



World War 1 and the Lickey Hills

5. Buildings – Teacher's Notes

We are still unsure about how some of the WW1 buildings were used. This is your chance to think about how the site might have been organised

1. If a building on the plan is still standing you should shade the area that represents it on the plan.

See Attached plan

2. Make a list of the sort of things people living and working on the hills would need:

- a) Somewhere to sleep
- b) Somewhere to wash
- c) Somewhere to cook
- d) Somewhere to eat (canteen)
- e) Somewhere to wash clothes
- f) Somewhere to keep small guns/rifles locked up
- g) Light
- h) Heat
- i) Water
- j) Somewhere to check comings and goings
- k) A way of keeping unauthorised civilians out
- l) Toilets
- m) Offices
- n) Workshops (to make minor adjustments to guns/carriages)
- o) Storage

3. Label, with their use in WW1, any buildings you are sure of on the plan.

The Proof Butts/Bunker/Magazine (Munitions Store) /Toilets are the only buildings that we can attribute a specific use to.

4. Label the buildings on the plan with your best guess of what they might have been used for. Note down the reasons for your choice!

This is to make pupils think and discuss what the building use might be.

5. Do you think there are enough buildings to provide all the facilities for those living and working on the hills? What else might have been used to house men and facilities? Draw and label your ideas on the plan.

Temporary shelters: made of wood or canvas tents. Other buildings located on/near the site might have been used.

6. How do you think the soldiers stopped unauthorised civilians from getting too near to the Gun Testing.

We do not know how this military run site was planned and organised.

It is likely that the perimeter of the area was surrounded by curled barbed wire.

There might have been soldiers patrolling the perimeter and a checkpoint for goods/personnel in and out.

7. Why do you think some of the buildings were demolished?

To build something new (Visitor Centre)

If the building had deteriorated and was unsafe

Wooden building might have fallen down

If the buildings appearance was undesirable

To replace with more useful buildings- such as additional storage sheds in the quarry

Create space and access (Bunker in the Quarry)

8. Why have some buildings survived?

Change of use/because they're still useful:

Smaller building is now Ranger's Mess room

Larger building is now used as the School Room

One original building was altered/extended to become a private house

Proof Butts have been used for storage by Ranger Service

Toilets were used by visitors to the Lickey Hills until 1990s

It may have been anticipated that the site might be called into use again – future war(s)

SITE PLAN

