

# Information Guide

## Former Camp Davis

**North Carolina**

**Pender County**



### Rifle/Pistol Range



**US Army Corps  
of Engineers.**

## Introduction

The purpose of this guide is to provide information about the military training activities that took place at the former Camp Davis and to raise awareness of the hazards that may exist at the property.

The former Camp Davis, also known as Fort Davis, was used from the early 1940s to 1944 by the U.S. Army for anti-aircraft, gunnery, hand grenade and coastal artillery training. The U.S. Navy used a portion of the property for testing rocket motor propulsion systems from 1944 until the property was decommissioned in 1948. An area associated with the former Camp Davis, known as Rifle/Pistol Range, has been identified through historical research and site visits as having been used for small arms training. The munitions known or suspected to have been used at the range are small arms ammunition. Hazards associated with small arms ammunition may still remain on the property.

The Rifle/Pistol Range is located just west of U.S. Route 17, in Pender County, North Carolina. A portion of the former range is located within the town of Surf City. The majority of the land is publicly owned and is used as game lands. A portion of the land is privately owned and is used for residential purposes and as a private airport.



Source: Photo courtesy of David Stallman/  
Missiles and More Museum

View of the former Camp Davis, 1942

## Frequently Asked Questions

**Q:** Do small arms ranges present a health risk?

**A:** Lead fragments, both large and small, can be present in berms at small arms ranges. Lead may be harmful if there is repeated ingestion or repeated contact with skin. Because lead in the fragments presents a potential health hazard, the fragments should not be touched, moved, piled or disturbed in any way. The best thing to do is leave them alone.

**Q:** What should I do if I come into contact with lead fragments?

**A:** If you have walked through lead fragments, rinse off and remove your shoes before entering your home. If your hands and clothes have come into contact with fragments, wash your hands and clothes.

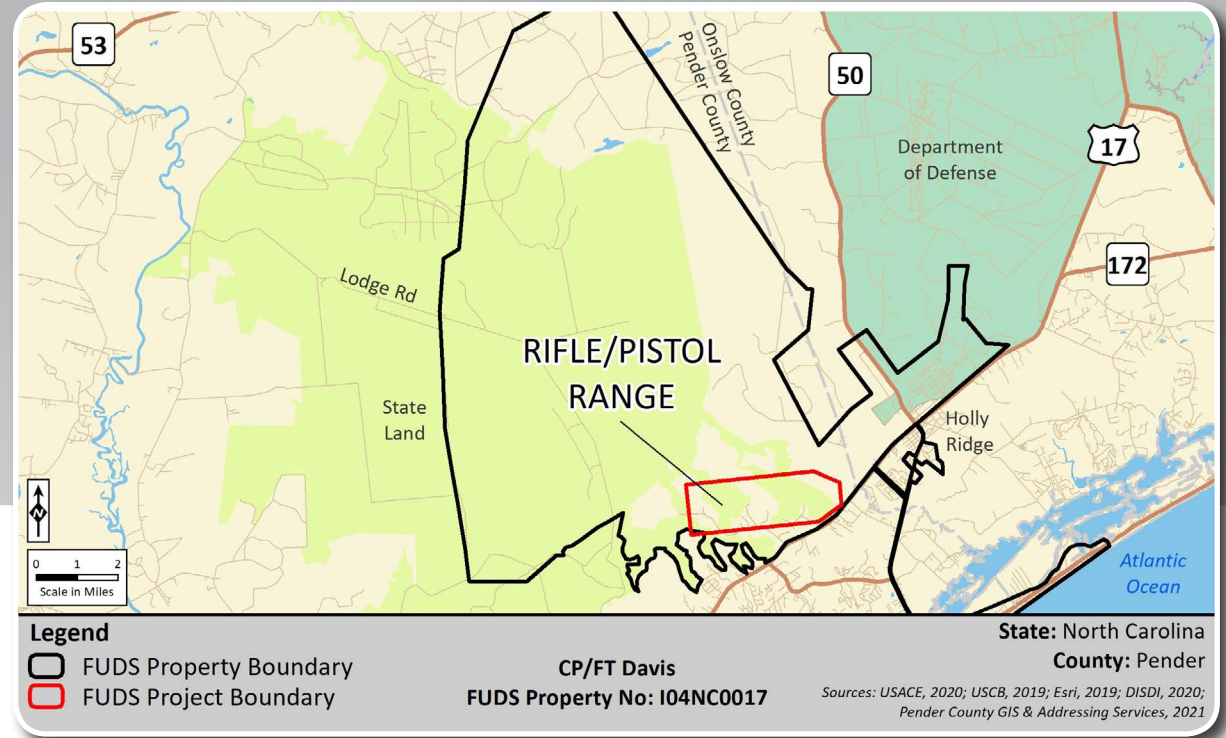
**Q:** What are the findings of the work that the government has completed?

**A:** Historical research and site inspections indicate that from 1941 to 1944, the U.S. military

used small arms ammunition at this range, and potential hazards may remain on the property. The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers has determined that further investigation is required for the Rifle/Pistol Range.

**Q:** Where can I get more information?

**A:** For more information, call the Formerly Used Defense Sites Information Center toll-free number 1-855-765-FUDS (3837). Additional information can be found by searching on the property name, CP/FT Davis, in the GIS Tool that is available by clicking on the Interim Risk management link at [www.fuds.mil](http://www.fuds.mil).



Aircraft hangar at the former Camp Davis, 1945

Source: Photo courtesy of David Stallman/Missiles  
and More Museum



**Example of small arms ammunition**

## **Former Camp Davis**

### **For More Information**



**US Army Corps  
of Engineers®**

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers is responsible for identifying, investigating and, when necessary, conducting an appropriate response action to address contamination and military munitions resulting from past Department of Defense activities at Formerly Used Defense Sites, also referred to as FUDS.

For information about the former Camp Davis, contact the FUDS Information Center by calling the toll-free number 1-855-765-FUDS (3837). For general information about the FUDS Program, visit [www.fuds.mil](http://www.fuds.mil).