

St. Mawes Castle 6pdr Battery

Commenced	1898	Armament	
Completed	1898	St Mawes Old Battery	
Cost £		1860	8 x 56pdr S.B. 4 x 64 pdr R.M.L.
Map Reference	SW841327	1880	4 x 64pdr R.M.L.
Position	St Mawes Castle	St Mawes 6pdr (lower) Battery	
Type	Coast Defence Battery	1898	2 x 6pdr Q.F. 1 x M.G.
Ditch		1903	dismounted
Guns	2	Twin Six Battery	
Barrack Accom.	In the Castle	1941	1 x 6pdr twin
Present use	English Heritage property	1956	removed
History	Coast Defence		
Disposal	1903		
Condition	One emplacement remains		
Access	E.H. opening times The Later Defences of Falmouth by Jeff Dorman.		
Sources	N.A. Armament returns, various reports in WO33 The Castles of Pendennis and St.Mawes E.H.		

History and Description

St. Mawes was armed in the 1860s with the usual complement of Smooth Bore guns with four 64pdr R.M.L. guns in a sea facing battery firing through embrasures. In 1898 the battery was extended to accommodate two 6pdr Q.F. guns. These 6pdr guns were to cover the minefield in Carrick Roads in front of the Castle in conjunction with the 6pdrs at Crab Quay in front of Pendennis Castle. The Q.F.s had their own magazine beneath the battery accessed via a shaft. The guns proved to be on a site that was too low to give effective defence of the minefield and a new battery was proposed above the Castle. When this new 12pdr Battery was activated on the higher ground above the castle the 6pdr battery was closed down as it was no longer needed. The 6pdr QF positions can still be seen in front of the old Victorian magazine, one of the two emplacements remains.

In 1941 an armament return lists St. Mawes as having 1 x twin 6pdr, which was removed in December 1956. There is no trace of this battery remaining. There was also a Bofors gun emplaced on the terrace west of the castle as anti-aircraft defence.

St. Mawes Castle 6pdr Battery

6 & 12pdr batteries

1. St. Mawes Castle
2. Smooth Bore Battery
3. Magazine
4. 6pdr Q.F. Battery
5. Engine House
6. Searchlight Emplacements
7. Observation post
8. 12pdr Q.F. Battery
9. Caretaker's Cottage

