

Stokes Bay Lines Battery No. 5

Commenced	1857	Armament	
Completed	1861	1872	11 x 8-inch S.B.
Cost	£ 75,120 for the Lines	1890	4 x 7-inch R.B.L.
Map Reference	SZ 60494 98094	1901	4 x Maxim Machine Guns
Position	Gosport Stokes Bay	1904	Disarmed
Type	Coast Defence Flanking Battery	Caponiers	None
Ditch	wet	Counterscarp galleries	None
Guns	4	Haxo casemates	None
Barrack Accom.	None	Moncrieff Pits	None
Present use	Due for sale/disposal 2010		
History	Coast Defence Admiralty campment then AMTE		
Disposal	2010		
Condition	Fair		
Access	None		
Sources	Stokes Bay Defences - D.Moore		

History and Description

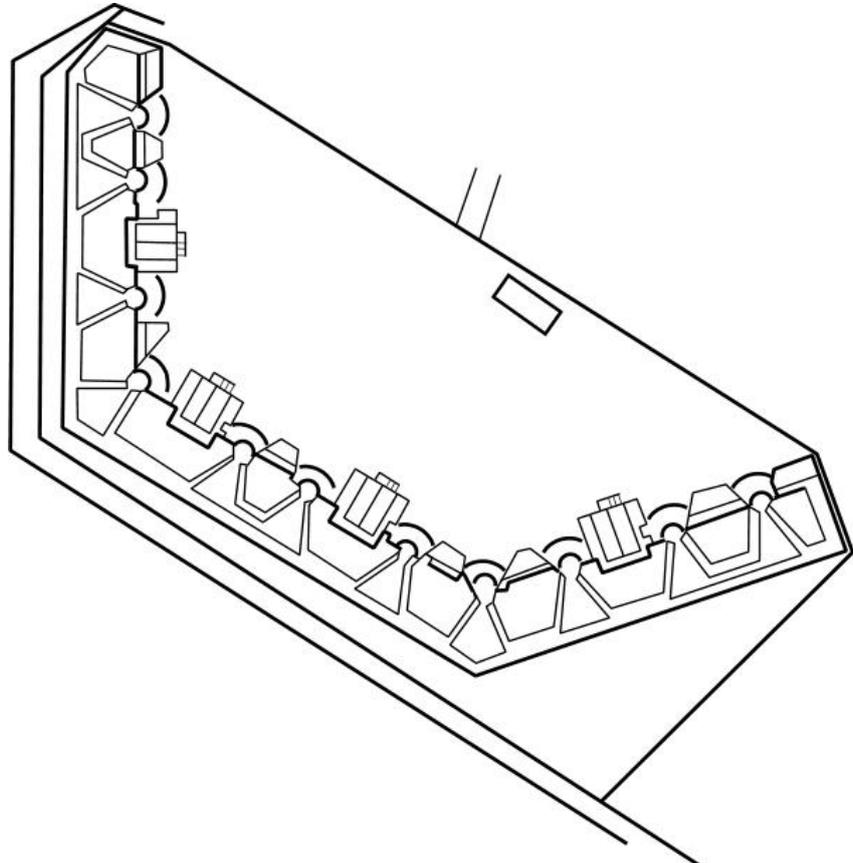
No.5 Battery was first armed with 68pr and 8-inch smooth bore guns. In 1872 it was proposed to replace them with nine 7-inch R.B.L. guns. By 1886 these had been reduced to four. The battery had four expense stores, two for cartridges each with a capacity for 41 barrels of powder, later 288 cartridges each, one a shell store holding 153 shells and one an artillery store for side arms to operate the guns.

To the rear of the battery was an Artillery General Store. The battery was armed with four machine guns in 1901 and was disarmed in 1904. At some time after 1892 the shell and cartridge recesses were modified to act as issue hatches enabling ammunition to be handed out to the gun platforms from the magazines. This may date from the time of the installation of the machine guns.

In 1886 it was proposed to fit six 13-inch Sea-Service mortars on a platform in front of No.5 Battery. The platform is shown on a plan of 1892 but the armament was never fitted and the earthwork was then removed.

A road has been driven through the west salient of the battery destroying the gun emplacement. All five of the expense stores are extant. At least one gun emplacement has been found beneath modern infill. In September 2010 some of the post 1900 buildings on-site were due to be demolished when the current owners QinetiQ, vacated the site. In 2016 the site remains empty.

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As built 1860

