

Local History

During the Second World War, **Hughenden Manor** in Buckinghamshire was used as a top-secret base for bomb-target mapping, codenamed 'Operation Hillside'.

Saturation bombing was introduced as a military tactic to help win the war. The most talented surveyors, cartographers, and designers were recruited and all staff were sworn to secrecy about their hidden role in the war.

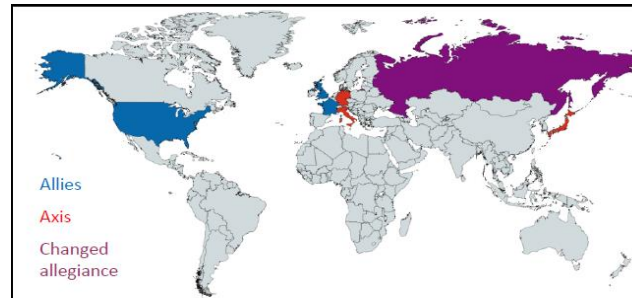
Hughenden played such a critical role supporting the pilots of nearby Bomber Command that it was on Hitler's list of top targets.

Important facts

- The major **Axis** powers were **Nazi** Germany, Italy and Japan
- The major Allied powers were Britain, France, Russia and the USA
- The **Axis** had invaded many European countries including Austria, Czechoslovakia, Belgium, Poland and France
- The United States had hoped to remain neutral during World War 2, however in 1941 the Japanese attacked Pearl Harbour in Hawaii, USA which then meant that the USA turned against the **Axis** and joined the **Allies**.
- In 1942, **Nazi** forces attempted to invade Russia – however, by doing so, lost an ally. The **Nazis** were also not prepared for the cold and they suffered heavy defeats.
- In 1944, the British landed on the French beaches of Normandy after a long planning operation to liberate **German-occupied** France. This was known as D-Day.
- The British were successful in **liberating** France. This alongside the disastrous battles in Russia, began the downfall of the **Nazis**.

Key Vocabulary

ally	A Country's ally is another country that has an agreement to support it, especially in war
Allies	The Allies were the armed forces that fought against Germany and Japan in the Second World War. They included the UK, the USA and France
Atom bomb	An extremely destructive type of nuclear bomb 
Axis	The Axis were the armed forces that fought against the UK and the USA. The major Axis powers were Germany, Italy and Japan.
German occupied	Countries that were occupied by Nazi Germany. Austria. Poland and France were all German-occupied during WWII.
invasion	To try and take over a place by force
liberate	To liberate a place or the people means to free them for the political or military control or another country, area or group of people.
Nazi	A member of the far-right political party in Germany 
occupied	Under the control of an occupying military force.



Timeline

1st September 1939: Hitler invades Poland.

May 1940: Neville Chamberlain resigns and Winston Churchill becomes Prime Minister

December 1941: Japanese forces bomb Pearl Harbour in the United States of America.

30th April 1945: Hitler dies.

8th May 1945: VE Day

3rd September 1939: Britain (Neville Chamberlain) declares war on Nazi Germany.

June 1941: Nazis first invade the Soviet Union (now known as Russia)

6th June 1944: Allied forces land on the beaches in France. This is known as D-Day.

4th May 1945: Nazi Germany surrenders.

August 1945: USA drops the **atom bomb** on Japan.