

Shotley Point Battery

Commenced	1863	Armament	
Completed	1865	1863	14 x 68pr. Guns
Cost	£ 10,541	1873	14 x 7-inch R.M.L. 7-tons on dwarf W.I. Carriages
Map Reference	TM 341251	1891	2 x 10-inch R.M.L. On Long range mountings
Position	Shotley Point		
Type	Polygonal harbour defence	Caponiers	None
Ditch	Dry with Carnot wall	Counterscarp galleries	None
Guns	14 x 68prs. (initially)	Haxo casemates	None
Barrack Accom.	6 men	Moncrieff Pits	None
Present use	Within the H.M.S. Ganges complex. Police Training Estab.		
History	Battery until 1901, then Naval Shore Establishment		
Disposal	Sold to private contractor.		
Condition	Part demolished, derelict, overgrown		
Access	No access for security reasons		
Sources	Fortification of East Anglia, Peter Kent. WO78 2776, 4174, Work43 413, 414		

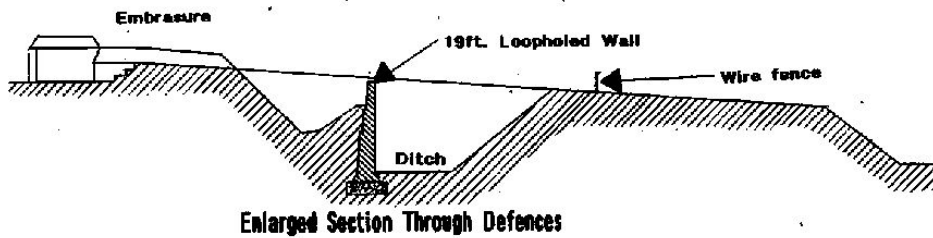
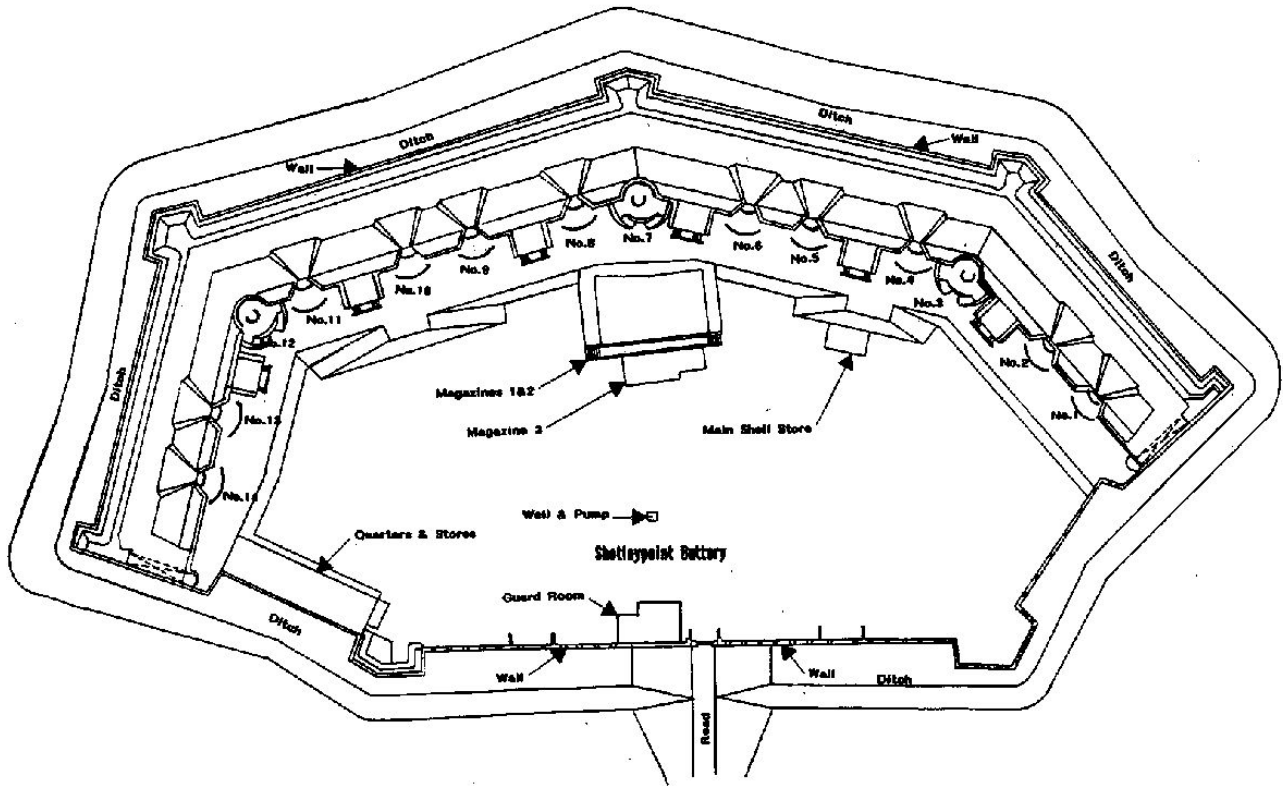
History and Description

The battery was built to the designs of Col. W.F.D. Jervois cancelling a previous more complex and expensive design. The battery is seven sided with the guns set on the four faces facing the mouth of the Rivers Stow and Orwell. The construction is brick heavily reinforced with earth. There is a dry ditch with a brick Carnot wall 19 feet high. Guns 1, 2, 4, 5, 6, 8, 9, 10, 11, 13, & 14 fire through embrasures but numbers 3, 7, & 12 at the corners of the fortification are en-barbette. The Carnot wall was extended to close the gorge of the battery and was loopholed.

There were three magazines but only two were bombproof. The original armament was 14 x 68pr. on traversing carriages but these were changed in about 1873 to 14 x 7-inch R.M.L. guns of 7 tons on dwarf wrought iron traversing platforms.

In 1891 it was decided to re-arm 4 x 10-inch R.M.L. guns on long range mountings but only two emplacements with magazines were built. These obliterated six of the original emplacements. The guns were last used in 1901. The battery was transferred to the Admiralty in 1904 as a shore establishment, H.M.S. Ganges, for boy entrants to the Navy. The right hand side of the battery was demolished to make way for accommodation blocks. On the closure of H.M.S. Ganges the site was sold to a civilian contractor and the accommodation blocks and the gorge wall have been demolished. The embrasures and emplacements for guns 11 to 14 can be traced and the magazines are accessible but the site is very overgrown.

Shotley Point Battery



(Peter Kent)
10-inch RML
Emplacement