

5. Annex

COMPONENTS OF DEFENCE AREA 3

Details of the defence works shown on Map 2 are given below. The listing is arranged in sequence of the unique database record numbers that are also given on the map.

UORN	S0001220	SITE TYPE	PILLBOX (TYPE FW3/24)
		NGR	SY 30470 99892
COUNTY	Devon		
DISTRICT	East Devon		
PARISH	Axminster		
LOCATION	SW of Weycroft, at foot of steep bank, beside railway bridge over River Axe.		
DESCRIPTION			
	TYPE		DATE
	Field Visit		2003/01/14
	Type 24 pillbox close to, and commanding, railway bridge. Hidden at foot of slope, beneath trees and bushes. Made of concrete blocks. Small stepped embrasures. No rear embrasures as rising bank behind. Long concrete-lined entry way. Interior access possible. An anti-tank ditch probably ran from this pillbox at the foot of the slope parallel with the river [see UORN 16344].		
	TYPE		DATE
	Document		1940/ __/ __
	Bren emplacement. S.34.		
	TYPE		DATE
	Air Photograph		1947/04/11
	Pillbox structure plotted from air photograph.		
	TYPE		DATE
	Map		1972/ __/ __
	Hexagonal structure plotted from OS 1:2500 sheet.		
	TYPE		DATE
	Field Visit		1996/08/01
	Hexagonal type 24 pillbox, made of breeze blocks, adjacent to S end of railway bridge.		
CONDITION	Good		
THREATS	Pillbox has graffiti daubs. Site floods when River Axe overflows.		
ADJACENT			
SITES			
PART OF	Southern Command: Taunton Stop Line		

PART OF

Southern Command: Taunton Stop Line

CONSTRUCTION**DATE**

1940/ __/ __

1941/ __/ __

REFERENCETaunton Stop Line:
record map folios of
Major F.B. Goodman
R.E., D.C.R.E. Taunton

Wills Collection

DESIGNATION

Devon SMR

ST30SW/172

UORN

S0001228

SITE TYPE
NGR

PILLBOX (TYPE FW3/24)

ST 31092 00134

COUNTY

Devon

DISTRICT

East Devon

PARISH

Axminster

LOCATION

On edge of wood and hedgerow on ridge S of Coaxdon Cottages, N of Weycroft.

DESCRIPTION

TYPE

Field Visit

DATE

2003/01/14

Type 24 pillbox dug into side of ridge, now with earth heaped up at back.
Concrete-faced. Small embrasures. Faces NW. On private land. Access difficult.

TYPE

Document

DATE

1940/ __/ __

Bren emplacement. S.29.

TYPE

Field Visit

DATE

1996/08/01

Hexagonal type 24 pillbox, made of breeze blocks. Sides 8ft 6ins, 10ft 6ins, and 15ft 6ins (with entrance). It appears to have a ventilation hole in the roof [?]. Earth has been banked by the local farmer against the walls. with PLAN drawn on form.

CONDITION

Fair

THREATS**ADJACENT****SITES****PART OF**

Southern Command: Taunton Stop Line

ADJACENT

Companion pillbox 30 yards away.

SITES

PART OF

Southern Command: Taunton Stop Line

CONSTRUCTION

DATE

1940/12/___ ___/___/___

REFERENCE

Taunton Stop Line:
record map folios of
Major F.B. Goodman
R.E., D.C.R.E. Taunton
CPE/UK/1974
(frs.1423-1424)

Wills Collection

Aerial photographs

DESIGNATION

Devon SMR ST30SW/98

UORN

S0001242

SITE TYPE
NGR

CUBE

SY 3024 9971

COUNTY

Devon

DISTRICT

East Devon

PARISH

Axminster

LOCATION

On the E bank of the River Axe by the railway line at a public crossing point, SW of Weycroft.

DESCRIPTION

TYPE

Field Visit

DATE

2003/01/14

Two 4ft x 4ft x 5ft (high) cone-topped anti-tank blocks adjoining the rail block [see UORN 16430] on its E side, and a further block still in situ on the W side. Other blocks (some nine) lie in the river or are tumbled on its bank.

CONDITION

Fair

THREATS

ADJACENT

SITES

PART OF

Southern Command: Taunton Stop Line

CONSTRUCTION**DATE**

1940/06/___ 1940/12/___

REFERENCE

Taunton Stop Line: record map folios of Major F.B. Goodman R.E., D.C.R.E. Taunton Report on Taunton Stop Line Southern Area Operation Instruction No.5	Wills Collection Home Defence: Stop Lines - Taunton Southern Area 'HQ' War Diary
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DESIGNATION

Devon SMR SY39NW/94/1

UORN	S0001243	SITE TYPE	CUBE
		NGR	
			SY 3068 9999
			SY 3062 9986

COUNTY	Devon
DISTRICT	East Devon
PARISH	Axminster
LOCATION	On the bank of the River Axe opposite Weycroft Mill (off A358 road).

DESCRIPTION

TYPE	DATE
Field Visit	2003/01/14

A line of anti-tank cubes with conical tops (each 3ft x 3ft x 4ft (high) running at edge of river. There are approx. 41 from the N to the mill race, and a further curving line of 11 to its S. [see also UORN 16428].

TYPE	DATE
Air Photograph	1947/04/11

Lines of anti-tank blocks plotted from air photograph.	
TYPE	DATE
Field Visit	1997/04/28

36 x anti-tank cubes in a single line. They are 5ft in dimension and have rounded pyramidal tops. Set face on to the river and approx. 1.5 metres apart. There are 11 further cubes just to the S.

TYPE	DATE
Field Visit	1996/08/01

Nearly 30 anti-tank obstacles, each about 4ft x 4ft x 4ft with pointed cap.

CONDITION

Good

THREATS

River Axe overflows occasionally at this spot.

ADJACENT

SITES**PART OF**

Southern Command: Taunton Stop Line

CONSTRUCTION**DATE**

1940/12/___ ___/___/___

REFERENCE

	CPE/UK/1974	Aerial photographs
	(frs.1423-1424)	
Pearce, Robin T.	Dorset Attacked, Dorset	
	Defended	

DESIGNATION

Devon SMR SY39NW/68

UORN	S0001349	SITE TYPE	PILLBOX (VARIANT)
		NGR	
			SY 30232 99678

COUNTY	Devon
DISTRICT	East Devon
PARISH	Axminster
LOCATION	On E side of railway line near public crossing point, SW of Weycroft.

DESCRIPTION

TYPE	DATE
Field Visit	2003/01/14

Square concrete-block pillbox by railway line and commanding railway block [see UORNs 16430 and 1242]. Entrance on side away from railway line (SE). Small stepped embrasures. Entrance has a large lintel with an embrasure above the doorway. No close access on SE side because of fence and vegetation.

TYPE	DATE
Document	1940/___/___

Bren emplacement. S.37. Rectangular. Cassini ref. 735209.

TYPE	DATE
Map	1972/___/___

Rectangular structure plotted from OS 1:2500 sheet.

TYPE	DATE
Field Visit	1996/08/05

Rectangular pillbox, with breeze block facing, beside railway

CONDITION

Fair

THREATS

The pillbox is heavily overgrown.

ADJACENT

SITES

PART OF

Southern Command: Taunton Stop Line

CONSTRUCTION

DATE

1940/12/___ ___/___/___

REFERENCE

Taunton Stop Line:
record map folios of
Major F.B. Goodman
R.E., D.C.R.E. Taunton
Home Defence Progress
Report: Taunton Line

Wills Collection

Home Forces: Southern
Command

DESIGNATION

Devon SMR SY39NW/88

UORN S0013509 **SITE TYPE** DEFENDED BUILDING
NGR SY 3068 9990

COUNTY
DISTRICT
PARISH

Devon
East Devon
Axminster

LOCATION

At Weycroft, on A358 Fosse Way Roman road, approx. 2 km NE of Axminster, just short of bridge over River Axe.

DESCRIPTION

TYPE **DATE**
Field Visit 2003/01/14

Vertical embrasure in wall of building facing road. This may have had a WW2 military origin. Certainly the buildings of what was then a flour mill are likely to have been fortified as part of the defences of this location.

TYPE **DATE**
Field Visit 2000/08/___

Possible vertical embrasure in wall of house (recently refurbished). This may be an indication of a house fortified as part of a defence plan.

CONDITION

Good

THREATS

ADJACENT

SITES

PART OF

Southern Command: Taunton Stop Line

DESIGNATION

UORN S0016272 **SITE TYPE** ROADBLOCK
NGR ST 3106 0041

COUNTY Devon
DISTRICT East Devon
PARISH Axminster
LOCATION Just N of Coaxdon Cottages near railway line, N of Weycroft.

DESCRIPTION

TYPE **DATE**
Document 1941/01/04

Roadblock. Serial no. S.Rd. 53. First priority. 12 x tetrahedra. 24 x mines. Cassini ref. 745217 [other sources, 745216]. 'E' Brigade Sector.

CONDITION

Destroyed

THREATS**ADJACENT****SITES****PART OF**

Southern Command: Taunton Stop Line

CONSTRUCTION**DATE**

1940/06/___ 1940/12/___

REFERENCE

Report on Taunton Stop Line	Home Defence: Stop Lines - Taunton
Home Defence Progress Report: Taunton Line	Schedule of Road Blocks
Taunton Stop Line: record map folios of Major F.B. Goodman	Wills Collection
R.E., D.C.R.E. Taunton Southern Area Operation Instruction No.5	Southern Area 'HQ' War Diary

DESIGNATION

UORN S0016273 **SITE TYPE** ROADBLOCK
NGR ST 3091 0037

COUNTY Devon
DISTRICT East Devon
PARISH Axminster
LOCATION At road bridge over railway line, N of Weycroft.

DESCRIPTION

TYPE Document **DATE** 1941/01/04

Roadblock. Serial no. S.Rd. 53A. Second priority. 12 x tetrahedra. 20 x mines.
Cassini ref. 743216. 'E' Brigade Sector.

CONDITION

Destroyed

THREATS

ADJACENT

SITES

PART OF

Southern Command: Taunton Stop Line

CONSTRUCTION

DATE

1940/06/ __ 1940/12/ __

REFERENCE

Report on Taunton Stop Line
Home Defence Progress Report: Taunton Line
Taunton Stop Line: record map folios of Major F.B. Goodman R.E., D.C.R.E. Taunton Southern Area Operation Instruction No.5
Home Defence: Stop Lines - Taunton Schedule of Road Blocks
Wills Collection
Southern Area 'HQ' War Diary

DESIGNATION

UORN S0016274 **SITE TYPE** ROADBLOCK
NGR ST 3070 0007

COUNTY Devon
DISTRICT East Devon

PARISH Axminster
LOCATION At junction of side road with the A358 road N of Weycroft Bridge.

DESCRIPTION

TYPE	DATE
Document	1941/01/04

Roadblock. Serial no. S.Rd. 54. Second priority. 12 x tetrahedra. 12 x mines. Cassini ref. 741214. 'E' Brigade Sector.

CONDITION
Destroyed

THREATS

ADJACENT

SITES

PART OF
Southern Command: Taunton Stop Line

CONSTRUCTION

DATE

1940/06/___	1940/12/___
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REFERENCE

Report on Taunton Stop Line	Home Defence: Stop Lines - Taunton
Home Defence Progress Report: Taunton Line	Schedule of Road Blocks
Taunton Stop Line: record map folios of Major F.B. Goodman R.E., D.C.R.E. Taunton	Wills Collection
Southern Area Operation Instruction No.5	Southern Area 'HQ' War Diary

DESIGNATION

UORN	S0016298	SITE TYPE	PILLBOX (TYPE FW3/22)
		NGR	SY 30480 99823

COUNTY Devon
DISTRICT East Devon
PARISH Axminster
LOCATION By public footpath, E of railway line, SW of Weycroft.

DESCRIPTION

TYPE	DATE
Document	1940/___/___

Bren emplacement. S.35.

TYPE
Field Visit

DATE
2003/01/14

Type 22 pillbox constructed of concrete blocks. Brick-lined inside. Faces N towards railway bridge. Interior access possible.

TYPE
Field Visit

DATE
2003/01/14

Type 22 pillbox constructed of concrete blocks. Brick-lined inside. Faces N towards railway bridge. Unusual chamfered embrasures. Concrete posts piled on roof and overgrown. Interior access possible.

CONDITION

Good

THREATS

ADJACENT

SITES

PART OF

Southern Command: Taunton Stop Line

CONSTRUCTION

DATE

1940/12/___ ___/___/___

REFERENCE

Taunton Stop Line:
record map folios of
Major F.B. Goodman
R.E., D.C.R.E. Taunton

Wills Collection

DESIGNATION

UORN S0016302 **SITE TYPE** VICKERS MACHINE GUN EMPLACEMENT
NGR ST 31188 00121

COUNTY Devon
DISTRICT East Devon
PARISH Axminster
LOCATION On ridge SE of Coaxdon Cottages overlooking River Axe.

DESCRIPTION

TYPE
Field Visit

DATE
2003/01/14

Concrete block-faced medium machine gun emplacement dug into bank. Large main stepped embrasure. Two additional embrasures. Chamfered corners. Detached exterior blast wall. Brick-lined interior. Entrance at SE corner. Lies off public footpath.

The line of the anti-tank ditch can just be seen as a hollow in an overgrown area full of rubbish from dumping. It runs up to pillbox UORN 1220. Why it was needed at this point beneath a steep bank is not clear.

TYPE
Air Photograph

DATE
1947/04/11

Length of anti-tank ditch plotted from air photograph.

CONDITION

Very Bad

THREATS

ADJACENT

SITES

PART OF

Southern Command: Taunton Stop Line

CONSTRUCTION

DATE

1940/ __/ __ 1941/ __/ __

REFERENCE

CPE/UK/1974
(frs.1423-1424)

Aerial photographs

DESIGNATION

UORN	S0016345	SITE TYPE	POST
		NGR	
		SY 3023	9970
		SY 3015	9962

COUNTY	Devon
DISTRICT	East Devon
PARISH	Axminster
LOCATION	E bank of River Axe S of Weycroft.

DESCRIPTION

TYPE	DATE
Field Visit	1995/08/05

7 (possibly more) anti-tank concrete obstacles, each approx. 4ft x 4ft x 4ft. These now appear to be placed to strengthen the river bank or have slipped over the bank when the river is in flood.

TYPE	DATE
Air Photograph	1947/04/11

Air photograph indicates the river bank has been strengthened here.

TYPE	DATE
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Field Visit 2003/01/14

Only one uprooted concrete post is now visible in this location.

TYPE DATE
Field Visit 1997/04/28

Row of 5 angled beams set into the river bank.

CONDITION

Bad

THREATS

ADJACENT

SITES

PART OF

Southern Command: Taunton Stop Line

CONSTRUCTION

DATE

1940/12/___ ___/___/___

REFERENCE

CPE/UK/1974
(frs.1423-1424)

Aerial photographs

DESIGNATION

UORN S0016346 **SITE TYPE** PILLBOX (TYPE FW3/22)
NGR SY 30760 99920

COUNTY Devon
DISTRICT East Devon
PARISH Axminster
LOCATION At the edge of a steep bank above the River Axe, N of Manor House, Weycroft.

DESCRIPTION

TYPE DATE
Field Visit 1997/04/28

Type 22 pillbox. Concrete block construction. 'S33' stencilled on anti-ricochet wall. Faces NW. Condition good.

TYPE DATE
Field Visit 1996/07/30

Hexagonal type 22 pillbox, made of breeze blocks with brick interior lining. 6 sides, each 8ft long. Entrance on S side: each of the other sides has an embrasure. Concrete roof. Interior concrete baffle wall with 'S33' inscribed on it. Walls 2ft thick.

TYPE DATE

LOCATION At Weycroft Bridge, crossing of the River Axe by the A358 road.

DESCRIPTION

TYPE	DATE
Document	1941/01/04
Roadblock. Serial no. S.Rd. 56. Second priority. 18 x tetrahedra. 18 x mines. Cassini ref. 741212.	
TYPE	DATE
Document	1940/ __ / __
Roadblock. S.Rd. 56. 'E' Brigade Sector.	

CONDITION

Destroyed

THREATS

ADJACENT

SITES

PART OF

Southern Command: Taunton Stop Line

CONSTRUCTION

DATE

1940/06/ __ 1940/12/ __

REFERENCE

Report on Taunton Stop Line	Home Defence: Stop Lines - Taunton
Southern Area Operation Instruction No.5	Southern Area 'HQ' War Diary
Taunton Stop Line: record map folios of Major F.B. Goodman R.E., D.C.R.E. Taunton	Wills Collection

DESIGNATION

UORN	S0016349	SITE TYPE	CUBE
		NGR	
			SY 3076 9996

COUNTY	Devon
DISTRICT	East Devon
PARISH	Axminster
LOCATION	On W side of Mill Race, NE of Weycroft Mill.

DESCRIPTION

TYPE	DATE
Field Visit	2003/01/14

Two cubes observed from E side of mill race. There may be a third hidden by vegetation.

TYPE
Field Visit

DATE
1997/04/28

Three anti-tank cubes in a row at right angles to the mill race.

CONDITION

Good

THREATS

ADJACENT

SITES

PART OF

Southern Command: Taunton Stop Line

CONSTRUCTION

DATE

1940/__/__

1941/__/__

REFERENCE

DESIGNATION

UORN S0016393 SITE TYPE MINED BRIDGE
NGR
ST 3070 0001

COUNTY Devon
DISTRICT East Devon
PARISH Axminster
LOCATION Weycroft Bridge.

DESCRIPTION

TYPE
Document

DATE
1940/12/__

Mined bridge E32. Cassini ref. 741213. Abutments and one pier. Ammonal 250lbs. G.C 6lbs.

CONDITION

Destroyed

THREATS

REFERENCE

Report on Taunton Stop
Line

Home Defence: Stop
Lines - Taunton

DESIGNATION

UORN S0016401 **SITE TYPE** ANTI TANK GUN POSITION
NGR ST 3103 0006

COUNTY Devon
DISTRICT East Devon
PARISH Axminster
LOCATION NE of Weycroft.

DESCRIPTION

TYPE Document **DATE** 1940/12/ __

2 pdr. anti-tank gun position. Field works. Cassini ref. 744213. Bn. Sector E.1. To fire on main road to the west.

CONDITION

Destroyed

THREATS

ADJACENT

SITES

PART OF

Southern Command: Taunton Stop Line

CONSTRUCTION

DATE

1940/12/ __ __/ __/ __

REFERENCE

Report on Taunton Stop
Line

Home Defence: Stop
Lines - Taunton

DESIGNATION

UORN S0016405 **SITE TYPE** ROADBLOCK
NGR ST 3115 0005

Major F.B. Goodman
R.E., D.C.R.E. Taunton
Southern Area Operation
Instruction No.5

Southern Area 'HQ' War
Diary

DESIGNATION