reading	FOOD AND REST CENTRE	MILITARY DEFENCE AND FORTIFICATION	526486/19 8179
500	Waltham Abbey	Essex	RGPM Whole site	EXPLOSIVES FACTORY, GUNPOWDER WORKS & CORDITE FACTORY	INDUSTRIAL	537500/20 1500
501	Waltham Abbey	Essex	Cordite Incorporating House	CORDITE FACTORY & MIXING HOUSE	INDUSTRIAL	537719/20 1348
502	Waltham Abbey	Essex	Cordite Press House	PRESS HOUSE & CORDITE FACTORY	INDUSTRIAL	537800/20 1144
503	Waltham Abbey	Essex	Mineral Jelly Store	MINERAL JELLY STORE & CORDITE FACTORY	INDUSTRIAL	537712/20 1086
504	Waltham Abbey	Essex	Cordite Incorporating House	MIXING HOUSE & CORDITE FACTORY	INDUSTRIAL	537700/20 1292
505	Waltham Abbey	Essex	Cordite Press House	PRESS HOUSE & CORDITE FACTORY	INDUSTRIAL	537750/20 1174
506	Waltham Abbey	Essex	Cordite Dough Expense Magazine	CORDITE DOUGH STORE & CORDITE FACTORY	INDUSTRIAL	537781/20 1095
507	Waltham Abbey	Essex	Cordite Tray Magazine	GUNPOWDER WORKS & CORDITE FACTORY	INDUSTRIAL	537666/20 1440
508	Waltham Abbey	Essex	Reel Drying Stove	REEL DRYING STOVE & CORDITE FACTORY	INDUSTRIAL	537560/20 1100
509	Waltham Abbey	Essex	Guncotton Stove	GUNCOTTON STOVE & CORDITE FACTORY	INDUSTRIAL	537502/20 2271
510	Waltham Abbey	Essex	Male Munitions Workers Hospital	HOSPITAL & CORDITE FACTORY	HEALTH & WELFARE / INDUSTRIAL	537678/20 0669
511	Waltham Abbey	Essex	Female Munitions Workers Hospital	HOSPITAL & CORDITE FACTORY	HEALTH & WELFARE / INDUSTRIAL	537660/20 0665

SRN	Town	County / UA	Site Recorded	Thesaurus Term	EH Thesaurus Class	NGR (E/N)
512	Waltham Abbey	Essex	CE (Tetryl) Corning House	CORDITE FACTORY & CORNING HOUSE	INDUSTRIAL	537665/20 1850
513	Waltham Abbey	Essex	Wet Guncotton Magazine	CORDITE FACTORY & WET GUNCOTTON MAGAZINE	INDUSTRIAL	537624/20 2567
514	Waltham Abbey	Essex	Air Raid Shelter at Royal Gunpowder Mills	AIR RAID SHELTER & CORDITE FACTORY	MILITARY DEFENCE AND FORTIFICATION	537710/20 0958
515	Waltham Abbey	Essex	Nitroglycerine Nitrator	CORDITE FACTORY & NITROGLYCERINE WORKS	INDUSTRIAL	537514/20 2172
516	Waltham Abbey	Essex	Nitroglycerine Washing House	CORDITE FACTORY & NITROGLYCERINE WORKS	INDUSTRIAL	537534/20 2112
517	Waltham Abbey	Essex	Hydraulic Accumulator Tower	CORDITE FACTORY & HYDRAULIC ACCUMULATOR TOWER	INDUSTRIAL	537800/20 1020
518	Waltham Abbey	Essex	Power House	POWER HOUSE & CORDITE FACTORY	INDUSTRIAL	537780/20 1000
800	Enfield	Greater London	Open Air Bandstand	HISTORICAL SITE (Concert)	COMMEMORATIVE	532309/19 6740
801	Enfield	Greater London	School used for meeting after outbreak of war - used to enrol men in the civil guard	CIVIL DEFENCE BUILDING & MEETING HALL	MILITARY DEFENCE AND FORTIFICATION	533760/19 6520
802	Enfield	Greater London	Grovelands House requisitioned in 1916 for use as hospital with Decontamination Unit	DECONTAMINATION BUILDING, REQUISITIONED BUILDING, AUXILIARY HOSPITAL & MILITARY HOSPITAL	MILITARY DEFENCE AND FORTIFICATION	530380/19 4270
803	Enfield	Greater London	Rear of Enfield Palace with wounded soldiers being entertained at concert - Convalescence Hospital Event	HISTORICAL SITE (Concert)	COMMEMORATIVE	532735/19 6536

## APPENDIX F

Proposed candidate terms for English Heritage First World War thesaurus:

<b>Thesaurus Term with Scope Notes (Description)</b>	<b>Site Reference Numbers</b>	<b>Is this term already on EH Thesaurus?</b>
<b>CORDITE MANUFACTURING SITE</b>		
<b>(SN)</b> - Buildings, sites and structures associated with the production, testing and storage of Cordite		
<b>(CL)</b> - INDUSTRIAL		
<b>(BT)</b> - EXPLOSIVES MANUFACTURING SITE		
<b>(NT)</b> - SEE BELOW:		
<b>CORDITE MIXING HOUSE</b> - A building in which Nitroglycerine and dry Guncotton are blended to form cordite 'paste'		
<b>CORDITE INCORPORATING HOUSE</b> - A building in which cordite paste is blended with the solvent acetone and Vaseline to form cordite 'dough'	SRN: 501, 504	
<b>CORDITE PRESS HOUSE</b> - A building in which cordite dough is extruded in a hydraulic press to form finished rods 'cords'	SRN: 502, 505	
<b>CORDITE DOUGH STORE</b> - A building in which cordite dough is stored prior to extrusion	SRN: 506	
<b>CORDITE PASTE STORE (EXPENSE MAGAZINE)</b> - A building in which cordite paste is stored prior to movement to Incorporating House		
<b>ANCILLARY TO CORDITE MANUFACTURE</b>		
<b>WET GUNCOTTON MAGAZINE</b> - A building in which moist guncotton is stored prior to drying for cordite manufacture	SRN: 513	
<b>GUNCOTTON STOVE</b> - A building in which moist guncotton is dried by warm air to form dry guncotton for nitroglycerine manufacture	SRN: 509	
<b>MINERAL JELLY STORE</b> - A building in which Vaseline for cordite manufacture is stored	SRN: 503	Yes

<b>Thesaurus Term with Scope Notes (Description)</b>	<b>Site Reference Numbers</b>	<b>Is this term already on EH Thesaurus?</b>
<b>CHEMICAL SOLVENT STORE</b> - A building in which Acetone for cordite manufacture is stored		
<b>CORDITE DRYING STOVE</b> - A building in which cordite is dried by warm air		
<b>REEL DRYING STOVE</b> - A building in which small diameter cordite on reels is dried by warm air	SRN: 508	Yes
<b>REEL STORE</b> - A building in which reels of small diameter cordite are stored		
<b>HYDRAULIC ACCUMULATOR TOWER</b> - A tower shaped building containing apparatus connected with the production of hydraulic power for cordite manufacture	SRN: 517	
<b>ACETONE RECOVERY PLANT</b> - A building in which acetone vapour released from cordite drying is recovered for processing and reuse in cordite incorporation		
<b>OTHER TERMS:</b>		
<b>CE ( TETRYL) CORNING HOUSE</b> (within CE Factory) - Building in which CE is converted to grains	SRN: 512	
<b>NITROGLYCERINE NITRATOR</b> (within Nitroglycerine Factory) - Building in which glycerine is treated with acids to produce Nitroglycerine	SRN: 515	
<b>NITROGLYCERINE WASHING HOUSE</b> (Within Nitroglycerine Factory) - Building in which acid is removed from Nitroglycerine by washing	SRN: 516	