1st International Conference on Defence Sites: Heritage and Future

6 – 8 June, 2012
Portsmouth, UK

Organised by:
Wessex Institute of Technology, UK

Sponsored by:
WIT Transactions on the Built Environment
International Journal of Sustainable Development and Planning
Redundant army, naval and air force sites offer a range of opportunities to planners, developers, architects and local communities to redevelop large areas, bringing new life to often neglected parts of town. These opportunities are common to many countries and this first International Conference on Defence Sites: Heritage and Future will help to stress their common features and share experiences of their transformation to civilian uses all over the world.

The conference aims to raise the knowledge of the scale, design and functions of military, naval and air force sites. It will bring a better understanding to the issues raised by their redundancy, and the implications of different disposal processes for state owned land. It is also important to understand the interaction of different stakeholders and their influence on the outcome. They include government agencies, developers, planners, architects, historians and members of local communities. Special issues related to historical naval ships and other maritime infrastructure will also be discussed.

There is also a need to achieve sustainable development, which involves issues related to maintenance, conservation, as well as built and natural environmental controls, while responding to the needs and aspirations of local communities.

The re-use of defence sites also raises questions regarding the need to recover brownfields and contaminated land, which can have far-reaching legal responsibilities and environmental consequences.

The conference encourages the presentation of case studies, highlighting examples of good practices that can help to transfer knowledge

Who should attend

Government agencies, developers, planners, architects, historians, environmentalists and those in the social and economic sciences related to this important topic.

Conference Topics

Military heritage history
Naval dockyard heritage
Air force heritage
Historical naval ships
Disposal processes for defence sites
Transition from military to civilian life
Castles and fortresses
Brownfields recovery
Legal responsibilities and environmental consequences
Infrastructure maintenance

Financing mechanisms
Community involvement
Public consultation mechanisms
Architectural issues
Case studies
Mechanisms for knowledge transfer
Structural issues
Simulation and modelling
Surveying and monitoring
Assessment and retrofitting
Conference Chairmen

C Clark  
Wessex Institute of Technology, UK

C A Brebbia  
Wessex Institute of Technology, UK

International Scientific Advisory Committee

S Bagaeen  
University of Brighton, UK

L Binda  
Politecnico di Milano, Italy

P Carrera  
Museo do Mar de Galicia, Spain

C Cuadra  
Akita Prefectural University, Japan

B Cros  
French Navy (R) Dockyard Historian, France

J D Davies  
Naval Dockyards Society, UK

J Dobson  
Urban Pollinators Ltd, UK

M Holicky  
CTU Prague, Czech Republic

P Lambert  
Mott MacDonald, UK

G Manos  
Aristotle University, Greece

H Matikka  
National Board of Antiquities, Finland

J Schofield  
University of York, UK

R Woodward  
Newcastle University, UK

Benefits of Attending

Conference Books  Papers are published in paper and digital format and widely distributed throughout the world. Delegates will receive a copy of the book in paper or digital format at the time of registration. Papers are also archived at http://library.witpress.com

Journal Papers  Presenters will be invited to submit a paper to one of the six International Scientific Journals edited by the Wessex Institute.

Networking  Participants can present their research and interact with experts from around the world, becoming part of a unique community.

Indexing and archiving of conference papers

Papers presented at Wessex Institute conferences are referenced by CrossRef and regularly appear in notable reviews, publications and databases, including referencing and abstract services such as SCOPUS, Compendex, ISI Web of Knowledge, Index to Scientific and Technical Proceedings, ProQuest and Scitech Book News. All conference books are archived in the British Library and American Library of Congress.

• Papers presented at Defence Sites: Heritage and Future 2012 will appear in a volume of WIT Transactions on the Built Environment (ISSN: 1746-4498, Digital ISSN 1743-3509).

• WIT Press ensures maximum dissemination of your research throughout the world through its own offices in Europe, the USA and its extensive international distribution network.

• All conference papers are archived online at http://library.witpress.com where they are immediately and permanently available to the international scientific community.
Delegates attending Defence Sites: Heritage and Future 2012 will be invited to submit an extended version of their paper for possible publication in the International Journal of Sustainable Development and Planning, one of the six edited by the Wessex Institute.

WIT strongly believes that removing the barrier to research published online will greatly aid progress in all scientific and technical disciplines, as well as all other spheres of knowledge. Many WIT conference and all journal papers are freely available online.

Papers are invited on the topics outlined and others falling within the scope of the meeting. Abstracts of no more than 300 words should be submitted as soon as possible.

Abstracts should clearly state the purpose, results and conclusions of the work to be described in the final paper. Final acceptance will be based on the full-length paper, which if accepted for publication must be presented at the conference.

The language of the conference will be English.

Submit your abstract with Defence Sites: Heritage and Future 2012 in the subject line. Please include your name, full address and conference topic.

Located on the south coast of England, Portsmouth has a rich nautical and naval heritage. The city is home to some of the UK’s most famous historical vessels, including the eighteenth century HMS Victory and nineteenth century HMS Warrior which are open to the public. The attractively redeveloped Gunwharf Quays area contains many cafes, shops and restaurants as well as the landmark Spinnaker tower which offers views towards the Isle of Wight and over the Solent area with its many historic forts.

Defence Sites: Heritage and Future 2012 will take place at the Best Western Royal Beach Hotel in Portsmouth. Recently restored, this Victorian seafront hotel offers a wide range of rooms, complementary WiFi internet access throughout, and ‘The Coast’ bar and restaurant.

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wessex.ac.uk/defence2012