

Crookhorn Redoubt

Commenced	1862	Armament	
Completed	Demolished 1876	Proposed	
Cost	£ ?	Terreplein 16 guns	
Map Reference	SU 581066	Caponiers 6	
Position	Portsdown Hill, Northern Approaches	Mounted	None
Type	Land Front, Polygonal.		
Ditch	Dry		
Guns	22		
Barrack Accom.	0		
Present use	Site remains		
History	Outpost to Purbrook / Never completed	Caponiers	2
Disposal Condition	Demolished by (1874) 1876	Counterscarp galleries	1
Access	Site on Private land / Golf Course	Haxo casemates	none
Sources	Solent Papers No 3 Garry Mitchell. Precis of correspondence 1893	Moncrieff Pits	none

History and Description

Crookhorn Redoubt was designed as an advanced work to Fort Purbrook to cover an area of 'dead' ground to the northeast of Fort Purbrook, commanding the approach by the northeast slopes of Portsdown Hill which could not otherwise be swept by the main guns inside fort Purbrook. The front face of Crookhorn was to have been at an acute angle. It was to have had two caponiers, counterscarp and scarp galleries and its own magazine and barracks. It was originally to mount 16 guns on its terreplein and six guns in the caponiers at the angles of its ditches.

In 1862 the excavation of the site was begun. The site chosen for the redoubt was found to be based on blue slipper clay and in order to reduce costs the northern half was abandoned. Only a portion of the work, consisting of prepared earthworks was constructed.

The armament returns of 1876 list the work as 'demolished'.

An 1874 report by Jervis indicates that Purbrook had only one outwork, Farlington.

No trace of the work survives except a small portion of the covered way that connected Fort Purbrook with both Crookhorn and Farlington Redoubts.

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