



World War II Bomb Shelter

KEYSTAGE 1-2
HISTORY



A group of soldiers stationed at Marks Hall Estate >

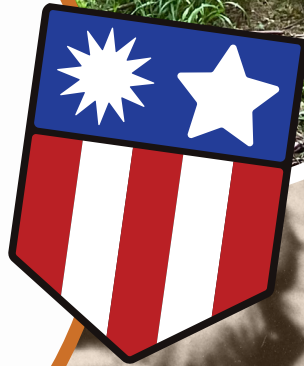


< Part of the original shelters that remain at Marks Hall Estate



Take Cover!

During the Second World War, Marks Hall Estate was used as a base for British and American fighter and bomber pilots. A runway and a place to keep all the planes was built and there was also a hospital here. Around 3,000 people involved in the war stayed at Marks Hall Estate - imagine how busy it was!



The Mess Hall >





Air Raid Shelters

We also have many air raid shelters here at Marks Hall Estate. Air raid shelters protected people from bombs being dropped over England by enemy planes. They were often quite small and would be stocked with tinned food and water, in case an attack lasted for a long while and it wasn't safe to leave the shelter.

An example of some of the Nissen Huts used during the Second World War >

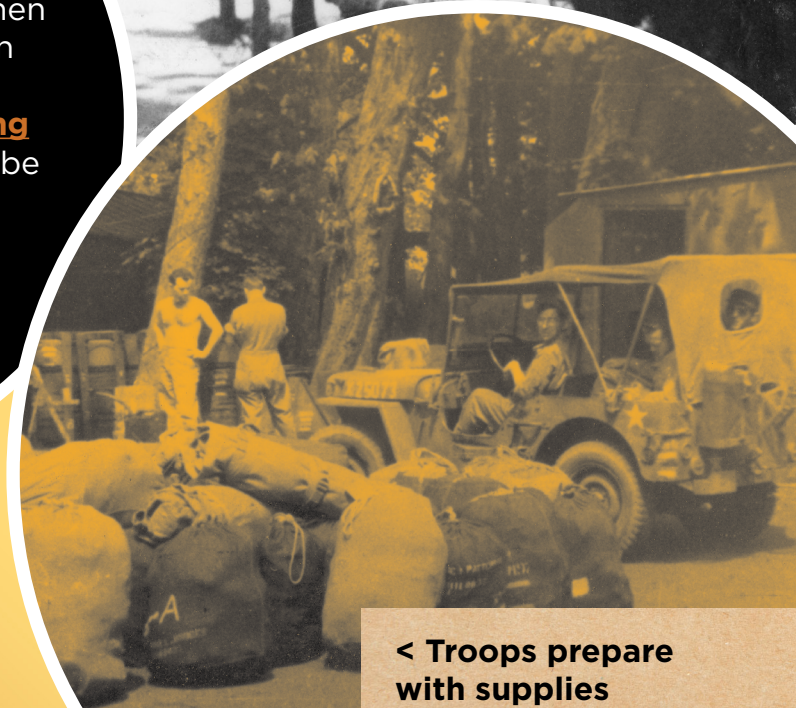
Cover Your Ears!

Air raid sirens used to sound when an attack was coming, to warn people to get to their air raid shelters. Listen to [this recording](#) of an air raid siren (it's loud, so be warned!).



Fancy having a go at some World War II activities? Read on...

Troops based at Marks Hall Estate queuing for the Mess Hall >



< Troops prepare with supplies



*Imagine Spending
a night in a bomb
shelter during
WWII...*

**Think about what it might
be like to be you, but
80 years ago during the
Second World War.**

Imagine that an air raid
siren has played, warning
you to take cover in the
air raid shelter in your
garden.



**Please print out the
following pages...**



**Watch more about World War II on this [YouTube](#)
video, and then have a go at the following activities!**

ACTIVITY 1: Tell us all about your experience



Try filling out the sections opposite. Use our 'Think about' tips to help you.

● **What was it like when the air raid siren started?**

Think about...

Was it frightening, exciting, loud, confusing?
Where were you and what did you do when you heard it?
Were there other people around, and what were they doing?
What time of day was it?

● **Getting under cover**

Think about...

How did you get to your air raid shelter?
Did it take long - was it difficult?
Did anyone come with you?
What could you see going on around you?



ACTIVITY 1: Tell us all about your experience



● In the air raid shelter

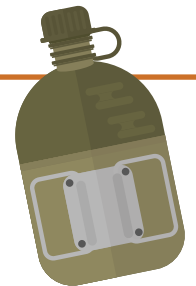
Think about...

What is it like being in the air raid shelter?
Who's with you? What do you talk about?
What can you see and hear?
What do you think is happening outside?
How are you feeling?

● After the air raid

Think about...

How long were you in the shelter for?
What was it like when you came out?
How are you feeling now the raid is over?
What do you do next?



ACTIVITY 1: Draw us a picture
to go with your story

ACTIVITY 2:

What five things would you take into the air raid shelter?

If you had to spend a night in an air raid shelter in WWII, what five things would you take in with you?

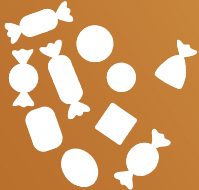
They could be things like a book, a game, a teddy or something precious to you. Or perhaps include something useful, like a torch?

If you'd like to, tell us a bit about why you've chosen your items.



Did you know?

Some of the remaining air raid shelters at Marks Hall Estate are now a safe home for bats!



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5