

# DEFENCE WORKS AT THE MALTINGS, TRIMLEY ROAD, KIRTON, SUFFOLK A PHOTOGRAPHIC RECORD

Alun Bull and John Minnis



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ENGLISH HERITAGE

**DEFENCE WORKS  
THE MALTINGS  
TRIMLEY ROAD, KIRTON, SUFFOLK**

**PHOTOGRAPHIC SURVEY**

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# **SECOND WORLD WAR DEFENCE WORKS AT THE MALTINGS, KIRTON, SUFFOLK**

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**NGR: TM2770239402**

## **Report on visit 17 October 2006**

These notes were prepared at the request of Tony Calladine, Team Leader, Heritage Protection, Eastern Territory, English Heritage and are intended to accompany a photographic record of the site and to provide an indication of the physical state of the remains of the defence works on the date visited. They supplement the information included in the detailed report (Lanigan Report) produced by Mr Len Lanigan as part of his submission to English Heritage for buildings on the site to be listed. Included in this report were photographs by Alastair Graham-Kerr of the structures before demolition. The site has also been visited by Roger J. C. Thomas of English Heritage prior to the demolition work.

The following structures were identified in the Lanigan Report as being of significance

A Battery Observation Post  
Two Pocket or Light Anti-aircraft Posts  
A Gun Post.

Since the production of Mr Lanigan's report, the owner of the site has carried out clearance work, felling many trees, removing scrub and undergrowth, although much of the land is still covered with heavy weed growth. Demolition of the observation post and the two light anti-aircraft posts has taken place.

## **Battery Observation Post**

This was apparently demolished by a bulldozer and the remains have been left in situ. The present condition of the structure is that the concrete base remains intact, together with the east wall and part of the splayed south-east wall. The concrete roof is also intact, lying on top of some of the brickwork of the remaining walls. Large sections of the brick walls are lying on the ground. Internally, part of the shelving referred to in the Lanigan Report remains in situ as does the base of the stove and an extraction vent.

## **Pocket or Light Anti-Aircraft Posts**

These have been completely demolished with scattered cement-filled sandbags and some pieces of corrugated iron as the only evidence of their existence. Tree-trunks from the felled trees are mixed in with the remains which are now overgrown and it is difficult to establish their form or exact position.

## **Gun Post**

This has not been affected by the clearance work and is exactly as depicted in the Lanigan report. As that report states, the walls with the exception of part of the west side are substantially intact but the roof slab has fallen in and now forms in effect a floor, itself now overgrown with weeds and small trees.

Although the battery observation post is partly demolished, it is still possible to read the structure in its relationship with the gun post and the relationship of the site of the defence works as a whole with the surrounding landscape.



***Battery Observation Post following demolition from the north west. Roof slab in foreground.***

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***Battery Observation Post from the south east showing portions of brick walling.***

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*Battery Observation Post , shewing internal shelf.*

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*Battery Observation Post from the north west (detail).*

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*Remains of Light Anti-Aircraft Post.*

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*Remains of Light Anti-Aircraft Post, showing construction of cement-filled sandbags.*

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*Remains of Light Anti-Aircraft Post, showing detail of sandbags.*

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*Gun Post, from the north east with later shed built up against the structure.*

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*Gun Post, south east corner.*

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*Gun Post, south east corner interior.*

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*Gun Post, interior of east wall.*

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*Gun Post, interior of north east corner.*

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