

VE Day: Mapping the Blitz and Changing Places

Key Words:

The Blitz, German for 'lightning', was a period of heavy and frequent bombing raids carried out over Britain in 1940 and 1941

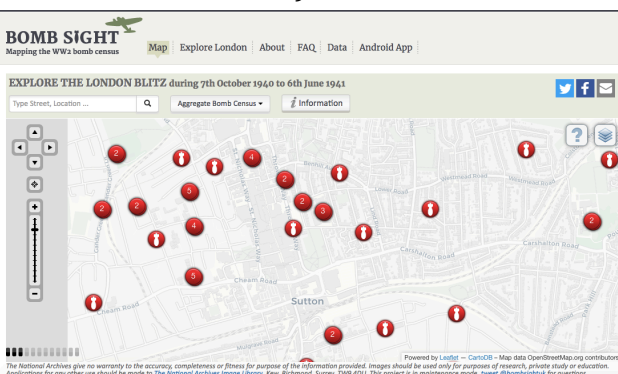
GIS (Geographical Information Systems) are layered maps of data, which you can use to explore spatial patterns and relationships.

Changing Places is a core theme in Geography that is looked at in depth, as it's own topic, at A Level

Activity: How did the Blitz affect your area?

Use the following link to explore the London GIS map; <http://bombsight.org/#14/51.3652/-0.1638>

You can zoom in and out, search for an address, change the period of time and use the layers to select different data and background maps. (Aggregate bomb census and bomb incidents on street view work well).



Discussion points:

- How close was the bombing to where you live?
- How would you have felt at the time?
- How would your neighbours and wider community have felt at the time?
- Why did they bomb these areas?
- How would you have felt on VE Day knowing there would be no more bombing?

Local Fieldwork:

- Next time you go out for your daily exercise can you find the location of where a bomb landed?
- Have a look around you. Are the houses all the same age or do some appear to be pre war and others post war? Could this be because these houses were damaged in the Blitz or are there other reasons the area has changed? The house age identification guide on the next page will help you.

If you would like to see how other themes in geography link to WW2, have a look at the storyboard on the following link:

www.arcgis.com/apps/Cascade/index.html?appid=8a39d1b9dcd64d69a9886dd0ef4e3800

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Pre Victorian

Non-coursed stone
Thatched roof, tall chimneys



Victorians may have replaced the
thatch with slates



Victorian

Slate roofs, often with ornamental ridge; chimneys; sash windows
Yellow brick, decorative orange brick or coursed greensand blocks



1914—1949

Short chimneys; imitation slate roofs; often semi-detached;
small gardens; no garages



1950—1964

Brick, with chimney & tiled roof



1965—1999

No chimney; integral garage



2000 to present

May include Victorian design features
Immature gardens

