

**Broadlees Bottom,
near Dover Castle,**

Walkover survey report

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Report on a walkover survey at Broadlees Bottom, Dover Castle, 2013

1. Summary

1.1 In February 2013 the Canterbury Archaeological Trust (CAT) was engaged by Roy Porter of English Heritage to undertake a walkover survey of the area of Northfall Meadow in Broadlees Bottom, below the north-eastern defences of Dover Castle; NGR 63264 14212, centred. Most of this area is now covered by woodland and vegetation. The work was intended to ascertain what surface archaeology, particularly twentieth-century military remains, might be present in the area.

1.2 Traces of several terrace-ways and paths are likely to relate to a large hutted army camp which stood in the area during the First World War, about which little is otherwise known. The remains of a substantial in-filled ditch may be readily equated with the line of an anti-tank ditch cut during the Second World War. This could be seen to cut through the earlier pathways. The site of a former Sergeants' Mess building, now demolished, was identified, together with an adjacent terraced area which was probably a tennis court. West of the Mess building a large open area represents the Marshalling Yard associated with an army transport depot established here during the 1930s.

2. Introduction

2.1 In February 2013 the Canterbury Archaeological Trust (CAT) was commissioned by Roy Porter of English Heritage to undertake a walkover survey of the area of ground known as Northfall Meadow situated in Broadlees Bottom, below the north-eastern defences of Dover Castle (Scheduled Ancient Monument No. 30281; NGR 63264 14212, centred; Figs 1 & 2). This survey was intended to ascertain what surface archaeological remains might be present in an area that had seen considerable military activity throughout much of the twentieth century (see below).

2.2 The area of study was roughly triangular in shape with maximum dimension of 460m (E–W) by 120m (N–S). Its boundaries are defined by Upper Road leading to St Margaret's on the north side; the footpath past the Blériot memorial on the south-east side and the old military road along the bottom of the valley on the south-west side (Figs 1 & 2). The outer defences of Dover Castle rise immediately to the south of the military road (Fig. 2). Upper Road (formerly known as St Margaret's Road) appears to be a long-established local route which is identifiable on a plan of Dover Castle dated 1756 (reproduced as fig. 2 in Coad and Lewis 1982) and Mudge's map of the Kent, dated 1801. The boundary between the historic parish of Guston and Dover runs diagonally across the north-eastern corner of the study area, following the line of an existing trackway (see below).

2.3 When Frenchman Louis Blériot landed his fragile monoplane here on 25 July 1909, Northfall Meadow was open grassland, no doubt always kept clear of trees to assist in the defence of the adjacent Dover Castle (Plates I–III). Following intense military activity in this region in the First and Second World Wars, the castle passed out of military control during the second half of the twentieth century and, as a consequence, Northfall Meadow has been allowed to grow over, now with some quite mature trees existing here. Today, Northfall Meadow is essentially woodland with a small area of neatly clipped grass maintained around the granite memorial, built in 1910, that marks Blériot's landing spot.

2.4 To a certain extent, the tree cover disguises the natural topography of the area. Broadlees Bottom, itself, represents a substantial, dry downland valley which separates the ridge occupied by Dover Castle from the main chalk plateau to the north (Fig. 1). The base of the main Broadlees valley provided road engineers during the 1970s with a convenient route to carry Dover's Eastern Bypass (Jubilee Way) down to the docks. The area known as Northfall Meadow effectively represents a short side-valley leading westwards off this main valley and serves to provide Dover Castle with additional natural defences on its eastern side.

2.5 In detail, the study area occupies a south facing slope, rising from the floor of the valley, which here is approximately followed by the line of the military road (see above). At the north-west corner the ground stands at an elevation of 93m OD. At the north-east corner the elevation is about 73m OD, whilst the lowest point lies just below Horseshoe (or Averanches) Bastion at around 65m OD. From visible soil exposures and previous excavations, the geological sequence may be briefly described as flinty clay (head) lying over Upper Chalk. Deposits of ancient colluvium may exist in the bottom of the valley (see below, Trench 5).

3. Historical and archaeological background

History

3.1 The site of Dover Castle has been fortified since at least late Anglo-Saxon times and perhaps since the Iron Age, when there was a small farmstead on the hilltop (Coad 1995). Military occupation of the castle site continued until the mid-twentieth century. During the nineteenth and twentieth century other military establishments developed to the north and east of the Castle, starting with the construction of Fort Burgoyne, completed in 1873 (Saunders 2007). This was followed by Fort Burgoyne Huts which eventually developed into Connaught Barracks. During the first half of the twentieth century an extensive military complex developed in and around Northfall Meadow and Broadlees Bottom (Plates IV–VIII).

3.2 The area of ground known as Northfall Meadow lies immediately outside the north-eastern defences of Dover Castle and its open character undoubtedly influenced Frenchman Louis Blériot – the first man to fly across the Channel in a powered aeroplane – in choosing this as the landing ground for his monoplane on 25 July 1909. A series of photographs recording the historic event confirm the generally open nature of the ground hereabout (Plates I–III), with little more than a hedgerow then lining the edge of Upper Road.

3.3 Aerial photographs taken in 1920 show that an extensive hutted army camp had by then been erected in the bottom of the valley, immediately south of Blériot’s memorial, just outside the Castle defences (Plates IV & V). This camp presumably has its origins during the First World War but no other information about it is presently known to local researchers (Jon Iveson, Dover Museum, pers comm). Based on another aerial photograph, this camp seems to have been largely dismantled and cleared away by October 1926 (Plate VI). In detail, it comprised rows of wooden huts set at an angle to a central roadway. No detailed plans are known of this camp but it is suspected that such may still exist in official archives not examined as part of this project.

3.4 New buildings were erected in Northfall Meadow during the 1930s and in 1938 an Army transport depot was established across part of the area, with the new East Arrow Barracks built closer towards the cliff (Coad 1995, 103; Plates VII & VIII). The associated service road, marshalling yard and building platforms of the transport depot still survive (see below; Plate XX), and many of the buildings stood complete until the later part of the twentieth century, when they were demolished. Also constructed at this time, opposite the depot, was a large, brick-built Sergeants’ Mess (Plate VIII; F. 8). This was also demolished during the late twentieth century.

Archaeology

3.5 There has previously been some archaeological survey and evaluation trenching undertaken in the Northfall Meadow area (Parfitt 1998; 1999; 2009). In December 1998 evaluation trenching was undertaken by Canterbury Archaeological Trust, on behalf of English Heritage, ahead of proposals for the creation of a new car park in Broadlees Bottom for the use of Castle visitors (Parfitt

1998). These trenches provided some useful information and of the five dug, the sites of two (Trenches 1 & 2) fall directly within the present study area, with the others just outside (Fig. 2).

3.6 Discoveries in Evaluation Trench 1

Trench 1 was cut roughly opposite the Fitzwilliam Gate, at the foot the steep slope below Upper Road (Fig. 2, F. 4). It revealed a buried, flat-bottomed, ditch dug into the sloping chalk hillside at the northern end of the trench, sealed by layers of hillwash and topsoil. This ditch was aligned east–west and showed evidence of a re-cut (F. 9). It was 1.30m deep, filled with layers of brown clay loam and chalk rubble. Finds included three sherds of sandy (?)late medieval pottery, a few residual prehistoric struck flints and calcined flints, with a single animal bone from the fill of the re-cut (Parfitt 1998).

At the southern end of the trench a series of nineteenth- to early twentieth-century dump layers occurred over the natural chalk surface. These mainly consisted of deposits of soil, chalk rubble and pebbles. A thin layer of ash and cinders may have represented a pathway. These deposits were cut through by the construction pit for an underground structure, built of orange-red brick with a pebble-concrete roof. Further investigation established that this was a large man-hole some 2.20m deep. The flat concrete roof lay about 0.40–0.50m below present ground level and was found to be surmounted by a brick-built structure on the east side, supporting a circular cast iron man-hole cover. This could not be lifted but inspection through a small opening revealed the east wall of the chamber with foot rungs leading down (Parfitt 1999). There is a possibility that this man-hole actually gives access to a longer underground tunnel or passage. The top of the structure was left open to view and it was recommended that the chamber be inspected by suitably qualified engineers. It proved impossible to relocate this structure in 2013 and no new information has been obtained.

3.7 Discoveries in Evaluation Trench 2

Trench 2 was excavated in an open area of rough grass on the western side of the old Army marshalling yard, adjacent to the site of a former building (Building 84; Fig. 2, F. 5). The top of the natural chalk, which was found to be about 1.50m below present ground level, lay at *c* 73.45 m OD. The undulating, eroded surface of the chalk was sealed by natural flinty clay. This was overlain by thin layers of buried subsoil, then topsoil. The subsoil layer over the natural clay produced a small sherd of sandy medieval pottery, a fragment of ragstone and part of the bowl of a decorated clay tobacco pipe of nineteenth-century date. It was sealed by a layer of ash and cinders that could represent some sort of pathway. This had been laid directly upon the undisturbed ground and was covered by a 0.70m thick deposit of cream-grey clay loam with chalk rubble, clearly representing part of a substantial dump layer spread across the entire area to level the valley bottom. A few pieces of ragstone and peg-tile fragments recovered from this layer are likely to be demolition material derived from the Castle. Lying over this was a surface layer of ashy loam and pea-gravel.

3.8 Discoveries in Evaluation Trench 5

This trench was cut just outside the present study area, opposite Horseshoe Bastion, about 100m down-slope to the south-west of the Blériot memorial (Fig. 2). Here, natural chalk was found to lie at a depth of between 0.40 and 0.60m below present ground level, sealed below a thin layer of natural orange-brown flinty clay. An overlying subsoil layer produced a significant quantity of prehistoric struck flints, provisionally dated to the late Neolithic–Bronze Age period. It was not clear whether these flints were representative of prehistoric occupation within the valley bottom or derived from the adjacent higher ground (Parfitt 1998). Either way, they provide evidence of prehistoric activity in the general area.

3.9 Watching brief around Blériot's memorial 2009

In June–July 2009 the writer undertook a watching brief ahead of new landscaping works around the Blériot memorial situated on the south-eastern margin of the present study area. A series of twentieth-century military features, perhaps of First World War date, and including trenches, rubbish dumps, and a metallised pathway were recorded prior to their in-filling and levelling (Parfitt 2009). Groundworks around the memorial itself provided a section through the soil deposits overlying the natural Upper Chalk in this area and yielded two prehistoric struck flints.

4. Aims of the work

The main aim of the survey in 2013 was to identify and assess the extent of unmapped and unknown surface features that may exist in the area, so that a better understanding of the area's archaeological potential could be obtained. Particular significance was attached to evidence for the twentieth-century military use of the site, which is presently only poorly known.

5. Methodology

5.1 The survey was carried out single-handedly by the writer. A methodical search of the woodland was undertaken over four part-days, between 27 February and 11 March 2013. This walkover was undertaken in dull, overcast weather representing less than ideal light conditions for fieldwork in woodland. After a long winter, the vegetation cover was then at its least extensive; a light covering of snow on the fourth visit served to highlight certain, less obvious features but obscured others.

5.2 A ready base-map for the study was provided by a detailed topographical survey undertaken for English Heritage by Atkins AMC in July 1997. This was drawn to a scale of 1:500 and shows, at least in outline, many of the extant surface features identified. Additional information came from historic aerial photographs and a services plan based on an Ordnance Survey map drawn in 1923 at scale of 1:500, with minor alterations and adjustments made in 1947, 1952 and 1955.

5.3 Detailed documentary research concerning the previous military activity in the area of Broadlees Bottom was considered to fall outside the scope of the present field-based project, but fairly certainly this would provide much useful additional information.

5.4 Each surface feature identified in 2013 was given a feature number (e.g. F. 3) and marked on 1997 base plan. Features not already shown on this plan were sketched on by eye with the aid of only a limited number of measurements made with a 50m tape (Fig. 2). This basic record was supplemented by photographs and brief written notes. Together, these form the basis of the present report. The field records are currently held by CAT (Dover Office) but will be transferred into the care of English Heritage shortly.

6. Description of the recoded features (Fig. 2)

6.1 Details of the surface features noted are set out below, working from west to east (see Fig. 2 for locations). Relevant cartographic and documentary evidence has also been noted here.

6.2 *Two modern inspection chambers, F. 1*

In the north-west point of the triangular study area, adjacent to Upper Road, are two modern concrete inspection chamber covers (Plate IX). These are both orientated roughly north-south and cast iron 'P O' plaques set into their tops (Plate X) indicate that they are connected with telecommunications equipment below. No attempt to open the chambers was made as they had every appearance of being in regular use. Some investigation in the potentially military origins of any telephone lines in this area (connection with the Second World War tunnels beneath Dover Castle?) could be of interest.

6.3 *Probable area of dumped spoil and rubble, F. 2*

Extending for a distance of about 80m south-eastwards from the north-west point of the triangular study area, the ground between Upper Road and the military road is reasonably level before terminating in a steep bank up to 3m high. Overall, this level area has the appearance of being an extensive spoil dump where material has been progressively tipped (presumably by lorry) across the ground as it falls away towards Broadlees Bottom. The area was too overgrown to determine the

nature of any dumped material here but a general absence of brick and concrete rubble on the surface could suggest that it is largely composed of soil and chalk.

6.4 *Trench with a concrete services marker, F. 3*

South-east of the F. 2, an irregular, overgrown trench with associated spoil heap was located 17.50m north-east of the military road. In detail, the trench was about 5m long (N–S), 2m wide and 1m deep. Set upright at its northern end was a concrete marker-post of a type used to indicate the presence of services (Plate XI). The overall impression gained was that this excavation represented an attempt to locate and mark the line of a buried service (perhaps the main drain leading down from Connaught Barracks, see notes on F. 11 below). No traces of any pipe or cable were visible in the base of the trench. The metal cover for a water-main stop-cock was noted amongst vegetation a short distance to the south of F. 3, opposite the Fitzwilliam Gate – blue spray paint on this suggested that it is still live.

6.5 *CAT Evaluation Trench 1, F. 4*

The site of this trench (see above) is now covered by trees (some fallen) and dense vegetation. No trace of the trench could be identified in 2013 and specifically the large brick-built man-hole discovered in 1998–9 could not be relocated despite a careful search of the area, which included probing with a metal rod.

6.6 *CAT Evaluation Trench 2, F. 5*

The site of this trench is occupied by an area of short grass. No sign of the trench was visible; nor were any traces of Building 84, shown on the 1923 plan as ‘MT office hut’, found in 2013.

6.7 *The marshalling yard, F. 6*

A large open area marked on the 1923 plan as ‘marshalling yard’ is still extant, opening off the northern side of the military road. It presently serves as a car park for visitors to the Blériot memorial (Plate XII). The yard measures about 23m (E–W) by 42m (N–S) and its surface stands at an elevation of about 74m above OD. As seen today, it consists of a rectangular area of laid tarmac (at least two phases), edged with concrete kerb stones along the north and east sides. A disused wooden telegraph pole stands near the north corner of the yard with another on the east side. Also at one point on the east side the outline of a square, brick-edged drain or man-hole is visible. More of these are shown on the 1997 survey.

6.8 *Flight of brick and concrete steps, F. 7*

A series of brick and concrete steps run down from the marshalling yard to the site of the former Sergeants’ Mess which is set on a terrace around 3–4m below the level of the yard. An initial flight of ten steps, leading down north-eastwards, terminates just above the concrete retaining wall (F. 8, see below). Along the southern side, these steps are provided with a green-painted steel hand rail (Plate XIII). A shorter flight of four steps, laid out on a more easterly orientation, are set at a right-angle against the concrete retaining wall. Green-painted steel hand-rails are provided on both sides of these steps (Plate XIV).

6.9 *The demolished Sergeants’ Mess, F. 8*

Set on a lower terrace immediately east of the marshalling yard, there was once a substantial building, now demolished. The structure is marked on the 1997 survey and details of its room layout are given on the 1923 plan, where the building is described as the Northfall Meadow Sergeants’ Mess. It is described as being brick-built, and was provided with a liquor store, an ante room and a billiard room.

The exact date of the building’s construction has not been ascertained. It clearly post-dates the First World War hutted camp, being absent on the air photograph dated 1920 (Plate IV). Nor does it appear to be present on the photo dated 1926 (Plate VI), suggesting that it is late addition to the 1923 map. It is clearly shown on the 1941 aerial photograph (Plate VII).

The site of the actual building is now marked by nothing more than a heavily overgrown area of dumped soil, brick and concrete rubble. The map evidence indicates that the building originally

measured about 36m (NE–SW) by 15m (NW–SE) but no traces of the structure were noted in 2013 beyond a concrete wall, standing up to 1m high, retaining the terrace for the building along the western side (Plate XIV).

6.10 *Terraced area below Sergeants' Mess, F. 9*

A short distance to the south-east of the site of the Sergeants' Mess and set square to it, is another level terraced area, with a bank up to 1m deep cut into the hill-slope along the north-western side. This terrace is now largely covered by trees (Plate XV). As traced on the ground, it measured about 35m (NE–SW) by at least 30m (NW–SE). Along the north-western side three short flights of concrete access steps survive, positioned one at either end (Plate XVI) and one in the middle. The middle flight is now largely destroyed by growing trees. The surface of the terrace lies at about 68m OD.

It initially seemed possible that this terrace marked the site of another building, but a photograph of Dover Castle taken in the 1950s clearly shows the feature then as open ground (Plate VIII). Ordnance Survey maps of the 1970s mark it as being a tennis court. In the light of this, the surface scatter of brick rubble noted across the terraced area in 2013 seems most likely to derive from the demolition of the adjacent Sergeants' Mess, with which the tennis court was probably originally associated. On the south-west side of the terrace, the outline of a small brick structure, perhaps a double man-hole, was noted in 2013 (Plate XVII).

6.11 *Line of an in-filled ditch, F. 10*

East of terrace F. 9 a shallow linear depression, clearly representing a largely backfilled ditch, was identified. Running roughly north–south, this was traceable for a total distance of about 130m, extending in a slight curve between the base of the Horseshoe Bastion and Upper Road (Plates XVIII & XIX). It skirted the eastern edge of terrace F. 9 but appeared to cut through the lower and middle terraced pathways (Fs 12 & 15) and the cambered road F. 13 (see below).

As seen on the ground, the line of this in-filled ditch was generally about 8m across the top and up to 1m deep (Plates XVIII & XIX). Immediately adjacent to Upper Road, however, the backfilling had been less complete and for a distance of about 20m here the ditch appeared to be little more than half full. Again, it was about 8m wide and some 2m deep. Traces of an associated bank survived on either side (Plate XXI).

A vertical aerial photograph taken in 1941 clearly shows this ditch as then being open (Plate VII), following a slightly sinuous course, running uphill from the Horseshoe Bastion of the Castle to connected with the ditch surrounding the East Wing Battery of Fort Burgoyne. A photograph taken in the 1950s (Plate VIII) reveals that by then the ditch across Northfall Meadow had been filled-in but a chalky scar still marks its line.

Clearly absent in 1920 (Plate V), this ditch can be readily identified as a section of the anti-tank ditch dug around Dover to protect it from landward attack during the Second World War, probably in 1940 or 1941 (Jon Iveson, pers comm). The junction of the ditch with Horseshoe Bastion (Plate XIX) is covered by an adjacent Type 28 concrete anti-tank pillbox designed to mount a 2pdr anti-tank gun. This still extant structure falls immediately outside the present study area (Plate XX) but its significance is clearly to be understood in relation the adjoining defensive ditch.

6.12 *Modern man-hole, F. 11*

A single brick and concrete man-hole was located in the valley-bottom, towards the eastern side of the study area. This is approximately 1m square and stands 0.30m above present ground level at about 65m OD. It is surmounted by a modern square, cast iron cover and is still in use as a sewer (running water heard). A short (0.45m high) concrete marker post stands close-by on its northern side (Plate XXII).

A map recording the drainage arrangements for the Broadlees Military Prison and Fort Burgoyne, dated 1949 (ref CLA DWG No. 542, accessed on Dover District Council website) shows the line of a main drain/sewer running west–east through Northfall Meadow. The present man-hole must be related to this. As indicated by the map, the drain then primarily served the military camp known as Fort Burgoyne Huts and married soldiers' quarters on Upper Road. The present man-hole would seem to be located at the point where this drain connected with a second one leading down from Fort

Burgoyne proper. Some of the drainage system as shown on the map will now be disused because certain buildings are abandoned or no longer extant. Full details concerning the present-day arrangements are no-doubt held by the relevant drainage authorities and the matter has not been further pursued as part of the current project.

6.13 *The lower terraced pathway, F. 12*

A shallow terrace about 2m wide and up to 0.50m deep, cut into the hill slope just above the valley bottom, appeared to represent the line of a former pathway (Plate XXIII). It lay about 26m north of the cambered roadway, F. 13 (see below). Seemingly cut through by the ditch, F. 10 it was otherwise traceable for around 180m, from the eastern boundary of the present study area, westwards at least as far as a point opposite the marshalling yard (F. 8). After this, it was completely obscured by vegetation. Eastwards beyond the study area, it continued on as a slightly more clearly defined track. There was no sign of any surface metalling and probing with a metal rod was somewhat inconclusive, although hard material was encountered at depths of between 0.10 and 0.15m in several places.

Study of the aerial photograph of the First World War hutted camp (Plate V) suggests that this pathway may be equated with the thoroughfare then running along the northern side of the main north row of huts. A pre-Second World War date is also indicated by the fact that this feature is cut through by the anti-tank ditch, F. 10.

6.14 *Cambered roadway with side gutters, F. 13*

Running along the bottom of the valley, in the area between the footpath to Blériot's memorial and the in-filled ditch F. 10 were the earthwork remains of what appeared to be a cambered roadway with shallow side gutters (Plate XXIV). This was about 3m wide, aligned roughly east–west. The centre of this roadway lay about 8.50m south of man-hole, F. 11 and around 25m south of the lower terrace-way, F. 12, running roughly parallel with it.

At the western it seemed clear that the roadway had been cut through and destroyed by ditch F. 10. Eastwards beyond the footpath, it was traceable for another 100m or more. There was no sign of any surface metalling but probing with a metal rod suggested that a continuous hard layer, incorporating coal-fire ash and cinders, lay buried at a depth of between 0.10 and 0.15m under the modern soil and leaf mould.

Study of the aerial photograph of the First World War hutted camp (Plate V) suggests that this roadway may be equated with the thoroughfare running between the two main rows of huts. As with F. 12, a pre-Second World War date is also indicated as the road is cut through by the anti-tank ditch F. 10.

6.15 *Probable army dug-out, F. 14*

About 10m south of the cambered roadway, F. 13, just to the west of the footpath leading to Blériot's memorial, a largely in-filled trench was located. This probably represents the site of an army dug-out. As seen, it was about 5m long (SW–NE), 1.60m wide (SE–NW) and still 0.30m deep.

6.16 *The middle terraced pathway, F. 15*

Cut slightly further up the hill-slope, around 15 metres north of the lower terraced pathway F. 12, was another east–west terrace-way of very similar form. This was between 2 and 3m wide and could be traced with some difficulty through the undergrowth to a point just west of the anti-tank ditch F. 10, which had clearly cut through it. There had been some damage to the course of this middle terrace-way by burrowing animals. Traces of probable rough flint metalling were noted at one or two points on its surface.

The line of this path had previously been cut across during the landscaping works undertaken around the Blériot memorial in 2009 (Parfitt 2009, context 4). Where exposed in that excavation, the pathway was about 1.70m wide, composed of an upper layer of large angular flint gravel about 0.10m thick, resting upon a base of crushed chalk, ash and cinders. Its line is also traceable eastwards from Blériot's memorial, towards the cliff-edge.

Reference to the aerial photograph of the First World War hutted camp (Plate V) suggests that this pathway may be equated with one running along the hillside above the main camp. As with Fs 12 and

13, a pre-Second World War date is indicated as the path would seem to be cut through by the anti-tank ditch F. 10.

6.17 *The upper terraced trackway, F.16*

An upper terraced trackway was traced, with some considerable difficulty, for about 100m through the undergrowth at the foot of the steep bank along the southern side of the modern road to St Margaret's (= Upper Road). It was between 5 and 6m wide and at the western end petered out before reaching the line of the in-filled ditch, F. 10. At the eastern end it merged with a more prominent trackway which leads south-eastward from Upper Road. The modern parish boundary also seems to follow this line of this more prominent track. As far as could be determine, the Upper trackway fell on a different alignment to the Middle and Lower pathways but its course was very difficult to follow due to the dense vegetation.

6.18 *Army dug-out, F. 17*

Work undertaken in connection with the restoration of Blériot's Memorial, in 2009 led to the recording of a substantial army dug-out towards the northern corner of the present study area (Parfitt 2009, trench A). This was rectangular in shape and measured 9.40m long (WNW–ESE), 2.10m wide and 0.50–1.00m deep. At the time of recording, the south-east end of the feature had already been backfilled, with the remaining open part being filled and levelled as part of the 2009 works. No trace of this feature is now visible on the surface. Other dug-outs were recorded in 2009 further to the east.

6.19 *Sub-rectangular mound, F. 18*

A subrectangular mound was located immediately east of the in-filled ditch, F.10. About 8m (E-W) long, 3m wide (N-S) and 1.25m high, it appears to be a dump of soil and clay of uncertain purpose. It is surmounted by a large tree and a projecting angled, steel stanchion of the type used to attach a stabilising hauser on a telegraph pole. It seems just possible that the mound represents a preserved fragment of an outer bank associated with the tank ditch, not bulldozed level here because it once supported a telegraph pole, now removed.

6.20 *Soil cover on the northern hill slope, F. 19*

On the eastern side of the study area, between the Upper and the Lower terraced pathways (Fs 12 and 16), the hill slope appeared to be largely untouched by human activity. Animal burrows and upturned tree stumps revealed that the underlying soil here consisted of a cream-brown silty clay containing frequent chalk grits and moderate amounts of angular white patinated flints. Inspection of these showed that no more than one or two had been struck by man.

7. Finds

No finds were collected during the walk-over survey, anything of archaeological interest being left *in situ*. Material noted included a very light scatter of prehistoric struck flints (see F. 19 above) and occasional twentieth-century military items such as barbed-wire screw pickets (two) and broken crockery. A light scatter of bricks and concrete rubble across much of the area must be derived from demolished buildings that formerly stood here.

8. General conclusions

8.1 Early photographs taken at the start of the twentieth century, around the time of Blériot's landing (Plates I–III), make it clear that the area of Northfall Meadow was then open grassland with only very limited tree cover. This will largely reflect its location immediately outside the northern defences of Dover Castle where vegetation will always have been kept to a minimum in order to deny cover to any would-be attacker. The presently wooded nature of the ground accordingly reflects the fact that Dover Castle and the adjacent areas are no longer of any military/strategic significance. From the

writer's own recollections much of the woodland has developed since the early 1970s, when the area was a mixture of grass and scrubland.

8.2 Despite the close proximity of an internationally important medieval site, in the form of Dover Castle, no obviously medieval remains were identified within the study area. Nevertheless, the probable medieval ditch previously located in CAT Evaluation 1 (see above, F. 4) suggests that more features of this period could lie buried on the site.

8.3 Apart from a few prehistoric struck flints noted on the surface (F. 19) and found during previous evaluation trenching (Parfitt 1998, trench 5; see above), there was no obvious evidence for any activity within the survey area prior to the start of the twentieth century. The various features noted on the ground all seemed to relate to the twentieth-century military occupation of the area. Most features were located to the east of the marshalling yard (F. 6). West of this yard little of interest was identified and some of the ground here appeared to have seen significant spoil dumping (F. 2), perhaps burying earlier features.

8.4 Reference to the various historic photographs allows many of the features identified to be provisionally assigned to a specific phase of military activity. These military phases may be broadly identified as:-

First World War (1914–1919)
Inter-war period (1920–1938)
Second World War (1939–1945)
Post-War period (1946–1980)

8.5 First World War occupation seems to be represented by the various roads and terrace-ways identified in the eastern half the study area (Fs 12, 13, 15 & 16). These would appear to be the only extant remains of what was clearly once a major camp site. No obvious traces of the numerous timber buildings that formerly stood in this area can now be identified, making these pathways important indicators of an otherwise invisible phase of major activity. More research into this lost camp, both on the ground and amongst the documentary records, would be of great interest.

8.6 Belonging to the Inter-war years is the now demolished Sergeants' Mess (F. 8), the marshalling yard (F. 6), the flight of steps linking the yard to the mess (F. 7) and the Lower terrace (tennis court, F. 9), together with the concrete bases of the buildings relating to the former Motor Transport depot just outside the study area, adjacent to the Castle ramparts.

8.7 Second World War activity is principally represented by the in-filled ditch F.10, which may be readily equated the anti-tank ditch, cut in 1940/41 as part of Dover's landward invasion defences. An adjacent pillbox set at the foot of Horseshoe Bastion is also of this period but falls just outside the study area. Although largely in-filled during the post-war years the line of the anti-tank ditch can be seen to cut across the earlier roads and terrace-ways assigned to the First World War period (see above).

8.8 Post-War occupation is represented by the continued use of the Motor Transport buildings, their subsequent demolition leaving only concrete bases, and the recent development of the area for car parking.

8.9 To what phase pits Fs 14 and 17, identified as army dug-outs, might be attributed is less certain. Those features recorded in 2009 (F. 17 etc.) were then assumed to be of First World War date but when viewed against the extensive contemporary military occupation across the area, they might now seem somewhat inconveniently positioned. They perhaps make even less sense in the context of the Second World War where they lie forward of the main anti-tank ditch surrounding the town (F. 10). Perhaps these dug-outs are best viewed as practice works, placed on the edge the main occupation

areas. As such, a date anytime during the military occupation of the twentieth century might be possible.

9. Bibliography

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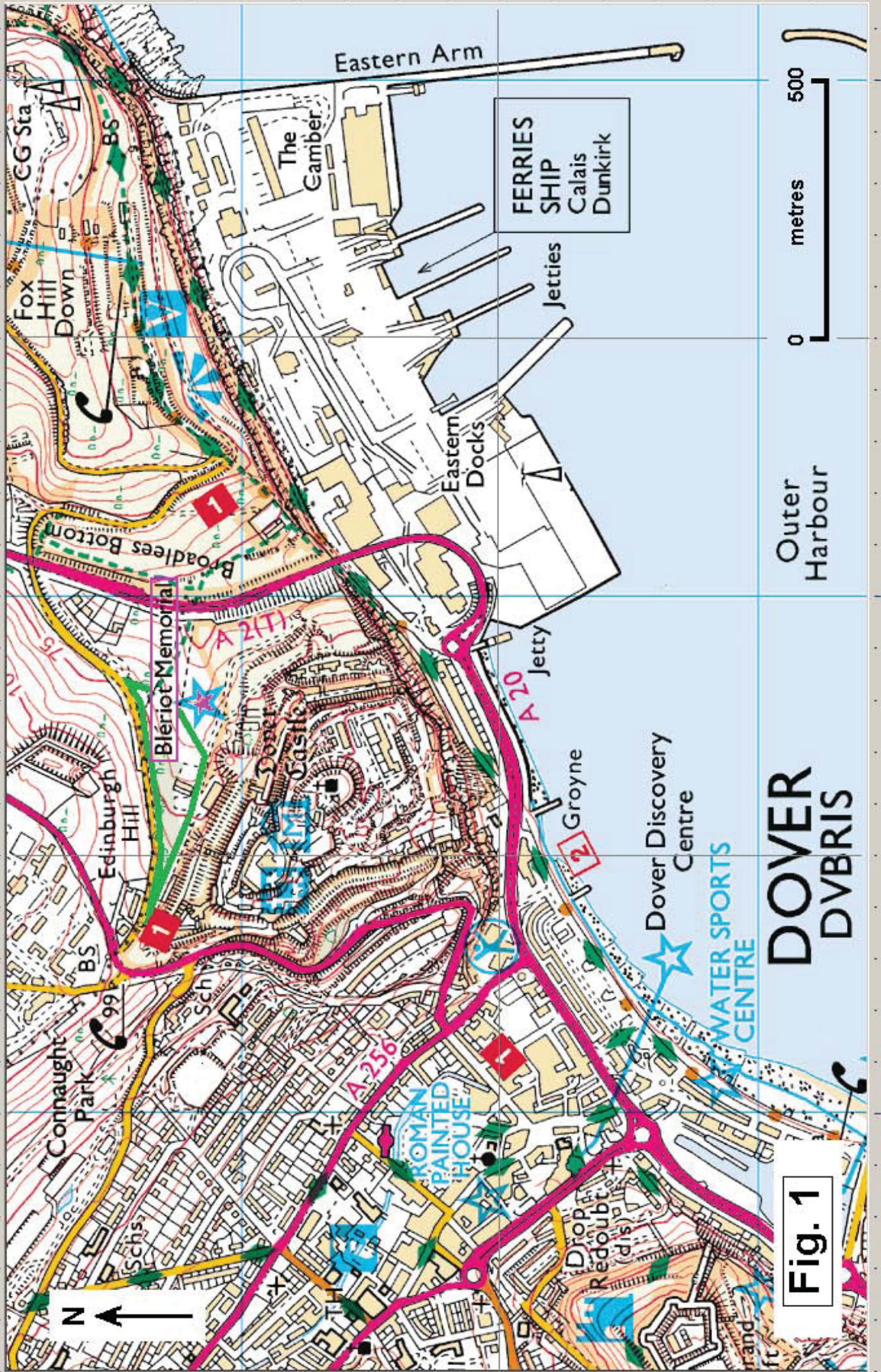







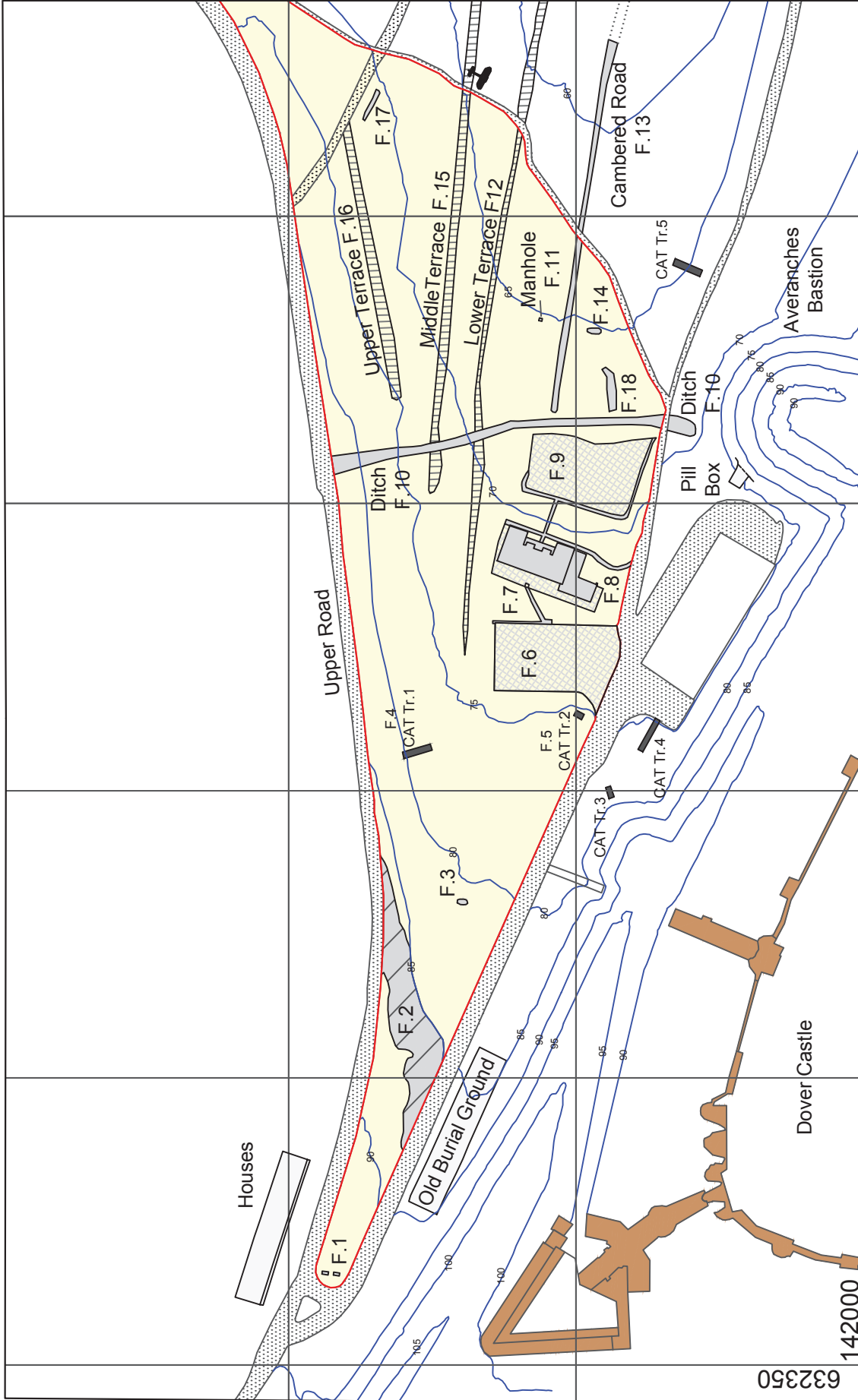
Fig. 1

DOVER
DVBRIS

	Survey Area
	Contours
	Road/ Path/ Track
	Identified Feature
	Terrace/ Slope



CANTERBURY ARCHAEOLOGICAL TRUST LTD.	
A REGISTERED CHARITY	
92a Broad Street - Canterbury Kent. TN1 2JH Tel. 01227 462062 Fax 01227 784724 Email: admin@canterburytrust.co.uk	
PROJECT NAME	Broadlees Bottom
PROJECT CODE	BBD-DA-13
SITE ADDRESS Broadlees Bottom, Dover, Kent	
DRAWN BY	SCALE(S) P-S-A 1:2000 @ A4
DATE	LAST REVISION 23/04/13 24/04/13
CHECKED	KP
REF/DRG NO.	L/



250m



Fig. 2

Fig. 2 Plan of feature identified during walk over survey

Based on the 1997 Survey produced for English Heritage by ATKINS AMC

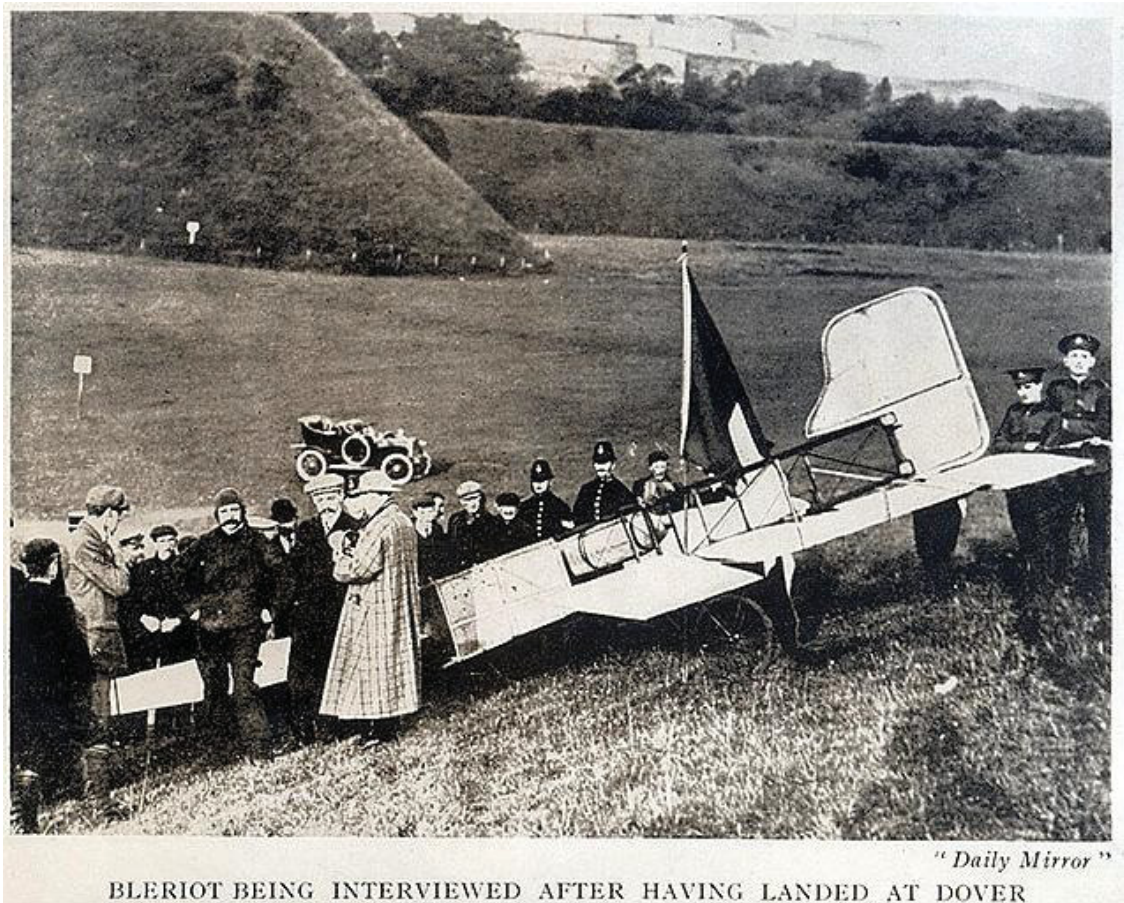


Plate I, Contemporary newspaper photograph of Blériot's landing in 1909, looking southwest. Note Horseshoe Bastion and open ground adjacent



Plate II, Fair with Punch and Judy show held in Northfall Meadow, 1911, looking east



Plate III, View across Northfall Meadow and the outer defences of Dover Castle, probably taken between 1906 & 1910, looking west (image courtesy of Dover Museum)

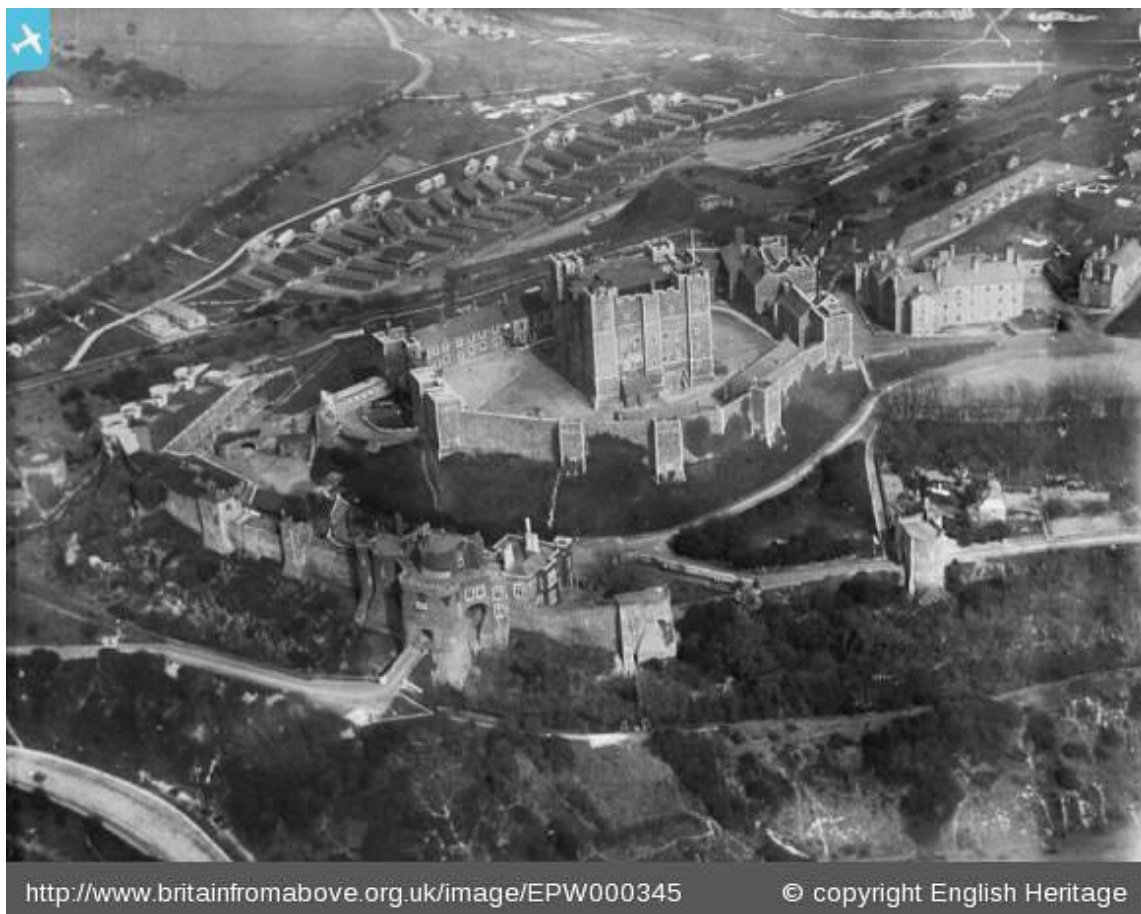


Plate IV, Aerial view of Dover Castle in 1920 showing huttid camp in Northfall Meadow



Plate VI, Aerial view of Dover in 1926 showing hutted camp removed



Plate VII, Aerial photograph dated 1941 showing line of anti-tank ditch (F. 10) running between Horseshoe Bastion and the East Wing Battery of Fort Burgoyne (image provided by Dover Museum)

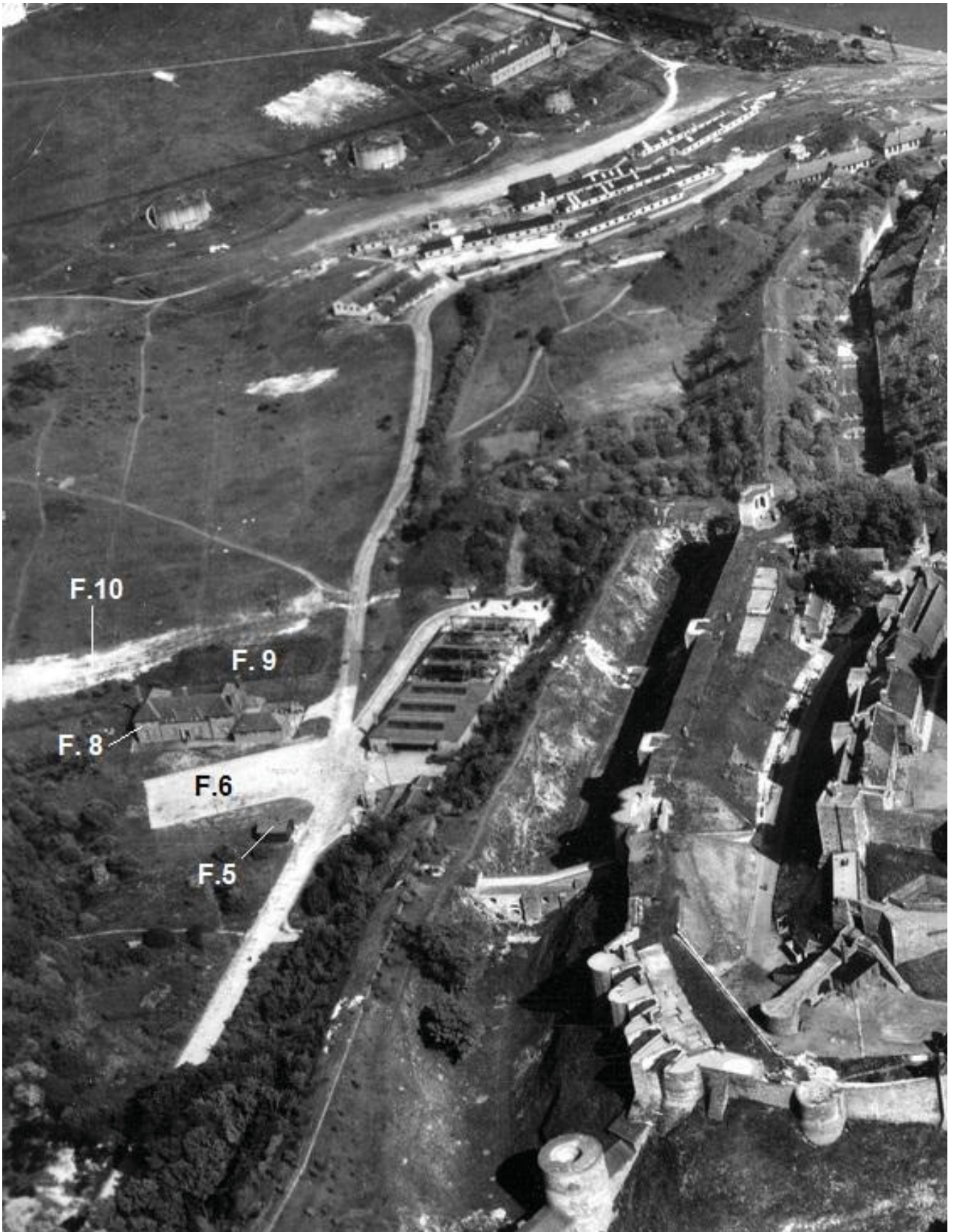


Plate VIII, Aerial photograph of Dover Castle in the 1950s showing Broadlees Bottom and Northfall Meadow. Features visible in 2013 are numbered

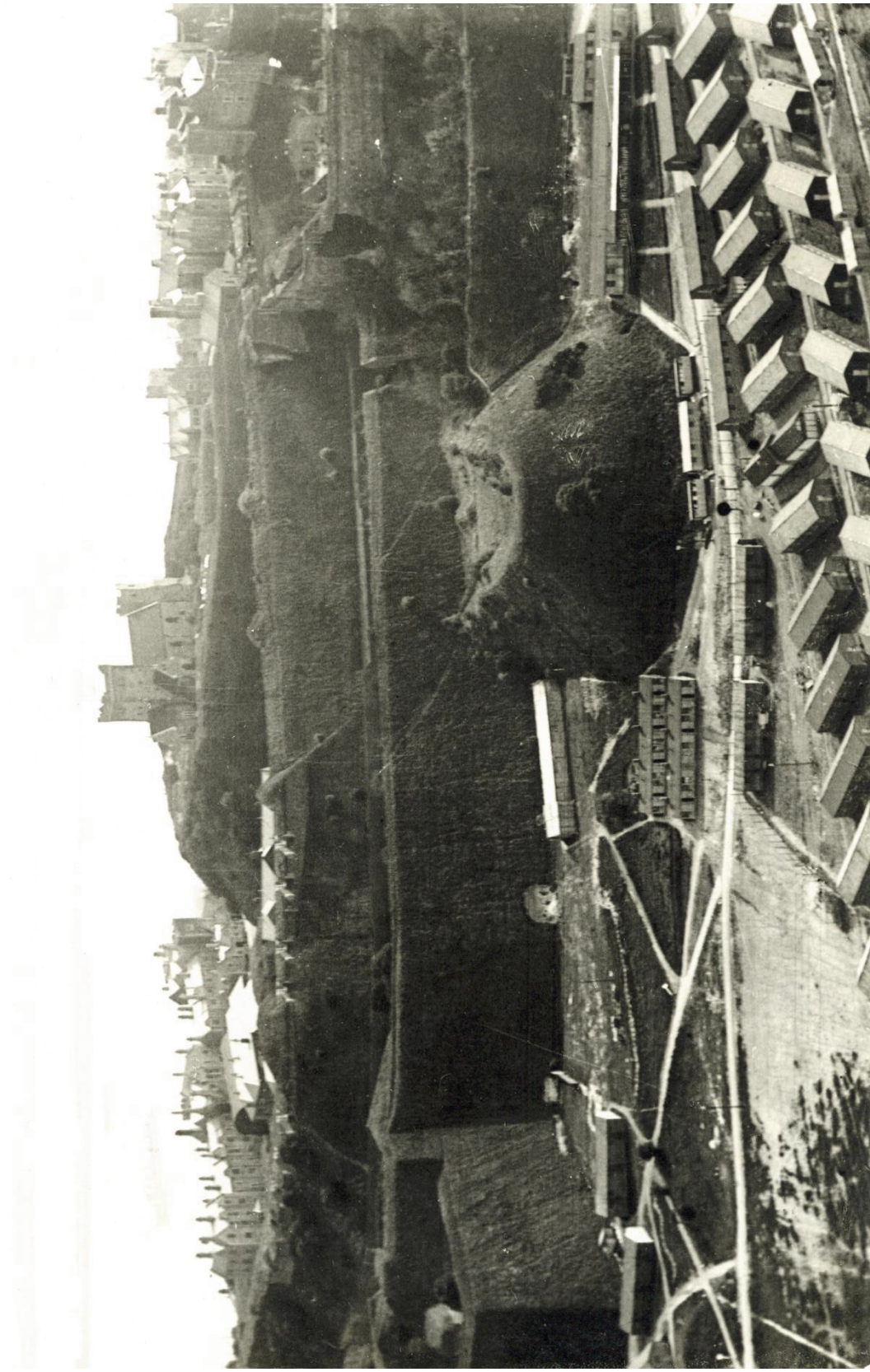


Plate V, Detail view of the hutted camp in April 1920, looking south-west (photo ref. EPW000565; copyright, EH)



Plate IX, General view of concrete covers of two modern inspection chambers F.1, looking south (scale, 1m)



Plate X, Detail of concrete cover of inspection chamber F.1, showing iron 'P O' plaque



Plate XI, General view of trench with concrete marker F. 3, looking north (scale, 1m)



Plate XII, General view of the former marshalling yard F.6, looking north-east



Plate XIII, General view of steps and hand-rail F. 7 leading down from marshalling yard, looking south-east



Plate XIV, Lower steps and concrete retaining wall relating to former building F. 8, looking north-west (scale, 1m)



Plate XV, General view of west corner of lower terrace F. 9, with steps, looking north



Plate XVI, South-western concrete steps associated with lower terrace F. 9, looking north-west (scale, 1m)



Plate XVII, Brick base or man-hole on south-west side of lower terrace F. 9 (scale, 50 cm)



Plate XVIII, Line of in-filled ditch F. 10, looking north (concrete block marks eastern edge)



Plate XIX, Terminal of ditch F. 10 at foot of Horseshoe Bastion, looking south-west



Plate XX, Anti-tank pillbox set into base of Horseshoe Bastion, looking south-east



Plate XXI, Section of ditch F. 10, adjacent to Upper Road, looking north (scale, 1m)



Plate XXII, Brick and concrete man-hole F. 11, looking west (scale, 1m)



Plate XXIII, Line of lower terraced pathway F. 12, looking west (scale, 1m)



Plate XXIV, Line of cambered roadway F. 13 looking south-east (scale, 1m)