

DARTMOUTH CASTLE, DEVON CONSERVATION MANAGEMENT PLAN



Cornwall Archaeological Unit 2016



ENGLISH
HERITAGE

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At CAU the project was managed by Charlie Johns. Adam Sharpe authored this document whilst Peter Dudley assisted with data management and Francis Shepherd with the production of illustrations.

Cover image: An English Heritage photograph of the Dartmouth Castle complex from the east.



Fig 1. The location of Dartmouth Castle at the mouth of the Dart Estuary.

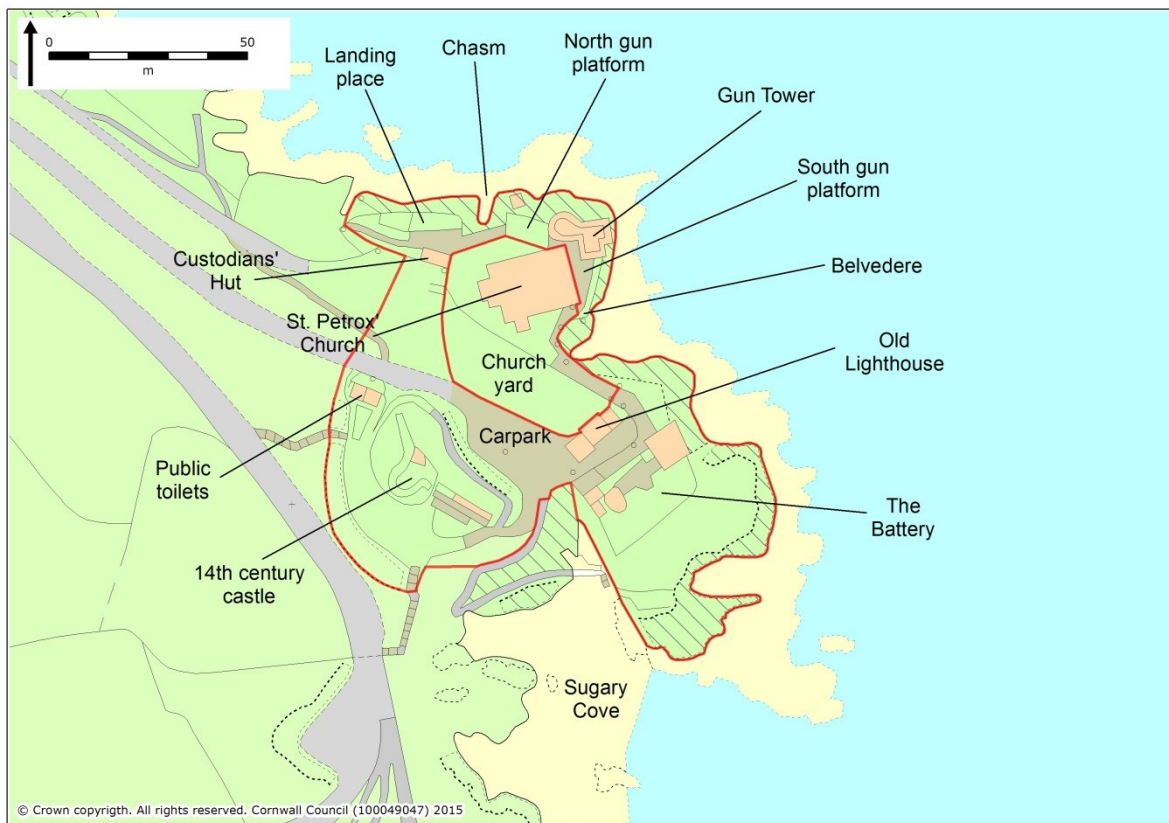


Fig 2. The extent of the project area (red line) and the principal site components.

I SUMMARY

In October 2015 English Heritage commissioned Cornwall Archaeological Unit to produce a Conservation Management Plan for property under its management at Dartmouth Castle, South Devon.

This location has been critical to the defence of Dartmouth Haven since the 14th century, when a waterside castle was constructed by the townspeople of Dartmouth. In the 15th century, a chain boom defended by a gun tower was set up, this artillery tower being the first of its type anywhere in Britain. Developments in ship-borne artillery soon forced the need for the construction of a seaward-facing battery, this being repeatedly rebuilt and re-armed to meet a series of perceived and actual threats over the following centuries, the last coastal defences of Dartmouth on this particular site being one of a pair of quick-firing guns, the example at the castle being set up in 1940 on the roof of the coastal defence battery which had been constructed in 1861.

The 15th century gun tower and adjoining 16th century gun platforms at Dartmouth Castle were handed into the care of the nation in 1909 as a Scheduled Monument, though were returned to military use during both the Great War and World War Two. Dartmouth Point Battery and the remains of the 14th century castle were added to the Schedule in 1955.

Taken together, the components of Dartmouth Castle particularly well illustrate the evolution of coastal defence in response to continuing developments in sea-borne armament, whilst each individual component of the site displays evidence for adaptation or rebuilding in the periods during which the harbour came under threat.

The wider site also includes the Church of St. Petrox, together with its graveyard, a religious establishment having been founded here during the medieval period, though the present church dates to the 17th century, a mid-19th century lighthouse, a small carpark and an area of landscaped grounds beneath which is documented the site of a medieval to post medieval mansion house. Whilst these sites and areas are not under the management of English Heritage, visually and historically they form the setting for the Dartmouth Point defences.

This management plan summarises the known historical development of Dartmouth Castle and the adjoining sites, identifies their significances, both national and locally, describes the history, form and condition of its components and sets out a conservation philosophy for its future management. Issues affecting the site are identified, together with opportunities for its future development and presentation.

2 INTRODUCTION

2.1 Background

In August 2015 English Heritage sought to appoint an appropriately qualified and experienced consultant to produce a Conservation Management Plan (CMP) for Dartmouth Castle and Cornwall Archaeological Unit (CAU) was approached by Mr. Win Scutt, Assistant Properties Curator (West), English Heritage with an invitation to tender for this work. Confirmation of appointment was received by CAU in October 2015.

2.2 Aims

The principal requirements of this CMP are:

- To inform the maintenance of the site to an exemplary conservation standard in order to continue to protect and sustain its significance;
- To inform the management of current levels of public access and enjoyment and where appropriate identify additional opportunities in line with current feasibility studies;
- To inform the interpretation of the site in a way that enhances the visitor experience without adversely impacting on its significance; and
- To inform the long term sustainability of the site.

The brief states that the CMP should include a vision for the site along with a set of management policies, taking into account what has gone before. These policies are to be specific to the needs of Dartmouth Castle and the people who value it. The policies are to be based on an understanding of the site, how it is valued and its current management issues. In summary the plan includes:

- An understanding of the monument and its significance;
- An outline of policies for the sustained conservation of the site;
- Guidelines for implementation and review;
- A gazetteer identifying individual elements of the sites, their significance and management issues; and
- A bibliography of all known interventions and research.

3 UNDERSTANDING THE SITE

3.1 The Site: location, geology and topography

See Figure 1.

Dartmouth Castle is sited at Castle Point at the mouth of the River Dart in the Civil Parish of Dartmouth. It falls within in the local authority areas of South Hams District Council and Devon County Council.

The site is centred at SX 88643 50291, its highest part being at 32.5m OD, its lowest being at mean sea level. The Scheduled area extends to 4,574m², whilst the Guardianship area extends to 3,678m².

The bedrock geology here is formed by mudstones, siltstones and sandstones of the Dartmouth Group, these dating to the Lower Devonian Period (398 to 416 million years ago). Dartmouth Castle incorporates some Devonian Carboniferous limestone from Cornworthy in its build, substantial amounts of grey-green and reddish-brown slate from local sources and Lower Devonian slates from the Charleton Quarries on Kingsbridge Estuary, together with small amounts of dressed Devon Permian red sandstone and 17th century Flemish bricks. The 19th century battery at Dartmouth Point was constructed of local Carboniferous limestone with some dressed granite, stock bricks being used in the construction of its vaults and magazine walls. Most of the later 20th century additions to the site are of brick and concrete.

The River Dart has its source on Dartmoor (to which it gives its name), and is one of Devon's longer rivers. The section of the River Dart between Totnes and Dartmouth entrance is a Ria – a coastal inlet formed by the partial submergence of an unglaciated river valley as the result of the gradual submergence of southern Britain through eustatic and isostatic processes following the last Ice Age. Totnes is the lowest bridging point on the river. Topographically, the South Hams is a plateau with an average elevation of 135m OD. This has been dissected by a number of watercourses – the Plym, Yealm, Erme, Avon, Dart and Teign - which have their origins on Dartmoor, and as a result the landscape has, along their courses, been often deeply incised, particularly near the coast due to geological factors. These processes have resulted in the creation of a group of sheltered, often economically and nationally-significant tidal anchorages, the example at Dartmouth being historically particularly important because of the permanently deep water found in its lower section.

The principal aspects of the castle are to the north past One Gun Point towards Dartmouth Harbour and the urban areas of Dartmouth and Kingswear, to the east across the Dart Estuary towards Godmerock Fort, to the south-east towards the harbour entrance between Godmerock and Inner Froward Point, including Kingswear Castle, and to the south across Castle Cove and Sugary Cove, Western Ledge, Deadman's Cove and Ladies Cove towards the open sea, views being closed off at the western end of this arc by Blackstone Point just under 1km to the south. The ground rises steeply to the west of the castle and is densely wooded. Gallant's Bower Civil War fort, 240m from the Castle's gun tower occupies the end of a ridge at 100m OD which rises further to the west-south-west to a maximum height of 142m at a distance of 950m from the Castle.

3.2 Site description

See Figure 2.

The Dartmouth Castle site incorporates evidence for the development of the outer defences of Dartmouth Harbour over seven centuries from their earliest inception during the 14th century as a fortalice and subsequent chain boom controlling ship movements in the narrows near the harbour entrance to the quick-firing two gun 4.7" battery set up in 1940 to sink marauding German E Boats when they were still up to 6,000m miles off the coast.

The site includes a round tower and three sections of wall which represent the remaining above

ground sections of the 14th century waterside castle constructed by the burgesses of Dartmouth, the 15th century tower erected to defend the chain boom and its slightly later western and southern gun platforms and landing place and a modified 19th century battery facing the sea – one of several which has occupied this site in order to deny enemy shipping access to the harbour since the early 16th century.

The site is compact and lies at the foot of a steep wooded hillside, and it also includes the 17th century St. Petrox Church and its graveyard, a chapel (and possibly also an early monastery) having been on this site since at least the 12th century, a short-lived 19th century private lighthouse and an adjacent modern carpark, and the alleged site of a 15th century mansion of the Carew family which became ruinous in 1643, and which finally disappeared during the early decades of the 19th century (the existence of the mansion is contested by some historians).

3.3 Historic Landscape Character

The Devon Historic Environment Record records the Historic Landscape Character (HLC) of the castle site as ‘Military Complex’ in both the modern and post-medieval periods. The landscape immediately to its west is recorded as ‘Other Woodland’ for the modern period and ‘Path/Garden’ for the post-medieval period, reflecting the pleasure gardens which formerly occupied parts of this area. The Historic Seascape Characterisation (HSC) for this area of the South Hams coast was undertaken by CAU in 2014 (Dudley and Johns 2014).

3.4 The setting of the site

The immediate setting of the structures making up Dartmouth Castle is formed by the nearby buildings – the Church of St. Petrox and the old lighthouse. Together these form a visual group from most angles, though its coherency has recently been somewhat undermined by the white paint applied to the church walls.

Its slightly wider setting is formed by the Dart Estuary, which surrounds Castle Point on three sides. The narrowest part of the harbour entrance (known as the Range) lies between Castle Point and Godmerock, where the channel is 220m wide and never less than 10m deep; the deepest part of the channel lies towards the eastern bank. To the south, the harbour entrance lies between Combe Point to the west and Inner Froward Point to the east. To the north of Castle Point, the Dart Estuary bears north-west past Warfleet before turning north at the narrows between Kingswear and Dartmouth, this point marking the southern end of the harbour anchorages, which extend northwards nearly 2km northwards to Higher Noss. The Dart was formerly navigable by substantial shipping as far as Totnes, but the upper section of the river became significantly silted during the medieval period by the fine waste flushed into the river by tinworks on Dartmoor. As a result the port migrated southwards from Totnes to the developing town of Dartmouth.

Dartmouth Castle was functionally linked with Godmerock Fort on the eastern bank of the Estuary, to which was stretched the former chain boom, and with Kingswear Castle, with which it shared responsibility for the early defences of the harbour entrance. One other element of the harbour defences contemporary with the early phases of development of Dartmouth Castle is Bayard’s Cove Castle at the southern end of the old part of Dartmouth. Gallant’s Bower redoubt and Fort Ridley above Kingswear were constructed and occupied during the Civil War. Dartmouth Point Battery was armed during World War One (WWI) and in World War Two (WW2) with QF guns to prevent incursions into the estuary, the harbour defences provided by its guns being supplemented during WW2 by an anti-submarine net, a torpedo station on the Kingswear bank and, from 1943, by two 6” guns sited at Brownstone Battery on Froward Point. The military function of Dartmouth Castle ended in 1955, when the MoD handed over the last of their holdings at Dartmouth Point to the Ministry of Works.

The wider setting of the castle is formed by the rural hinterland of the South Hams, and by the adjacent sections of the South Devon coast, whose medieval ports – Plymouth, Kingsbridge-Dodbrooke, Salcombe, Dartmouth, Teignmouth, and those such as Topsham on the Exe Estuary - all developed economically-important trade links to the continent and further afield, as well as shipyards and significant inshore and deep-water fisheries.

Historically, Dartmouth's long-important maritime economy ensured that it had strong links with ports in Brittany, Gascony, Spain, Portugal and Italy. The marriage of Edward II to Eleanor of Aquitaine in 1152 had opened up the great port of Bordeaux to English traders, particularly those from the south west, and Dartmouth quickly gained trade links with this port, becoming particularly successful in the trade in wine (in particular), wool, grain, beans, iron, herring, eels and other dried fish and Irish timber. Its mariners also gained a not undeserved reputation for privateering, though at times this activity bordered on outright piracy. Chaucer's sea captain in his *Canterbury Tales* is though likely to have been based on John Hawley, whom he met when in Dartmouth.

During the late 16th century Dartmouth developed an important Atlantic trade following the establishment of New World colonies and the development of the Newfoundland cod fisheries, particularly between 1583 and 1643. Dartmouth also established a significant trade in goods to Newfoundland, as well as with the Plantation settlements from the beginning of the 17th century. Dartmouth was also the location of a significant pilchard fishery and during the 18th century was a significant importer of wines from the Douro region in Portugal. From 1871 to 1891 the Cape and Natal Steamship Company regularly embarked from Dartmouth, whilst in 1878 Dartmouth found an important role as a coal bunkering port (the coal 'lumpers' at Dartmouth working until the 1930s), these last activities maintaining its maritime connections with the wider world.

The Port of Dartmouth administration formerly extended to Totnes, Kingsbridge, Torquay and Brixham. Its first major shipyard was established in 1795, this building several men-of-war. Although passed over as the site of a naval dockyard, in 1863 the town was selected as the site of the Royal Navy's officer training establishment, initially based in the decommissioned ships of the line HMS *Hindustan* and HMS *Britannia*, becoming temporary home for all Royal Navy officers since. Dartmouth Point Battery was re-armed during both World Wars; the harbour sited a torpedo boat station during WW2, and was also a significant embarkation point for the 1944 D-Day invasion. Although Baltic timber continued to be carried up the River Dart to Totnes until the 1930s, the early 20th century also saw Dartmouth develop as a destination port for yachtsmen, and water-based tourism is still of considerable importance to the economy of the town,

3.5 Designations

Guardianship area

Parts of the wider Dartmouth Castle site have been taken into Guardianship (see Figure 3).

Guardianship arrangements are an alternative to acquisition by a public body. The guardian (the public authority) agrees to accept responsibility for the care and management of the ancient monument and in return acquires certain rights over the property. The owner of the monument does not give up their freehold ownership but ceases to have responsibility for the site and is subject to the guardianship agreement. Guardianship agreements are a voluntary arrangement. The Secretary of State, Historic England, English Heritage Trust and local authorities all have the power to become guardians of ancient monuments. The English Heritage Trust is currently caring for properties in Guardianship under a licence agreement with Historic England.

Once the monument has been taken into guardianship the guardian is under a statutory duty to maintain it and has very wide powers to exercise control and management and to do everything necessary for its maintenance, including archaeological investigation. There is also a responsibility to provide public access and visitor facilities. Associated land may also be taken into guardianship.

(<https://historicengland.org.uk/advice/hpg/HAR/ownership-gardianship/>).

The Guardianship area at Dartmouth Castle is in two parts, a larger section to the east measuring 3,364m² covering the gun tower and adjoining gun platforms, the belvedere, and a coastal strip to the south which enlarges to cover Dartmouth Point Battery and the foreshore to its south. The smaller section measuring 314.5m² covers the 14th century castle tower, its associated western wall and a small area of land to their north, south and south-east, this land having been taken into Guardianship from the Borough of Dartmouth. The southern section of surviving 14th century curtain wall is not within the Guardianship areas.

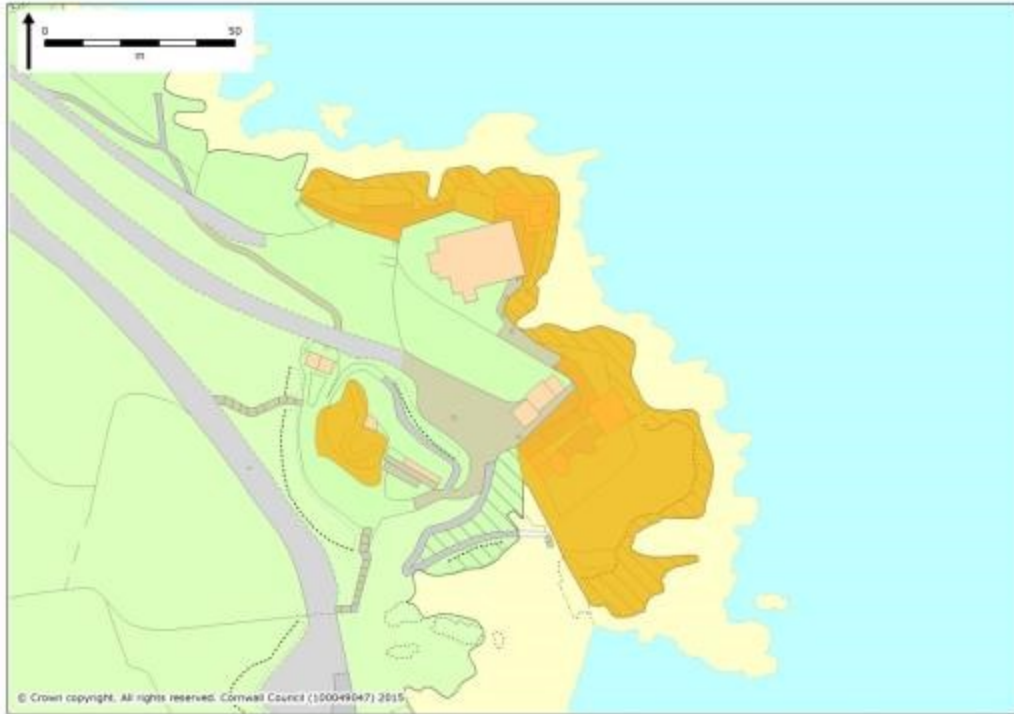


Fig 3. The extents of the Guardianship Areas at Dartmouth Castle.

Scheduled Monument

Much of the land at Dartmouth Point is a Scheduled Monument (NHLE 1014610) (Figure 4). Scheduled Monuments are defined as ‘any monument which is for the time being included in the schedule [compiled and maintained by the Secretary of State for Culture, Media and Sport]’, the controlling legislation being the Ancient Monuments and Archaeological Areas Act 1979.

Dartmouth Castle was added to the Schedule of Ancient Monuments in 1955. The Scheduled area at Dartmouth Castle extends to 4,574m² and covers the gun tower and flanking batteries, the former landing place, the 14th century castle and its dry ditch and Dartmouth Point Battery. The Scheduling does not include the area occupied by St. Petrox Church and its graveyard. Within the Scheduled area exclusions from the Scheduling comprise the modern road and path surfaces, the tea rooms, the timber public shelters, the public lavatories, the 19th century lighthouse, signposts, telephone kiosk, the artillery pieces except for the two 64-pounder rifled muzzle loaders and the flag pole, though the ground or masonry below these features is included.



Fig 4. The extent of the Scheduled Area at Dartmouth Castle.

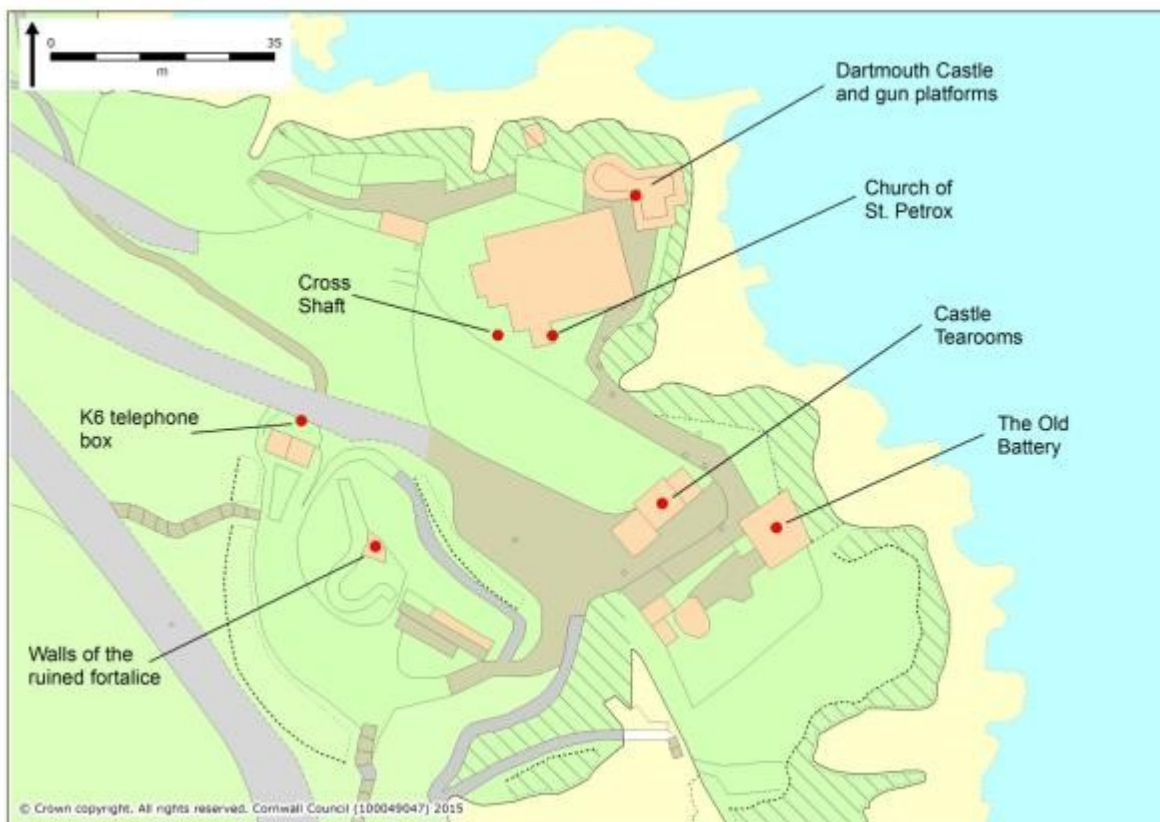


Fig 5. The locations of the Listed Buildings at Dartmouth Castle.

Listed Buildings

See Figure 5.

A Listed Building is defined as : ‘a building which is for the time being included in a list compiled or approved under this section; and for the purposes of this Act –

- a) any object or structure fixed to this buildings
- b) any object or structure within the curtilage of the building which, although not fixed to the building, forms part of the land and has done so since before 1st July 1948,
shall be treated as part of the building.’

The controlling legislation is the Planning (Listed Buildings and Conservation Areas) Act 1990.

The following structures at Dartmouth Castle are Listed Buildings:

- Enclosure Castle, Grade I, No 1197566;
- Dartmouth Castle and the gun platforms to its west and south, Grade I, No 1297086;
- The Old Battery, Grade II*, No 1297087; and
- K6 telephone box, Grade II, 1197565.

The following structures immediately adjacent to Dartmouth Castle are also Listed Buildings:

- Church of St. Petrox, Grade I, No 1297086;
- Cross shaft in churchyard, Grade II, No 1197564; and
- The Castle Tearooms, Grade II, No 1297085.

South Devon Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty

Dartmouth Castle falls wholly within the South Devon Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty (AONB) designated in 1960. It covers 60 miles of coastline, estuaries and countryside between Plymouth and Torbay. Covering 337 square kilometres (130 square miles), the South Devon Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty (AONB) stretches from Berry Head in Brixham to Jennycliff in Plymouth. AONBs have the same legal and planning status as National Parks.

South Devon Heritage Coast

Dartmouth Point falls wholly within an area designated as the South Devon Heritage Coast. A heritage coast is a strip of coastline in England and Wales, the extent of which is defined by agreement between the relevant statutory national agency and the relevant local authority. Such areas are recognised for their natural beauty, wildlife and heritage and amongst the purposes of definition is support for these qualities and enabling enjoyment of them by the public. For England the national agency is Natural England (formerly the Countryside Agency).

Devon County Wildlife Site

This site is wholly within a Devon County Wildlife Site, designated for its botanical interest. A number of rare species have been found on the site, and English Heritage has a responsibility to take this into account in the management of the property.

Dartmouth Castle also lies within a Site of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI) Impact Risk Zone, is close to an inshore Special Area of Conservation (SAC) with marine components, lies within a Higher Level Stewardship (HLS) Target Area and adjoins the National Trust Dart Estuary properties. The woodland to the west of the Old Castle is Open Access Land under the CROW Act 2000 (www.magic.gov.uk/). The site lies not far to the south of the area covered by the Dartmouth Conservation Area, the Dartmouth Conservation Area Appraisal noting a proposed extension southwards as far as Warfleet.

South West Coast Path National Trail

The South West Coast Path National Trail bisects the site (see Figure 13).

3.6 The Site currently in the charge of English Heritage

The site is currently managed by the English Heritage Trust and is open to the public. An admission charge is applicable to the castle and battery. The Area Manager manages the operations at all English Heritage properties in Cornwall that charge for admission. Dartmouth Castle is operated by a Site Manager and five Historic Property Stewards. As well as Dartmouth Castle, English Heritage also manages the northern foreshore approaches to the site and the former bathing platform to the west of Dartmouth Point Battery. For the extent of the Guardianship area currently managed by English Heritage see Figure 3.

4 HISTORY AND PHASING

4.1 Historiography and Past Archaeological Work

Maps of Dartmouth Castle have been prepared since the 16th century (Henry VIII's Great Map of the West), whilst military engineers and others have produced plans and views of the castle and Dartmouth approaches from the early 18th century to the late 19th century. Detailed plans, elevations and sections of the castle were drawn up by the military managers of the site in 1807, 1848 and 1914. These have been deposited in the National Archive.

The site was also surveyed for the Dartmouth Tithe Map *circa* 1840 (Figure 14), and in the last decade of the 19th century and in the first decade of the 20th century by the Ordnance Survey for its County Series mapping (Figures 15 and 16).

The picturesque qualities of the site have also long been recognised, as for example by the Buck Brothers, by J. M. W. Turner and other artists, being the subject of several watercolours, sketches, paintings and engravings; it was also recorded by Victorian and Edwardian photographers. A particularly useful collection of photographs of various aspects of the Castle were produced *circa* 1900 by John Stabb.

The first detailed description of the history and structural components of Dartmouth Castle was produced by B. H. St. John O'Neil in 1934 for the official site guide, this being revised and re-printed in 1951. Whilst the early history of the development of the castle is described in some detail, the site history is only cursorily described post-1660, and only those parts of the site then in the care of the Ministry of Works (MoW) within the Guardianship area were described in detail.

O'Neil also read a paper to the Society of Antiquaries in 1935, his paper being printed in *Archaeologia* **85** in 1936; this to some extent expanded the detail in the guidebook, and also placed Dartmouth Castle in the context of the wider defences of Dartmouth haven.

Percy Russell's *Dartmouth: a History of the Port and Town* was produced in 1950 and contains some useful analysis into the phasing of the construction of the gun tower, and the historical context for the site.

Andrew Saunders produced the replacement site guidebook in 1965, this being reprinted with some alterations until its fourth and final edition in 1995. Again, those parts of the site which were not then accessible to the public were not discussed in detail.

From 1979 onwards, Dr. Bob Higham's thesis (Higham 1979) and several associated publications include considerations of the development of the coastal defences at Dartmouth.

Austin Carpenter produced a publication describing the cannon of Dartmouth Castle in 1984 (Carpenter 1984).

In 1986, a topographic survey of the wider castle site was undertaken for the Property Services Agency by Plowman Craven and Associates. This provides, to date, the only relatively modern accurate survey of the site.

Francis Kelly undertook a very detailed photographic condition record of Dartmouth Point Battery in 1988.

Ray Freeman's 1990 *Dartmouth and its Neighbours* provided a modern history of the town, and included some new material relating to the Castle, though suggests that Hawley's Fortalice (the 14th century castle) occupied a rather smaller footprint than other commentators have suggest

Circa 1990, Richard Linzey undertook a detailed analysis of Dartmouth Point Battery, its components and predecessors.

A structural condition assessment of the Castle was undertaken by English Heritage in 1993.

Terry Edwards' *Hawley's Fortalice: Dartmouth's First Castle*, published by the Dartmouth History Research Group in 1998, examined the earliest fortification and proposed a reconstruction plan for it which incorporates the lowest section of the round section of the Gun Tower.

Exeter Archaeology undertook a watching brief on the excavation of a sewer trench from the lighthouse to the public lavatories in 1998 (Dyer 1998), which located the foundations of the 14th century curtain wall and established the width of its ditch and associated berm below Castle Road.

Chris Henderson, the former director of Exeter Archaeology who died in 2000 had a considerable interest in the defences of Dartmouth, and this played a large part in his researches in the last two years of his life. His presidential lecture to the Devon Archaeological Society concerned the defences of Salcombe and Dartmouth. Unfortunately this lecture has not been published. Henderson undertook considerable analysis of the detailing of the Dartmouth castles.

The replacement guidebook to Dartmouth Castle was produced in 2000 by Brian Davison, and included completely new text and illustrations, together with a number of paintings conjecturally reconstructing the appearance of the castle at various stages in its history, based on then current knowledge (Davison 2000).

A watching brief on trenches associated with the new custodians' lavatories was undertaken by Exeter Archaeology in 2000 (Dyer 2000). No significant archaeological deposits were encountered.

An uncompleted draft Conservation Statement was produced in 2001 by David Morgan for English Heritage, this identifying considerably greater detail in the phasing of the development of the site, and in particular the gun tower. This was updated with comments by Francis Kelly in 2011.

Exeter Archaeology undertook standing fabric recording and a watching brief during restoration and renovation works to the lower entrance of the castle in 2002 (Goodwin 2002). The monitoring of two trenches provided some further insight into the history of adjacent areas.

In 2003, an archaeological watching brief was undertaken during the replacement of the bridge from the car park to the ticket office in the former battery by Exeter Archaeology (Dyer 2003). No significant archaeological deposits were recorded.

In 2004, dendrochronological sampling and analysis was undertaken on floor and ceiling timbers in the round and square sections of the gun tower by Ian Tyers of Sheffield University (Tyers 2004). One sample gave a felling range of AD 1472-1508.

In 2003-4, Exeter Archaeology undertook an archaeological watching brief and fabric recording during a condition survey on the castle (Young 2004). The results of the recording added detail to existing elevations of the castle, and suggested some refinement in the phasing of its gun ports.

Exeter Archaeology undertook an archaeological watching brief during the installation of a foul water storage tank on the northern gun terrace in 2005 (SMR entry 2005). No significant archaeological deposits were identified.

Stuart Blaylock of Exeter Archaeology undertook a historical overview of the structural development of Dartmouth Castle for English Heritage in 2005 (Blaylock 2005). His report drew together and reconsidered most preceding work and provides a detailed consideration of the development of the structures forming the Dartmouth Castle complex, as well as suggesting some potential lines of future research.

Heather Sebire (English Heritage) produced a Summary Statement of Significance for Dartmouth Castle in 2009 drawing on current knowledge concerning its development.

A new guidebook was produced by English Heritage in 2013 (Pattison 2013).

Some of the research undertaken by the Dartmouth History Research Group into the town of Dartmouth (particularly that by Terry Edwards, above) is also relevant here.

4.2 Site History

4.2.1 The port of Dartmouth

Throughout the medieval and post-medieval periods, Dartmouth was a strategically-important deep-water port, its sheltered anchorage capable of holding 600 ships. Its fortunes were built on the trade in wine from Bordeaux and wool, wheat, minerals and other produce from South Devon and Dartmoor; Dartmouth was also an important fishing station and the site of several shipyards. Particular influences on the development of the town were the rural character of its hinterland, and the absence of good roads to other population centres.

It was a significant port of embarkation for the Crusades, 164 ships leaving Dartmouth in 1147 and 39 in 1190. Such was its importance that Dartmouth became a borough in the second half of the 13th century, contributing ships and men to the Crown, most notably to Edward II for the war in Scotland. In 1327 Edward II gained the lordship of Clifton Dartmouth Hardness and the town became a Royal Borough, this status being confirmed in a charter of 1341 in return for supplying the Crown two fully-equipped men of war for 40 days a year and handing over a percentage of its tolls, duties and customs. It became a home for Royal naval ships during the reign of Edward III, Warfleet being thought to be so named from the Royal fleet which sometimes anchored there.

Dartmouth had been a significant centre for privateering during the medieval period, its Mayor, John Hawley, being not only a major ship-owner but also a licenced privateer (and sometime borderline pirate) may well have been the basis for Chaucer's 'sea captain' in his Canterbury Tales. Following the outbreak of the Hundred Years War in 1336, retaliatory attacks on English shipping and ports became inevitable, and England was more than once proposed for invasion by the French, most significantly in 1387. In 1404, the Breton William du Chatel with a force of 2000 knights and a large number of crossbowmen launched an attack on Dartmouth, landing at nearby Blackpool Sands, but was defeated by a force of local men led by John Hawley.

4.2.2 The 14th century harbour defence – Hawley's Fortalice

During the 14th century Dartmouth was the fourth richest medieval town in Devon after Exeter, Plymouth and Barnstaple.

The first mention of a proposal to defend the harbour entrance at Dartmouth dates to 1336, when Edward III commissioned Hugh Courtenay and Philip de Columbers to take measures to protect the port and town in view of the potential for an attack launched by the French. This does not seem to have resulted in any construction activity taking place however.

In 1374, the Mayor and leading citizens of the town were instructed by the King to '*survey and correct all defects in the said town and port, fortify the same, array the men of the town and do all other things that may be necessary*'. Again nothing much seems to have taken place. The Royal admonition was repeated in 1377, in 1381 and in 1385, but it does not seem to have been until 1388, in response from an instruction by King Richard II that the Mayor and bailiffs of Dartmouth began work on a '*fortalice by the sea at the entrance to that port*' ... *for the defence of the town and parts adjacent, and of ships of other ports of the realm which put in there ... in consideration of the hurt and peril which might happen to the town in this war by assault of the enemy.*'

It is uncertain how long it took to construct these defences on the western bank of the estuary near its mouth. Known alternatively as Hawley's Fortalice (after the Mayor of Dartmouth who oversaw its construction) and Stoke Fleming Castle, the fortification took the form of a series of towers linked by a substantial curtain wall. Galion's Boure (Gallant's Bower) on the headland above was utilised as a lookout point for approaching enemy shipping and sited fire beacons. Clifton Manor was subsequently constructed (in the 16th century?) within the curtain wall of the fortalice, close to the site of a Chapel of St. Mary, the remnants of a monastery of St. Peter which had been recorded at this location since 1192.

4.2.3 The chain boom defences

By 1462, the early defences were being significantly upgraded, as is indicated by an annual grant of £30 per annum for 20 years from King Edward IV to the Mayor and burgesses of Dartmouth 'in aid of their expenses in the defence of the borough in chains, boats called cobbellys, anchors, great cords called cables, pulleis, wages of watchmen; and cannons and powder and other habiliments of war ...' The basis of the new defences was to be a chain boom which could be raised across the mouth of the estuary at its narrowest point to deny enemy shipping entrance to the harbour. To the east, the boom was anchored in the rocky foreshore at Godmerock, close to its fort, and during times of trouble it would have been deployed, being partly supported by a series of cobbles along its length, and being tensioned by a winch inside the chain tower on the Dartmouth bank when hostile shipping was sighted.. It is unclear how the 700 foot long chain was defended, though it is likely that catapults and cannon would have been sited in the fortalice and along the foreshore, possibly with armed ships to the rear of the chain boom.

The associated defences evidently took some time to construct. In 1478 Edward IV confiscated the newly-installed boom chain between Fowey and Polruan blockhouses and ordered it to be sent to Dartmouth. The work at Dartmouth was evidently finally under way in 1481 on the evidence of an indenture between the King and the mayor and burgesses in relation to the building of 'a strong and mighty and defensive new tower and bulwark of stone and lime adjoining to the castle there', the Council 'at all times hereafter shall fortify, repair and keep garnished with guns, artillery, and other ordinances ... 'and also at all times from henceforth for ever shall ordain and find a chain sufficient in length and in strength to stretch and be laid over athwart [...] the mouth of the haven of Dartmouth from the one tower to another tower [...] at all times necessary.'

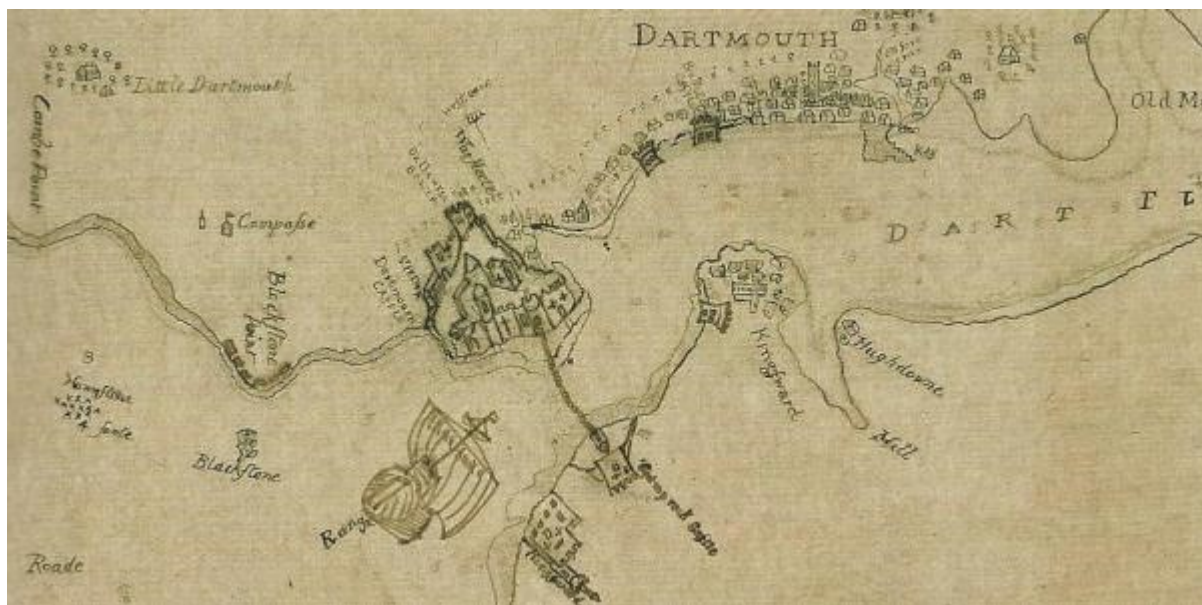


Fig 6. An extract from a 17th century plan of Dartmouth Haven, clearly showing the chain boom between Dartmouth Castle and 'God-My-Rock' Fort. Reproduced by kind permission of English Heritage.

Progress on the building work seems to have been slow, as is suggested in an indenture of 1484 between King Richard III and the 'commonality of the borough of Clifton Dertemouth Hardnesse, otherwise called Dartmouth' which pressed for the completion of the works, though renewed the annual grant. The grant was increased to £40 a year by Henry VII in 1486, his indenture again suggesting that progress on the construction of the defences remained unacceptably slow, urging the borough to 'in all godly haste [...] possible finish the making of the said tower and bulwark' and to construct the chain boom.

Two cannon were purchased in 1488 and records from 1490-91 for the costs of hiring local cobbles (fishing boats) to support the chain when it was in its raised position, and for the costs of winding gear,

cables and hawsers suggest that the chain boom was functional by the last decade of the 15th century. It is clear that the chain tower and adjoining artillery tower were still not complete, however, as accounts from 1492-3 include purchases of 'great beams for the square tower', 'traunsons' and lead for its roof, whilst accounts from 1492-3 include the costs of 'three great lighters of Charleton stone for making of the garrets' (battlements)', and timber and lead for completing the roof of the round (chain) tower. By 1492 there were four large 'murderers' (heavy cannon) at Dartmouth Castle, together with twelve 'serpentyne's'. The arming of the tower is further recorded in accounts dating from 1501-1502.

4.2.4 The 16th century

However, the chain boom and its defensive blockhouses had taken four decades to complete, and during this period, artillery had developed considerably. Kingswear Castle was built between 1491 and 1502, but was abandoned a century later, fell into ruin, and was rebuilt as a country house in 1885. In 1510, Henry VIII confirmed an agreement made by his father for the building of a bulwark by the sea, probably on the site now known as Dartmouth Point Battery. A further bulwark was built at Bayard's Cove (Bearscove) between 1522-36 to defend the inner harbour, additional gun platforms were added to the north and south of the chain tower between 1539 and 1544 and a further bulwark (possibly the now demolished Paradise Fort) was added in 1540. By 1545/6 it was recognised that it had become necessary to upgrade the seaward-facing artillery defences (Lambert's Bulwark) to defend the harbour approaches, in recognition of the importance of guns pointing out to sea, rather than across the channel and chain, as had possibly previously been the case. Peter Carew of Stoke Fleming took possession of Dartmouth Castle in 1552, and is likely to have constructed Clifton Mansion during this period.

However, little maintenance seems to have been undertaken to the harbour fortifications except when absolutely necessary. In 1583, the original gatehouse of the 14th century castle collapsed, destroying the bridge leading to the chain defences and necessitating the construction of a replacement, and by the end of the decade Godmerock Fort had fallen into ruin. Nevertheless the chain boom continued to be maintained. In response to the threat posed by the Spanish Armada, Lambert's Bulwark was refurbished, the square section of the Gun Tower was modified with new embrasures for heavier guns to better protect the boom and Lord Howard allocated guns taken from a captured Spanish ship to Dartmouth Castle and the defence of the town. In 1599 Hortensio Spinola, a Spanish spy, reported that Lambert's Bulwark was armed with six or eight pieces of artillery, whilst the castle was armed with 24 pieces, and had a garrison of 50 men.



Fig 7. An extract from Henry VIII's Great Map of the West showing existing and planned defences around the mouth of the Dart, including the chain boom between Dartmouth Castle and Godmerock Fort. © British Library Board. Shelfmark Cotton Augustus I.i.

4.2.5 The 17th century

However, Dartmouth remained vulnerable to attack by foreign (especially Spanish) warships and by North African (Sallee) pirates. A letter from the Mayor of Dartmouth to the Privy Council dated 28 April 1626 noted '*May it please your Honours to be advertised that divers Sallee men-of-war are lately come into this channel ...*'. and in a further letter of the 30 July of the same year the Mayor pleaded for additional armament '*... wee have already made divers fortificacons to impeach the landing of anie approaching Enemie ... wee purpose to implore the further direccons and help of the deputy Lieuten^{ts}, and to doe our vtmost endeavors in erecting such other fortificacons as it may be behooveful for vs. Maie it please yo^r Honors to take it into consideracon That when wee have made the fortificacons, wee shall want divers Ordnance to defend them, for that wee have but Nynetene peeces of Ordnance belonging to his Ma^{ties} Castle and forts here, all which, wth powder and other provisions belonging to them, wee have heretofore bought at our owne charge; Wee therefore are humble sutors vnto y^r Hon^{rs} that youe would be pleased to mediate for vs unto his most excellent Ma^{tie} would be so gracious vnto us, as to confer vppon vs some more Ordnance for the better strengthening of our Towne, and such fortificacons as shalbe made by vs.* (Hodges and Hughes 1936). In 1627, the Earl of Totnes again requested additional guns for the defence of the harbour; the boom chain was again repaired at this time.

1641 saw the rebuilding of St. Mary's Chapel as a three-aisled Church of St. Petrox with a much-extended graveyard 'newly-enclosed' in 1600 (DRO1163F/A/2), this probably resulting in the almost complete obliteration of the remains of the probably long-abandoned Clifton Mansion, and a degree of encroachment on the chain boom defence tower and adjoining gun platforms.

The outbreak of the Civil War in the following year saw the urgent refurbishment of the harbour defences, its chain boom being substantially repaired. Following the capture of the town by Royalist forces under Prince Maurice, Gallant's Bower was constructed as an artillery redoubt. A further substantial redoubt was constructed above Kingswear, Mount Paradise was substantially upgraded and a bulwark armed with four guns was constructed near GodmerockGomerock, this being 'half-finished in August 1645 (TNA SP 16/510 f59). The chain boom seems to have gone by this date, for accounts indicate that a replacement had to be constructed from masts and booms.

Nevertheless, Dartmouth was weakly defended from the land, and fell to Parliamentary forces under General Fairfax in 1646, having put up almost nothing in the way of a fight. In 1650, the Council of State minutes record an instruction for the demolition of one fort and repairs to the blockhouses. Following the Restoration, responsibility for the chain boom and its defences were initially handed back to the Borough, though the Crown retained control of Lambert's Bulwark, this being recognised as the most important element of the harbour's defences. Dartmouth's defences had largely been returned to national government control by the late 17th century, however.

Some repairs were undertaken both to both Dartmouth and Kingswear Castles during the first Dutch War (1652-4). The garrison was maintained through the Second Dutch War (1665-7) and in 1667, Sir Bernard de Gomme oversaw a review of the town's fortifications, as a result of which 160 heavy guns were reported as being made available to defend Dartmouth and the square tower parapet was raised and fitted with embrasures to protect it from enfilading fire from its landward side. Only four years later during the Third Dutch War another assessment indicated a requirement for the further upgrading of the harbour defences. In 1693 Captain Collins' map chart of Dartmouth showed a large battery opposite the Blackstone and another above Sugary Cove, these earthworks probably having been thrown up in 1667.

4.2.6 The 18th century

In 1690, during the Nine Year's War, Lambert's Bulwark (by this date referred to as Maiden Fort) was completely reconstructed in stone, siting nine heavy seaward-facing guns and three controlling the harbour entrance, but only a few years later the Mayor and bailiffs were again complaining about the neglected state of Dartmouth's defences. Following the Treaty of Utrecht in 1713, Britain's defences as a whole were deliberately run down, and when Colonel Christian Lily examined those in South-west

England in 1717 he reported that the Dartmouth Castle was 'in a ruinous condition . . . having 'not one gun mounted, no more than 20ft left of its chain, and no governor, nor so much as a master gunner or any other proper officer'. Only one of its guns had a serviceable carriage. Dartmouth was, as a result, effectively undefended.

The harbour defences were next surveyed in 1740 in preparation for the considerable strengthening of Maiden Fort which took place in 1741, though the number of its guns were reduced from nine to six. In 1747, the fort was renamed the Grand Battery, and again remodelled, this time as a two tier open battery for a dozen heavy guns. The old Gun Tower was modified for use as accommodation and storage, including a powder magazine in its basement, and was renamed Castle House, though a number of short-range guns were retained on its flanking gun platforms to cover the immediately adjacent channel. During the American War of Independence, the condition of Britain's southern coastal defences was again assessed and in 1779 the Board of Ordnance found the bores of Dartmouth's 6lb battery to be much corroded by exposure to sea spray.

4.2.7 The 19th century

The year 1798 and the onset of the Napoleonic Wars saw the formation of the Dartmouth Corps of Artillery Volunteers – 100 local men who trained at the castle with its ten 18lb guns, but following the peace of 1815 the Corps was disbanded and all but two of the guns were put into store. The turret on the gun tower was converted into a lighthouse in 1836, and the garrison reduced to solely a master gunner. In 1856 a private lighthouse was constructed in the castle grounds; as a result the spire on St. Petrox Church was demolished to provide a clear view between the lighthouse and the pilot station at Bayard's Cove. The lighthouse proved to be particularly ill-sited, being invisible from the south-western approaches to the harbour and it was taken out of commission in 1864, eventually being converted into tearooms. Its replacement was constructed in 1864 on the Kingswear side of the river.

Nevertheless, further threats were on the horizon, once again from the French, and in 1860 work began on the construction of a completely new installation on the site of the Grand Battery, this having provision for two heavy guns on its terreplein, three in strong casemates beneath these, together with a howitzer to cover the harbour entrance and a defensible guardroom. The Sixth Devonshire Artillery Volunteer Corps was formed at the same time to man these defences. The underground magazine within the battery was modified in 1868 with a lighting passage to reduce the chance of accidental explosions in line with safety legislation and the battery terreplain was slightly reorganised. Castle House, as the earlier defences were then called, was now solely used for accommodation and storage.

In 1886 the Battery's guns were recorded as three 68 pdrs, an 8" howitzer and two 10" guns; these were all smoothbores and thus incapable of causing any serious damage to the ironclad warships which had by then come into use. In 1889-91, the smoothbore guns were replaced by five 64 pdr RMLs, though these, too, were by this time more or less obsolete.

The battery was subsequently re-armed with two breech-loading quick-firing guns mounted on its roof, but in 1902, it was proposed that it should be completely disarmed. The Artillery Volunteers were disbanded seven years later, but it appears possible that the guns remained in place or that alternatives were installed at this time or shortly afterwards.

4.2.8 The 20th century

Discussions between the War Department and the Ministry of Works over the future of the gun tower started in 1903. The vesting of the Monument in the care of the Works Department was confirmed in 1907 and formalised in 1909. In February 1909, the 'Volunteer Practice Battery' (the 1861 Coastal Battery) was also offered to the Works Department. The 1909 transfer also allowed for the retention of the now retired Artillery Sergeant Thomas Lawson as Custodian and Guide, who was to continue to live in the Tower. Works commenced with the stripping of 'ugly grey paint' from the buildings. The local paper, the Western Morning News, noting the transfer to the Works Department, commented that 'Dartmouth Castle presents the pathetic if venerable aspect of a ruin'.

In 1910 the redundant gun tower and flanking batteries were handed over to the Commissioners of His Majesty's Works under the terms of the Ancient Monuments Act, and the first of a series of masonry repairs and associated modifications followed, the most significant works being the removal of the slate hanging and the re-fenestration of the Gun Tower. Other works included the replacement of its front entrance door, the lowering of levels in the nearby courtyard, the reduction in height of Gun Tower's chimney stacks and the replacement of its rainwater goods.

The site was taken back under War Office control on the outbreak of the Great War in 1914 to assist in the defence of the harbour against incursion by fast gunboats and torpedo boats, but apparently saw no action during the hostilities. Following the return of the gun tower and flanking platforms to the Office of Works in 1918, further restoration work was undertaken on the gun tower prior to the lease of the site to Dartmouth Corporation in 1922 as a tourist attraction. A tearoom was established in the Battery.

In 1925, the Ward Lock guidebook for Torbay noted: *'The pleasant duty of saluting a passing vessel with a royal personage or other representative of the mighty on board is the only one the fort is now called upon to discharge.'* *'Visitors are conducted through the miniature fortress by a guide ... The custodian will point out one window which frames an especially charming prospect. ... The hillside forming the Castle Estate has been laid out as a pleasure ground, with many paths and seats in shady nooks, which afford glorious views of the harbour mouth and the Kingswear side.'*

The guidebook written by Bryan O'Neil in 1934 for the first time summarised the complex and interesting history of Dartmouth Castle, though concentrated most particularly on its development between 1388 and 1667. A paper published by O'Neil in *Archaeologia* in the following year placed the castle in the context of the wider defences of the Dart Estuary.

In 1938, following the departure of the Custodian from the gun tower on his retirement, the matchboarding lining its walls and modern and brick and concrete floors were removed, the magazine in the basement of the round tower was demolished and modern ceilings were taken down. A new wall was constructed along the edge of the gorge ditch at the rear of the Battery.

Further recording of and conservation works to the gun tower followed, but the anticipated works programme was cut short by the outbreak of the World War Two in 1939. The whole of the castle site was requisitioned as an artillery camp, temporary accommodation being constructed to supplement that available in the battery and castle; officers were accommodated separately in Compass Cottage and the Gunfield Hotel. Details of the operation of the Battery from 1941-43 are in the Fort Record Book (National Archives Ref. WO192/149).

One of the two newly-installed 4.7" QF guns supplied in 1940 was mounted in a brick gunhouse on top of the western upper embrasure of the battery, this being crenellated to camouflage it ; the fortifications were renamed Dartmouth Point Battery. The second gun was on a site on the cliffs 170m to the south on a small promontory between Castle Cove and Sugary Cove, whilst searchlight and depression rangefinder stations were constructed, allowing enemy shipping to be engaged up to 6km out to sea (TNA WO 192/149). The battery was manned by 363 Coast Battery of the Royal Artillery and subsequently by 361 Battery of the 556 (Devon) Coast Regiment. Machine gun posts were constructed around the harbour entrance, a shore-launched torpedo station was constructed at Kingswear, an emergency barrier of fishing boats linked by chains was replaced by an anti-submarine net, whilst a minefield controlled the harbour mouth and anti-aircraft guns provided some protection against aerial attack. These remained the principal defences of the harbour until 1942 when Brownstone Battery - a powerful battery of two 6" guns - was constructed at Froward Point on the eastern side of the harbour entrance to provide adequate protection against raids by E Boats and other enemy shipping , the guns (ex-WWI naval armament) having an effective range of 14 miles. The Dartmouth Point Battery guns were placed on care and maintenance in 1943, and the Home Guard were stationed at the Castle. In 1944, 485 ships and landing craft sailed from Dartmouth as part of the

D Day Normandy invasion fleet.

The Ministry of Works resumed responsibility for their sections of Dartmouth Castle at the end of the War. All wartime military additions were stripped out, the tearoom (later a restaurant) was re-opened and the Castle was again leased to Dartmouth Corporation. The 1950s saw extensive surveys of the castle and the reconstruction of the first floor of the gun tower. In 1955 Dartmouth Point Battery and the remains of the 14th century castle were handed over to the Ministry of Works, the former as a Guardianship site. In the 1980s parts of the Battery were modified to provide ticketing facilities and guns on replica carriages were installed, whilst in the 1970s the last of the WW2 pillboxes on the site was demolished, though the contemporary searchlight engine room survives near Sugary Cove.

Aside from programmes of maintenance and repair works, the provision of a new ticketing facilities and a shop, interpretation and custodian's toilets and other facilities, little has changed at the Castle in the past four decades, though a number of archaeological investigations during works programmes during the 1990s and 2000s have helped to throw additional light on some aspects of the development of the Castle site over eight centuries.

4.3 Archives

The following archives hold significant collections relating to Dartmouth Castle:

- The National Archive, Kew. The majority of this material comprises paperwork, maps &c. produced by the Ministry of Works and its predecessors, together with material originating with the Ministry of Defence and its predecessors; and
- The English Heritage Archive, Swindon. This archive contains deeds, plans and maps, reports and other material produced by English Heritage and its predecessors which have been retained in this archive for operational and management purposes.

The following archives also hold some material relevant to Dartmouth Castle:

- The Devon Archives and Local Studies Service at the Devon Heritage Centre, Exeter. This contains some relevant documents, as well as a collection of photographs taken *circa* 1908 by local photographer John Stabb;
- Dartmouth Museum has a collection of local photographs and views; and
- The Devon County Historic Environment Record incorporates its Events Record and Historic Landscape Characterisation mapping, as well as oblique and vertical stereo aerial photographs and ground-based photographs.

4.4 Site Ecology

A botanical survey of English Heritage properties in South-West Britain including Dartmouth Castle was undertaken in 1991 (Fitzgerald 1991), an ecological survey of Dartmouth Castle was undertaken in 1999 (Fee and Cooke for Devon Wildlife Trust 1999) and wildlife statements for Dartmouth Castle were produced in 1998 and 2000 (Wells 2000).

Cornwall Archaeological Unit commissioned an ecological survey of the project area at Dartmouth Castle from Devon Wildlife Consultants in 2015 an undertaken in November 2015 (Jones and Stragham 2015).

This survey was based on a review of records held by the Devon Biodiversity Records Centre (DBRC) out to 1km from Dartmouth Castle site, followed by a walkover survey in November 2015 for bats and birds and a National Vegetation Classification (NVC) habitat survey.

The site lies within the Gallants Bower County Wildlife Site, designated for its botanical interest and is within a Greater Horseshoe Bat Strategic Flyway and Sustenance Zone. In summary, scattered droppings of Pipistrelle bats was found within the gun tower.

No evidence for nesting birds was recorded, though the site offers suitable crevices and no evidence for either roosting or nesting birds including Barn Owls *Tyto alba* was identified.

Six main habitats were recorded on site, these being:

- Coastal cliffs with a close affinity to the NVC community MC4 *Brassica oleracea*;
- Maritime grassland with some affinity to MC9 *Festuca rubra* – *Holcus lanatus* – *Dactylis glomerata*;
- The castle walls with moderately species-rich vegetation;
- Amenity grassland of seeded origin;
- Amenity grassland with some affinity to MG1e; and
- A small area of woodland.

One Red Data Book species was found on site: Smooth Cat's-ear (*Hypochaeris radicata*) occurs in the maritime grassland on the lower gun battery. Four Nationally scarce species were also found on the site: Wild Cabbage (*Brassica oleracea*), Ivy Broomrape (*Orobanche hederæ*), Round-leaved Cranesbill (*Geranium rotundifolium*), whilst Southern Polypody (*Polypodium cambricum*) occurs on some walls on the site, and is classified as being of Least Concern. The 2000 wildlife statement had also noted the presence of Sea Spleenwort (*Asplenium marinum*) and Maidenhair Spleenwort (*Asplenium trichomanes*).

For a full list of the species recorded see Appendix 2. In summary, the survey includes the following recommendations:

- Exterior lighting should be kept to a minimum to avoid the disruption of foraging and commuting bats;
- The removal of any vegetation suitable for nesting birds should be undertaken outside of the main bird nesting season between March and August;
- The maritime grassland on the upper gun deck at the Battery should continue to be managed under the current regime;
- The grassland in the species-rich lower section of the gun deck should be mown annually once in late summer to enable flowering plants to set seed. Grass cuttings should be removed to prevent nutrient enrichment;
- The species-rich grassland on the old castle mound should also be mown once in late summer and all cuttings removed immediately;
- All cliff and cliff-edge vegetation should be left undisturbed; and
- Wall vegetation on the walls of the 14th century castle and on the sea walls flanking the gun tower to its east and west should be retained wherever possible, though ivy can be spot treated with care if required.

5 STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The principal purpose of Dartmouth Castle has always been to deny hostile access to the haven, anchorage and port. Although the fragmentary elements of the late 14th century fortification built almost uniquely by the inhabitants of a town, rather than by a high status individual or family, are substantial and early elements of the site, the 15th century Gun Tower and chain boom across the haven mouth are the most important elements of the complex of structures making up Dartmouth Castle. Constructed during a period of transition when the medieval castle building tradition was on the cusp of giving way to post-medieval fortification practice, this was, despite its small size, the most innovative coastal fortification of its day, the first in Britain to be purpose built for use with artillery pieces for defensive use and the earliest to be equipped with splayed gunports. It is only one of only five surviving chain boom forts surviving in Britain, the other surviving examples being at Fowey-Polruan (1457), Portsmouth (1422), Upnor (1559) and Norwich (1333), and is thus clearly of national significance (see Appendix 2).

Evidential

Dartmouth Castle also possesses strong evidential significance in that, within its relatively small site, it is possible to trace the history of coastal defence from the 14th century until 1945, the site having evolved through adaptation, extension, rebuilding and re-arming to meet the challenges posed by the continuing development of artillery over its long history. It has considerable group value as one important component in the group of military works which have, over seven centuries, made up the coastal defences of Dartmouth harbour, these including a 19th century Royal Commission coastal defence work, all examples of which are considered to be of national importance. The squinted embrasures in its casemates are thought to be unique. With the exception of those flanking the Dartmouth entrance, those at the mouth of the Fowey Estuary and those flanking Carrick Roads at Falmouth, the early harbour defences of south-west Britain have not fared well, most having been either wholly destroyed or reduced to ruins, for example Fort Charles at Salcombe. The mid-19th century coastal defences of Plymouth Sound are well preserved, as are those constructed to defend Carrick Roads, but those built to defend the naval anchorage in Torbay have been substantially dismantled; Dartmouth Point Battery is thus an important surviving example of a British harbour defence work of this period.

Historic

Many of the elements of the Castle complex are also of architectural significance, chief among those in the care of English Heritage being the 15th century Gun Tower which retains many original features, as well as others added during subsequent centuries as the function of the Gun Tower evolved from being the principal defensive feature at Castle Point to a subsidiary defence work and subsequently into garrison accommodation. The removal of internal features during the early part of the 20th century resulted in the loss of significant detail which had been added during the later periods in its history. The flanking 16th century Gun Platforms are also of architectural significance and, with the Belvedere and gateways form a coherent group.

The mid-19th century Battery at Dartmouth Point is also a particularly well-preserved example of an early Victorian Harbour Defence Work, retaining most of its original detailing (including its Guardroom and Magazine), though also incorporating a WW2 gun house, which is unusual in that its presence on the site was deliberately camouflaged by false battlementing.

Whilst the remains of the 14th century castle have been greatly reduced over the centuries, they still incorporate the remains of a fighting tower, though this is understood to have been somewhat modified by the Carews during the period when the early castle formed the grounds for their Clifton Mansion.

Whilst only portions of its surrounding walls and one fighting tower survive as above ground features, one archaeological watching brief (Dyer 1998) has already shown this site's archaeological potential. Given the early date of this fortification, little is documented of its layout and internal features, though it is strongly associated with the medieval townspeople of Dartmouth, who constructed it under the leadership of its

then Mayor, John Hawley, this being its principal historical significance This castle is also thought to have also incorporated a late medieval to post-medieval mansion of the powerful Carew family of Stoke Fleming. Archaeological investigation has the potential to reveal more about how the early castle and house were laid out and functioned.

Aesthetic

Dartmouth entrance, flanked by steep, wooded cliff slopes on which a pair of castles face one other across the water, has long been recognised as possessing particular aesthetic qualities. In 1846, when on a cruise, Queen Victoria noted in her diary ‘... put into that beautiful Dartmouth. Notwithstanding the rain ... the place is lovely, with its wooded rocks and church and castle at the entrance. It puts me so much in mind of the beautiful Rhine, and its fine ruined castles, and the Lorelei.’ (Ward Lock 1925). Murray’s 1851 guide book to Devon and Cornwall states: ‘This picturesque building is sited at the extreme end of the wooded promontory which bounds the entrance of the harbour, mounting guard at the very edge of a shelving rock of glossy slate, and washed by the sea at high water. Dartmouth Castle has been the subject of many paintings, sketches and engravings since the late 18th century, and it was a popular subject for visiting 19th century artists such as J. M. W. Turner. Dartmouth Castle is within the South Devon AONB and has long been regarded as an attractive location by both visitors and local people. The adjacent carpark is used as a starting point for coastal walks, whilst given their stunning location overlooking Dartmouth entrance; the tearooms are a popular local amenity.

Dartmouth Castle provides a clear physical link to the long history of the town of Dartmouth as an important trading port, naval anchorage and harbour of refuge and the continuing need to defend this nationally significant resource against enemy attack from the medieval period through to the mid-20th century. As such, it is very much part of the story of the town and thus has considerable communal significance, this being underscored by investigations into the history of Dartmouth and its defences by the Dartmouth History Research Group. The Dartmouth Point complex is also experienced by a large number of visitors, both local and those drawn to the site from elsewhere, as well as by local school groups.

Communal

Dartmouth Castle provides a clear physical link to the long history of the town of Dartmouth as an important trading port, naval anchorage and harbour of refuge and the continuing need to defend this nationally significant resource against enemy attack from the medieval period through to the mid-20th century. As such, it is very much part of the story of the town and thus has considerable communal significance, this being underscored by investigations into the history of Dartmouth and its defences by the Dartmouth History Research Group. The Dartmouth Point complex is also experienced by a large number of visitors, both local and those drawn to the site from elsewhere, as well as by local school groups.

6 CONSTRAINTS

6.1 Statutory constraints and plan and other policies

6.1.1 Scheduled Ancient Monument

Dartmouth Castle is a Scheduled monument (Figure 4), List number 1014610. It was first scheduled in 1955 and was re-Scheduled on 09/10/1981. The Scheduling was again amended on 16/07/1996.

The Scheduled Area includes the 14th century castle and site of Clifton Mansion, the landing area, the gun tower and associated gun platforms to its north and south, the land beneath the old lighthouse tearooms and Dartmouth Point Battery (see Figure 4).

Excluded from the Scheduling are the modern road and path surfaces, the tea rooms, the timber public shelters, the public lavatories, the 19th century lighthouse, signposts, telephone kiosk, the artillery pieces except for the two 64lb rifled muzzle loaders and the flag pole, although the ground or masonry beneath these features is included. It should be noted that the Scheduling mapping is a poor fit with the Ordnance Survey MasterMap, parts of some structures such as the Gun Tower appearing as if excluded from the Schedule.

6.1.2 Guardianship area

The Guardianship areas (Figure 3) cover a smaller footprint than the Scheduled Area, and include the round tower and the western section of the 14th century castle walls, the former landing place, gun tower, north and south gun platforms and the Dartmouth Point Battery and the foreshore to its east and south.

6.1.3 Listed buildings

See Figure 5.

The following Listed Buildings fall within the study area:

- Enclosure Castle Listed Grade I. 1197566. 11/12/1969 (the 14th Century castle);
- Dartmouth Castle and gun platforms to west and south, Grade I. Listed 11 December 1969. 1197563;
- The Old Battery Listed Grade II* 1297087 23/02/1994;
- K6 Telephone Box Listed Grade II 1197565; and
- Castle Tea Rooms Listed Grade II 14/09/1949.

6.1.4 Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty

Dartmouth Castle falls within the South Devon Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty (AONB). The South Devon Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty was designated in 1960 and covers 60 miles of coastline, estuaries and countryside between Plymouth and Torbay. Including 337 square kilometres (130 square miles) of coastline, estuaries and countryside, the South Devon Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty (AONB) stretches from Berry Head in Brixham to Jennycliff in Plymouth. The legal framework covering AONBs is the Countryside and Rights of Way Act 2000. County and Local Plans incorporate planning policy protecting the values of the AONB, as does the South Devon AONB Management Plan 2014.

6.1.5 National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) 2012

Section 12 of the NPPF states:

Local planning authorities should set out in their Local Plan a positive strategy for the conservation and enjoyment of the historic environment, including heritage assets most at risk through neglect, decay or other threats. In doing so, they should recognise that heritage assets are an irreplaceable resource and

conserve them in a manner appropriate to their significance. In developing this strategy, local planning authorities should take into account:

- the desirability of sustaining and enhancing the significance of heritage assets and putting them to viable uses consistent with their conservation;
- the wider social, cultural, economic and environmental benefits that conservation of the historic environment can bring;
- the desirability of new development making a positive contribution to local character and distinctiveness; and
- opportunities to draw on the contribution made by the historic environment to the character of a place.

The associated Planning Practical Guidance (PPG) 18a states:

Para 13: A thorough assessment of the impact on setting needs to take into account, and be proportionate to, the significance of the heritage asset under consideration and the degree to which proposed changes enhance or detract from that significance and the ability to appreciate it.

Para 70: A Listed Building Consent Order is made by the Secretary of State to grant listed building consent for works of any description for the alteration or extension (but not demolition) of listed buildings of any description in England (see sections 26C, 26F, 26G and 28A of the Planning (Listed Buildings and Conservation Areas) Act 1990).

When considering making a Listed Building Consent Order the Secretary of State is required to have special regard to the desirability of preserving the listed building(s) to which the Order applies, their setting or any features of special architectural or historic interest they possess and should take account of the relevant policies in the National Planning Policy Framework.

Para 048 states: Planning permission may be required for works to these kinds of designated heritage assets (Scheduled Monuments) depending on whether they constitute ‘development’ and whether any permitted development rights apply.

Irrespective of any requirement to obtain planning permission, works to scheduled monuments may require scheduled monument consent and works relating to protected wreck sites may require licences. These consent/licence regimes are outside the planning system and are the responsibility of the Department for Culture, Media and Sport (DCMS) advised and administered by Historic England.

Para 055 states: Some applications where the applicant is Historic England or a local planning authority are treated differently and are determined by the Secretary of State for Communities and Local Government rather than the local planning authority.

In relation to development which would affect the setting of a Grade I or Grade II Listed Building Regulation 5A(3) of the Town and Country Planning (Listed Buildings and Conservation Areas) Regulations 1990 (as amended) applies.*

For development involving the demolition in whole or part, or the material alteration of Grade I and Grade II Listed Buildings Article 18 of and schedule 4 to the Town and Country Planning (Development Management Procedure) (England) Order 2015 applies.*

For development likely to affect the setting of a Scheduled Monument Article 18 of and schedule 4 to the Town and Country Planning (Development Management Procedure) (England) Order 2015 applies.

6.1.6 Devon Structure Plan 2001 to 2016 Policies

The Devon Structure Plan was revoked in 2013, but many of its policies will underpin future County-wide planning policy. Policy C2 relates to Landscape Character and Distinctiveness, and states:

The quality of Devon's landscape and its distinctive local characteristics should be maintained and enhanced. In providing for new development, particular care should be taken to conserve those features that contribute to local distinctiveness including:

- 1. the setting of settlements and buildings within the landscape;*
- 2. the patterns of woodland, fields, hedgerows, and tree features;*
- 3. the special qualities of rivers, estuaries and other water features;*
- 4. historic landscapes.*

Policy C4 of the Devon County Council Structure Plan (in relation to the South Devon AONB) states:

In designated Areas of Outstanding Natural Beauty, the conservation and enhancement of their natural beauty will be given priority over other considerations. Within these areas, development will only be provided for where it would support their conservation or enhancement or would foster their social and economic well-being provided that such development is compatible with their conservation. Particular care will also be taken to ensure that any development proposed adjacent to such areas does not damage their natural beauty.

In relation to the Historic Environment, Policy C12 of the Devon County Council Structure Plan states:

Nationally important archaeological sites and their settings, whether Ancient Monuments or unscheduled, will be preserved. In considering proposals for development which would have an adverse impact on other archaeological sites or deposits, the importance and value of the remains will be a determining factor. Where a lack of information precludes the proper assessment of a site or area with archaeological potential, developers will be required to arrange appropriate prior evaluation in advance of any decision to affect the site or area. Where the loss of an archaeological site or area is acceptable, proper provision for archaeological excavation and recording will be required.

6.1.7 The South Devon Estuaries Management Plan 2016-2020

This plan is currently a public consultation draft, but some of its policies will affect the Dartmouth Castle site and its environs. It has been suggested that the Plan specifically refers to this Conservation Management Plan for Dartmouth Castle.

6.1.8 The Dart Estuary Management Plan

This document sets out the preferred management of the Dart Estuary area.

6.1.9 The South Hams Local Plan.

The South Hams Local Plan 2012 (under development) known as *Our Plan* is due for completion in 2016. The previous plan dates to 1996. Dartmouth is identified as an Area Centre in its Core Strategy, with an important role in providing services and facilities for the surrounding area.

The 1996 plan identifies the long and distinguished maritime history of the town, which is physically evidenced at many locations, including the waterfront and core area of the town. The current importance of the tourist industry to the town's economic base is acknowledged and the riverside character of South Town is noted as requiring protection from development. The Dart itself is identified as being within the AONB and a Coastal Preservation Area.

In relation to the Historic Environment, the Development Framework (1996) states that its strategic objective (SO20) is to *Conserve and enhance the historic, architectural and archaeological character and features of the district.*

In relation to Listed Buildings, Development Policies DP6 (2 and 3), Historic Environment (2001-6) state:

- 2. Proposals will be permitted for alterations to, extensions to, or partial demolition of a Listed Building, provided they do not adversely affect:*

- a. *its special architectural or historic interest, either internally or externally, of the building; and*
- b. *the character and appearance of its setting.*

3. *Where an alternative use is sought for a Listed Building it will only be permitted where it can be shown that the alternative use is compatible with, and will preserve the special architectural or historic interest of, the building and its setting.*

Development Policy DP6 (5) relates to Scheduled Monuments, and states:

The quality of all archaeological sites and Scheduled Ancient Monuments will be conserved and enhanced. Development that adversely affects the site or setting of a Scheduled Ancient Monument or other nationally important archaeological site will not be permitted. Development should not harm archaeological remains of local importance, except where the benefits of the development are considered to outweigh the value of the remains.

The Dart Estuary and adjoining coasts are identified in the Plan as part of a section of Undeveloped Coast, and Policy DP2 (1) states:

Development proposals will need to demonstrate how they conserve and / or enhance the South Hams landscape character, including coastal areas, estuaries, river valleys, undulating uplands and other landscapes, by:

- a. *reflecting the needs and issues set out in identified landscape character areas;*
- b. *ensuring its location, siting, layout, scale and design conserves and/or enhances what is special and locally distinctive about the landscape character (including its historic, biodiversity and cultural character);*
- c. *retaining, integrating and enhancing distinctive features such as trees, ancient woodlands, field boundaries, walls, hedgerows, watercourses and river valleys;*
- d. *avoiding unsympathetic intrusion in the wider landscape, such as detrimental impact on the character of skylines or views from public vantage points and light pollution; and*
- e. *respecting the unspoilt nature and tranquillity of the area.*

The Dart Estuary and adjoining coasts are identified as part of a Strategic Nature Area. In relation to this, Policy DP5 (1) states:

Development will conserve, enhance and / or restore the biodiversity within the South Hams by:

- a. *protecting habitats and species identified for retention in the Biodiversity Action Plans;*
- b. *providing the Special Areas of Conservation and Special Protection Areas with the highest level of protection and enhancement;*
- c. *providing on-site mitigation for both species and habitats, where possible, or off-site compensation for the loss of any habitats or species;*
- d. *providing for the management of habitats and species;*
- e. *maintaining the integrity of important networks of natural habitats, such as the strong network of river valleys linking Dartmoor National Park to the sea;*
- f. *enhancing existing habitats and networks of habitats and providing roosting, nesting and feeding opportunities for rare and protected species; and*
- g. *having regard to the Habitats Directive and Regulations.*

The South Hams Local Plan (1996), Part 2: Dartmouth Area notes that ‘The Dartmouth area is one of striking beauty, rich in history, architecture and wildlife. Central to the area is the beautiful, deep, sheltered estuary of the River Dart. In recognition of its national importance, the Dart Estuary is largely

covered by the Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty and the Coastal Preservation Area. Development in these areas can only be permitted in very exceptional circumstances.'

6.1.10 South Devon Heritage Coastal Area

This is a non-statutory designation made by the former Countryside Agency (now Natural England) and the Local Authority. The broad aims of the designation are to:

- *Conserve, protect and enhance the natural beauty of the coasts;*
- *Facilitate and enhance their enjoyment, understanding and appreciation by the public;*
- *Maintain, and improve, where necessary, the environmental health of their inshore waters; and*
- *Take account of the needs of agriculture, forestry and fishing, and of the economic and social needs of small communities on these coasts.*

6.1.11 Devon County Wildlife Site

This site is within a Devon County Wildlife Site, designated for its botanical interest. A number of rare species have been found on the site, and English Heritage has a responsibility to take this into account in the management of the property. English Heritage has produced a Wildlife Statement for the Dartmouth Castle site.

6.1.12 DDA Legislation

The Disability Discrimination Act 1995 (as amended 2005), and the stated working aim of the Disability Rights Commission (now closed) is to 'enable disabled people to participate fully in our society'. This aim extends to the enjoyment of all English Heritage properties, where reasonably possible. An initial audit of the Dartmouth Castle site has identified a number of key issues. The sensitivity of the monument largely precludes addressing many of these and others will represent a challenge if they are to be accommodated. Key amongst the DDA compliance issues relating to Dartmouth Castle are access to the main areas of the gun tower and to the Battery, as well as most of the site interpretation.

6.1.13 Health and Safety requirements

A risk assessment of the site carried out by English Heritage has identified a number of areas of concern. These relate to the precipitous drops below the platforms to the north west of the site and to hazards to persons climbing the walls of the 14th century castle. A summary of issues relating to visiting the site appears under the access tab on the English Heritage Dartmouth Castle website.

6.1.14 Rights of Way

See Figure 13.

The South West Coast Path National Trail bisects the site. It enters it from the north-west adjacent to the Landing Place, then runs through the churchyard to the south of the church of St. Petrox, passes between the Lighthouse and the Battery and then follows the southern coastal wall past the southern end of the walling of the 14th century castle, continuing upslope to meet the higher section of Castle Road.

7 ISSUES AND VULNERABILITIES

7.1 Condition of the Monument

A number of issues affecting the condition of the monument are noted in the 1999 and 2009 condition surveys. These include:

- Dampness in the guardroom;
- Dampness in the magazine lighting passage penetrating from the latrine passage above;
- The poor condition of the downcast beams supporting the WW2 battery roof (ticket hut);
- The load-bearing capacity of the timber floor supports under the WW2 battery building;
- Cracking, stone decay and stone loss affecting the fabric of the Gun Tower;
- Damp issues affecting some timbers and a small amount of beetle attack in the Gun Tower;
- The inadequate condition of some sections of the sea defence walls;
- Inappropriate vegetation growth on the standing remains of the 14th century castle and on the Battery ramparts;
- Long-standing inadequate levels of vegetation management in the area to the west of the 14th century castle remains; and
- The lack of an up to a date digital survey and a photogrammetric record of the castle.

Specifically, Jon Brown has produced a short report on drainage and dampness issues at Dartmouth Battery, which identifies the following:

- The failure of the carpark surface water drainpipe at the entrance to the Battery;
- Blockages in surface run-off drains at the rear of the Battery, causing dampness in the lighting gallery in the Battery magazine;
- Damp penetration through the failure of parts of the asphalt roof of the guardroom;
- The blocking of some ventilation grilles within the guardroom and magazine preventing the free flow of air around some areas;
- The failure of the caulking around the Battery window facing across the estuary; and
- Water damage to the seaward sides of the casemates due to uncontrolled surface drainage from the Battery roof leading to water penetration issues.

7.2 Grounds Maintenance Issues

Responsibility for the maintenance of the Castle grounds is shared between English Heritage and South Hams District Council, the grounds maintenance contract let by English Heritage applying solely to the Battery, to the Landing Place and to the walkways connecting these areas. The type, timing of the grounds management undertaken on substantial areas at the centre of the site, and the resultant appearance of much of the wider Castle site are, as a result, not under the control of English Heritage. This in particular affects the land immediately to the west of the 14th century castle.

7.3 Climate change

The effects of climate change are likely to include higher and less predictable rainfall patterns, rising sea levels and more aggressive sea conditions. Fragile, exposed masonry making up the 14th and 15th century elements of Dartmouth Castle may be vulnerable to the first of these effects, whilst masonry structures close to sea level may well be affected by the latter. The relevant Shoreline Management Plan Review (Halcrow 2011) did not envisage any significant effects on the sites at Dartmouth Point with the exception of some coastal erosion of the rocky foreshore to the south of the Battery. This report suggests that the maintenance and improvement of existing sea defences in the Dart Estuary would be necessary to protect sites potentially at risk.

7.4 Boundaries

It is understood that the ownership of and responsibilities for the management of elements of the wider Dartmouth Castle site need to be made more explicit to custodial and curatorial staff. It should be noted that the Scheduling mapping does not fit well with the modern Ordnance Survey Mastermap, particularly in relation to the Gun Tower, the square section of which this mapping implies is excluded from the Scheduling (see Figure 3).

7.5 Presentation and interpretation

The current presentation, displays and interpretative material are positively commented on by visitors, and a new and improved guidebook has recently (2013) been produced for the site. Some gaps in interpretation have been identified, including the need for the interpretation of the wider historical and geographical contexts for the site. Comments have also been made about the lack of interpretation of the role of Dartmouth Castle during the Great War and in WW2, and the limited way in which the uses of the Gun Tower are currently interpreted through artefacts and reconstructions.

The site is self-guided, though there custodial staff area stationed at some locations around the Castle site. The potential for the interpretation of the site utilising multi-language apps running on now widely-available smartphones is currently unexplored or exploited. New interpretation for Dartmouth Castle is currently (March 2016) being produced and is due to be installed in summer 2016.

7.6 Visitor reception facilities

The current visitor reception facilities and shop are located within the WW2 period gun house on the roof of the Battery. This area offers only limited space for these two facilities, and has no potential for enlargement. It has previously been suggested that an opportunity should be sought to acquire the Old Lighthouse from its private owners and to relocate visitor reception services into this building, as well as interpretative facilities for visitors with disabilities and an improved café.

Responsibility for the maintenance of the Castle grounds is shared between English Heritage and South Hams District. New interpretation for Dartmouth Castle is currently (March 2016) being produced and is due to be installed in summer 2016.

It has previously been suggested that an opportunity should be sought to acquire the Old Lighthouse from its private owners. The car park, which is owned and operated by South Hams District Council, visually dominates the approach to the Castle and during the visitor season this open space is often dominated by cars. It visually detracts from Dartmouth Castle, particularly to the visitor approaching the site. The replacement of the carpark surface with a less visually dominating material would help to diminish these impacts. The installation of additional, signage or other visual clutter should be resisted. Ideally, the carpark should be re-located away from the castle site.

7.7 Setting

7.7.1 The Car park

The car park, which is owned and operated by South Hams District Council, visually dominates the approach to the Castle and during the visitor season this open space is often dominated by cars. It visually detracts from Dartmouth Castle, particularly to the visitor approaching the site. The replacement of the carpark surface with a less visually dominating material would help to diminish these impacts. The installation of additional, signage or other visual clutter should be resisted. Ideally, the carpark should be re-located away from the castle site.

7.7.2 The Toilets

These local authority run and owned toilets provide the only current public facilities of this type for the whole site, and are therefore essential to the comfort of visitors to the Castle, the Church, the cove and to the headland above. At present however, there is no provision for disabled people at the facility; this is a significant constraint on the site.

7.7.3 The Church

The church and tower of St. Petrox dominate the Castle site, especially when viewed from the river mouth, not only by reason of the scale of the building and its proximity to the Castle remains, but particularly as a result of the white paint recently applied to its rendered walls and the non-indigenous clipped slates used in its re-roofing. The church also obscures views of the Gun Tower as this is approached from the west. Whilst not under the control of the site managers, the church building is visually and historically an integral part of the Dartmouth Point complex, and changes to its appearance clearly have the potential to impinge significantly on the setting of the Castle.

The churchyard wall at the north-western end of the site is a visually dominant feature on the approach to the Castle from this direction; the current poor quality of its management inevitably affects the public appreciation of the Castle, as well as raising Health and Safety concerns

7.7.4 The Tea Rooms

The present tea rooms, which comprise a modern timber flat-roofed structure adjacent to the carpark, detract from the special architectural interest of the Listed lighthouse and from the setting of the Castle. It is acknowledged however that they provide a valuable facility for visitors to the Headland as a whole which is not otherwise provided at this location. Ideally, whether or not the Lighthouse comes into English Heritage management, the design of the Tea-Rooms extension should revert to that of a rustic veranda, as in the mid-20th century (see Figures 20 to 21).

7.7.5 The presentation of the remains of the 14th century Castle

Two substantial public shelters have been constructed as lean-tos against the internal faces of the walls of the 14th century castle. These wooden shelters have been in place for many years, and are understood to have been utilised as workshops during the work associated with the installation of cannon on reconstructed carriages at the Castle, and are on the site of temporary buildings constructed during WW2. They are owned by the Town Council and are managed in a generally sympathetic fashion, providing a much appreciated facility for visitors, but they are, nonetheless, visually intrusive and their placement against the castle walls reduces the raw impact of the remnants of the 14th century castle.

In addition, the open space between the 14th century castle walls and the carpark has been landscaped, and as a result no sense of this area having been the interior of a nationally important medieval fortification is conveyed to the visitor. Whilst some vegetation clearance has recently been undertaken to open up the area adjacent to the exterior of the tower and the surviving sections of the curtain walls, further vegetation clearance work in this area would make the early fortifications more visually apparent.

7.8 Access to the site for visitors

The Castle is open seasonally and attracts on average about 34,000 visitors a year. The Cove is open at all times of the year. The Church remains in use for regular religious services and is open during the hours of daylight. The Coastal Path and the National Trust land on the Headland above are also fully open to the public at all times. There is no public road transport link to the Castle, though the Coast Path runs to and through the Dartmouth Point site.

7.8.1 The Carpark

As the Local Plan recognises, traffic congestion in the town is a major issue, especially during the summer, whilst the nature of the approach to the Castle, and the limited car parking opportunities at the site and on the road approaching it are a significant constraint on people wishing to visit Dartmouth Castle. The carpark is owned and managed by South Hams District Council as a short-stay pay to use facility and incorporates one disabled parking space. The current arrangement limits use of the carpark by people with disabilities and by school and study groups, as there is no dedicated parking and little scope for minibuses or coaches to manoeuvre or park.

There is no potential for the enlargement of the carpark, as this would impinge significantly onto the setting of the Scheduled Monument and Listed Buildings, and would run counter to AONB, County and Local Plan policies. Any such proposals would also have the potential to further negatively impact on the buried archaeology of the 14th century castle.

The constraints posed by the limited size and arrangement of the carpark could be mitigated to some degree by the provision of further dedicated disabled car parking spaces, by the establishment of a minibus service from the town and by encouraging access to the site on bicycles, on foot and by ferry.

7.8.2 DDA compliance

The Disability Discrimination Act 1995 (as amended 2005) and the Building Regulations 2000 require reasonable provision to be made for access to a building and the use of facilities within a building in order to enable disabled people to participate fully in society. Reasonable adjustments should be made to any physical barriers which may prevent disabled people using a service. English Heritage fully endorses this approach and seeks to make all of its properties accessible in such a fashion, wherever this can be achieved without significant negative impacts on the monuments in their care.

Whilst many parts of the Dartmouth Castle site are accessible to almost all visitors, access routes incorporating steps, stairs, steep ramps, original narrow entrances or uneven surfaces inevitably pose access problems for those visitors with reduced ambulant abilities, particularly if they are wheelchair users.

All access routes into Dartmouth Castle incorporate steps, as do most routes around the site. These are historic features, and as a result prospective visitors who experience significant difficulties in negotiating steps are effectively barred from almost all areas of the site. In a limited number of locations these difficulties could be overcome through the provision of temporary ramps and by the provision of handrails, but this is not an achievable option for many parts of the Castle, in particular the Gun Tower and most areas of the Battery. Whilst consideration should clearly be given to the provision of virtual access to these areas of the Castle, no building currently exists within which such facilities could currently be housed. Should the former Lighthouse be acquired by English Heritage, this might provide a suitable location.

In addition, there are no dedicated disabled public toilet nor dedicated baby-changing facilities, the majority of the site is unsuitable for pushchairs, some areas within the Castle have low light levels, and there are currently no dedicated aids for the deaf or hard of hearing.

7.8.3 Castle Cove bathing platform and access to it

The use of the Cove and Headland foreshore for sea bathing by local residents is well established. The Works Department has in the past agreed to the use of part of the foreshore by the Town Swimming Club, for which a fee was paid and it is understood that there is some correspondence on this subject in the Works files housed in the National Archive. The changing rooms and walkways in the Cove no longer exist, and the use of the Cove and access to it have been an emotive issue for the townspeople, though the group campaigning for the restoration of full access to the beach disbanded a few years ago.

In 2000 a major landslide occurred on the cliff face immediately to the west of the Victorian Battery, car park and the seaward-facing wall within a part of the site in the ownership of South Hams District Council. This destroyed the original walkways and bridges to the swimmers' platform.

Further concerns over the stability of the rock face above the path to the beach and Cove resulted in the closure of the path to the cove. In August 2001, a Risk Assessment of Cliff Stability was undertaken by Yeandle Geotechnical Ltd on behalf of South Hams District Council. The main conclusions of the report were:

- There have been several large-scale failures at the cliffs in the last few years. There is also evidence that the slopes have been subject to many past instabilities. It concludes that *'due to the adverse orientation of the cleavage planes within the slates, future rock falls are likely'*;
- There had been little change in condition since the last inspection of 1999;
- A number of stabilisation measures are provided, including: installation of mesh, mesh fencing, rock bolting and scaling works, as well as methods to restrict access; and
- Consideration should be given to relocating the existing footpath away from particularly hazardous areas.

The closure of the path to the beach because of the instability of the rock face above it compelled the District Council to look at all the options to allow for the reuse of the beach and to undertake a range of works to reinstate access to it. Nevertheless the underlying instability of the cliff faces inevitably threatens further restrictions on access to the Cove. English Heritage have stated that do not intend restricting access to the swimmers' platform.

- No significant nature conservation issues have been identified from the surveys undertaken of Dartmouth Castle, arising from policies produced for the AONB, or in the Devon County Structure Plan or the South Hams Local Plan. Two Red Data Book species were noted in 2015: Southern Polypody was recorded on some of the walls of the site, whilst Smooth Cat's Ear was found in the maritime vegetation growing on the Battery. In addition, three Nationally Scarce species were identified: Wild Cabbage, Ivy Broomrape and Round-Leaved Cranesbill. The drawing-up of grounds management and masonry conservation specifications should take account of these species.
- The coastal woodland on the cliff slopes backing the Castle is an important contributor to the landscape setting of the site. It is important, however, that mature trees close to the walls of the 14th century castle are regularly inspected and are maintained in good condition so that damage to the masonry of the adjacent Scheduled Monument does not occur.

8 CONSERVATION PHILOSOPHY

Conservation is defined as *'The process of managing change to a significant place in its setting in ways that will best sustain its heritage values, while recognising opportunities to reveal or reinforce those values for present and future generations'* (Conservation Principles, Policies and Guidance, English Heritage 2008).

A site's importance may relate to the historic or archaeological importance of its structures and features, its collections of artefacts and archives, its ecological or landscape significance or its importance to the community, both locally and more widely. Frequently (and this is clearly the case with Dartmouth Castle) it relates to a combination of these factors. For a conservation philosophy to be effective and appropriate, it must address all of the significant interests in the site and seek to retain those qualities and aspects of it which lead to it being considered important.

The retention of some of these significances is ensured by statute, as for instance in the case of areas which are designated as Scheduled Monuments or high grade Listed Buildings. Such designations will constrain change unless it can be demonstrated that this would result in the retention or enhancement of significance, or be otherwise unavoidable. In this respect it should be recognised that small scale incremental changes can be just as damaging to the overall authenticity of a site and its components as individual major changes.

Equally, some elements of significance are protected by policies embedded within plans drawn up by bodies such as Devon County Council, South Hams District Council or the South Hams AONB team.

The following nationally agreed conservation principles should provide the framework underlying the sustainable management of Dartmouth Castle:

Principle 1 – The historic environment is a shared resource.

Principle 2 – Participation is a key factor in sustaining the historic environment.

Principle 3 – Understanding the significance of places is vital.

Principle 4 – Significant places should be managed to sustain their values.

Principle 5 – Decisions about change must be reasonable, transparent and consistent.

Principle 6 – Documenting and learning from decisions is essential.

9 VISIONS AND AIMS

After six centuries during which Dartmouth Castle had protected the access to the nearby harbour and over which long period of time its defences had been repeatedly assessed and upgraded, it was handed into the care of the State as an Ancient Monument in 1909 in recognition of the significant role it had played in the history of the defence of the nation's coastline. Twice more during the 20th century, Dartmouth Castle and Battery were called upon to play its part in the defence of Britain's shores, but after 1945 that role finally ceased. The remainder of the site was taken into Guardianship in 1955, in recognition of its importance to the nation, and has been added to the list of Scheduled Monuments.

Nationally, Dartmouth Castle has played an important role in the development of Britain's coastal defences, whilst locally the Castle complex has safeguarded the town and port of Dartmouth for seven centuries.

This long-standing recognition of Dartmouth Castle's national importance should underpin its future management, which should seek to conserve the monument to the highest possible standards and in a sustainable fashion in perpetuity, to deepen and broaden understanding of it and to further develop the site's educational potential.

The site specific aims should be:

- To ensure the preservation of the special qualities of Dartmouth Castle;
- To address gaps in knowledge concerning Dartmouth Castle;
- To continue to develop ways of communicating the special nature of Dartmouth Castle and to broaden interest in it and understanding of it;
- To further develop access to aspects and areas of the site to the widest possible audience, both physically and utilising virtual approaches;
- To conserve its collections of archives and artefacts to appropriate national standards and, wherever possible, make these available for study;
- To strengthen its financial viability;
- To respect and celebrate the national and international importance of Dartmouth Castle as a Scheduled Monument and Guardianship Site, the site of several high grade Listed Buildings and part of an Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty;
- To develop a strong and effective working partnership between English Heritage, the Castle's neighbouring landowners and the local community to safeguard the site and continue to make its significance relevant to and recognised by future generations;
- To achieve the highest possible standards of environmental performance; and
- To provide sustainable and rewarding employment for its staff.

9.1.1 Research

The National Archive and the English Heritage Archive, together with a number of local archives in Devon (including the records of the former Borough of Dartmouth) contain a substantial amount of archive material relating to the history and development of Dartmouth Castle. Whilst some very good work indeed has been undertaken on this topic, most recently by Stuart Blaylock of Exeter Archaeology, it is clear that much of the material contained within these archives has received little if any attention. To a degree this is because some key material was formerly held within the archives of the War Office and its successors and was, until recently, viewed as potentially sensitive. Other material might also have been created by other arms of the State over many centuries, and its existence may not be easy to identify. Almost none of this material has, to date, been digitised; some of

it is likely to be too fragile or too unwieldy to be scanned; many documents are contained within bundles only whose head record will have been catalogued. Furthermore the two key repositories of material relating to Dartmouth Castle are in Kew and Swindon respectively, and research has to be undertaken in person at these locations.

As a result, most accounts of the development of the Dartmouth Harbour defences rest upon the primary research undertaken by a small number of individuals. Inevitably assumptions and understandings of sequencings of building construction tend to be based on this primary research and to be repetitious, whilst lacunae in knowledge tend to remain un-addressed.

Key amongst areas worthy of future research upon which additional elements of the interpretation of the site might be based on are:

- The construction, layout, armament and lifespan of the 14th century harbour defences;
- The early history of the artillery bulwark and battery;
- The layout, design and history of Clifton Mansion;
- The development sequence of the 15th century Gun Tower; and
- Dartmouth Point Battery during WWI and WW2.

Research on specific topics relevant to the history of Dartmouth Castle could be specifically commissioned to address research questions, but English Heritage should also encourage and, where possible, assist, any work undertaken by independent researchers on these strands of enquiry.

Both the National Archive and the English Heritage Archive should be encouraged to digitise key documents relating to Dartmouth Castle to make them accessible for future researchers, including those wishing to access material on line.

9.1.2 Survey, excavation and other archaeological and architectural recording

The nature, layout and internal organisation of the 14th century castle and of Clifton Mansion remain subjects about which little is known. Research into documentary archives may well prove incapable of addressing these significant gaps in knowledge and understanding of important aspects of the early development of the Dartmouth Castle site, and other avenues should be pursued if these lacunae are to be addressed. Whilst this could include further opportunistic recording through archaeological watching briefs during works programmes whose nature might affect areas within the interior of the 14th century castle, a more pro-active approach would be preferable.

Subject to statutory approval, a geophysical survey utilising a range of methodologies could be commissioned with open areas of this site such as the carpark with the aim of determining whether any below ground structural remains have survived and are detectable. The results of any such survey should subsequently be tested through targeted evaluative excavation, and the potential for further below ground investigation should be assessed.

The only detailed topographical survey available for the site was drawn up in 1986 and does not seem to be available in a digital format. In addition, the survey appears incompatible with the OS MasterMap – it is unclear whether this is a result of errors in the topographical survey or those in the OS mapping, though the latter seems most likely. The topographical survey is also incomplete in relation to the foreshore area, and is now out of date for some areas of the site.

It is therefore recommended that a new, detailed digital topographical survey of the wider Dartmouth Castle site is commissioned; this should be extensive enough to cover the whole of the likely footprint of the 14th century castle. This will provide accurate base mapping for the future maintenance of the site and will allow any future interventions to be accurately recorded.

A photogrammetric record of the external and internal elevations of Dartmouth Castle should also be produced, as has previously been recommended on a number of occasions.

9.1.3 Publication and other means of dissemination of knowledge

All archaeological and architectural reports relating to the site should be made more widely available via the OASIS ADS-Online online directory where this is currently not the case.

9.1.4 Clarifying the names of the site components

As was highlighted by Blaylock (2005), some components of the Dartmouth Castle site have been known by a range of names over time, some having been almost arbitrarily chosen. Blaylock also notes that some of these terms do little to assist the visitor in understanding the development sequence across the site, some are opaque, and some are downright misleading (for example the use of the term 'Old Battery' for what is actually the most recent of the defences on the site – the new guidebook does deal with this particular issue).

Blaylock recommended adopting terms which reflect the historical period during which elements of the site were constructed, thus Hawley's Fortalice (the second part of the name being an obscure term which requires glossing for all visitors and which has been interpreted as 'Hawley's Fort Alice' by some visitors) should be referred to as 'the 14th century harbour defences' or 'the 14th century castle', the Gun Tower (confusingly as these are a pair of towers joined at the top), also variously referred to as 'the Strong Tower' (Saunders) or 'the Chain Tower' and separately as 'the Round Tower' and 'the Square Tower' could be referred to as 'the 15th century chain boom defences' and the coastal battery at Dartmouth Point, variously named during its history as 'Lamberd's Bulwark', Maiden Fort, the Grand Battery, St. Petrox Battery, Dartmouth Point Battery, on occasions as 'the Victorian Battery' and most often these days as 'the Old Battery' as 'the Victorian harbour defence battery'. The gun platform adjacent to the round part of the Gun Tower is usually referred to as 'the north gun platform' but occasionally as 'the west gun platform'; it is to the north-west of the Gun Tower. The Castle Light (the old Lighthouse) is most often referred to as 'the Tearoom', though historically it was sometimes called 'St. Petrox Light' and 'Dartmouth Lighthouse'.

9.2 Improving the visitor experience of Dartmouth Castle

9.2.1 Repair and conservation

Condition surveys of the castle, the most recent having been undertaken in 2009, have highlighted a range of issues affecting its fabric which need to be addressed, a few as a matter of urgency, others which are less pressing during the medium and longer term. Both the 1999 and 2009 surveys recommended that a photogrammetric record of the Gun Tower and adjacent structures should be produced, in part as a means by which structural interventions to the fabric of the castle could be adequately recorded.

The condition surveys provide not only a record of the condition of the elements of the Castle, but are accompanied by detailed recommendations for a phased and costed programme for its repair and conservation. Urgent works should certainly be undertaken as they recommend, whilst works of a lower priority should be carried out as soon as budgets allow to prevent unwanted deterioration of the site fabric. Condition surveys should continue to be undertaken on a quinquennial basis.

9.2.2 Exploring new ways of interpreting the site

The interpretation of historic sites such as Dartmouth Castle has come a long way in the last century. No longer are we led around by knowledgeable custodians such as Sergeant Thomas Lawson RA (retired); we no longer attach cast name labels or explanatory plaques to buildings and features, but instead produce low-impact, informative interpretation panels and exhibits which can be comprehended by all; our reconstructions strive to be as authentic and carefully dressed as possible; our site guidebooks are far less academic than of yore, far better illustrated and are designed and written so that visitors can connect personally to the periods and topics under discussion and come away with at least some level of understanding of them. This can readily be appreciated by comparing those produced for Dartmouth Castle in 1936, 1983, 2000 and 2013.

Inevitably, however, the production of the interpretative material for a site such as Dartmouth Castle requires a series of decisions about what information should and should not be include, what tone to take, what level of technicality should be adopted for the text, which illustrations to use and what style to follow.

Interpretation can be fixed (panels, displays), carried (guidebooks, leaflets) or provided on a face to face, on screen or by headphones. It can also be specially tailored for particular audiences such as school groups. However some visitors may be keen to learn more, but the resources for this may not be available and not all visitors use English as their first language; for both audiences the range and type of interpretative material available can prove inadequate.

One possibility worthy of consideration would be the provision of information by an app loaded onto a GIS-enabled smartphone – these being owned by most visitors these days. Site interpretation provided by this means could be made available in a variety of languages and at a range of levels of technicality. This approach also has the benefit that interpretative material can be updated relatively easily, quickly and at low cost. Apps are currently being considered for heritage interpretation by the South West Coast Path Partnership and the South Devon AONB. The potential for linking between and cross-referencing these apps should be considered.

9.2.3 Reinstatement of interiors within the gun tower

In 1938, the interior partition walls within the Gun Tower were stripped out. Repair and conservation measures have been undertaken on this building over the past six and half decades, but it is, in essence, presented as a conserved, roofed shell. It has been proposed on a number of occasions that at least one room could be reinstated in a period fashion to give visitors a better idea of how it might have appeared in the past – one possibility might be the ‘Governor’s Room’. This would entail the reinstatement of the partition wall between the two components of the Gun Tower at first floor level which was stripped out in 1938.

9.2.4 Reinstatement of the WW2 gun emplacement

The history of Dartmouth Point Battery during WWI and WW2 is not currently physically interpreted, given that the gun house built in WW2, one of the only surviving structures from this period, is currently utilised as the site’s ticketing point and shop. Unless an alternative location for these activities could be identified, this intention seems incapable of fulfilment. Should the ticket office be relocated, the installation of a replacement 4.7” QF and related fittings here would be a possibility, though the building would have to be structurally assessed to determine whether the structure is capable of taking the resultant floor loadings.

9.2.5 The Old Lighthouse – potential improvements to visitor facilities

By far and away the option which would give English Heritage the greatest potential to revise and enhance visitor facilities on site would be to either purchase or lease the Old Lighthouse. Whilst this would be likely to entail considerable capital expenditure, it would seem to be the only means by which the combination of issues with ticketing and sales, the inability to physically interpret the use of the site during WW2, and the current absence of any provision of interpretation and virtual site access to mobility-challenged visitors could be satisfactorily addressed. It would also allow the replacement of the current visually uninspiring tearoom extension with a design more appropriate to the complex of historic designated buildings and structures sited nearby. The current owners and operators of the tearoom have recently stated that they are not interested in selling the freehold of this building, and its acquisition must therefore remain a long term aspiration for English Heritage.

9.2.6 Further developing the events and education programme

Dartmouth Castle hosts a range of events throughout the year, these including living history/step back in time re-enactments (the Tudors), storytelling, night-time ghost tours, themed trails and events (for example Smugglers and Seadogs), outdoor Shakespearean theatre productions by the Inn Theatre

Company and occasional firing of the RML on the roof of the Battery. These events are popular and are designed to attract a wide audience. Most draw on themes which are linked with the history of the castle, and, being timetabled during key times within the main visitor season, provide ways to draw to the site some visitor groups who would otherwise not explore it. Living history events appear to be particularly popular; these enable the re-enactors to work with the authentic fabric of the site and to convey to visitors to the ways in which it was used in the past. One presently little-explored theme is the link between Chaucer, John Hawley and Dartmouth's medieval shipping trade.

There is free entry for school groups if their visits are booked 14 days in advance, and although no expert guided tours are available at this site, an education pack is supplied to schools when they book their visits. Groups of up to 100 can be accommodated. The site also offers the Dartmouth Castle Quest - a teacher-led teambuilding challenge for Key Stages 2 and 3. The existing educational material for the castle builds on a wide range of themes and topics, and again utilises the surviving fabric of the Castle well. A teachers' kit has been produced by English Heritage, this being currently in the process of revision.

9.2.7 Moving as far as possible towards DDA compliance

As noted above (Section 7.8.2), the physical fabric of Dartmouth Castle presents substantial barriers to achieving even a moderate degree of DDA compliance, certainly as far as physical access for those with mobility issues are concerned. Certainly efforts should be made, wherever possible, to make the Castle and its interpretation accessible to as wide a public as is possible. English Heritage is particularly well-placed to move forward on this, given the large number of sometimes equivalently difficult buildings and sites for which it has management responsibility and at which, since 1995, it has been charged with finding solutions which do not negatively impact sites of national significance.

Where it is impossible to provide physical access to some areas of the site, and where this significantly diminishes or limits the experience of visitors with disabilities, imaginative solutions should be considered to mitigate this issue. Most straightforwardly, these should include the provision of DDA-compliant interpretation at an accessible location on site.

9.2.8 Addressing outstanding Health and Safety issues

The safety of visitors to sites in the care of English Heritage is, self-evidently, an important subject, and one which is enforced by law. Whilst consideration has already been given to making the site safe without compromising its historic fabric unnecessarily, the Health and Safety of its visitors is something which needs to be kept under constant review, and it is important that site managers learn from any incidents which occur, and seek to identify any previously overlooked hazards. It is equally important that the authenticity of the monument in care is not compromised by unnecessarily over-cautious measures, as can so easily be the case.

9.3 Improving the management of the wider Dartmouth Castle site

9.3.1 Improvements within the car park

The car park is a functional and currently necessary element of the Dartmouth Castle site, but is also creates a significant negative intrusion into the setting of the Castle site. Ideally, it should be wholly or substantially relocated to another relatively nearby site from which visitors could walk into the castle complex. The redundant tarmac should then be removed and the carpark location greened over.

This seems unlikely to take place in the short to medium term, and it may be that no appropriate alternative location is or would be available. That being the case, there may be some potential for reducing the negative impacts which the carpark currently imposes on Dartmouth Castle. It is not the level nature of the car park which is at issue, as it seems more than possible that this area has, historically, been fairly level, but the visual clutter created by the cars parked in it (unavoidable) and the

colour of its tarmac surface. Some degree of reduction in visual impact could be achieved by resurfacing it in a tarmac with a green tone to assist it in blending in to the surrounding grassy areas; a more radical alternative would be to resurface the carpark utilising a geotechnical material which would allow hardy grass to grow within its cellular structure, but which would resist damage to it by vehicle tyres.

9.3.2 Managing the interior and immediate exterior of the 14th century castle

Those parts of the 14th century castle not occupied by the later defences, by the carpark and by St. Petrox Church and its graveyard currently have the appearance of a municipal park, something which is at odds with its national importance and with its history. This, is, in part, is a long-standing issue, reflecting the pleasure gardens which were laid out here over a century ago, the local authority public shelters built up against the walls of the 14th century castle, the popularity of Dartmouth Point as a picturesque location overlooking the entrance to the Dart Estuary, the existence of the tearoom for over a century, the ready access to the Coast Path running towards Strete, and the ownership of this land by a local authority.

Deciduous woodland with a scrub understorey occupies the zone immediately outside the 14th century castle walls. This would benefit from further management to enhance the appreciation of the relationship between the walls and the dry ditch and to improve foot access around the perimeter of the site.

Making any significant changes to the landscaped grounds within the 14th century castle would probably not be wholly popular with local people and would probably not be possible unless this land were to be acquired from the local authority. There should be the aim, however, of managing this part of the site in a manner more befitting a nationally important monument – if the land cannot be acquired by English Heritage this is something which might be achievable through partnership working with its local authority owner.

9.4 Access improvements

9.4.1 Public transport

One means of reducing public demand on the Castle carpark, and thus potentially allowing it to be reduced in size would be to work with local providers to set up a minibus service to bring visitors to the site. There is an existing ferryboat service from Dartmouth's South Embankment to the landing place at Dartmouth Castle which runs every ten minutes between Easter and October and which appears to be popular with visitors. The addition of a pontoon here would facilitate visitor landings.

9.4.2 Promoting site access by bicycle

A further means by which demand on the carpark might be reduced would be to promote access to the castle by bicycle. It would probably be necessary to provide secure cycle parking and an incentive (in the form of reduced entry prices for those arriving by bike) to make this work. This option would probably not be taken up by some visitors, but might be worth pursuing, possibly working in tandem with a local cycle hire company to promote the service.

9.5 Enhancing the setting of Dartmouth Castle

Dartmouth Castle shares a boundary wall with the adjoining St. Petrox Church which several reports have indicated as being, in places, in poor condition, particularly in its upper parts. Sections of the wall with substantial soil build up on their churchyard side are also poorly provided with weepholes, subjecting it to ground pressure. English Heritage should work with the ecclesiastical authorities to remedy these issues.

and the curtain wall and dry ditch of the 14th century castle is owned and managed by South Hams District Council, but currently has more of the appearance of a small municipal park; its historical significance is not interpreted. The setting of the castle as a whole could be enhanced by management more appropriate to its historical importance. English Heritage should discuss this matter with the District Council – it is possible that the Guardianship boundary could be extended to cover this area, bringing the management of this grassed area under the responsibility of English Heritage.

The South Hams District Council carpark within the precinct of the 14th century castle is relatively small and incorporates only one dedicated disabled parking space, but (with the Castle Road approaches) provides the only car parking provision for the visiting public adjacent to Dartmouth Castle. It is also used by visitors to St. Petrox Church and the Lighthouse tearooms, and is additionally promoted in several guidebooks as a suitable starting point for those walking the Coast Path westwards towards Gallants Bower and Slapton Sands. Inevitably it can fill up rapidly at some times of the year. The removal of the carpark would significantly enhance the castle site, though would inconvenience visitors. English Heritage should work with South Hams District Council to see whether there is any potential for either modifying the appearance of the carpark to reduce its visual impact or for relocating it away from the Castle.

Similarly, the public toilets adjacent to the carpark do not currently include any disabled facilities, despite the popularity of the Castle site as a local visitor attraction. This may also be a matter which should be discussed between the District Council and English Heritage.

The Diamond Jubilee Way (6km) opened in 2012 links Little Dartmouth and Dartmouth Castle (via an optional diversion); a further trail links Dartmouth Castle and Gallants Bower (0.75 miles, with an optional longer route (5.5km) starting in Coronation Park (this being promoted by the South West Coast Path organisation). Dartmouth Castle is, however, not on any town trail, despite the long-standing close historic links between the town and the Castle. Dartmouth Castle is 1.8km (just over a mile) by foot from the town centre and some thought might be given to developing a historic trail between the town and the Castle.

The Dartmouth Conservation Area extends only as far south as Warfleet. English Heritage have, in the past, expressed an interest in a further southern extension of the Conservation Area as far as Castle Cove and may wish to re-open discussions with the District Council to see whether this might be possible as part of a future review.

The land to the west of Dartmouth Castle which sites Gallants Bower and the coastal strip from Castle Cove to Warren Point are owned and managed by the National Trust. The Gallants Bower Civil War fort is historically linked to Dartmouth Castle, and there might well be opportunities for partnership working between the two organisations in the presentation of the history of Dartmouth's defences.

10 USE OF THE CONSERVATION MANAGEMENT PLAN

10.1 Adoption and responsibility

This Conservation Management Plan has been adopted by English Heritage as the principal document which will underpin the future management of the whole of the site, including both its designated and undesignated areas. A copy of the Plan will be retained on site as a working document.

10.2 Use of the plan

The conservation policy, vision and aims set out in this Plan should underpin all aspects of the future management of the Dartmouth Castle site, including not only major developments or projects but also the business of day to day site operation including small scale maintenance works.

10.3 Monitoring and improving the Plan

10.3.1 Monitoring

Monitoring of the implementation of the Conservation Management Plan policies is a key responsibility of English Heritage as site owner and manager.

10.3.2 Plan review

No conservation management plan can anticipate the effects of future legislation, the effects of a changing climate, changes in national or local economies or other factors affecting the ability to meet its vision and aims. A successful plan is a relevant plan, and to ensure that is the case, this Plan should be periodically re-evaluated and, if appropriate, revised.

As a result, it is recommended that this Plan is reviewed by English Heritage in consultation with key stakeholders on a five yearly basis.

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Young, G M, 2004. *Dartmouth Castle, Dartmouth, Devon: Phase 2 condition survey works, archaeological watching brief and recording*, Exeter (Exeter Archaeology report No 04.38)

11.2 Websites

Historical information relating to Dartmouth Castle

www.nationalarchives.gov.uk/

<http://archive.historicengland.org.uk/>

<http://www.bl.uk/onlinegallery/onlineex/unvbrit/s/zoomify82817.html> (British Library online version of Henry VIII's Great Map of the West)

www.dartmouth-history.org.uk/

www.devonhistorysociety.org.uk/

<https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Dartmouth>

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Dartmouth_Castle

www.dartmouth.org.uk/history

www.devon.gov.uk/historicdartmouth

www.dartmouthtowncouncil.org

<https://philscoblehistorian.wordpress.com/>

<http://www.castlestudiesgroup.org.uk/>

www.gatehouse-gazetteer.info

[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Boom_\(navigational_barrier\)](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Boom_(navigational_barrier))

www.victorianforts.co.uk/pdf/datasheets/dartmouthpoint.pdf

www.1939-45.co.uk/brownstonebattery.html

www.britannia.com/history/devon/castles/dartmouthcast.html

Information relating to the site and its context

www.Magic.gov.uk

www.english-heritage.org.uk/visit/places/dartmouth-castle

www.southdevonaonb.org.uk/

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<http://new.devon.gov.uk/historicenvironment/the-devon-hisotirc-environment-record/>

<http://www.english-heritage.org.uk/learn/story-of-england/>

<http://www.southwestcoastpath.org.uk/UCH/> (South West Coast Path Unlocking Our Coastal Heritage Project)

<http://maps.nls.uk/geo/records/#zoom=5&lat=56.0000&lon=-4.0000&layers=1250&point=0,0>

(Historic Ordnance Survey maps online)

<http://www.bl.uk/onlinegallery/onlineex/ordsurvdraw/d/002osd000000018u00015000.html>

(1803 Ordnance Survey original 2” to a mile drawing for the first series 1” to a mile mapping, the River Dart, including Dartmouth)

Plans, policies and guidance

http://www.devon.gov.uk/devon_county_structure_plan

<http://www.southhams.gov.uk/CHttpHandler.ashx?id=3675&p=0> (South Hams Local Development Framework Development Plan Policies)

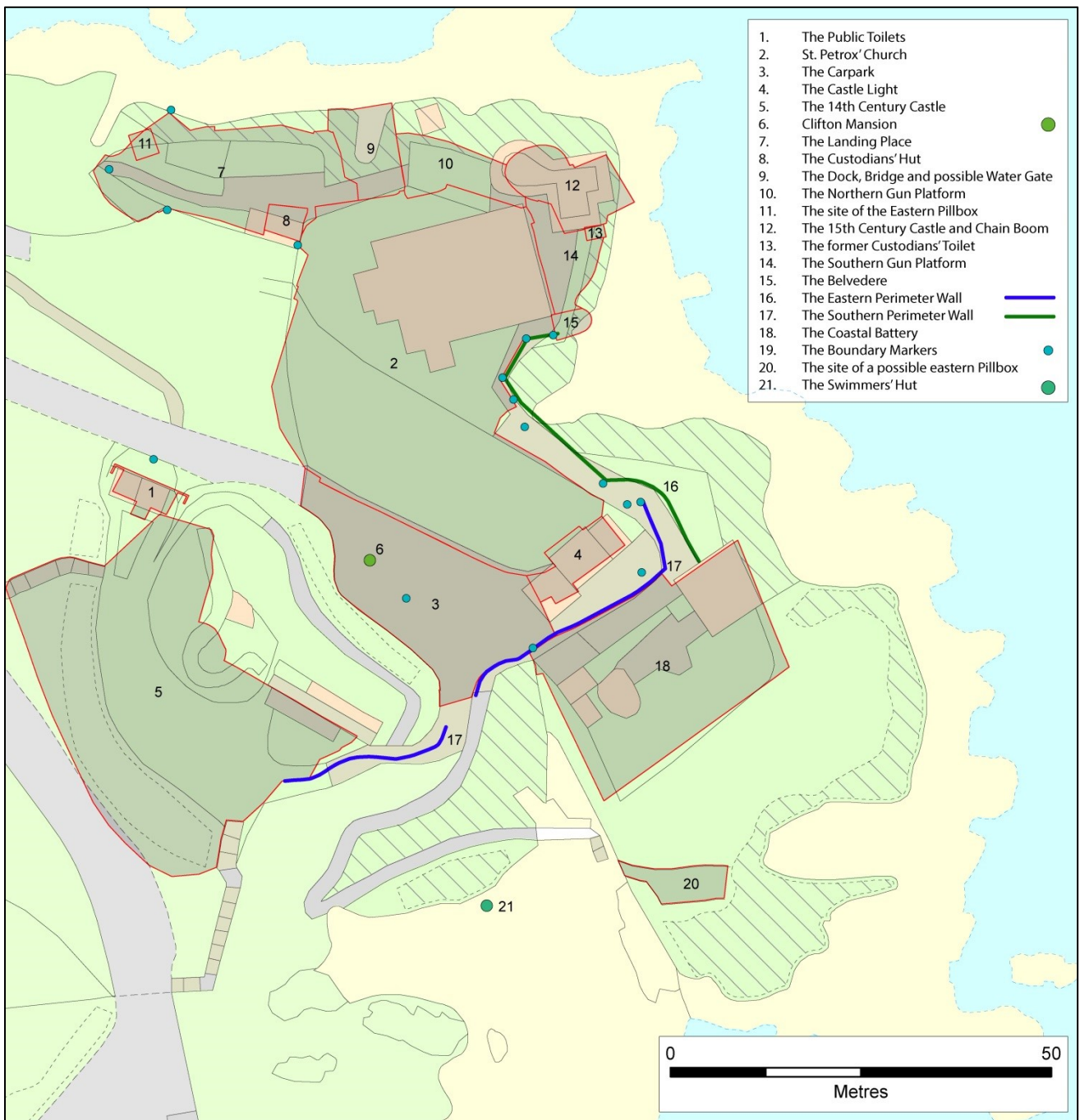
<http://www.southhams.gov.uk/CHttpHandler.ashx?id=3667&p=0> (South Hams Local Plan 1996 – Dartmouth Area)

<http://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/1995/50/contents> (DDA 2005)

<https://content.historicengland.org.uk/images-books/publications/conservation-principles-sustainable-management-historic-environment/conservationprinciplespoliciesguidanceapr08web.pdf/>

<https://historicengland.org.uk/images-books/publications/setting-heritage-assets/>

12 GAZETTEER



Gazetteer map for Dartmouth Castle showing the location of numbered sites.

The components of the wider Dartmouth Castle site are described below from north to south. Not all are parts of the Scheduled Monument or are within the Guardianship Area, but all contribute to its overall character, and their management, both individually and collectively, and impinge on and affect the overall values of the Scheduled Dartmouth Castle site.

I. The Public Toilets and K6 Telephone Box



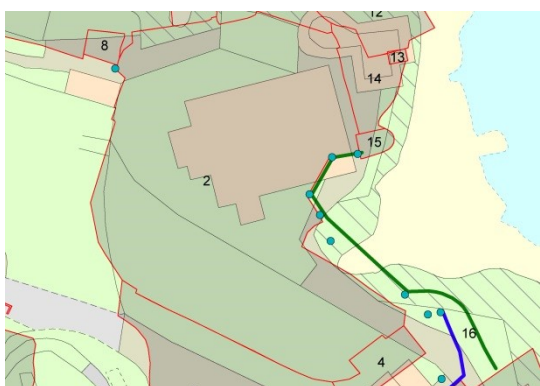
Location: SX 8816 50292

Designation: K6 Telephone Box Listed Grade II I197565

The very limited documentation available suggests that these facilities were originally constructed in the 1930s during a period when there was a significant increase in the number of visitors being drawn to Dartmouth Point to view its Castle and Church, and to visit the lighthouse tearooms. This utilitarian toilet block is on a rectangular plan and is of brick construction under a pitched tiled roof, measuring 7.6m x 3.2m with a small southern extension. It is sited over a section of the 14th century castle dry ditch which was being infilled during the 1930s. The Listed K9 telephone box is sited immediately adjacent to this building. Management of the public toilets is the responsibility of the local authority.

Criteria	Value	Notes
Survival/Condition	High	Constructed in the 1930s and maintained by SHDC.
Fragility/Vulnerability	Low	
Rarity	Low	
Group Value	Low	A somewhat separated component of the group of structures at Dartmouth Point.
Diversity	Low	
Potential	Low	Could possibly be managed by EH.
Amenity Value	Moderate	An important visitor amenity though does not currently offer any disabled facilities.

2. St. Petrox Church



Location: SX 88629 50334

Designation: Listed Building, Grade I, No 1297086

A deed of 1192 mentions 'all the land of Dertmeta which is above the Wyke and between the monastery of St. Peter and the Stoke' indicating the presence of a religious establishment close to Dartmouth Point at that date, a Norman font in the present church also attesting to this. Much of the history of the church of St. Petrox is poorly documented online, though it is recorded that two priests were appointed to serve the church here in 1331/2, the documentation suggesting that the church or chapel had been abandoned for some while. A Chapel of St. Mary at St. Petrox was mentioned two year later, with a new chapel under consideration at this site in 1346 for the benefit of the residents of South Town. There seems to have been a church on the site by 1425, and repairs to it were undertaken in 1438. Nevertheless, the Church was at some distance from the centre of Dartmouth, and it seems to have been little used, and at times not used at all, the access from the town to the church being poor.

The church is shown on a (probably early) 17th century plan of Dartmouth harbour as a single-aisled structure, possibly with a detached tower (the detail and actual date of the map are somewhat unclear). Between 1636 and 1641, it was substantially rebuilt as a three-aisled church in local slate and limestone rubble, none of the original fabric being thought to survive, and the associated graveyard was extended, but in the following year, the outbreak of the Civil War saw the church taken over by Parliamentarian forces as a provisions store for the Castle. It is unclear to what degree the rebuilt Church intruded onto land adjacent to the Gun Tower and Gun Platforms which were formerly part of the defensive works, but it seems likely that the eastern end of the present church was constructed over the western edge of the southern gun platform. The footprint of the predecessor church is unknown.

The church continued to be somewhat under-used in the following centuries owing to its location remote from the town and in 1831, the far more conveniently sited St. Barnabas' in the town was consecrated as a Chapel of Ease. St. Petrox Church again fell out of use, though gained parish status in 1838. Its spire was removed in the late 1850s to aid intervisibility between the new lighthouse and Bayard's Cove Quays, but in 1864, Castle Road was constructed, much improving access to the church and prompting an uptake in its use.

The church was listed Grade I in 1949. Its listing describes it as 'vaguely perpendicular' and having four-bayed arcades to the aisles on octagonal piers with plain capitals and a slate floor; all of the glass is considered to be of 19th and early 20th century fabrication, but may incorporate earlier glass.

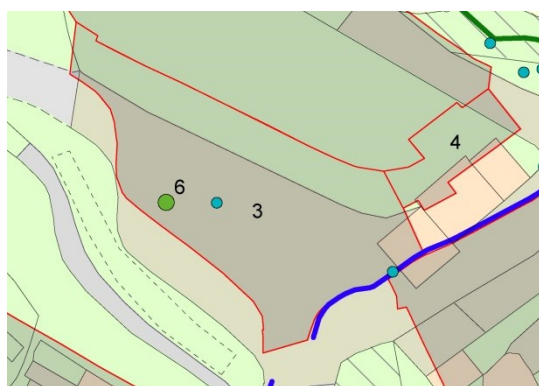
The church is founded at about 10m OD and its graveyard extends to its south-west, sloping upwards to the west from 10m OD to 20m OD to meet the carpark, occupying part of the site of the 14th century castle, and possibly part of the site of Carew's Clifton Mansion. The graveyard extends south

to the 1854 lighthouse. On its seaward side (to the north and east, and at its south-eastern corner) the church abuts the 15th century defences of Dartmouth Castle, from which it is undivided. The eastern graveyard wall extending to the south has been built up on its western side, and a relatively narrow walkway, walled on its seaward side, extends southwards past it to the battery, this feature possibly dating to the 16th century. The church is approached by Castle Road via the low remains of an original opening in the curtain wall of the 14th century castle. Bill Horner (DCC) has also pointed up the potential for extra-mural burials outside the Churchyard, examples having been found near the present landing place in 1998.

There was originally an 2.5m high arched doorway in the wall between the northern gun platform and the graveyard, but this has now been blocked off with masonry, and the levels in the graveyard have been raised, the ground level behind the wall being 2.2m higher than that at the gun platform. The wall averages 1.4m high on its southern side and 4.0m high to the north. The walling is owned by the Church Estate, and its upper sections have been reported as being in very poor condition due to uncontrolled plant growth and lack of management, resulting in the loosening of some stones, this raising health and safety issues for visitors using the adjacent path. The eastern and southern walls of the church have been rendered for over a century, and these have recently been painted white, making this building visually very apparent within the group making up the wider Dartmouth Castle site.

Criteria	Value	Notes
Survival/Condition	High	Generally good though there are structural issues with some of the churchyard walls. The recent re-rendering and painting of some of the church elevations detracts from its appearance.
Fragility/Vulnerability	Moderate	The condition of the church and associated graveyard will depend on its continuing use
Rarity	Moderate	A medieval church substantially remodelled during the mid-17 th century.
Group Value	High	A visually important element of the group of buildings at Dartmouth Point.
Diversity	Low	
Potential	Moderate	
Amenity Value	Moderate	Still in use as a place of worship and contributes to the interest of the group of buildings at Dartmouth Point.

3. The Carpark



Location: SX 88655 50278 (centre)

The car-park occupies the central southern part of the area occupied by the 14th century castle, and is the only level section of ground here, lying between the landscaped ground sloping up westwards to the surviving fighting tower and the east-heading section of its wall and the graveyard sloping down towards the church of St. Petrox. The carpark probably came into existence during the 1920s or 1930s when Dartmouth Castle became increasingly popular with visitors arriving by motor car. It had been used as a parade ground and during the later part of the Civil War, when it is thought to have sited a six gun battery.

The historic OS mapping and the results of an archaeological watching brief undertaken across the carpark suggests that although there has been some degree of landscaping within the interior of the 14th century castle – in part as part as a result of the creation of pleasure grounds and subsequently to create the carpark - this appears to have been a generally level area since at least the late 19th century and probably long before. If this is the case, the carpark would seem to be one potential site for Clifton Mansion, the alternative being the area adjacent to or now occupied by St. Petrox Church, as the graveyard between the two is fairly steeply-sloping. An account written by a local resident who grew up in Dartmouth suggests that some levelling took place here during WW2 to site a barracks building.

The carpark measures 28m x 14.5m in plan (406m²) and is reported as having the capacity for a maximum of ten to eleven cars. Additional parking is available on its approach road. The carpark at Dartmouth Castle is specifically mentioned as a parking facility adjacent to the South Coast Path on the SWCP website, and in other guides to the area.

Given the nature of its surfacing, its extent and location, the carpark imposes a degree of visual dominance from within the wider Castle complex, this being increased when it is full with cars. The carpark also visually bisects the site, and physically divides the surviving remains of the 14th century castle from the remainder of the Dartmouth Castle complex.

An archaeological watching brief during sewage trenching across the northern end of the carpark (Dyer 1998) encountered no archaeological features, revealing underlying slate bedrock between 0.40m and 0.85m from the tarmac surface. This was overlain throughout by a layer of brown sandy clay containing much crushed slate and some coal and charcoal which produced two sherds of 19th century pottery and a fragment of a 19th century terracotta tile. This layer was, in turn, overlain by a layer of compacted sandy clay and stone. Dyer concluded that the area of the car park examined had been heavily terraced, probably truncating the original surface.

Criteria	Value	Notes
Survival/Condition	Moderate	This local authority carpark occupies an area which has been identified as

		potentially having sited Clifton Mansion.
Fragility/Vulnerability	Low	
Rarity	Low	
Group Value	Low	The carpark negatively intrudes into the setting of the surrounding castle elements.
Diversity	Low	
Potential	Moderate	If possible, the relocation of the carpark away from this location has the potential to enhance the core area of the castle site.
Amenity Value	Moderate	The carpark provides an important facility to visitors to Dartmouth Castle, the tearooms, the church and the neighbouring sections of Coast Path.

4. The Castle Light



Location: SX 88674 50283

The entrance to Dartmouth Harbour is not particularly obvious from the sea and narrows considerably between Dartmouth Point and Godmerock, yet the port of Dartmouth and the tidal estuary heading inland to Totnes were busy with shipping from the medieval period onwards. A navigation light may well have been lit at the precursor of St. Petrox Church, whilst the lookout tower on the roof of the square gun tower is documented as having been used for this purpose between *circa* 1836 and *circa* 1854 (TNA WO 44/309).

In 1856, construction began on a new lighthouse close to Dartmouth Castle, the structure being completed in 1857. It had been designed by a Mr T. Lidstone to serve William Shaw Lindsey's newly acquired Cape, Colonies and Calcutta mail service, the turret being designed to signal to the Bayard's Quay pilots that a steamship was approaching. The lighthouse was deliberately built in the style of an antiquity, complete with false battlements and was, at times, painted white to enhance its visibility. It showed a red light at a height of 80 feet which was visible from up to 10 miles away.

Unfortunately the lighthouse was particularly badly sited, as intervisibility between it and Bayard's Cove was blocked by the spire on St. Petrox Church, which as a result had to be demolished. Even so, the poor siting of the lighthouse away from the channel greatly limited its usefulness, and it was

decommissioned in 1864, being replaced by one at Kingswear in the same year, together with a daymark on the headland above. The original Kingswear lighthouse was demolished in 1980 and has been replaced by a modern structure.

St. Petrox lighthouse provided accommodation for a river pilot for some while, being known as ‘Castle Cottage’, but in about 1891 a tearoom operated by Mrs. Jane Allert, wife of a former gunner at Dartmouth Castle, was established within it. The lighthouse served as an unofficial canteen for troops stationed at Dartmouth Point Battery during WW2. An originally small porch on the western doorway was replaced by a flat-roofed extension during the later decades of the 20th century,

The lighthouse was deliberately built in the style of an antiquity, complete with castellations so as to fit in visually with the adjacent Castle and Church of St. Petrox, both of which it overlooks, and with which it forms a visually coherent group from most directions.

The building has two principal components: the lower taking the form of an 8.75 x 5.5m plan rectangular two-storeyed windowed building designed to provide accommodation. This is surmounted by a smaller, square-plan turret for the light, this having a large-south facing window. The building is constructed of masonry with false battlements, arrow slits and merlons, and was partly ivy-covered at the turn of the 20th century. At the turn of the 20th century it was furnished with a rustic porch to the west, though this was replaced by a flat-roofed extension during the later decades of the 20th century. A lean-to 20th century toilet block is constructed against its eastern elevation. The lighthouse adjoins the graveyard, the carpark to the north and the Battery to the south. The lighthouse is privately owned and is currently operated as a tea-room.

The lighthouse is a visually notable feature within the Dartmouth Castle site, though the architectural features incorporated into its original design result in it blending well into the group formed by the Gun Tower, flanking gun platforms, their seaward walling and the church of St. Petrox.

Criteria	Value	Notes
Survival/Condition	High	The lighthouse is externally more or less as built, though the current tearoom extension is of recent construction.
Fragility/Vulnerability	Low	
Rarity	High	Privately-constructed mid-19 th century lighthouses are relatively rare features of Britain’s coast.
Group Value	High	The lighthouse was designed so as to blend in with the military structures at Dartmouth Point, and forms an important visual element of the building group sited here.
Diversity	Low	
Potential	High	The lighthouse offers the potential for the siting of DDA compliant interpretation, ticketing and other facilities, which would free up the WW2 gun house for new interpretation.
Amenity Value	Moderate	The tearooms are a popular facility with visitors to Dartmouth Point.

5. The 14th Century Castle



Location: SX 88643 50291 (assumed centre)

EH Asset Numbers: 181-007, 181-009

Designation: Enclosure Castle, Listed Building Grade I, No 1197566, Scheduled Monument (NHLE 1014610)

Given the medieval importance of Dartmouth as a trading port, a port of embarkation and a harbour of national importance, it was early recognised that measures ought to be taken for its defence during periods of international tension, particularly in relation to threats posed, variously by the Spanish, French and Dutch. Hugh Courtenay and Philip de Columbers were commissioned by Edward II to assess the defensive requirements of the harbour in 1336, though no works were subsequently undertaken.

In 1374 the leading citizens of the town were enjoined by the King to construct fortifications and take all other measures required to defend the harbour and town. This instruction was repeated by Richard II in 1377 and 1381, but it does not seem to have been until 1388 that, under the leadership of their then Mayor, John Hawley, the burghers of Dartmouth began the construction of a fortalice at Dartmouth Point which controlled the narrows near the entrance to the haven. The armaments available at the time probably consisted of ballistae and primitive cannon, but no record of what was supplied to arm the new fort appears to have survived. This defensive work would only have been occupied in times of emergency.

The form of the fort that was built in 1388 is conjectural, but it seems to have taken the form of a series of strong round fighting towers linked by massive curtain walls and an accompanying wide dry ditch stretching from Castle Cove to the south to a point on the coast just to the west of the present St. Petrox Church to the north, where its gatehouse was sited. These elements would have rendered it able to resist a land attack, for instance by an army which had landed near on the open beaches down the coast, as occurred at Slapton Sands in 1403.

What is less clear is whether the fortifications were carried around the edge of the cliffs between these two points, though a strong case has been made by Blaylock (2012) and others that the basal courses of the round section of the Gun Tower may represent the remains of a further element in the defensive circuit. If this point were the southern limit of the 14th century defences, the whole of the central part of the castle would have been open to the estuary, so it is likely that the cliffs round to Castle Cove would have at least been provided with defensive earthworks or walling behind which bowmen and gunners could find some protection, and which would resist assault to some degree. An artist's reconstruction on page 22 of Davison's guidebook to Dartmouth Castle shows the possible appearance of the fortifications in the late 14th century, this reconstruction suggesting that the first phase of the round section of the Gun Tower might have sited a small number of cannon covering the narrows known as The Range. Not shown in this reconstruction are the store and other buildings

which would have typically been found within a castle of this period. The 2013 guidebook includes a reconstruction view of the Castle *circa* 1550 which includes a section of walling returning north-eastwards above Castle Cove, as well as a battlemented parapet along the outer edge of the whole of the curtain wall and on three fighting towers set along its length. A 17th century map of Dartmouth entrance showing the defences of the harbour (Figure 6) shows a fighting tower on the north-western corner of the curtain wall and a second at the centre of the western wall. The southern end of this wall was shown as terminating at Castle Cove, though its southern section is likely to have collapsed long ago. A cluster of buildings are shown in this reconstruction to the south of the Gun Tower, but no indications of a continuous wall around the coastline above Castle Cove.

Freeman (1999, 34-35) suggests a very different plan for the 14th century castle, though the basis on which she proposes this arrangement is uncertain. Her 'fortalice' is shown as a sub-rectangular fortification set back from the waters' edge and consisting of a curtain wall with four corner towers and an entrance near the centre of its north wall. Given the very short range of the primitive artillery and other offensive weapons available *circa* 1388 it is uncertain how such a fortification could have controlled the narrows at the entrance to the haven. In addition, the reconstruction pays little reference to the topography of the site, showing its central area as more or less level and occupied by Clifton Mansion. In reality, the layout is likely to have been rather different.

The fortifications were never tested and it is assumed that the fortalice was abandoned following Hawley's death in 1408. In any event, artillery was developing quickly during this period, and the open plan of the 14th century castle left it vulnerable to attack from guns carried by any enemy shipping which had entered the estuary. Within half a century, the old castle was recognised as being entirely redundant, and the defence of the harbour entrance was to be by means an artillery fort close to the water's edge and an associated chain boom. In time, the castle is understood to have become the site of a mansion constructed by the Carew family of Stoke Fleming, and its interior may have been landscaped to provide gardens and pleasure grounds; there is a suggestion that the remaining tower was modified as part of these works during this period of use.

However the castle had been well built and proved resistant to removal. Any eastern sections of the fortifications would have been over-built between 1462 and 1502 when the new defences were constructed; the southern end of the curtain wall was probably lost to cliff falls, and the old gatehouse collapsed and was rebuilt in 1596/7, but much of the western and northern circuit of the curtain wall (and at least one intermediate tower in its northern section) survived until the early 18th century, when these components were depicted on a series of military plans. The western wall evidently survived until at least 1840, being shown on the Dartmouth Tithe Map, but in 1864 Castle Road was constructed from Dartmouth to St. Petrox Church, cutting through its line. By *circa* 1890, whilst the Ordnance Survey still mapped the western section of the dry ditch (Figure 15), almost all of the associated walling had gone, and in 1934 O'Neil mentioned that the northern section of the ditch was being actively filled up with rubbish.

Nevertheless, some sections of the 14th century castle survive, these consisting of the south-western fighting tower, the partly truncated section of the curtain wall extending eastwards towards Castle Cove and a shorter (and much reduced) section of curtain wall extending northwards from the tower. Sections of the substantial dry ditch external to the tower and walls also survive within the woodland which covers this part of the site. Nothing remains above ground of the majority of the section of the wall which traversed the relatively steeply sloping section of the site down to Castle Road, or the section to its east, with the exception of one short section of massive masonry which is thought to represent the remains of the original gatehouse. A watching brief during sewer trenching (Dyer 1998) revealed the location of the section of the dry ditch under Castle Road, this proving to be 10m wide and separated from the wall by a 4.0m wide berm; the 2.2m wide wall foundations were also revealed. The ditch fills were interpreted as including elements of the demolished curtain wall. Dyer concluded from map evidence that the demolition of this section of the curtain wall took place between 1841 and

1890. As mentioned above, the basal section of the round section of the Gun Tower on the water's edge is thought to possibly represent remnant 14th century work and the section of wall from the surviving tower to the river to the north of the church is shown as being extant on a plan of 1851 (TNA WO55/2929).

Only the southern section of the 14th century castle is the responsibility of English Heritage, the shelters, paths and steps and grassed areas being the responsibility of the local authority. The surviving remains of the southern wall is 17.75m long, 2.2m thick and 6m high, the surviving tower is 8m high at its highest point and is 10m in diameter, whilst the remains of the northern wall are 12.25m long, 2.2m thick and up to 2.5m high. The remains of the gatehouse are 4.9m long, 2.4m thick and 2.3m high. The ditch averages 10m wide, and survives as a rock-cut defile on the hillslope to the west and north of the surviving sections of wall. This was reported as being significantly overgrown and unmanaged in both the 1999 and 2009 condition surveys, making the path around the exterior of the wall inaccessible. The walling was also reported as being significantly overgrown.

Two timber shelters built against the inner face of the walling were probably originally constructed in the inter-war years as when the interior of the Castle became a public open space. During WW2 these were closed in to provide additional accommodation for the soldiers stationed at Dartmouth Point; they were subsequently used as workshops during the reconstruction of the replica guns at Dartmouth Castle, and have now been returned to amenity use.

Criteria	Value	Notes
Survival/Condition	Moderate	Only small sections of the original plan of the 14 th century castle survive, though these are accompanied by a nearly complete outer ditch circuit. There is judged to be moderate to high archaeological potential for the survival of below ground elements of further parts of the structure, including further elements of its wall circuit and of its interior. The shelters constructed against its inner face detract from its authenticity.
Fragility/Vulnerability	High	Whilst the walls and tower are of robust construction, they are currently vulnerable to tree impacts and to deterioration.
Rarity	High	This is the earliest privately commissioned harbour defence work of its kind in Britain.
Group Value	High	Whilst visually rather underwhelming, the remains of the 14 th century castle play a very important role in the history of the development of the defences at Dartmouth Point.
Diversity	Low	Most of the wall tower has been lost and no traces of any internal features of the estuary edge defences of the 14 th century castle survive as above ground features.

Potential	Moderate	Very little archaeological investigation of the interior of the area occupied by the 14 th century castle has taken place to date.
Amenity Value	Moderate	The surviving castle walls help to define the western and northern edges of the Dartmouth Castle site. The shelters constructed against its walls are utilised by visitors to the site.

6. Clifton Mansion



Location: SX 88647 50282 (hypothetical centre point)

Designation: Enclosure Castle, Scheduled Monument (NHLE 1014610)

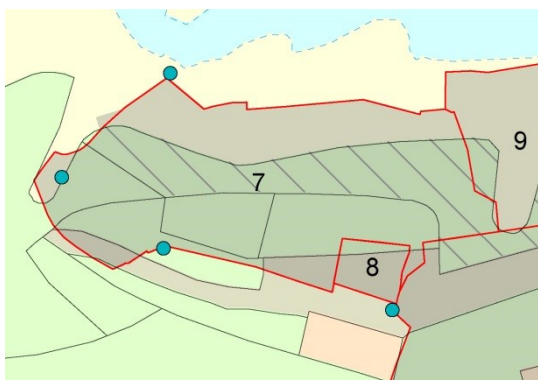
Following the effective abandonment of Hawley's 14th century castle around 1402, the Carew family of Stoke Fleming are recorded as having built a 'mansion' within its walls. This was not their principal family house, and seems to have been occupied only intermittently, and it is possible that the principal reason why the Carews built a house here was to make clear their ownership of this site. The house was utilised by the Royalist garrison during the Civil War and accounts suggest that it was badly damaged at this time – whether deliberately or by accident. By 1740 little of it seems to have survived, a map of the time noting the area formerly occupied by the 15th century castle as 'An old round wall which in former ages was part of the Enclosure of a Gentleman's House'. In 1822 an entry in Lysons and Lysons Magna Britannica suggested that there was something still to be seen of the house noting 'The ruins of a mansion behind St. Petrox Church', though this may in fact refer to the surviving round tower and walls of the 14th century castle. This is the last reference to any remains of the house, which is assumed to have been utilised as a source of building stone since the late 17th century, though memory of its former existence persisted into the 19th century.

The location and form taken by the mansion are unknown – the reconstruction painting in Davison 2000 is almost certainly inaccurate, as it misrepresents the topography of the site within the 14th century castle. In practical terms, the only areas of level ground available on which to construct a mansion would be the site of the present carpark and close to the originally smaller St. Petrox Church, as the intervening ground now occupied by the expanded graveyard is sloping and would have been unsuitable as the site of a house.

The carpark area has not been archaeologically investigated except during a watching brief along a sewer trench traversing it. If the site of Clifton Mansion is to be located and more learned about its form and extent, targeted geophysical survey followed up by evaluation trenching within this area is probably the only approach available.

Criteria	Value	Notes
Survival/Condition	Low	No above ground elements of the Mansion survive.
Fragility/Vulnerability	Moderate	Any surviving below ground remains of the Mansion might be vulnerable to trenching or landscaping activities.
Rarity	Low	
Group Value	Low	
Diversity	Low	
Potential	Moderate	There are opportunities to determine at least some of the extent and plan of the Mansion through geophysical survey within the carpark area.
Amenity Value	Low	

7. The Landing Place



Location: SX 88629 50334

EH Asset Number: Parts included in Asset Nos 181-010 and 181-012

Designation: Enclosure Castle, Scheduled Monument (NHLE 1014610)

This area to the west of the western gun platform is traditionally known as the landing place. It is adjoined to the east by what is often referred to as the 'chasm', a partly artificial inlet in the rocky foreshore (see below). This area is generally interpreted as a small quay associated with Dartmouth Castle. It was the logical place at which to land men, equipment and supplies for the castle and battery given that the road from Dartmouth was, until the mid-19th century, very poor.

This 30m x 7m plan open area to the west of the northern gun platform is shown on the *circa* 1840 Dartmouth (Tunstall) Tithe Map, plot 565 (Figure 14), and is depicted as an elongated sub-rectangular enclosure adjacent to the foreshore. At the time it contained two small rectangular plan buildings, one in the south-eastern corner of the plot and another, slightly smaller in scale, at the centre of the northern wall of the enclosed area. The Tithe Apportionment states that this plot was at the time owned by the Government and occupied by the Board of Ordnance, describing it as 'Court and storehouse'.

The *circa* 1880 1st Edition Ordnance Survey 25" to the mile County Series mapping (Figure 15) showed some amendments to the plan of the enclosure, which was by then depicted as being on three tiers.

The northern building was still in existence and the south-eastern structure was shown as slightly enlarged, though this may simply represent a mapping error on the *circa* 1840 mapping. A new building had, by this date, appeared near the western end of the plot, this being on an L-shaped plan. The 2nd Edition of the 25" mapping, dating to *circa* 1908 (Figure 16), showed that the smaller northern building had been demolished, whilst the L-shaped western building by then had a reduced, rectangular plan, having lost its north-western extension. The southern part of this area also forms the approach to the doorway into the western gun platform and thence to the gun tower, whilst the northernmost wall retains the steel fixings for sets of davits. The area also includes three flights of steps, those at the eastern end of the area giving access to the foreshore, that to the west providing access between the upper and lower levels of the platformed area.

The site of the south-eastern building, formerly that of the gun shed, presumably the master gunner's store building, is currently partly occupied by the Custodian's Hut (see below), though the western section of its foundation plinth remains visible.

The location of the northern wall of the northern building is marked by a stretch of a mix of brick and brick and stone retaining walls adjacent to what the site survey marks as the boundary between an area of flower beds and a grassy area next to the foreshore.

The footprint for the parts of the later western building are likely to be reflected in a section of east-west aligned stone walling to the west of the steps down to the lower platform, a line of brick edging along the northern side of the approach path to the castle (which is likely to indicate the southern wall of the building), and a section of 'broken brick wall' to the west. No traces of the western or northern walls seem to have survived, and the area appears to have been landscaped to some degree. This building was shown as a 'store' on an undated (but probably 19th century) terrier map for Dartmouth Castle (English Heritage files).

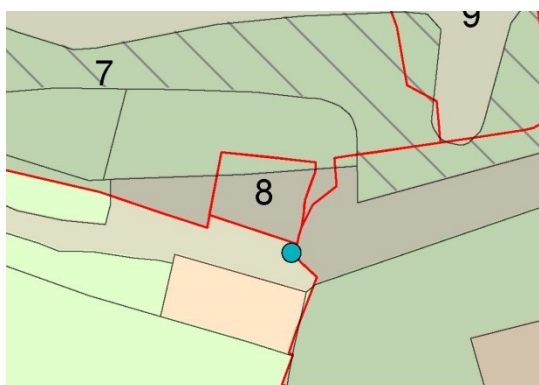
The landing place was a functionally important area of the Castle, allowing it to be provisioned from the adjacent Dart Estuary. Various iterations of the arrangements now surviving here have probably served this function since the mid-14th century. The landing place is served by a ferry service from Dartmouth's South Embankment.

An archaeological watching brief during small-scale drainage improvements in this area (Bell 2005, Devon HER summary report) revealed no archaeological features, the ground trenched during the works revealing only mixed levelling material.

Criteria	Value	Notes
Survival/Condition	High	Generally good though some associated structures have been demolished or significantly modified.
Fragility/Vulnerability	Moderate	The shoreline elements of the Landing Place are vulnerable to erosion and sea level rises associated with climate change.
Rarity	Moderate	Whilst small-scale landing facilities are relatively common, this is a relatively rare example of one associated with a harbour defence site, and has been in use since at least the 15 th century.
Group Value	Moderate	The Landing Place demonstrates how the Castle was provisioned and accessed during the period of military occupation of Dartmouth Point.

Diversity	Moderate	The wider area of the Landing Place includes a series of terraced areas which incorporate the low surviving remains of former associated structures.
Potential	Moderate	The Landing Place is still used as a public ferry access to the Castle site from Dartmouth and could possibly be enhanced with a pontoon.
Amenity Value	Moderate	The continued use of the Landing Place as a means of accessing the Castle site provides an important link to the town, and continues the long tradition of maritime access to the site.

8. The Custodians' Hut



Location: SX 88634 50236

EH Asset Number: 181-008

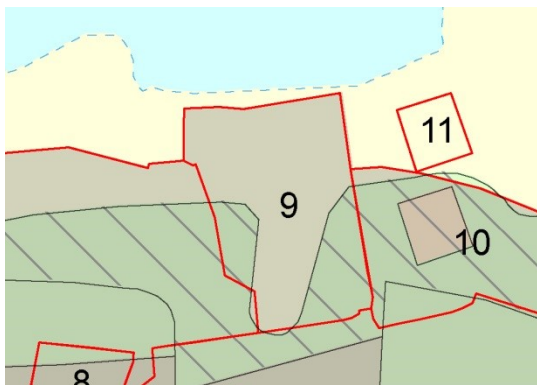
Designation: Enclosure Castle, Scheduled Monument (NHLE 1014610)

The Custodian's Hut is a substantially modern, part stone, part timber weatherboard-walled slate-roofed structure occupying the site of a building which has been existence since at least 1840 (Tithe Map evidence), and which lay within the part of Castle Point then occupied by the War Department. It is marked as 'Gun Shed' on a terrier map (English Heritage archive material). Most of its northern stone walling is non-original, and the plinth which underlies it to the west suggests that the building originally occupying this site extended further in this direction than the original Custodians' Hut. The building was extended in timber between 1999 and 2009. It has a wooden floor, wood and stone walls and a slate roof and forms the site office and staff mess room.

Criteria	Value	Notes
Survival/Condition	High	The recently-extended Custodians' Hut occupies the site of the 19 th century small arms shed of which only a plinth and some small sections of masonry walling survive.
Fragility/Vulnerability	Low	The building has recently been

Rarity	Low	
Group Value	Low	The building is relatively low impact in appearance, and whilst it does not positively contribute to group value, it does not significantly detract from it.
Diversity	Low	
Potential	Low	
Amenity Value	Moderate	The building serves a useful function in the management and operation of the EH Dartmouth Castle site.

9. The Dock, Bridge and possible Water Gate



EH Asset Number: 181-016

Designation: Enclosure Castle, Scheduled Monument (NHLE 1014610)

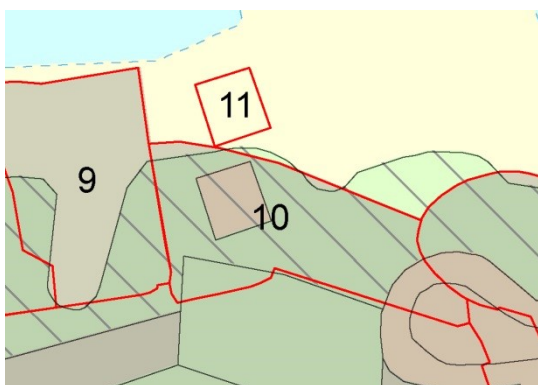
This probably at least partly artificial and now partially truncated rock-cut inlet at the western end of the northern gun platform clearly predates the structures to its east, having influenced the alignment of the western wall of the gun platform, and has been variously interpreted as the location of the north-eastern end of the 14th century castle ditch and as a small dock which would have allowed the 14th and 15th century defences to be supplied and accessed from the water. It has long been blocked off at its inner end by a masonry wall and it has been conjectured that this end of the inlet originally gave onto a flight of steps leading up into the castle, this feature originally being the castle's water gate.

The southern side of the dock has been identified as the location of the original gatehouse tower to the 15th century Castle, this feature being recorded as having collapsed around 1596, a replacement bridge being constructed around this date (O'Neill 1935). The chasm is currently spanned by a modern bridge with a dwarf brick wall on its seaward side, the bridge being supported on a substantial modern brick arch. There is a truncated stone arch above the present bridge level. The chasm is 6.6m wide and is backed by a masonry wall, though it is understood that the churchyard wall is thought to be founded off bedrock behind this. The bridge is 6m x 2m in plan.

Whilst most of the original features here have either been lost, or have been significantly modified, this area still retains historical significance as the site of the original northern entrance to the Castle complex.

Criteria	Value	Notes
Survival/Condition	Moderate	A modern brick bridge forming the northern entrance to the Castle spans a partly artificial sea inlet which might have been an original water gate, and which is rumoured to have incorporated a small dock.
Fragility/Vulnerability	Moderate	Potentially vulnerable to the effects of sea level rise associated with climate change.
Rarity	Moderate	Water gates are relatively rare features of medieval fortifications in Britain.
Group Value	Moderate	The bridge forms the northern approach to the Castle.
Diversity	Moderate	Most original features have been lost, including the original 15 th century gatehouse.
Potential	Low	
Amenity Value	Moderate	An important element in the access arrangements at Dartmouth Castle.

10. The Northern Gun Platform



Location: SX 88657 50334

EH Asset Number: I81-005

Designation: Enclosure Castle, Scheduled Monument (NHLE 1014610); Dartmouth Castle and the gun platforms to its west and south, Grade I, No 1297086

It seems that the defensive capability of the gun tower was reviewed in the decades following its completion and was found wanting, and in order to increase the area capable of mounting artillery pieces to cover the channel adjacent to the boom, a pair of small open air paved gun platforms were constructed adjacent to the round and square sections of the Gun Tower, the construction work taking place between 1539 and 1544.

Both were clearly designed to site much larger, more powerful cannon than had originally been installed in the gun tower, most sources suggesting that these would have had sufficient range to reach the eastern bank of the river. They were also designed to be more manoeuvrable, firing through

externally splayed embrasures. The walls here are of limestone and slate rubble construction.

Assumed to have been constructed in tandem with the South Gun Platform, that to the north-west of the round section of the Gun Tower faces just to the east of north; its purpose would have been to attack any enemy shipping which had managed to get past the South Gun Platform and the chain boom.

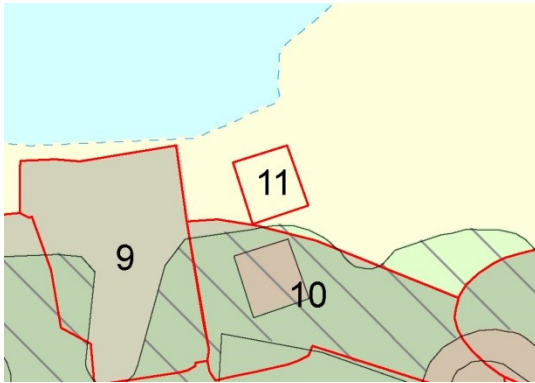
The north-western wall has four externally-splayed embrasures, whilst in the northern corner of the platform the parapet wall is pierced by a further embrasure whose cannon would have been capable of firing up the estuary towards Dartmouth, if required. This opening has been partially blocked with later masonry, as well as by safety railings. The gun platform is constructed off bedrock, its flagged surface being roughly 2m above this; its parapets are 1.5m high. The platform is 3.9m wide and a maximum of 13m long and is surfaced with modern paving slabs. The present parapet embrasures date to the 18th century, though probably represent modifications of those originally incorporated into the walling. Four 17th to 19th century guns are mounted here on replica garrison and ships carriages.

The stepped-topped wall closing off the western end of the gun platform is a later addition, this having been suggested as being likely to be 18th century in date, and incorporates the brick arch headed doorway forming the northern entrance to the Castle, from which a short flight of steps lead up to the platform. The southern wall of the gun platform is formed by the high, battlemented wall surrounding the churchyard. It is unclear whether this side of the battery would originally have been walled or would have been open. If the former, the churchyard enclosure wall may well follow the original wall line.

Whilst the modifications to the embrasures here have altered the original appearance of the parapets and the current ground level may have been modified, these changes reflect developments in cannon technology and are therefore important evidence for necessary modifications to the castle's defences over time.

Criteria	Value	Notes
Survival/Condition	High	Although the embrasures here are 18 th century modifications and the floor surfacings is modern, the present form and plan of the Gun Platform retains much of its original appearance.
Fragility/Vulnerability	Low	The bases of the seaward walls might be vulnerable to wave action as a result of climate change.
Rarity	Moderate	The Gun Platforms represent extensions to the original defences contained within the Gun Tower.
Group Value	High	The Gun Platforms make important contributions to understanding the history of the development of the defences at Dartmouth Point.
Diversity	Moderate	Some 18 th century modifications to the original 16 th century work.
Potential	Low	The Gun Platforms are already fully integrated into the site interpretation.
Amenity Value	High	The Gun Platforms form important elements of the visitor experience.

11. The site of the Eastern Pillbox



Location SX 88654 50341



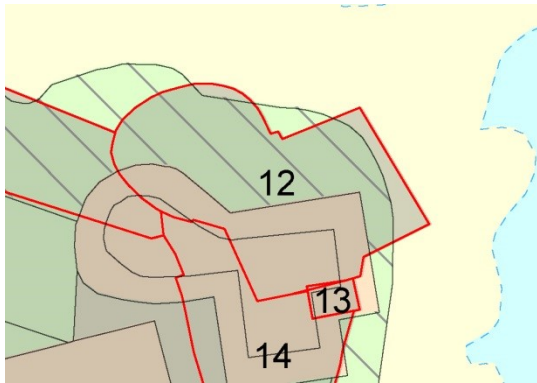
Designation: Enclosure Castle, Scheduled Monument (NHLE 1014610);

A photograph dating to 1947 in the English Heritage Archive and reproduced in the current guidebook to the Castle (Figure 22) shows a pillbox equipped with a pair of unusual perforated roof vents on a platform constructed on the sloping rock external to the wall of the northern gun platform. The caption suggests that it may have housed a searchlight or a heavy machine gun to protect the gate in the WW2 floating boom, and/or the control position for the boom, and that the two vents on its roof may have been smoke generators to create smoke screens. The pillbox can be seen to have been accessed from an opening in the gun platform leading on to a 6.5m long concrete ramp with railings on its outer edge. The pillbox was demolished in the 1970s, leaving only its concrete topped access walkway and the remains of its metal railings. The embrasure opening through the western gun platform wall by which means the ramp was accessed has a cement cill. The pillbox continues, however, to be depicted on the current OS MasterMap.

It is unfortunate that the decision was taken to demolish this pillbox, as the continuing evolution of the harbour defences during the 20th century is now recognised as an important strand in the history of Dartmouth Castle. This possible heavy machine gun post covering the WW2 harbour boom may have effectively performed the same function as the very first artillery installed in the 15th century Gun Tower.

Criteria	Value	Notes
Survival/Condition	Low	The pillbox has been destroyed and only its approach ramp survives.
Fragility/Vulnerability	Moderate	The materials from which the approach ramp was constructed make it vulnerable to deterioration.
Rarity	Low	
Group Value	Low	The pillbox has been destroyed and its approach ramp is a relatively inconspicuous feature.
Diversity	Low	Only the approach ramp to the former pillbox now survives.
Potential	Low	
Amenity Value	Low	

12. The 15th Century Castle and Chain Boom



Location: SX 88671 50332 and SX 88860 50490 (Godmerock anchor point)

EH Asset Number: 181-004

Designation: Enclosure Castle, Scheduled Monument (NHLE 1014610); Dartmouth Castle and the gun platforms to its west and south, Grade I, No 1297086

A number of fortifications associated with early chain booms were constructed at the entrances to harbours on the southern coast of Britain during the 15th century, notable examples being those constructed at Portsmouth, Dartmouth, Plymouth and Fowey.

The first mention of a chain boom between Dartmouth Point and Godmerock dates to 1462, by when it is possible that the construction of associated defensive works might have begun. The original chain might be that which was, until 1478 emplaced between Fowey and Polruan blockhouses. The construction of the tower to defend the chain is recorded as having begun in 1481, though took until 1502 to be finally completed, and was almost immediately (1509) modified to take further artillery pieces. The Gun Tower, the earliest purpose-built artillery fort in Britain, was possibly outmoded almost as soon as it was constructed, and from 1540 until 1943 the defence of the harbour mouth became the responsibility of a series of artillery batteries facing seawards from Dartmouth Point. Nevertheless this component of Dartmouth Castle continued to be armed and occupied, being modified during periods of national threat in order that it could continue to defend the narrows. The last reference to the chain boom being actively used dates to 1643, during the English Civil War, though the final mention of the existence of the chain dates to 1717, when Colonel Christian Lilly reported that only 20 feet of it could be found.

Dartmouth castle continued to be garrisoned during periods of national emergency, though its defences tended to be neglected and allowed to run down during peacetime. In 1717 its guns were reported as being unusable and there was neither Governor nor garrison. All subsequent improvements to the Dartmouth Point defences were by then focussed on the battery to the south of the Castle, the former gun tower being used solely for accommodation and storage, its lookout tower siting a navigation light during the mid-19th century. In 1909, the gun tower and flanking gun platforms were handed over to the Commissioners of His Majesty's Works as an Ancient Monument. A range of repair works including the removal of slate hanging and the refenestration of the Tower was started, though the site was re-occupied by the War Department for the duration of the Great War. Further building works followed the Armistice, progress on the conservation works being halted by the outbreak of WW2, when the gun tower again provided accommodation for the military. The Castle was restored to the Ministry of Works in 1945 and has been managed by its successors to the present day.

12.1 The Round Tower and Square Tower

Location: SX 88666 50334 and SX 88674 50332

Careful examination of the stonework of the round section of the Gun Tower, coupled with documentary evidence, suggests that the construction of the lower section of the round tower predated that of the adjoining square tower. It has been argued that it is likely that the lowest section of the round tower represents the base of a fighting tower constructed in the 14th century as part of the defences built by John Hawley and the burghers of Dartmouth. This argument is based on differences in the stone used in the basal courses and upper courses of the round tower, limestone predominating in the lowest section, which includes the opening for the chain, the lowest gunports and the upper tier of musket ports in the basement. The gunports need not have been contemporary with a 14th century castle, however; as Blaylock (2005) argues, the gunports might either have been cut through earlier masonry or have been built into or onto earlier fabric.

Blaylock also notes the presence of a cut in the bedrock of the basement of the square tower which aligns with the projected line of the inner face of the round tower, this having a curved return to the south. This, Blaylock argues, could indicate that the original tower at this location was D-shaped, being wide north-south and shallow east-west. However, he also suggests that there an alternative date could be suggested for this feature – as an alternative interpretation he suggests that it might have been a mid-15th century gun tower designed to defend the chain and accommodate its end. Blaylock suggests that this would account for its position close to the water's edge at the location of the chain terminal. If this were the case, its construction might have begun during the 1460s but remained unfinished in the 1480s when the construction of the square tower began. He argues persuasively that as the chain is known to have been in existence for some two decades before any record of the construction of the gun tower is known, there would have been a need to both anchor and tension the chain, and to defend the mechanism at its western end, and that the lower section of the round tower might represent this earliest chain anchorage and defence. As an alternative the cut may equate with the



Basement of the Round Tower.

Blaylock suggests that the square tower was probably planned as a free-standing structure – Young (2004) having noted a cut into bedrock for its north-western wall - but clearly a change in plan occurred at a very early stage in its construction, and, Blaylock argues, the construction of the square tower and the round tower continued in tandem, but with that of the square tower progressing ahead of the round tower - there is a straight joint over their full height on the northern side, whilst on their southern side they are of integral construction. Paul Sandby's probably mid-18th century painting of the castle shows a northern wall to the square tower at roof level. Young 's 2009 report provides much useful analysis of the phasing of the wall openings and other historic modifications to the fabric of the

Gun Tower, as well as providing a detailed drawn update to the original MoW elevations of the castle

Both sections of the Gun Tower are founded on bedrock, though this has been lowered within their basement areas. Each has near-vertical walling with battlemented wall tops 10.7m above external bedrock and 1.68m above roof level; the tops of the raised battlements on the landward side of the round section of the tower are 3.08m above roof level. The roof of the tower is at 13.5m OD. The Gun Tower is substantially built of Devonian slates and siltstones, mixed with a small amount of Devonian or Carboniferous limestone. Much of the stone is likely to have been locally sourced, though higher quality slate is known to have been brought in from the Charleton quarries on the eastern side of Kingsbridge Estuary in 1487-8 and in 1493-4. Roof construction on the square tower was documented in 1492-3 and on the round tower in 1493-4.

The Gun Tower is on three levels internally. The lowest of these is the basement, whose floor has been cut into bedrock, and which sited guns close to the waterline. Its round section (which here is D-shaped, being backed by a rock face) contains three internally-splayed gunports which are so arranged that they broadly covered the line of the chain boom, having an arc of fire of around 60° across it. Above these are four loopholes for handguns. The basement of the square section of the tower incorporates seven much broader gunports, four facing east with an arc of fire covering around 50°, one facing north (with the northernmost of the eastern gunports this commanded an arc of around 60°) and two (now blocked in) covering the southern approaches to the chain boom with an arc of fire of around 40°. Whilst the total coverage of the guns at basement level was therefore almost 180°, seven of the ten guns faced east. The coverage of the southern approaches provided by this original design was therefore limited, something which it was subsequently found necessary to remedy by completing the works proposed in the original design.



Fireplace in the basement of the Square Tower.

The two rooms are undivided from one another, though Young (2004) noted the foundation cut for a western wall of the square tower and Blaylock (2005) identified the remains of a curving foundation cut in the base of the square tower which he interprets as the original line of a D-shaped tower which preceded the round tower. This level also incorporates a small 19th century fireplace in the southern wall of the square section of the tower and a spiral staircase in its north-eastern corner. This is non-original, and blocks three of the adjacent wall openings; the original access would probably have been via a ladder. There is also a window in the south-eastern corner of the square tower. Much of the rock floor (which has reportedly been lowered from its original height) is covered by a timber deck in the round section of the tower

On the ground floor level, which is broadly equivalent in elevation to that of the flanking north and south gun platforms, the round floor itself is missing in the round section of the tower, the basement area having been partly infilled with a brick vault in the early 19th century when a section of the

basement was used as a gunpowder store. This has now been removed and a safety barrier separates the two spaces. A report of 1787 noted that this magazine 'is a very dangerous and inconvenient one, it being under the building in which the master and quarter gunner resides, and is not otherwise secured than by a common trap door which opens from a store room with iron hinges staples etc. There is therefore no possibility of shifting or airing it, without the greatest risk and inconvenience. In high tides the sea frequently washes in at the air holes'.

The round section of the Gun Tower at this level contains the chain opening and four flanking openings, three facing east and one facing north, that immediately to the north of the chain opening having been enlarged. The chain opening retains its timber frame, in which can be seen the position of the roller over which the chain passed. No remains of the mechanism used for tensioning the chain have survived, but it can be assumed that this would have consisted of a large windlass mounted on a substantial wooden frame braced against the walls of the chamber. On this floor the square section of the tower contains three substantial gunports in the eastern wall (these were added in 1597 with an arc of fire of around 25°, potentially bringing the number of guns covering the chain boom up to 13), and two smaller openings framed in red sandstone in the northern and southern walls; again there are loopholes for handguns above the openings and a further window in the south-east corner of the tower. Other features at this level include a fireplace in the southern wall and the modern spiral staircase in the north-eastern corner. The entrance into the gun tower is on its western side at the junction of its round and square sections.



Gun Tower, first floor.

The spiral staircase leads up the first floor, which was primarily designed as living accommodation and was during the 18th and 19th centuries, divided into three rooms by timber partitions. The round section of the tower contains four large wall openings and two smaller openings, the larger openings having been reconstructed with recessed masonry and replacement windows added during the 20th century. There is a domestic fireplace in its western wall and a garderobe at the point where the round and square sections of the tower meet. The square section of the tower has three internally-splayed windows in its northern elevation, three in its eastern elevation and two in its southern elevation, these being framed in red sandstone. In its north-eastern corner is the head of the modern spiral staircase, whilst its southern wall contains the base of the original stone-treaded spiral staircase leading up to the roof level. The southern wall also contains a window, whilst the eastern wall incorporates a fireplace and later bread oven and a further window. The two sections of the tower are now undivided from one another, the matchboard partitions having been removed in the 20th century.

The roof level is accessed via a small spiral staircase. Its walls are topped with battlements to make it suitable as a fighting platform for soldiers armed with handguns and longbows, the openings in two of the embrasures have sockets for swivel guns and there are also a series of musket loops. The southern end of the round section of the tower on the western side incorporates machicolations to enable the

entrance to the Gun Tower to be defended from above. The landward battlements were raised in height to provide additional protection against attack by musketry from that direction; the original crenellations were left in place as openings (though would have been shuttered over in the event of attack), whilst new openings were made above and between them. The stairs up to the battlemented roof turret are in the southern wall of the square section of the Gun Tower at this level. This served as a lookout tower and at times during the 19th century housed a navigation light, and also allowed for signalling to the town and to shipping in the harbour entrance. Its small interior has stone seats and a pair of small windows.

A timber flagpole with a metal base is fixed to the stonework at the rear of the parapet in the north-eastern corner of the square section of the Gun Tower. The chimneys from the fireplaces on the lower floors which protrude above the level of the parapets have been reduced in height and are closed off at high level.

The basement of the Round Tower sites a replica breech loading gun on a wooden bed, both being of a type contemporary with the construction of the tower. A later pattern Swedish 6 pdr gun on a ship's carriage is mounted on the 1st floor of the square section of the Gun Tower at ground floor level and a 15th century wrought iron breech loading swivel gun was formerly mounted in one of the crenellations on the Gun Tower roof.



Gun Tower, roof.

Until recently, the gun tower contained some interpretative material, including handsheets illustrating a series of 'tales' of castle life together with sample building accounts. This has recently been replaced with a new interpretative scheme. This area formerly incorporated a display of Coastguard cutlasses, though these have since been returned to the Royal Armouries.

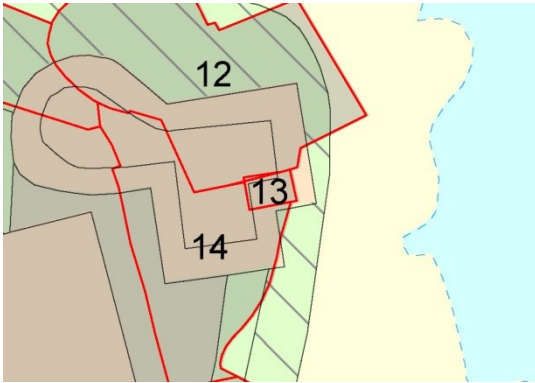
Historically, architecturally and visually, the Gun Tower is the heart of Dartmouth Castle, and has witnessed many changes and adaptations since it was first constructed during the 15th century. These modifications reflect continuing developments in artillery technology over many centuries. Though the Gun Tower quickly become redundant as the primary defence of the harbour entrance it continued to be developed as a second line of defence, before eventually being converted into accommodation and storage space.

However this development sequence was complex, and whilst the relative phasing of the gunports and other openings in the two sections of the tower has been considered in detail by Young and Blaylock, the absolute dating of some components is less certain. Both Young and Blaylock note not only blocked but modified openings in both sections of the Gun Tower, as well as possibly 18th and 19th century windows inserted at the locations of wall loops and in formerly blank sections of wall. Many of these changes will have taken place during the period when the use of the Gun Tower changed from a defensive structure to one which was primarily used for accommodation and storage. The degree to

which some of these modifications were reversed in the periods 1909-14 and 1918-38 could probably only be determined by a detailed study of the MoW building records for these periods now housed in the National Archive.

Criteria	Value	Notes
Survival/Condition	High	The Gun Tower incorporates a series of modifications to its structure from the 16 th to the 20 th century, but retains its overall original structural integrity. Most internal fixtures, fittings and detailing have been removed, including those relating to its use as the Governor's residence, whilst its windows are 19 th century additions.
Fragility/Vulnerability	Moderate	The lower sections of the Gun Tower are vulnerable to the effects of wave action, and some of the stone of which the Gun Tower was constructed are of poor quality.
Rarity	High	This is one of a very small number of chain boom towers to survive anywhere in Britain.
Group Value	High	The Gun Tower forms the core of the group of buildings at Dartmouth Point.
Diversity	High	Although much internal detailing has been lost, the fabric of the Gun Tower retains many important diagnostic features dating from its original construction and its repeated modification over the following centuries.
Potential	High	The Gun Tower has the potential for the reinstatement of documented internal features and fittings to better explain how aspects of this structure functioned during its long history.
Amenity Value	High	This is the core of the Dartmouth Castle site and is key to its interpretation and an understanding of its history.

13. The former Custodians' Toilet



Location: SX 88674 50325

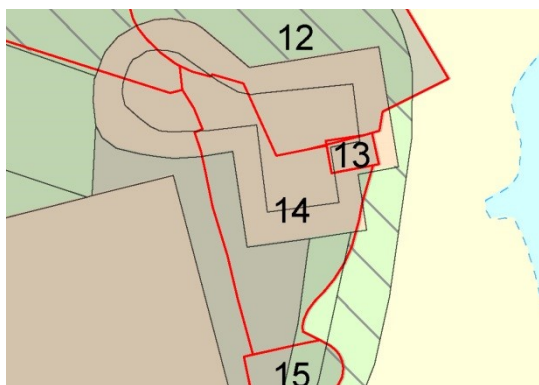
Designation: Enclosure Castle, Scheduled Monument (NHLE 1014610); Dartmouth Castle and the gun platforms to its west and south, Grade I, No 1297086

Of unknown construction date, though possibly the 1860s, this small rectangular structure is located adjacent to the square tower in the north-eastern corner of the southern gun platform; it has been inserted through the original line of the parapet wall and its eastern wall is cantilevered out beyond it. It may occupy the site of an original embrasure in this wall. It is constructed of squared coursed limestone construction under a slate slab roof. Its discharge pipe ran down the outer face to the wall below and across the foreshore rocks to the sea, and it was recommended in 1999 that this should be taken out of use and new facilities installed to remove this source of marine pollution.

Whilst this building is now redundant in terms of its as-constructed function, it is part of the history of the castle. Like the garderobe in the Gun Tower and the 19th century privies in the Battery, it also illustrates changing attitudes towards the environment over time.

Criteria	Value	Notes
Survival/Condition	High	This former toilet has now been decommissioned, though retains its external appearance.
Fragility/Vulnerability	Low	There are no structural issues affecting this structure.
Rarity	Moderate	An example of a probably 19 th century military toilet facility.
Group Value	Moderate	The toilet is visually integrated into the fabric of the South Gun Platform and adjacent Gun Tower.
Diversity	Low	
Potential	Low	This building could possibly be utilised as a small storeroom.
Amenity Value	Low	

14. The Southern Gun Platform



Location: SX 88671 50321

EH Asset Number: 181-006

Designation: Enclosure Castle, Scheduled Monument (NHLE 1014610); Dartmouth Castle and the gun platforms to its west and south, Grade I, No 1297086

The southern gun platform is assumed to be contemporary with that to the north-west of the round section of the Gun Tower. The three east-facing embrasures in its parapet wall are of 18th century date, though are thought likely to represent modified earlier openings (an additional example possibly having been lost when the toilet at the north end of the platform was added). The platform was so constructed that the guns mounted here were capable to some degree of covering the approaches to the chain boom, and not just the boom itself, as was the case with the guns in the gun tower.

The platform is sub-triangular in plan, tapering to the south where its original width may have been somewhat truncated during the enlargement of St. Petrox Church in 1642. To the south again, a military walkway leads down steps to the Belvedere and around the south-eastern corner of St. Petrox Church. At the north-eastern end of the platform, the former Custodian's Toilet was constructed against the southern wall of the square section of the Gun Tower in the 1860s, whilst in its north-western corner the walkway continues between the Gun Tower and the Church to the northern gun platform. The eastern walling of the platform is vertical, rising 5.9m from the bedrock on which it is founded to the tops of the parapets, these being 1.4m above the deck of the gun platform. The platform tapers from 6.8m at the north to 3.2m to the south and is 7.7m long.

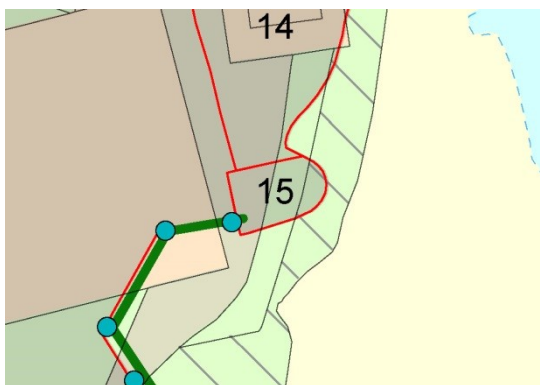
The gun platform walling is constructed of limestone and slate rubble with considerable amounts of remnant lime rendering on its external face. As on the northern gun platform, the parapet embrasures date to the 18th century, though are likely to represent modifications to the original wall openings. One large and one small brick water cisterns underlying the surface of the paved floor of this area were recorded by Young in 2004, its former concrete surfacing was removed and was replaced with paving stones. Young reported that the present ground levels are thought to be 'considerably above' the originals. Three cannon are mounted here on replica cast iron standing carriages.

Whilst the modifications to the embrasures here have altered the original appearance of the parapets and the current ground level may have been modified, these changes reflect developments in cannon technology and are therefore important evidence for necessary modifications to the castle's defences over time.

Criteria	Value	Notes
Survival/Condition	High	The current form of the embrasures dates from the 18 th century and the floor surfacing is modern, whilst the rear section of the platform might have been

		intruded onto by the extension of St. Petrox Church.
Fragility/Vulnerability	Low	Some potential for the effects of wave action on the base of the walling defining this feature.
Rarity	Moderate	The Gun Platforms represent extensions to the original defences contained within the Gun Tower.
Group Value	High	The Gun Platforms make important contributions to understanding the history of the development of the defences at Dartmouth Point.
Diversity	Moderate	The Gun Platform incorporates some 18 th century modifications.
Potential	Low	The interpretation of the Gun Platform is integrated into that of the Castle site.
Amenity Value	High	The existence of the Gun Platform is important in telling the story of the evolving defences of Dartmouth Point.

15. The Belvedere



Location: SX 88669 50313

EH Asset Number: part of 181-012

Designation: Enclosure Castle, Scheduled Monument (NHLE 1014610); Dartmouth Castle and the gun platforms to its west and south, Grade I, No 1297086

This small semi-circular walled feature adjacent immediately to the south of the southern gun platform and adjacent to the south-eastern corner of St. Petrox Church forms part of an access route between the Gun Tower and the Battery at Dartmouth Point. Whilst no documented date for its construction has been unearthed, it is functionally likely to post-date the development of Lamberd's Bulwark in 1540, providing one element of the route along which the garrison could move between the two elements of the defences safe from enfilading fire. Its construction appears to be integral with that of the adjoining South Gun Platform (1539-44), though may alternatively be part of the works undertaken in 1599 at the time of the threat of Spanish invasion when 'pyoners' are recorded as having constructed a 'newe waye'

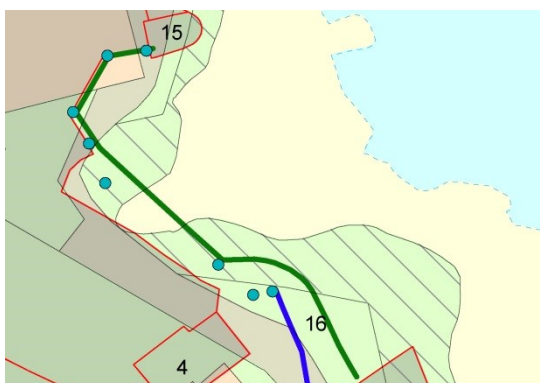
between the Castle and the Bulwark (Russell 1950). It was certainly in existence by the early 18th century, as it is shown on Lily's 1717 map of the castle's defences, and the reconstruction *circa* 1550 on page 10 of the 2013 guidebook shows the feature in place. This feature is (probably erroneously) identified in the Devon HER as a 19th century lighthouse or belvedere. It is shown on a 17th century map (Figure 6) as apparently being topped with a small tower and accompanied to the south by an additional small gabled-roofed building.

The gently battered Belvedere walling rises nearly vertically from the bedrock at the northern end of a small natural inlet, its platform being 6.8m above the bedrock, whilst its parapet is 1.6m high. It is approached by a flight of ten stone steps from the southern gun platform, and is closed off at its western end by a 3.66m high stone wall incorporating a doorway at its northern end. Its concrete floor surface was removed in 2004 and paving stones were laid in its stead.

The Belvedere and adjoining military walkway to the south were an important functional component of the castle, allowing the garrison to move quickly and safely between the two principal elements of its defences.

Criteria	Value	Notes
Survival/Condition	High	The Belvedere appears to retain its original form and its masonry is in good condition.
Fragility/Vulnerability	Moderate	The lowest sections of masonry on the seaward side may be vulnerable to wave action as a result of climate change.
Rarity	Moderate	The rather unusual form of this feature may reflect the site of part of an undocumented structure which was lost with the enlargement of the plan of St. Petrox Church during the 17 th century.
Group Value	High	The Belvedere is an integral part of the Castle complex, particularly when the site is viewed from the Estuary.
Diversity	Low	The Belvedere is a relatively simple feature.
Potential	Low	
Amenity Value	Moderate	The Belvedere lies on the coastal access route around the Dartmouth Castle complex.

16. The Eastern Perimeter Wall



Location: SX 88667 50311 to SX 88689 5082

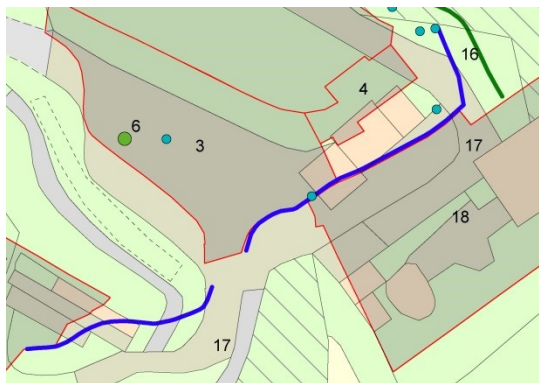
EH Asset Number: part of I81-013

Designation: Enclosure Castle, Scheduled Monument (NHLE 1014610); Dartmouth Castle and the gun platforms to its west and south, Grade I, No 1297086

A stone parapet wall between 1.3m and 1.6m high runs around the edge of the coast between the Belvedere and the Battery guardhouse. This incorporates five stone WD boundary markers (see below) and forms the seaward side of a walkway shown on a WD terrier map as a route over which the War Department retained a right of way. This route connects the Gun Tower to the Battery, and is assumed to be on the line of the 'newe way' constructed in 1599, though the present walling is assumed to be of much later construction. The *circa* 1550 reconstruction view of the Castle in the 2013 guidebook (Pattison 2013) depicts a battlemented wall running along the line of the current wall at that date. The date of construction of the present wall is uncertain, though the boundary markers incorporated into it carry an 1867 date. The importance of this military walkway is highlighted by the fact that it remained a route over which the MoD retained a right of way after this part of the site had been handed over to the MoW at the beginning of the 20th century.

Criteria	Value	Notes
Survival/Condition	High	A 19 th century military walkway linking the Gun Tower to Dartmouth Point Battery which is likely to occupy the site of defensible walls since the 14 th century.
Fragility/Vulnerability	Moderate	The base of the wall may be vulnerable to wave action as a result of climate change.
Rarity	Low	
Group Value	Moderate	The walkway provides a physical and visual link between the Gun Tower and Dartmouth Point Battery.
Diversity	Moderate	The walling incorporates a series of dated WD boundary stones.
Potential	Low	
Amenity Value	Moderate	The walkway provides a physical link for visitors between elements of the Castle complex.

17. The Southern Perimeter Wall



Location: SX 88667 50270 to SX 88640 50239

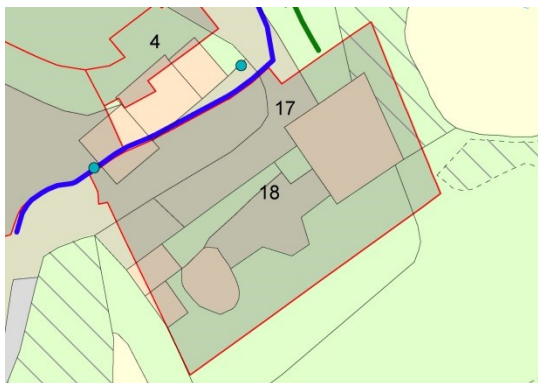
EH Asset Number: part of I81-013

Designation: Enclosure Castle, Scheduled Monument (NHLE 1014610); Dartmouth Castle and the gun platforms to its west and south, Grade I, No 1297086

A stone wall runs south from a point to the north-east of the Lighthouse, turning to the south-west at the Guardhouse and running along the edge of the deep gorge ditch along the northern side of the Battery. To the west of the Battery, the wall runs along the top of the steep coastal slope, terminating 46m to the west. Just to the west of the Battery there is an opening in the wall from which a path descends to the site of the former swimming hut above the cove. This wall also incorporates boundary stones carrying an 1867 date. Whilst some sections of this walling are of relatively modern construction, they occupy a line which has probably long featured a defensive clifftop wall, possibly as far back as the 14th century. The mid-19th century boundary stones serve to remind visitors that all sections of this headland formed part of an extensive defended area.

Criteria	Value	Notes
Survival/Condition	High	Some sections are of modern construction, though others are of 19 th century date. The wall may well follow the line of defensive features along the coast since the 14 th century.
Fragility/Vulnerability	Low	Some of the western sections of the walling may be vulnerable to landslips.
Rarity	Low	
Group Value	Moderate	The walling provides the visual perimeter to the western part of the Castle complex.
Diversity	Moderate	The wall incorporates 19 th century WD date stones.
Potential	Low	
Amenity Value	Moderate	The walkway behind the walling provides access to the western sections of the Dartmouth Castle site, and to the Coast Path leading westwards.

18. Coastal Battery



Location: SX 88685 50268 (see Figures 23, 28 to 33).

EH Asset Numbers: I81-001, I81-002, I81-003, I81-017

Designation: Enclosure Castle, Scheduled Monument (NHLE I014610); The Old Battery Listed Grade II* I297087

The chain boom defences at Dartmouth Castle were conceived and constructed during a period when the development of artillery was in rapid evolution, and their function was to bombard any hostile shipping which found its progress impeded by the boom. By the time they were completed (around 1502) they were outdated, their guns pointed in the wrong direction (across the line of the boom) and they were vulnerable to attack from the sea. The only solution was to construct additional defences to prevent enemy shipping getting into the harbour entrance. This, however, remains a debated subject, and it may be that both a tower and bulwark were originally constructed..

The site repeatedly utilised for this purpose for the four hundred years between the late 15th century and 1943 was at Dartmouth Point, just to the south of the castle. This was adjacent to the existing garrison at the Castle, had a clear line of sight out through the harbour entrance and was relatively close to sea level. Their construction rendered the earlier parts of Dartmouth Castle redundant as a harbour defence, unless any enemy shipping made it as far north as the boom chain.

A 64 pdr RML mounted on a reproduction coastal defence traversing slide carriage is mounted at one of the embrasures on the terreplain, a further 64 pdr RML with its associated equipment is displayed in the western casemate; a 6 pdr carronade on a replica carriage is sited in the eastern casemate, together with two 24 pdr SB guns on garrison carriages.

18.1 The late 15th century battery

It is possible that the 14th century castle included gun positions at this location, but there is documentary evidence to suggest that an open battery, probably protected behind an earthwork bank, was constructed here from *circa* 1481. Details of its size, layout and armament are unknown, but it was this seaward-facing bulwark which was specifically mentioned in 1510 in Henry VIII's confirmation of the agreement between the Crown and the burghers of Dartmouth and which was rebuilt in 1545-6 as Lamberd's Battery. This battery was, however, not mentioned by the Earl of Surrey in his 1522 assessment of the defences of Dartmouth, and it might, at the time, have become disused.

18.2 The 16th century Lamberd's Bulwark

In around the year 1540, Thomas Cromwell noted that money had been spent on newly-built blockhouses at Dartmouth at a time of hostilities with France. The location of these works is uncertain, but in 1545-6 open defences adjacent to Dartmouth Castle were rebuilt, becoming known as Lamberd's Bulwark. This original bulwark was an earthen structure. This was re-armed in

1597 during the Spanish Wars and two years later further alterations were made to the position. Hortensio Spinola, a Spanish spy, reported it as being an earth bastion armed with six or eight pieces of artillery at this time.

The bulwark was re-armed during the early years of the Civil War in recognition of the dangers opposed by raiding Royalist ships, Dartmouth having declared for Parliament in 1642, but Dartmouth's harbour defences surrendered without a fight in the following year, having been attacked from the land. In 1646 the Castle surrendered to Fairfax's Parliamentarian forces after a one day siege. Nevertheless, the importance of the battery was recognised, and whilst responsibility for the gun tower and chain boom was returned to the Borough of Dartmouth in 1660, the battery remained under the control of the King's government.

18.3 The 17th century Maiden Fort

The efficacy of the bulwark to provide effective defences to the harbour entrance was reviewed during the Dutch Wars during the second half of the 17th century, and in 1690 it was entirely reconstructed in stone and provided with a new guardhouse and magazine, though remained an open battery. Its armament was significantly upgraded, there being nine heavy guns pointing out to sea, and three covering the harbour entrance. Peace with the Dutch after 1674 again saw the defences neglected, however, and when the Dartmouth defences were surveyed by Colonel Christian Lily *circa* 1717 he found not one gun mounted and no trace of a garrison. Some of these defects seem to have been rectified, and during the following decades at a time of further hostilities with Spain consideration was once again given to upgrading Dartmouth's harbour defences.

18.4 The 18th century Grand Battery

In 1741, the battery was strengthened in anticipation of anticipated French invasion, but the number of guns sited within it was reduced from nine to six. A contemporary plan depicts ten south-eastern facing embrasures, one in the south-eastern corner angle facing north and two in the eastern wall facing a little north of east (these being for the harbour toll guns), as well as a rectangular guardhouse, which Linzey infers was internally subdivided to also provide a magazine. Linzey also noted the remains of part of the revetment walling of the late 16th century battery surviving to the east of the mid-19th century structures. A contemporary plan shows the southern wall as having been substantially thickened and the number of its embrasures having been reduced to six. The embrasure in the south-eastern corner had been over-built.

In 1747 when attack by the French was again becoming a possibility, the battery was again significantly remodelled, this time as a two tier battery (the Upper and Lower Batteries) with six guns on each platform; it was also renamed Grand Battery. A plan of 1751 shows the arrangement of the embrasures, which all faced south-east; the existing magazine/guard house had been demolished, and Linzey considered it is likely that a replacement magazine was housed within four arched vaults beneath the upper tier of the battery.

The 15th century defences were by this time recognised as being effectively redundant, and the Gun Tower was renamed Castle House, its maintenance becoming the responsibility of the 'Corporation of Dartmouth', though it was at times used as accommodation and storage by the garrison.

Thirty years of peace followed the end of the Seven Years War, and inevitably Dartmouth's defences were again neglected. In 1779, during an inspection following the outbreak of the American War of Independence, Dartmouth's 6 pounder guns were found to be heavily corroded by sea spray. Eight years later during a subsequent inspection it was reported that the battery possessed six twelve pounder guns on the lower battery and half a dozen six pounders on the upper battery. There were also six 'old' three pounders used to summon ships entering the port to pay customs duties. In addition there were ten 18 pounders intended to replace the existing guns but these were unpainted and un-mounted. In relation to the mounted pieces, the inspector commented that '*the guns are very old and appear unserviceable, and the carriages are quite rotten*'. All but two of the three pounders were

condemned, two of the 18 pounders were to be mounted in the lower battery and the remainder were to be put into store. However further changes to the battery armament must have taken place as it is reported that the Dartmouth Corps of Volunteer Artillery, formed in 1798 in reaction to the outbreak of war with France five years before, practiced with the 18 pounders at the castle. By 1820, however, it was reported that all of the 18 pounders had been put back into store following the final defeat of Napoleon in 1815, and the only mounted armament consisted of the two ancient three pounders.

18.5 The mid-19th century Commercial Harbour Defence Battery

(see Figures 17 and 23).

By 1860, at a time of renewed tension with the French under Emperor Napoleon III, St. Petrox Battery (as the Grand Battery had come to be referred) had become old fashioned and vulnerable to attack from the vastly improved guns by then mounted on many warships and incapable of fighting back effectively, so a decision was made to entirely reconstruct it. Linzey suggests that the plan of the replacement present battery incorporated many elements of its predecessor, giving rise to its uniquely squinted gunports and the blocked in vaults of the former magazines under the upper tier of the former battery. The works were undertaken by a Mr. W. Harvey between January 1860 and February 1861, the estimated cost being £2,600 and the actual cost £3,459. Problems were apparent with the construction work from the start, and only two years later the asphalt covering on the upper deck of the battery had been ripped up to determine why the underlying magazine was so damp. It took a year to remedy the fault, the vaults in the lower section of the Battery being lined in brick as part of these remedial works.

The new battery (now referred to as the Old Battery) was constructed as a small two tier work typical of Commercial Harbour Defences of the time, having two guns on its open terreplein and three on a lower floor in strongly-built embrasured casemates. The new design included an integral defensible guardroom and a deep gorge ditch to prevent assault from its landward side, the present bridge being a modern addition. The intention was that the battery would be manned by local men of the Sixth Devonshire Artillery Corps, formed in 1860. In 1866, two of the 68 pdrs in the casemates were condemned and had to be replaced. Two years later the battery was modified with a separate lighting passage for the magazine to increase the safety of its garrison, the terreplein was extended and a blast wall was added to protect one of the shell filling rooms. According to Linzey this work, undertaken by a Mr. Way, was notable for its poor workmanship.



The Old Battery, lower floor.

In 1874 the battery armament was replaced with 68 pounder Rifled Muzzle Loaders (RMLs), these being Palliser conversions of old smoothbores (SBs) but in 1886, its armament was recorded as three 68 pounders, two 10" guns and an 8" 'shell gun' (a howitzer) capable of firing shells in high arcs so they

would explode on the decks of ships. These were all apparently SBs, and re-armament with five 64 pdr RMLs did not take place until 1889-91.

In 1891, it was recommended that a Quick Firing (QF) gun should be mounted in the empty left casemate on the lower level of the battery to prevent torpedo boats from entering the harbour, though this does not seem to have been followed up, and in 1895 it was recommended that the four existing 64 pounder RMLs should be replaced with a pair of 4.7" QF naval guns. From the evidence of a contemporary photograph (Figure 17), the RMLs were still in place in 1908, though had been marked for removal and replacement. The Artillery Volunteers were disbanded around 1909.

The battery was again reactivated for the duration of the Great War, and it is assumed that it had been armed with the two QFs recommended in 1909. Though the Battery Records are not readily available to confirm this, an early 20th century view of the battery (reproduced in this CMP as Figure 18) shows a pair of mounts for this type of gun in the two open gun positions on the roof of the battery. It is unlikely that other guns were mounted in the lower casemates. The battery was disarmed following the peace of 1918.

It then became a tearoom, with a kitchen on the upper floor of the Guardroom and an eating area within the casemated lower floor of the Battery. Tables and chairs were also set out on the grassed area to the south of the Battery, access to these being through the casemate embrasures (Walter Fleet memories 2001).

18.6 The 20th century Dartmouth Point Battery

EH Asset Number: 181-002

(see Figure 33)

In 1939 the battery was again brought back into use as the principal element of Dartmouth's harbour defences, being renamed Dartmouth Point Battery. A brick blockhouse for a Japanese-built 1917 vintage 4.7" QF gun was constructed on the western embrasure of the terreplain, this structure being disguised by being given dwarf battlements. A second 4.7" QF was set up on a cliff edge site 150m to the south and both were served by searchlights and accompanied by buildings in the nearby woods. An account by a former local resident (Walter Fleet) whose grandparents ran the Lighthouse tearooms before WW2 suggests that there was a third gun position closer to the waterline, though this is not otherwise documented. Hegarty *et al* (2014) recorded the site of the second gun position on a headland between Castle Cove and Sugary Cove, as well as a possible light AA position, a Coastal Artillery Searchlight (CASL) mounting near the waterline, a possible Battery Observation Post (BOP) and an extant associated engine room in the nearby woods. With the exception of the engine room, all of the above ground parts of these structures had been demolished by 1950.

With an effective range of six kilometres, the primary function of this battery was to knock out any E Boats or other enemy shipping which might attempt to enter the harbour, a Barr and Stroud rangefinder being set up on a pillar originally constructed for a Watkins depression range finder immediately to the north of the battery. The Fort Record Book notes that the garrison was also provided with two Bren guns, two Thompson carbines, three signal pistols, ninety .303 rifles, seven Sten guns and 115 hand grenades, a formidable arsenal.

However, the western approaches to the harbour entrance were hidden from view from the battery by Blackstone Point only 1km away, rendering the battery vulnerable to a surprise attack from that direction, and in 1943 Brownstone Battery at Froward Point was brought into commission, this being armed with two powerful 6" naval guns and having excellent views of the approaches to the harbour. Dartmouth Point Battery was put onto a care and maintenance basis, and was disarmed following the peace of 1945. Like all of Britain's coastal artillery sites, it was formally abandoned in the mid-1950s, when it was handed over to the State as an extension to the Dartmouth Castle Ancient Monument.

After a period during which the Battery was leased to Dartmouth Borough and converted into a

restaurant (though reconstruction guns were sited on its terreplein), this use was abandoned in 1967, and the presentation of the Battery was eventually integrated with that for the other defences of Dartmouth Castle. Any future interpretation of the WW2 Battery should indicate that it was originally part of a larger complex extending along the coastline to its immediate south.

The Battery is on a trapezoidal plan, and was constructed largely in faced in carboniferous limestone in regular courses, ashlar granite (probably derived from Haytor Quarry) forming the cills and reveals to the casemate gunports. The floors within the casemates are of modern concrete, whilst the roof vaults over the casemates and the magazine are brick, as are the dividing walls and vaults within the magazine. Most of the other floors are asphalt covered, though there are some areas of exposed concrete and the magazine lighting passage is paved with stone slabs. The terreplein is paved with modern concrete slabs whilst the ramparts are of grassed over rubble and earth, possibly built up over a mastic asphalt waterproofing layer.

The north-eastern corner of one of the earlier batteries survives on the coastal slope to the east of the lighthouse; other low sections of masonry immediately to the east of the eastern face of the 1861 battery are also likely to be remnants of the earlier battery.

The upper level of the Battery is approached across a modern bridge across the ditch, this route giving access to the terreplein. The original western gun emplacement (No 1) now sites the 1940 4.7" QF gun house, which serves as the ticketing facility and shop. This is a single storeyed, brick-constructed building with a doorway to the north flanked by rifle slits; the wide projecting bayed gun opening to the south is now glazed in. The building is now painted white and has false battlements around the edge of its flat roof. Expense magazine No 2 is sited beneath this structure. The eastern emplacement (No 2) sites an original 64 pdr RML on a reproduction traversing coastal defence slide carriage. The terreplein is surfaced with modern paving slabs; it is understood that a water cistern lies beneath this area. Beyond the granite walls of the emplacements the earthwork ramparts, which incorporate splayed embrasures, are grassed. No 1 cartridge store (expense magazine) is sited between the two emplacements, and there was formerly a timber-constructed lean-to side arms shed against the western wall. Three cowled ventilators used to clear gun smoke from the casemates protrude through the ramparts.



The western gun emplacement, now the Ticket Office.

The lower level incorporates three strongly-built brick vaulted and concrete floored casemates facing south, though their embrasures are angled slightly to the east to give maximum coverage of the harbour entrance. There is also an additional embrasure facing east from casemate No 3 and a splayed window opening through the western wall of casemate No 1. Linzey (1990) suggests that the rear walls of the casemates incorporate arched elements which supported the upper level of the 18th century two-tier battery, and that the western opening may be a feature inherited from the preceding

battery. A concrete wall footing external to one of the casemate openings represents the remnants of a WW2 Defence Electric Light (DEL) position. Linzey also notes a number of further alterations to the original plan of the Battery including the brick extension to its terreplein, the relocation of the stone steps and alterations to the gorge ditch, and suggests that these changes were probably made *circa* 1868 when the magazine was re-designed. A large water tank set up next to the guardhouse next to the stairs blocked off some of the rifle loops in the adjacent wall, and part of the gorge ditch was infilled when the WW2 shower room was constructed.

The main entrance to the Battery is via a sloping covered way leading to its north-eastern corner, whilst a spiral staircase from the guardroom gave access to the lower level of the Battery. The northern part of this level of the Battery sites its magazine which incorporates the 1868 lighting passage on its northern side. The modified magazine is divided into four rooms connected by a further passage along their southern side, the rooms being (from east to west) an original storeroom which was subsequently converted into a shifting lobby (where the magazine staff changed into spark-proof safety clothing), a shell store, a cartridge store and, connected to this via a hatch, the powder magazine. All have wooden floors.

Condition surveys undertaken in 1999 and 2009 note problems with penetrating damp in various areas of the Battery. This appears to have been a problem since 1861 when the battery was originally constructed.

This, more than any other part of Dartmouth Castle, has witnessed the most changes over the five centuries during which it sited the primary defensive work for the harbour entrance. There have been at least five and possibly six gun batteries on this site, as well as two further phases of re-arming during the 20th century. Little evidence for the early batteries has survived beyond a few scraps of foundation wall external to the mid-19th century Battery and some walling identified by Linzey as likely to be of 18th century date which was incorporated into the build of the 1860 works. Nevertheless, most of the bulwarks and gun batteries constructed on this site are reasonably well documented, particularly those built during recent centuries, allowing the story of the evolution of coastal defence at this site to be understood and explained.

18.7 The Guardhouse **SX 88692 50297**

Location: SX 88692 50297

EH Asset Number: 181-003

Constructed in 1860-61 in carboniferous limestone and small amounts of granite around wall openings together with some brickwork as an integral element of the Commercial Harbour Defence Battery, this guardhouse occupies its north-eastern corner at its upper level. Sixteen loopholes in its walls, most facing northwards over the gorge ditch and the covered way or westwards over the battery terreplein allowed it to be defended from close attack. It was originally internally divided into two rooms, the dividing wall having been removed post 1951. The smaller room with a fireplace and a window overlooking the river was originally accommodation for the battery officer whilst a second larger room – the guardroom – accommodated the other ranks. This had space for a temporary cot large enough for six men, a further fireplace, and a row of three ‘murder holes’ overlooking the entrance, down which fire could be directed onto attackers who had managed to reach the guardhouse door via the walled approach ramp. The guardroom originally incorporated a shell hoist, used to supply the magazine beneath with shells and cartridges, Linzey suggesting that this was moved from one end of the building to the other *circa* 1868 when the magazine layout below was modified, and Walter Fleet’s remembrances of growing up at Dartmouth Point indicate that it was still operational in 1938, when it was used as to transfer floor between the tearoom kitchen sited on the upper floor of the Guardroom and the restaurant area then sited in the Battery.. The asphalted concrete roof of the guardroom is a post WW2 replacement, and incorporates two small original brick-built chimneys.

18.8 The Battery Privies



Location: SX 88634 50236

EH Asset Number 181-017

The former battery garrison toilets consist of a 2.7m high rectangular structure with brick walling and a flat concrete roof sited at the western end of the Battery gorge ditch. This formerly sited three privies –one for the officer, the other two for the men, these discharging to the nearby cliff edge. Only the officer’s privy was originally equipped with a seat. The other ranks were expected to perch on horizontally-set poles. The doorway to the officers’ toilet has been blocked in with brick and this building, for some while used as a store and as a result modified by the partial removal of internal walling, has been now been reinstated as staff toilets.

18.9 Store building SX 88634 50235



Location: SX 88634 50235

EH Asset Number: 181-017

The store building is a small, truncated L-shaped structure, sandwiched between the battery privies and the ticket office. Its front and side walls are built of single skin concrete blockwork, painted externally with modern masonry paint (white). Two air vents in front wall and painted timber louvered door. It has a flat roof, asphalt on a concrete deck.

The store building is on the same level as No 2 expense magazine beneath the ticket office on the terreplain of the mid-19th century battery, being converted to its current purpose from the former No 1 expense magazine. Its rear wall is formed by the old battery wall. The interior was not inspected but it is believed to be stone-paved with surviving granite runners to the Victorian gun emplacement.

18.10 Former WW2 Shower Block SX 88682 50274

Documents consulted by Linzey (1990) indicate that a shower block for the use of the Battery garrison was set up in the Battery gorge ditch during WW2. This feature was demolished following the end of the conflict. The building is depicted in an undated (but probably immediately post-war) photograph of the gorge ditch from the east as having been brick built under a corrugated iron sheet roof.

Criteria	Value	Notes
Survival/Condition	High	Whilst some small fragments of 18 th century battery masonry survive, the majority of the Battery consists of the well-preserved mid-19 th century Harbour Defence works, though with the addition of the 20 th century gunhouse.
Fragility/Vulnerability	Moderate	Elements of this part of the complex are affected by vegetation and water ingress issues.
Rarity	High	The Battery retains elements of its multi-period evolution, and is a rare example of a restored 19 th century harbour defence batter.
Group Value	High	A key element of the Dartmouth Castle complex, both historically and visually.
Diversity	High	Whilst the battery (including its Guardhouse and associated features) is largely mid-19 th century in form, it also incorporates a 20 th century gunhouse. The 19 th century Battery includes the contemporary guardhouse, privies and magazine complex, as well as a pair of RMLs and other artefacts.
Potential	High	The 20 th century gunhouse has the potential for the re-siting of a 4.7" QF gun.
Amenity Value	High	This is one of the principal points at which the history of the defences of Dartmouth Point is interpreted.

19. The Boundary Markers



Designation: Enclosure Castle, Scheduled Monument (NHLE I014610);

The 2nd Edition of the OS 25" to a mile mapping (Figure 16) marks four groups of boundary markers around the castle complex. 'BS W↑D N° 1' is depicted just to the north of the north-western corner of Dartmouth Point Battery, BS^s W↑D N°s 2, 3, 4, 5' were marked to the east of the north-eastern corner of the battery, 'BS^s W↑D N°s 6, 7, 8, 9' were shown just to the east of St. Petrox Church and to the south of the gun tower and 'BS W↑D N°s 10, 11, 12, 13' appear on the mapping at a location to the west of the landing place. These clearly demarcate the area of War Department property at Castle Point, though the line of the western boundary is unclear on this map – it is assumed that it would have followed the eastern wall of the graveyard, then the northern wall of the Church to exclude these areas.

A MoW plan, elevation and section drawing of Dartmouth Battery and Castle (assumed to date from the early 1880s) locates 13 boundary stones.

The Devon HER (Figure 11) records only three of these boundary stones (HER entry MDV74882). However, they are indicated by symbols on the OS Mastermap at the following locations (again running counter-clockwise from the location given by the OS for Boundary Stone N° 1): SX 88668 50272, SX 88683 50279, SX 88681 50289, SX 88678 50291, SX 88666 50300, SX 88664 50305, SX 88665 50309, SX 88668 50314, SX 88614 50342, SX 88610 50334, SX 88619 50327 and SX 88636 50323.

A number of additional boundary markers are indicated on this mapping, those along the western edge of the area being at SX 88617 50296 (outside the public lavatories) and SX 88651 50278 (in the carpark), whilst outside the cliff-edge wall on the eastern side of the site, two additional boundary stones are marked at SX 88680 50294 (to the east of the lighthouse) and SX 88671 50311 (near the Belvedere).

The 1986 Plowman Craven and Associates plan shows the actual positions of the twelve boundary stones marked by the Ordnance Survey *circa* 1908. Again in counter-clockwise order these are:

- A stone built into the stone wall to the north-west of the Battery,
- A stone built into the retaining wall to the south of the Lighthouse and to the north of the north-western corner of the Battery,
- Two closely-set stones built into the curving section of rock face to the east of the north-eastern corner of the Lighthouse;
- A stone built into the wall flanking the path to the north-east of the Lighthouse at the point where a curving section of wall joins a straight section running to the north-west,
- A stone built into the wall flanking the path where the path through the churchyard diverges,

- A stone built into the wall flanking the path just to the north where it turns to the north,
- A stone built into the wall flanking the path just to the north where it turns to the east,
- A stone built into the wall where the path meets the belvedere,
- A free-standing boundary stone at the north-western corner of the landing area,
- A free-standing boundary stone at the south-western corner of the landing area,
- A stone marker set into the wall defining the southern edge of the landing area near its western end.
- A stone set into the south face of the eastern end of the wall which joins the remains of the 14th century castle gateway immediately to the south of the Custodians' hut.

This topographical plan does not record the presence of a boundary stone in the carpark, nor near the public lavatories. The foreshore to the north-west of the Lighthouse was only depicted schematically, and was marked 'inaccessible'; no boundary stone was shown on the foreshore to the south of the Belvedere.

The boundary stones are important reminders that the area of Dartmouth Point under military control has long been an extensive one.

Criteria	Value	Notes
Survival/Condition	High	The majority of the documentary boundary stones survive.
Fragility/Vulnerability	Low	Almost all of the boundary stones are incorporated into masonry walls.
Rarity	Moderate	WD boundary stones survive on other sites in Britain, but these represent a particularly well-preserved group.
Group Value	Moderate	Whilst relatively inconspicuous, the boundary stones are all in publicly visible locations.
Diversity	Low	
Potential	Low	
Amenity Value	Moderate	The boundary stones assist in indicating the area of Dartmouth Point which was formerly under military control.

20. The site of a possible eastern pillbox

SX 88699 50299

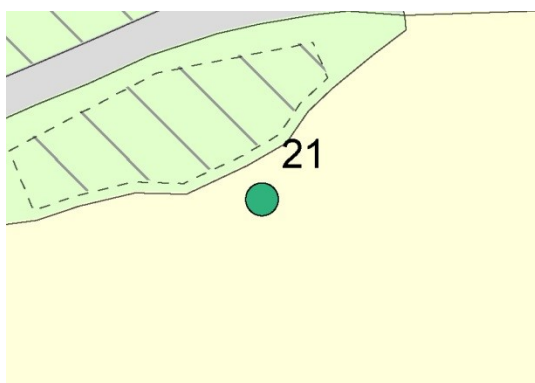


Location: SX 88699 50299

The Devon HER (Figure 11) marks the site of a pillbox on the rocky foreshore to the east of the Lighthouse at this location (MDV39412). This feature, which may be mis-located and representing that formerly sited on the foreshore beneath the north-western gun platform, has been demolished, if it formerly existed at this location. The topographical site plan does record a stone retaining wall 1.3m high at this general location which might represent the north-eastern corner of a foundation plinth for a pillbox, though given a WW2 date, mass concrete would be a more likely construction material for such a structure, and this may be the remains of a feature associated with the Dartmouth swimming club, or with an earlier phase of the battery.

Criteria	Value	Notes
Survival/Condition	Low	A now demolished structure. No significant surviving remains.
Fragility/Vulnerability	Low	Demolished.
Rarity	Low	
Group Value	Low	Demolished.
Diversity	Low	Demolished.
Potential	Low	Demolished.
Amenity Value	Low	Demolished.

21. The Swimmers' Hut



Location: SX 88689 50341 (approximate)

EH Asset Number: part I81-010 and I81-012

Sea swimming became increasingly popular at the end of the 19th century and the Dartmouth Amateur Swimming Club was established around 1893, the rocks above the north side of Castle Cove being made accessible by a vertiginous cliff path incorporating a pair of bridges leading to a changing hut and steps to the beach itself. The geology here is locally unstable, and the cliffs are very exposed to the power of the waves however, and rock falls have, at times, blocked access to the cove, most recently in 1999. Devon County Council undertook repairs in 2006 in response to significant levels of public demand, though the cove remains inaccessible at high tide.

There are only very limited remains of the original bridge foundation stonework, or of the changing hut. Aerial photography undertaken by Devon County Council identified the remains of a concrete feature on the rocky coastal slope to the south of the Battery near the site of the swimmers' hut. This was identified as a WW2 searchlight base associated with Dartmouth Point Battery by Hegarty *et al* (2014).

The establishment of the swimming club facilities in the cove at the end of the 19th century and the pressure placed on South Hams District Council to maintain access to this beach are an important reminder that, despite many centuries of military occupation of Dartmouth Point, this area was also significant to local people for other reasons.

13 BOTANICAL SPECIES LIST RECORDED IN 2015

Common Name	Latin Name,
a dock	<i>Rumex sp.</i>
a willowherb	<i>Epilobium sp.</i>
Annual Meadow-grass	<i>Poa annua</i>
Ash	<i>Fraxinus excelsior</i>
Barren Strawberry	<i>Potentilla sterilis</i>
Beech	<i>Fagus sylvatica</i>
Black Medick	<i>Medicago lupulina</i>
Black Spleenwort	<i>Asplenium adiantum-nigrum</i>
Blackthorn	<i>Prunus spinosa</i>
Bramble	<i>Rubus fruticosus agg.</i>
Broad Buckler-fern	<i>Dryopteris dilatata</i>
Broad-leaved Dock	<i>Rumex obtusifolius</i>
Broad-leaved Willowherb	<i>Epilobium montanum</i>
Buck's-horn Plantain	<i>Plantago coronopus</i>
Bulbous Buttercup	<i>Ranunculus bulbosus</i>
Cherry Laurel	<i>Prunus laurocerasus</i>
Chives	<i>Alium schoenoprasum</i>
Cleavers	<i>Galium aparine</i>
Cock's-foot	<i>Dactylis glomerata</i>
Common bird's-foot-trefoil	<i>Lotus corniculatus</i>
Common Cat's-ear	<i>Hypochaeris radicata</i>
Common Centaury	<i>Centaureum erythraea</i>
Common Knapweed	<i>Centaurea nigra</i>
Common Mouse-ear	<i>Cerastium fontanum</i>
Common Nettle	<i>Urtica dioica</i>
Common Polypody	<i>Polypodium vulgare</i>
Common Ragwort	<i>Senecio jacobaea</i>
Common Sea-lavender	<i>Limonium vulgare</i>
Common Sorrel	<i>Rumex acetosa</i>
Creeping Bent	<i>Agrostis stolonifera</i>
Creeping Buttercup	<i>Ranunculus repens</i>
Cuckoo-flower	<i>Cardamine pratensis</i>
Daisy	<i>Bellis perennis</i>
Dandelion	<i>Taraxacum officinale agg.</i>
Dog Rose	<i>Rosa canina agg.</i>
False Oat-grass	<i>Arrhenatherum elatius</i>
False-brome	<i>Brachypodium sylvaticum</i>
Fennel	<i>Foeniculum vulgare</i>
Field Wood-rush	<i>Luzula campestris</i>
Foxglove	<i>Digitalis purpurea</i>
Germander Speedwell	<i>Veronica chamaedrys</i>
Green Alkanet	<i>Pentaglottis sempervirens</i>
Ground-ivy	<i>Glechoma hederacea</i>
Groundsel	<i>Senecio vulgaris</i>
Hairy Tare	<i>Vicia hirsuta</i>
Hare's-foot Clover	<i>Trifolium arvense</i>
Hart's-tongue Fern	<i>Phyllitis scolopendrium</i>
Hawthorn	<i>Crataegus monogyna</i>

Hazel	<i>Corylus avellana</i>
Hedge Bedstraw	<i>Galium mollugo</i>
Herb Bennet	<i>Geum urbanum</i>
Herb-robert	<i>Geranium robertianum</i>
Hogweed	<i>Heracleum sphondylium</i>
Holm oak	<i>Quercus ilex</i>
Honeysuckle	<i>Lonicera periclymenum</i>
Ivy	<i>Helix hedera</i>
Ivy Broomrape	<i>Orobanche hederæ</i>
Ivy-leaved Toadflax	<i>Cymbalaria muralis</i>
Lady's Bedstraw	<i>Galium verum</i>
Lesser Celandine	<i>Ranunculus ficaria</i>
Lesser Trefoil	<i>Trifolium dubium</i>
Maidenhair Spleenwort	<i>Asplenium trichomanes</i>
Male Fern	<i>Dryopteris filix-mas</i> agg.
Mexican Fleabane	<i>Erigeron karvinskianus</i>
Mind-your-own-business	<i>Soleirolia soleirolii</i>
Navelwort	<i>Umbilicus rupestris</i>
Nipplewort	<i>Lapsana communis</i>
Oxeye Daisy	<i>Leucanthemum vulgare</i>
Pellitory-of-the-Wall	<i>Parietaria judaica</i>
Pendulous Sedge	<i>Carex pendula</i>
Petty Spurge	<i>Euphorbia peplus</i>
Primrose	<i>Primula vulgaris</i>
Red Campion	<i>Silene dioica</i>
Red Clover	<i>Trifolium pratense</i>
Red Fescue	<i>Festuca rubra</i> agg.
Red Valerian	<i>Centranthus ruber</i>
Ribwort Plantain	<i>Plantago lanceolata</i>
Rock Samphire	<i>Crithmum maritimum</i>
Rock Sea-spurrey	<i>Spergularia rupicola</i>
Round-leaved Crane's-bill	<i>Geranium rotundifolium</i>
Salad Burnet	<i>Sanguisorba minor</i>
Sanicle	<i>Sanicula europaea</i>
Scaly Male Fern	<i>Dryopteris affinis</i>
Scarlet Pimpernel	<i>Anagallis arvensis</i>
Sea Beet	<i>Beta vulgaris</i> ssp. <i>maritima</i>
Sea Campion	<i>Silene uniflora</i>
Sea Plantain	<i>Plantago maritima</i>
Selfheal	<i>Prunella vulgaris</i>
Sessile Oak	<i>Quercus petraea</i>
Shining Crane's-bill	<i>Geranium lucidum</i>
Slender St. John's-wort	<i>Hypericum pulchrum</i>
Smooth Cat's-ear	<i>Hypochaeris glabra</i>
Smooth Hawk's-beard	<i>Crepis capillaris</i>
Smooth Sow-thistle	<i>Sonchus oleraceus</i>
Soft Shield-fern	<i>Polystichum setiferum</i>
Southern Polypody	<i>Polypodium cambricum</i>
Spotted Medick	<i>Medicago arabica</i>
Springy turf moss	<i>Rhytidiadelphus squarrosus</i>
Sweet Vernal Grass	<i>Anthoxanthum odoratum</i>

Sycamore	<i>Acer pseudoplatanus</i>
Sycamore	<i>Acer pseudoplatanus</i>
Tall Fescue	<i>Festuca arundinacea</i>
Thrift	<i>Armeria maritima</i>
Thyme-leaved Speedwell	<i>Veronica serpyllifolia</i>
Traveller's Joy	<i>Clematis vitalba</i>
Violet	<i>Viola sp.</i>
Wall Lettuce	<i>Mycelis muralis</i>
Wall-rue	<i>Asplenium ruta-muraria</i>
White Clover	<i>Trifolium repen</i>
White Stonecrop	<i>Sedum album</i>
Wild Cabbage	<i>Brassica oleracea</i>
Wild Carrot	<i>Daucus carota ssp. carota</i>
Wild Madder	<i>Rubia peregrina</i>
Wild Privet	<i>Ligustrum vulgare</i>
Winter Heliotrope	<i>Petasites fragrans</i>
Wood Sage	<i>Teucrium scorodonia</i>
Yarrow	<i>Achillea millefolium</i>
Yorkshire-fog	<i>Holcus lanatus</i>

14 DOCUMENTED CHAIN BOOMTOWER LOCATIONS

- Blackwell Point, Thames Estuary (destroyed);
- Dartmouth Castle, Devon (survives);
- East Cowes, Hampshire (destroyed);
- Fowey – Polruan, Cornwall (survives);
- Gosport Tower, Hampshire (destroyed);
- Great Yarmouth, Norfolk (destroyed);
- Hartlepool, Durham (destroyed);
- Kingston upon Hull, Yorkshire (destroyed);
- Lee Ness, Kent (destroyed) Norwich, Norfolk (survives);
- Penryn, Cornwall (destroyed);
- Plymouth, Devon (destroyed);
- Portsmouth, Hampshire (destroyed);
- Upnor Castle, Kent (survives);
- Dover Port, Kent (destroyed);
- Gravesend, Kent (masonry footings);
- Hamble River, Hampshire (destroyed);
- West Tilbury, Essex (destroyed).

15 DETAILED TIMELINE FOR DARTMOUTH CASTLE

Date	Event
Pre-Conquest	Record of land situate between Stoke Fleming and the Minster within title deed of Little Dartmouth Farm (Discover Dartmouth website).
1192	Early reference to the monastery of St. Peter. Believed to have sited a navigation light. Part of the parish of Stoke Fleming. http://www.parishofdartmouth.co.uk/ The source is a deed between William, son of Stephen of Tunstal, restoring to Richard the Fleming 'all the land of Dertmeta which is above the Wyke and between the monastery of St. Peter and the Stoke'. Discover Dartmouth website.
By the 12 th Century	Chapel on the site later occupied by St. Petrox Church. Davison 2000.
c.1250	The people of Dartmouth begin to be referred to as 'burgesses'. Freeman 1990.
1286	An area at Clifton granted to the Hermits of St. Augustine on which to build an oratory. Freeman 1990.
1327	Dartmouth becomes a Royal Borough. Freeman 1990.
1331	Grant to two priests at St. Petrox. O'Neill 1935. One acre of land at Clifton granted to two Friars of the Hermits of St. Augustine on which to build an 'oratory and dwelling houses'. Probably the same area granted in 1286 for the building of a church, on which work had not yet started. Freeman 1990.
1332	The local Bishop proposed installing two priests at the church, as previously, suggesting that the chapel had been abandoned for some while. Phil Scoble website. Local Mayor contemplating 'the endowment of a chapel at St. Petrox (Church guide).
1333	The Waterbaileywick of the Dart established, giving the Prince of Wales rights to charge dues on anything that floated on it, was moored, beached or anchored on it as well as a toll on cargoes imported or exported, a right to wreck of the sea and of prize ships. Freeman 1990.
1334	Chapel of St. Mary at St. Petrox mentioned. O'Neill 1935. Alternatively named the Chapel of the Virgin Mary. Lysons and Lysons.
Mid 1300s	Foundation of a Chantry dedicated to St. Petrock in the reign of Edward III. Lysons and Lysons.
1336	Edward III commissions Hugh Courtenay and Philip de Columbers to take especial measures for the protection of the town and district on account of rumours of attack by the French. O'Neil 1935 citing Caley and Holbrook 1821, <i>Rymer's Foedera</i> , II, ii, 951.
1340	King Edward grants Dartmouth certain rights, including that to elect a Mayor in return for the provision of two manned ships of 120 tons burden for 40 days a year. Freeman 1990.
1342	Dartmouth's Royal Borough status confirmed. EH 2013.
1346	Mayor of Dartmouth considering building a new chapel at the site of St. Petrock's chapel for the use of the inhabitants of South Town. Phil Scoble website.
c1350-1408	Life of John Hawley, merchant-adventurer and Mayor of Dartmouth (from 1374).
1373	Chaucer in Dartmouth on the King's business; likely to have met Hawley and based his 'Shipman' on Hawley. Davison 2000.
1374	King Edward III instructed John Hawley and other leading citizens of Dartmouth to 'survey and correct all defects in the town and port, fortify the same, array the men of the town and do all other things that may be necessary'. Davison 2000. EH states: 'in consideration of the damage and reproach which might befall the town and Dertemouth and the adjacent country through hostile invasion' to 'survey and correct all defects in the said town and port, fortify the same, array the men

- of the town and do all other things that may be necessary, and arrest all who are rebellious and commit them to prison until the King order otherwise for their punishment; saving always the rights and privileges of the lords of the town*. O'Neill 1935 quoting Cal. Pt. Rolls 1374-7, 32.
- 1377 Richard II again urged Dartmouth to consider its defences. Davison 2000.
- 1381 Review of Dartmouth's defences again recommended. Davison 2000. Reference made to 'the towns and ort of Clyfton Dertemuth Hardnesse, Southton Dertemuth, Kyngeswere and Hardnesse in the tything of Tunstall'. O'Neill 1935.
- 1385 A review of Dartmouth's defences again recommended. Davison 2000.
- 1388 Order by Richard II to the Mayor and bailiffs of Dartmouth for a '*fortalice by the sea at the entrance to that port*' ... '*for the defence of the town and parts adjacent, and of ships of other ports of the realm which put in there ... in consideration of the hurt and peril which might happen to the town in this war by assault of the enemy.*'
- 1388 Order to compel, and if need be to distraint, all men and burgesses who ought to do so, according to the agreement to contribute to the building of a *fortalice by the sea at the entrance of the port...for defence of the town and ports adjacent and of ships...which touch there*. From *Calendar of Close Rolls, Oct. 8, 1388*. <http://www.devonperspectives.co.uk/johhawley.html#fortalice>
- 1388 Fortalice constructed (various sources).
- 1389 Fortalice incomplete when a truce arranged with France. Freeman 1999.
- 1390 Dartmouth given the right to be the sole exporter of tin (in Devon), possibly to provide additional revenues for the construction of the castle. Freeman 1999. This right was annulled in the following year.
- Uncertain Carew family builds house within the fortalice. Davison 2000. The location, extent and lifespan of this building are uncertain. There is only a small area of level land where it could have been sited. It appears to have been subsequently thoroughly demolished and has left no above ground traces. House known as Clifton Mansion. (Heritage Gateway MDV8565)
- 1402 Licence to Crenellate by Henry IV to John Corpe for '*a lodging of his by the entrance of the port of the town for defence against the king's enemies.*' (O'Neil 1936, 136, citing *Cal. Pat. Rolls, 1404-5, 219; Higham 1988, 146*). Possibly Godmerock, but more likely to be a now-demolished house at Paradise Point. Freeman 1999. O'Neill thinks that this is Kingswear Castle or Godmerock tower.
- 1403 William de Chatel lands at Blackpool Sands to attack Dartmouth but was routed by Hawley's forces. EH 2013. O'Neill 1935 and other sources cite 1404 as the date for this battle.
- Godmerock
- 1406 Royal commission renewed.
- 1408 Old castle abandoned after Hawley's death. Salter 1999.
- 1438 Licence granted for the repair of St. Petrox Chapel. EH 2013.
- 1462 Grant from Edward IV to the mayor and burgesses of Dartmouth of £30 yearly for 20 years '*in aid of their expenses in the defence of the borough in chains, boats called cobbellys, anchors, great cords called cables, pulleis, wages of watchmen; and cannons and powder and other habiliments of war [...]*.' (O'Neil 1936, 136, citing *Cal. Pat. Rolls, 1461-7, 75*). **This implies that the chain had been acquired. No indication that building work had started on the chain tower.**
- 1463 Town authorities successfully petitioned to have part of Stoke Fleming parish between the borough and the castle including Southtown incorporated into their administration. EH 2013. **This might well have been to ensure that the castle site was under Dartmouth's jurisdiction.**

- 1463 Galions Boure used as a site from which to keep watch for invaders. O'Neill 1935. O'Neill suggests that this fort was constructed prior to the Civil War, but provides no evidence for this assertion. Russell considers that this was the ridge above the Black Stone, now known as Compass Hill, not the Civil War site of Gallant's Bower fort.
- 1478 Edward IV ordered the defensive chain protecting Fowey harbour (between Fowey and Polruan blockhouses) to be removed and given to Dartmouth Castle. Allegedly this action was taken owing to the misbehaviour of Fowey locals Treffry and Michaelstow. http://castlesfortsbattles.co.uk/dartmouth_castle.html
- 1481 Indenture between Edward IV and the mayor, bailiffs and burgesses of the borough of Clyfton Dertemouth Hardnese regarding the building of '*a strong and mighty and defensive new tower and bulwark of stone and lime adjoining to the castle there*', '*and at all times hereafter shall fortify, repair and keep garnished with guns, artillery, and other ordinances*', '*and also at all times from henceforth for ever shall ordain and find a chain sufficient in length and in strength to stretch and be laid over athwart [...] the mouth of the haven of Dartmouth from the one tower to another tower there at all times necessary.*' (DD 61186a, 1st August 1481). **What happened to the Fowey/Polrun chain, supposedly acquired three years prior? Had it not yet been delivered?** Russell suggests that the work on the round tower started in 1481, but that the work fell into abeyance, and on its resumption in 1488 the square tower was built using superior stone from Charleton. Russell also states that two dozen bows were provided for the garrison around this date.
- 1484 Richard III confirmed the grant and increased it for four years. EH 2013.
- 1486 Indenture between Henry VII and the mayor, bailiff and burgesses, who '*shall in all godly haste [...] possible finish the making of the said tower and bulwark* [thereafter the terms very much as in the 1481 deed, but the sum is increased to £40 per annum]. (DD 61190, 16th January 1486). **Work on the chain tower clearly under way by this date.**
- Indenture between King Henry VII and the commonalty of the borough of Clyfton Dertmouth Hardenesse, otherwise called Dartmouth. The latter having begun, for defence of the town and port, to make a tower and bulwark of stone adjoining the Castle, promise to finish the same as speedily as possible, to furnish and keep it furnished with guns and sufficient ordnance, and to find a chain of sufficient strength and length to stretch across the mouth of Dartmouth haven from one tower to another; the King assigning to them 40l. yearly out of the customs and subsidies levied in the ports of Exeter and Dartmouth. Devon E40/654 Date 1 Hen VII. No chain yet obtained though building work had evidently begun. £40 payment maintained for the next 300 years (Russell).*
- 1486 Henry VII urged Dartmouth to '*find a chain sufficient in length to be laid overthwarte or a travers the mouth of Dartmouth haven from one tower to another*'. EH 2013. **What happened to the one from Fowey/Polruan? Still not yet delivered?**
- 1487-8 Payments for 5 great barges of Charleton stone [slate] for work at the Castle: £6 16s 6d (DD 61199a, Mayor's account 1487-88). **This represents ongoing building work on the chain tower.**
- 1488 Thomas Gale, Mayor of Dartmouth paid £14 for two small calibre 'murderers' and £4 for securing them to wooden beds. EH 2103. **These to defend the chain. Note only two guns at this stage.**
- 1490-91 Payments for 'coblis' [a cobble: a small, flat-bottomed fishing boat] '*to bear the chains for four months*' (£9 12s), as well as references to Kingswear ('a bulwark begun on the Kingswear side for the defence of the port: £40'), plus details of winding gear, cables, hawser, etc. (DD 61199a, Mayor's account 1490-91). **Chain evidently in place by this date.**
- 1491-2 Payments for cobbles to bear the chains for four and a half months (£10 16s), plus £8 10s in payment for '*one of the same cobbles that was lost in a storm in the same year*'. Also payments for '*hooks and forks for the chains*' (16s 8d); for a winding cable (36s); and a hawser to '*haul*

- over the cobbles' (12s). (DD 61199a, Mayor's account 1491-92)
- 1491 Guns supplied by the Tower of London included 12 serpentynes, costing £8. The Mayor, William Fokeray also paid for a bulwark at Kingswear. EH 2013. **Serpentynes were hand guns – matchlocks – the serpentine being the S-shaped arm that lowered the match onto the powder. These were defensive weapons.**
- 1491, 1492 Four watchmen employed, chain maintained. Sebire 2009.
- 1491-1502 Kingswear Castle constructed.
- By 1492 Dartmouth Castle armed with four large 'murderers' and twelve 'serpentynes'. Davison 2000. **Murderers were breech-loading swivel guns. Although inefficient they were capable of rapid rates of fire.**
- 1492-3 Payments for nine 'great beams for the square tower' (£3 10s); ten dozen 'Traunsons' [transoms or joists: Salzman 1952, 215] (£3 10s); plus roofing materials for the same tower, including five fother of lead to the value of £23 6s 8d (DD 61199a, Mayor's account 1492-93). **Building work evidently still ongoing on the upper section of the square tower. A fother was a short ton, weighing between 19.5 and 22.5 cwt (around a metric tonne).**
- 1493-4 Payments for 'three great lighters of Charleton stone for making of the garrets [battlements]' (£3 6s); for six beams in the Round Tower (30s), a 'master beam' (13s 4d) and for six dozen 'traunsons' [see above] (42s). Also for 5 boats of Cornworthy stone [limestone] (31s 8d); four fother of lead for the Round Tower (£18 13s 4d) (DD 61199a, Mayor's account 1493-94). **Almost certainly the final roofing works for the round tower.**
- 1501-2 Considerable expenditure on payments relating to guns for the Round Tower: purchase, manufacture of stocks, etc.; payments for bells for the castles of Dartmouth and Kingswear (DD 61249a, Mayor's account, 1501-02). **This is the only mention of a bell. Was this used to warn Dartmouth of an impending attack?**
- 1502 Round tower completed. Davison 2000. **Is this correct?**
- 1501-2, 1502-3 Payments for building the Castle of Kingswear of £33 11s 6d and £35 19s 5½d respectively (DD 61249a, Mayor's account, 1501-02, ff. 1; 2v). According to Russell, brass guns rather than iron ones were used here as it was so open to the elements that iron ones would corrode badly.
- 1501-3 £64 9s spent on defences, including stone from Charleton and Cornworthy. EH 2013. **Uncertain where this work was done, as the tower should have been complete by this date.**
- 1509-47 Chain tower converted to take artillery (Sebire 2009).
- 1510 Henry VIII confirms arrangement of Henry VII to construct a bulwark, probably the first at Dartmouth Point. EH 2013.
- 1510 Waterbaileywick of Dartmouth leased to the town by Henry VIII, allowing them to charge 'petty customs' on all goods shipped in or out from points between the Kingsbridge Estuary and Torbay. Freeman 1990.
- 1509-10 Bearscove possibly the structure mentioned in this year in an indenture between Henry VIII and the bailiff of Dartmouth for a tower to be built and furnished with artillery to protect the harbour mouth.
- 1522 General description of the defences by the Earl of Surrey for Henry VIII. 'At the entry to Dartmouth Haven there is a blockhouse of stone, with an old castle on the same side and another old castle on the other side, besides another blockhouse and a chain ready to be laid.' (O'Neil 1936, 143). This reference presumably implies a blockhouse at Godmerock by this date. **Does this imply that the chain is in position and ready to be raised, or that another chain is ready for installation? It also suggests that there is a bulwark at**

Dartmouth Point.

- 1522 Carew's refurbished Clifton Mansion, but used it only intermittently. Russell. Freeman suggests this as the approximate building date for the Mansion.
- 1522-36 Bayard's Cove fort built. EH 2013. Otherwise known as Bear's Cove, Basco and Best Love.
- 1539-1544 North and South gun platforms added. Davison 2000.
- 1539 Leland describes the old castle as deserted. (Saunders)
- 1540 Bulwark constructed at Dartmouth – Lord John Russell's examination of the coastal defences. O'Neill 1935. Possibly Bearscove Fort?
- 1540 Henry VIII's Great Map of the West showing extant and planned coastal defences, now in the British Library, shows the castle as a triangular enclosure with mural towers, and a large tower on the water line possibly representing the Gun Tower. The chain is shown in place, with Godmerock Fort on the opposite bank. Kingswear Castle is shown as a ruin (possibly confusing it with Godmerock?), or as incomplete. Some of the other fortifications shown on the map were planned rather than built, including the blockhouses shown at Slapton and Blackpool Sands to the west, and that on the western side of the harbour entrance, these being marked 'Not Made'. No battery is shown immediately to the south of Dartmouth Castle at this date. BL Cotton ms Augustus I: i. 35-9; redrawn and published by Lysons and Lysons, 1822, 155; see also Russell 1950, frontispiece and Saunders 1995, 19.
- c1540 Leland's description '*There be 2 towers at the haven mouth and a chaine to draw over; one of those towers standeth by Sir George Carew's Castle called Stoke Fleming at [the haven mouth]*' (Toulmin Smith 1907, 221). **Suggests that the chain was stored on one bank and not left on the seabed and then raised. Dartmouth Castle at the time called Stoke Fleming Castle as it was at the time in that parish.**
- 1540 Cromwell noted money spent on newly-built Dartmouth blockhouses. This may possibly represent repair and re-armament works. EH 2013. **Which blockhouses are these? Is this the refurbishment of Lambert's Bulwark?**
- 1545 Bulwark rebuilt and became known as Lamberd's Bulwark. EH 2013.
- 1545-6 Mention of Lamberd's Bulwark by name (DD 61355, Receiver's account 1545-46; also in 1598: DD 61619, Receiver's account 1598).
- 1547 Confirmation by Edward VI of indenture between Henry VII and the Mayor, bailiffs and burgesses and the £40 annual grant (DD 61377, dated 8th August 1547).
- 1547 Sebire suggests this date represents the completion of modifications to the gun tower.
- 1552 Sir Peter Carew seized the castle from the borough. EH 2013.
- 1554 Carew fled into exile when accused of being a traitor. EH 2013.
- 1556 Carew returned from exile. His property in Dartmouth was returned to him. EH 2013.
- 1567 Floor level in base of round tower lowered, either for additional storage or so that guns could be better used. (Saunders)
- 1569 Thomas Southcote of Shillingford inherited Clifton Mansion. Russell.
- 1575 Carew dies without issue. His estate passes to the Southcotes (Sowthcoates). EH 2013.
- 1574 First mention of Bearscove Castle in a lease.
- 1583 Enquiry into the payment of £40/annum from customs taxes to Dartmouth for defensive works.
- 1583 Works being undertaken on the New Castle (Bearscove).
- 1583 Mention of lime, mason's wages, mending the bridge, timber for the bridge, bricks near the bridge, rails for the bridge and work upon the wall by the castle. O'Neill 1935. Suggested

- that this meant that the gate tower had collapsed – this is likely to have been over the chasm – some archaeological traces
- 1588 Spanish Armada. Local force of 800 men raised but no work undertaken on to the town's defences. Davison 2000.
- 1590 Godmerock described as 'a toft and all the walls called old castelle' Russell P. and Yorke G 1953. Platform downslope for the chain. Later used as a battery, probably ruined in 1643. Polygonal in plan. Pastscape describes it as a medieval fortified house. Mentioned in grants of 1481 and 1486, may be older. Saunders considers that Godmerock was John Corpe's house, crenellated in 1404.
- 1594 Payments '*for staples and iron work for the castle at Bearescewe*', the first specific mention by name of Bearescove (Bayard's Cove) Castle of c.1530 (above) (DD 61597, Receiver's account 1594), although it has been referred to in earlier documents as the 'New Castle' (e.g. DD 61461, p. 70; 25th October 1583).
- 1596 Details of the operation of the chain are discernible through several payments this year: '*paid for making of buoys for the chains, 6d; paid Robert Phillipott for a windlass and a davit for the chain: 10s; paid Walter Miller for links and other things for the chain: £5 19s 8d; paid for Mr Ley for iron work for the chains: £4 15s 3d.*' (DD 61609, Receiver's account 29th September 1596). **Chain and windlass repaired.**
- 1596/7 The gate tower was reported as having collapsed into the 'chasm'. A new bridge was constructed. O'Neill 1935. **Assume that this is part of the old fortalice, which suggests that the gatehouse was immediately adjacent to the 'chasm' where the bridge to the north of the gun tower now is.** Russel says this was when the Mayor's Bridge was set up. See also 1583.
- 1597 Four large openings in the square tower made for heavy guns. Bridge to Castle repaired. Guns at Lambert's Bulwark refurbished. Davison 2000. **This suggests that new guns were to be installed to cover the chain boom.** Saunders says three new gun ports, as does Salter 1999.
- 1598 Lord Thomas Howard allocates captured guns to Dartmouth. EH 2013.
- 1599 Mention of a 'farther bulwark' or 'farther castle' in payments relating to building a cob wall there and relating to guns there (DD 61627, Receiver's account 1599); possibly the same as Lamberd's Bulwark, as the description would fit).
- 1599 Lamberd's Bulwark described as being an earth bastion armed with six or eight pieces of artillery by Hortensio Spinola, a Spanish spy. Sebire 2009. The gun tower had 24 pieces and 50 men. Another earth bastion (near Warfleet) had six further pieces. EH 2010. O'Neill states: *Thence I went to Dartmouth, a large port for 600 vessels, and at low tide five yards of water; at the entrance bastion of earth with six or eight pieces of artillery; further in, a Castle, with 24 pieces and 50 men; and then another earth bastion, with six pieces. The place is large, but not walled, the mountains serving for walls; the people are warlike ...* Earth bastion beyond the castle likely to have been Paradise Fort or possibly Bearescove Castle.
- 1599 Repairs undertaken to the great chain on account of the danger of the Spanish Armada. Russell. A 'newe waye' constructed to Lamberd's Bulwark by 'pyoners' – **does this date the Belvedere?** Russell.
- 1599 The Lord Lieutenant of Devon orders 3000 men of local regiments to remain at Dartmouth, Totnes and Torbay against the feared invasion. EH 2013.
- 1601 George Sowthcote noted as the lessee of Dartmouth Castle
- 17th century Map of Dartmouth shows harbour chain. EH 2013.
- 1605-6 'For wood for a bonfire on Beskew [Bearescove] the 5th of Nove[m]ber last: 2s 7d' (DD 61730, Receiver's account 1605-06, f. 4v). This must represent one of the earliest documentary references to a November 5th bonfire, as it refers to the bonfires that were

ordered to be lit in London, but presumably also elsewhere, to celebrate the King's deliverance from the plotters on 5th November 1605 (Nicholls 2004, 193).

- 1619 Payments for 'men and women for filling Kingswear Castle with earth: 12s' perhaps for use as a gun battery, as there are later references to 'carrying over [gun] carriages' (DD 61948, Receiver's account 1618-19; see also 1622, below).
- 1622 Mention of '14 Irish beams' used at Kingswear Castle provides interesting evidence of the use of imported timber at this date ('Irish beams for carriages' are also mentioned in the receiver's account for 1626-27: DD 622219, f. 7). Payments for 'ripping down Kingswear Castle and throwing out of the earth at 14d per day: 6s 5d' presumably relate to the removal of the earth described in 1619, see above (DD 62050, Receiver's account 1621-22, f. 4v-5).
- 1625 Dartmouth and other local ports ask the Crown for ships to protect their merchant and fishing boats against a fleet of Sallee pirate ships. EH 2013.
- 1626 Mayor of Dartmouth requested additional guns. EH 2013.
- 1626 £42 spent on repairs to the chain. Russell.
- 1627 George Carew, Earl of Totnes requests six 9lb demi-culverins and four 6lb sakers. The Mayor of Dartmouth warned the Council that the castle and fort could not defend the whole town. Temporary defences built, chain repaired. Further guns requested. No record of a response. EH 2013. O'Neil states that the guns were supplied in 1628. **Chain repaired and temporary defences built.**
- 1627 Chain had been repaired. O'Neill 1935.
- 1628 Additional guns supplied to Dartmouth Castle. See above 1626.
- 1630 Repairs to the castle and the construction of a powder house are documented; mention of an 'artillery yard' (DD 62394, Receiver's account 1629-30, ff.5-9). **Locations uncertain.**
- 1637 Payments for rendering ('rowcasting') the castle and, by implication, Kingswear Castle as well: 'For six hogsheads of lime more for rowcasting the Castle at St Patrix [sic] at 3s 4d hogshead: £1; for 5 hogsheads of lime for Kingswear Castle at 3s 4d the hogshead is: 16s 8d.' (DD 62674, Receiver's account 1637, ff. 3-4).
- 1636-1641 St. Petrox Chapel rebuilt as a three-aisled church, graveyard extended, pedestrian access to the Chapel blocked up. Davison 2000. **Why this major reconstruction? Was Clifton Mansion overbuilt at this date?** 20 foot spire added plus two side aisles.
- 1642 Outbreak of the English Civil War. Corporation accounts include an item 'for carrying the Chain to the old Castle 2/-'. O'Neill 1935 Other expenses included works at Paradise Fort, dismounting guns at the Bulwark, three muskets for the castle. Church used as a provision store (Church guide). Clifton Mansion used as a barracks. Russell.
- 1642-3 Mention of the building of 'the small fort Paradise', also called Mount Paradise; sums of money granted and lent by individuals towards the cost (DD 62701, ff. 2; 4; 62707, f.1). Also payments for work on the chain: 'for the mending of the chain of the castle, the smith putting in 141 new links containing 21C 10lb [...]: £35. (DD 62701, f.34). **Major repairs to the chain.**
- 1643 Kingswear Castle abandoned as a defensive work for the harbour entrance. Russell states that Kingswear Castle was repaired against Royalist attack at this date. St. Petrox tower 'prepared for defence'.
- 1643 Last reference to the chain boom when 141 links replaced during the Civil War. Davison 2000. See above 1642.
- 1643 Dartmouth captured by Royalist forces under Prince Maurice. Davison 2000. Gallant's Bower constructed, as well as Mount Ridley. Clifton Mansion burnt or otherwise damaged during the Royalist occupation. Six gun battery mounted on its site. Russell. **Only mention of this possibly additional battery.**

- 1644 Placing of four pieces of ordnance 'betwixt Kingswear Castle and Godmerock', possible reference to the breastwork there; also mention of four guns 'next the chain' (potentially at the Godmerock end of the chain, i.e. at the blockhouse?). Russell thought that this represented a new battery to cover the east end of the boom (Russell 1950, 115. quoting *HMC: Duke of Somerset's papers*). But could these be the four openings in the gun tower which are considered additions?
- 1644 Royalists maintained a garrison of 500 men at Dartmouth, using the castle and adjoining buildings as a citadel. Russell. Southcote Clifton Mansion ruined. The 'Great Chain' was not available, and a boom was constructed of booms and masts. A four gun battery set up below Godmerock to cover one end of the boom, and guns mounted at One Gun Point. Russell quoting Duke of Somerset's papers.
- 1645 Gallant's Bower and Kingswear Redoubt constructed. Russell.
- 1646 Contemporary broadsheet report of the taking of Dartmouth by Parliamentary forces, 23rd January 1645/46: '*we became masters of the whole town, and then of Tunstal Mount and Church, Mount Boon, Mount Paradise, and the old Castle, in which castle were five great iron guns, which command the river.*' (1392M L1645/36; cf. also Adams 1900, 507-9). **Five large guns at Dartmouth Castle at this date.**
- 1646 Gallants Bower slighted by Parliamentary forces. Salter 1999.
- 1650 Mention of a governor of Dartmouth. O'Neill 1935. Sir John Fowell had command of the Castle and two blockhouses.
- 1650 Order for the fort at Dartmouth (Gallants Bower) to be demolished, but the two blockhouses to be repaired and fully manned (minute of the Council of State; Watts 1997, 7, quoting *Cal. State Papers (Domestic)*, 6th May 1650). The fort was Gallant's Bower, Bearscove Castle and Paradise Fort being the blockhouses. O'Neill 1935.
- 1660 The Mayor and corporation allowed to keep control of the old gun tower and harbour chain along with the £40 subsidy. Lamberd's Bulwark remained under the control of the King's Government. **This seems to imply that the chain was still in existence but that the battery was considered to be the most important element of the harbour defences.**
- 1662 Journal description and drawings of Dartmouth by Willem Schellinks, who stayed for four days at with Sir Thomas Boone at Mount Boone 5th-8th August 1662 (Exwood and Lehmann 1993, 113-4; Hulton 1959, 36-7 and pls 34-35). Schellinks' drawings are not overly informative for the castle, as the drawing 'from the sea' is taken from the south shore of Warfleet, upstream of the castle (Hulton 1959, pl. 34) and that looking in the opposite direction necessarily shows the castle in the background (*ibid.*, pl. 35). This does show the western curtain wall standing from apex to shore, however, and is also valuable for the general setting of the castle, showing the Kingswear Redoubt and Gallants Bower atop their respective hills.
- 1662 Dartmouth's defensive complement of soldiers included a overnor (Sir John Fowell), a sergeant, a (master) gunner, a matross (under gunner), 18 musketeers and a boatman. EH 2013.
- By 1666 Garrison funded by money from shipping captured during the Second Dutch War (1665-7). EH 2013.
- 1667 Sir Bernard de Gomme (the Crown's chief military engineer) oversees Dartmouth's defences. 160 heavy guns mounted in the castles and town, cavalry and infantry billeted in the town. EH 2013. **This is a very large number of guns.**
- 1667 Gun tower parapet raised and gun ports inserted into the north and south walls of the square tower. O'Neill 1935. **Possibly an intention to mount artillery on the top of the square tower?**

- 1667 Dartmouth reported as being 'well fortified' by the Earl of Bath. O'Neil 1935.
- 1671 Charles II visits Dartmouth and improvements to defences ordered. Davison 2000.
- 1672-4 Hostilities resumed with the Dutch. Garrison increased. EH 2013.
- 1672 Order signed by the King for an additional blockhouse or fort at Dartmouth. O'Neill 1935 Cal. State Pap. Dom 1671-2, 186
- 1677 Sir Edward Seymour appointed as '*captain and governor of the castles and blockhouse in the town and port of Dartmouth, with one sergeant, one gunner, one matrosse, eighteen soldiers and one boatman as the permanent garrison thereof*'. He held the post until his death in 1688. O'Neill 1935.
- 1688 Nicholas Roope appointed governor. O'Neill 1935.
- 1688-97 Nine Years War. Garrison maintained. EH 2013.
- 1690 Lamberd's Bulwark rebuilt in stone in response to a threat from the Dutch and provided with a new guardhouse and magazine. Sebire 2009. Nine heavy guns emplaced facing out to sea and three controlling the harbour entrance. Davison 2000. Still an open battery.
- 1692 Saunders mentions a large battery opposite the Blackstone (WHERE?) and another above Sugary Cove, near the castle.
- 1701-14 War of the Spanish Succession. Dartmouth request Crown to repair the castle and blockhouses and return the garrison. Crown asks what the town is doing with their £40 a year. Defences re-activated until Treaty of Utrecht in 1713. This was followed by defence cuts. EH 2013.
- 1703 Mayor and bailiffs of the town complain that the Castle and platforms at the mouth of the river have been neglected since the late peace with France. O'Neill 1935.
- 1714-15 Reference to the condition of the castle and blockhouse, which the town was obliged by contract to keep in repair in consideration of the £40 yearly paid by the Treasury [since 1486, q.v.], also mention of '*part of an iron chain that was formerly made to reach over the harbour from Dartmouth to Kingswear Castle, about four tunn in weight whereof [survived ...]*' (*Calendar of Treasury Papers 1714-1719* (PRO 1883), 86). **4/5 of the chain survived.**
- c1715 Survey of the castle, general map of Dartmouth Haven, and panoramic view of the mouth of the Dart, pen and ink and wash drawing by Col Christian Lilly, entitled: '*A Plan of Dartmouth Castle and the adjacent fortifications By Coll Christian Lilly of his Majesties Ingeniers*' (Bodleian Library Gough Maps volume 5, fo. 37). Very similar in composition to the plan of 1741 (below) and clearly its progenitor, although differing in small details (author's notes of visit to Bodleian Library, 18.vi.1999). Lilly (1685-1738) was a noted military engineer and surveyor, who initially examined and surveyed the defences of the south-west in 1715, in the process producing plans of Portland, Dartmouth, Plymouth, Falmouth and the Isles of Scilly. These were thought so successful their format was generally adopted and Lilly was appointed engineer in charge of the Plymouth Division (from Portland to Scilly), a post he held from 1715-19 (Vetch 2004, 792; Stuart 1991, 105; 188).
- Lily noted that the castle was in a *ruinous condition*' having '*not one gun mounted, no more than 20ft left of its chain, and no governor, nor so much as a master gunner or any other proper officer*'. EH2013.
- 1717 Mention of '*a hole in the rock yet remaining for the chain near Goodman's Ruins*' by Col Christian Lily (Russell 1950, 53-4 [citing BL King's mss 45, f. 51.]; cf. also Higham 1987, 45 [n.54]). This would have been the fixed end of the chain. Uncertain as to how this end of the chain was defended.
- 1717 Survey of Dartmouth's defences find that only one of its 58 guns had a serviceable carriage, whilst only 20 feet of the harbour chain could be found. Davison 2000. **If this is the 4 tons of chain noted in 1714/15 then the chain would seem to have weighed 4 cwt/foot, 60k/m, which suggests that it would have been a monster, and**

almost impossible to support on a series of cobbles. However, the 1642-3 account notes that 141 new links contained 21C 10lb iron = 2,362lb (just over a ton – 2,240lb) = 16.75lb/link. The total distance from shore to shore is 236m = just under 650 feet. Assuming that the links were one foot long, the repairs represented about one fifth of its length. The 4 tons of chain would have represented 80% of its length and the whole chain would have weighed about five tons, and contained about 700 links. The reported 20 feet of chain would have weighed about 335lb. This suggests that the chain was not particularly massive, and that quite a bit of it had disappeared in between the two dates. It also indicates that the chain was by this date no longer viewed as an important part of the harbour defences.

- 1717 Soon afterwards the site of Clifton Mansion was being used as a parade ground. Russell. **This strongly suggests a level area – probably that now occupied by the carpark.**
- 1720 Colonel George Treby appointed Governor. O’Neill 1935
- By 1725 A governor, a master gunner and two assistants in place looking after 18 heavy guns. Gun tower used for accommodation and storage. EH 2013.
- 1727 Colonel George Grove appointed Governor.
- 1729 Lt General Thomas Panter to be appointed Governor of the Castle
- 1734 Engraving by Samuel and Nathaniel Buck of the castle and the haven mouth (Somers Cocks 1977, no. 497). A splendid engraving and one of the very few (of more than 35 listed in Somers Cocks’ catalogue) to have any merit as an architectural record. Shows Godmerock Fort as a ruin on the east bank (but nothing low down near the water line in the position occupied by the block house). On the west bank, the Old Castle and St Petrox are shown with a continuous crenellated wall linking the gun tower to the battery (presumably, by this time the ‘Maiden Fort’, above). **This dates the linking wall.** The gable end of a building, presumably the ‘guard house’ as shown on the plan of 1740, O’Neil 1936, pl. 33) appears above the parapet of the ‘Maiden Fort’. Also shown, in rather shadowy form, are the remains of the curtain wall and corner tower of the 14th century castle further up the slope. The Bucks were careful observers (for recent assessments of their accuracy and working methods see Blaylock 1998, 3; *idem* 2004, 16-17), and details can probably be trusted. Thus it is of interest to note that they apparently show three gunports in the curtain wall of the south gun platform, with a crenellated parapet above.
- 1740 ‘Plan of Dartmouth Castle, 1740’ by T. Peckham junior; endorsed by the Board of Ordnance, and with a reference (Z4/33); now said to be in the Public Record Office (PRO), although precise reference cannot be found (see below, 1751). Published by O’Neil (1936, pl. 33; see also Ravenhill and Rowe 2002, 163-4 [4/4/3]); said (along with the plans of 1741 and 1751, below) to have been prepared in connection with the remodelling of the Maiden Fort battery (*ibid.*, 133). Shows 12 embrasures.
- 1740 Plan (that referred to above) shows the line of curtain wall of the fortalice extending down to a round tower immediately to the west of the ‘zawn’ at the northern end of the north battery adjacent to the gun tower. The plan has the following key: A. The Castle which is two Storeys high with a platform at top covered with lead. B. A Breastwork with Embrasures C. a Wall with portholes? D. The Entrance to the Castle. E. A Battery called the Maiden Fort. F. A Guard House. GG. A line of line of Communications between the Castle and Maiden Fort. H. Escarp of Masonry. I. St Petrock’s Church. K. A Green Spot of Ground near equal height with the Castle and the Church where formerly guns were placed. L. An old round wall which in former ages was part of the Enclosure of a Gentleman’s House M. A Hill which commands the Castle.
- 1741 ‘A Plan of Dartmouth Castle and the adjacent fortifications, 1741’, anonymous, though based on the 1740 plan; coupled with a panoramic ‘prospect’ of the harbour entrance and a general plan of the harbour; endorsed by the Board of Ordnance, but without a reference;

now said to be in the Public Record Office (PRO), although precise reference cannot be found (see below, 1751). Published by O'Neil (1936, pl. 34 see also Ravenhill and Rowe 2002, 163-4 [4/4/3]). This adds to the key above: *N. Goodman's ruins. O. A rock to which formerly one end of a chain of about 720 feet long was fastened which went from the Castle cross the harbour's mouth to hinder ships from forcing their way in. P. The town of Dartmouth. Q. Ruins of Field Forts built in the time of the Civil War.*

- 1741 Maiden Fort strengthened and its guns reduced from nine to six. Davison 2000. Plan of 1741 (above) shows six substantial embrasures facing seaward only.
- 1741 Only the castle fortified, most guns mounted in Maiden Fort, an open battery of 12 guns with a guardhouse. EH 2013. **Date probably wrong.**
- 1745 Plan of Dartmouth Castle with a design to improve the principal battery. *Devon maps and map makers: manuscript maps before 1840*, Vol 1 Ed Ravenhill and Rowe, New Series Vol 43, Devon and Cornwall Record Society
- 1747 Maiden Fort remodelled as a two tier stone battery for 12 guns. Sebire 2009. New work renamed the Grand Battery. Old gun tower used for accommodation and storage, renamed Castle House, maintained by the Borough Corporation, who still enjoyed the £40 annual subsidy. Several short-range guns mounted on the small batteries flanking the gun tower. Davison 2000.
- 1751 Plan of Dartmouth Castle, 1751', anonymous; based on the 1740 plan, although showing the rebuilt 'Grand Battery with two tiers of cannon, built in the year 1747'. Endorsed by the Board of Ordnance, and with a reference (Z4/34); now said to be in the Public Record Office (PRO), although the precise reference cannot be found ('present location unknown': Erskine 1992, fig 15.2b). Published by O'Neil (1936, pl. 35; and Edwards 1998, 10-11 see also Ravenhill and Rowe 2002, 163-4 [4/4/3]). The key reads: *A. The Castle House kept in repair by the Corporation of Dartmouth. B. A Breastwork with Embrasures. C. A Wall with Portholes. D. The Entrance to the Castle. E. The Grand Battery with two tier of Cannon built in the year 1747. F. A Line of Communication between the Castle and the Grand Battery. G. St. Petrock's Church. H. A Green spot of Ground of near equal height with the Castle and the Church where formerly Guns were planted. I an old ruined wall which in former ages was part of the Enclosure to a Gentleman's House. K. A Hill which commands the Castle.* Again, this plan shows the fortalice wall being continuous to the north and shows a round corner tower in the north eastern corner.
- 1753 Robert Grylls appointed Governor.
- Arthur Holdsworth appointed governor and Fort Major. Succeeded by his son Arthur in 1760, his son Arthur in 1777, his son Arthur in 1787 and his son Arthur in 1807-1857. O'Neill 1935.
- 1773 Lead plaque records repair works undertaken by Arthur Holdsworth, Governor of Dartmouth Castle. Probably dates the re-leading of the roof. Davison 2000.
- 1760 Tomkins painting of Dartmouth Castle from the Kingswear bank of the estuary (in Dunster Castle, NT collection).
- 1779 American War of Independence. 'At the beginning of June 1779, the Board of Ordnance warned all commanders of coast defences on the south and east coast to be in readiness. At Hastings, Seaford, Newhaven and Brighton many of the wooden gun carriages had rotted, and gunpowder was suspect. Matters were better further west but the bores of the 6 pounder battery at Dartmouth were much damaged from having been exposed to the sea spray for 20 years past!' Saunders p123.
- 1787 Thomas Blomefield, Inspector of Royal Artillery report to the Master General of the Board of Ordnance. *8x serviceable 18lb, 2 requiring repair, 2 x defective 3lb. Lower battery 6 x 12lb, upper battery 6 x 6lb. The guns are very old and appear unserviceable, and the carriages are quite rotten. There are also six old 3lb mounted here which are used to bring ships to collect the port duties. Last Christmas there were ten 18lb sent here for an intended new battery. Both them and the carriages want painting. It is proposed to remove the old guns and carriages to Plymouth, except two*

of the 3lb, and to mount two of the new 18 pdrs on the lower battery. The remainder of the guns to be dismantled and skidded and their carriages housed in sheds which must be built for that purpose against the wall in the rear of the lower battery.

- 1788 Death of John Hardy, former Governor of Dartmouth Castle
- 1790 Watercolour showing the Castle and the new Grand Battery. EH 2013. BL Shelfmark K top Vol 11, item number 67d
- 1790 Watercolour showing Dartmouth Castle, the harbour entrance and St Petrox Church from the north. The church had a spire at this date. Somewhat inaccurate. British Library Shelfmark K Top Vol 11, item No 67e
- 1794 Painting of Dartmouth Castle by Paul Sandby.
- 1798 Dartmouth Corps of Volunteer Artillery formed – up to 100 volunteers who practiced with ten 18lb guns at the castle. EH 2013.
- 1803 ‘Seaton had a few guns, but the Berry Head batteries and Dartmouth were well equipped.’ Saunders p137.
- c1800 Part of square tower used as a guardroom, in later years a coal store, upper room as a common hall and possibly kitchen. This room later divided into three; round tower converted to a gunpowder store and 1st floor into living quarters. (Sebire 2009).
- 1810 Reinagle engraving of Dartmouth Castle from the north-east. V&A Collection.
- 1811 Lt. General Mercer’s inspection of the battery.
- 1817 Proposed to dismantle the battery, which contained 10 x 18pdr and 2 x 3pdr.
- By 1820 Only two 3pdr guns in the Grand Battery, with ten 18pdr in store. Davison 2000.
- 1822 Lysons Magna Britannica reports that remains of Clifton Mansion still survived. *The ruins of a mansion behind St. Petrock’s Church.* Heritage Gateway. **Seems unlikely as by 1717 its location was being used as a parade ground. Probably refers to the 14th century curtain wall and towers.**
- 1824 Turner painting of Dartmouth Castle from the north. Engraving of Dartmouth Castle after Turner. NAR.
- 1825 Engraving of Dartmouth Castle after Samuel Prout (1783-1852). NAR.
- 1828 End of the £40/year customs payment for Dartmouth Castle. Salter 1999.
- 1831 Following the construction of the Chapel of Ease at St. Barnabas, St. Petrock’s fell out of use. Phil Scoble website.
- 1835 Creighton’s map of Dartmouth refers to St. Petrox Battery
- 1836 Application to place a navigation light in the turret of Dartmouth Castle, then occupied by the Master Gunner of the Castle.
- 1836 Stanfield painting of a sailing boat approaching the harbour in stormy weather.
- 1838 St. Petrox given parish status. EH 2013.
- c1840 Tithe map shows double row of embrasures within the battery. Access to the castle shown as via a narrow track. Full extent of the western wall of the fortalice is shown, though no towers – boundaries rather schematic. Small structures on the northern terrace (quays) and near site of modern toilets. Apportionment gives the following: 565, 566, 567, 570 – owned by the Government and occupied by the Board of Ordnance, 565 – Court and storehouse, 566 – Quay and storehouses, 567 – Castle and Court, 570 – Garrison ramparts and storehouses; 568-9 occupied by Rev. Francis Walters, 568 – St Petrox Church and Yard, 569 – Higher Churchyard; 571 owned and occupied by Sir John Henry Seale Baronet – Old Castle Waste. 564 and 565 Anges Garden, vegetables, Sir John Henry Seale Bt, occ himself; 560 Castle Wood, timber and waste, SJHS; 575 Castle Field arable and

	waste, 559 Prinne Plot arable, Peter Luckcraft, SJHS; 573 Folly Field, garden, 574 Garden, vegetables, 572, garden, vegetables, John Crixton, SJHS.
1845-54 or perhaps 1864	Gun tower turret sited a navigation light – master gunner paid £20 a year by the town council, using money granted by the local MP. EH 2013.
1847-8 and 1851-2	Only a master gunner in post, looking after ten 18lb and two 3lb guns, living in the old gun tower. Officially there was accommodation for an officer and 20 men, if needed. EH 2013.
1855	Kingswear Castle rebuilt as a country house for Mr. Seale Hayne, having fallen into ruins. Davison 2000.
1855	Strong round tower at Paradise Point on the northern side of Warfleet demolished to make way for a house called Ravensbury (Saunders and Russell).
1856	Lighthouse constructed. Davison 2000. EH 2013 states 1857 as the date when it first came into commission. Designed by Mr. T. Lidstone to serve William Shaw Lindsey's newly acquired Cape, Colonies and Calcutta mail service, the turret being designed to signal the Bayard's Quay pilots that a steamship was approaching. This view obscured by spire on St. Petrox Church, so this was removed. (South Hams DC planning website). Church spire removed (Guide to St. Petrox Church).
1857	Office of Governor of the Castle abolished.
c1859	St. Petrox spire removed.
1859	Royal Commission report on the defence of the United Kingdom following a French invasion scare. Sebire 2009.
1860	Besley engraving of Dartmouth Castle from the north.
1860	Sixth Devonshire Artillery Volunteer Corps formed at Dartmouth. Davison 2000.
1860	Work begins on Dartmouth Point Battery. http://www.victorianforts.co.uk/pdf/datasheets/dartmouthpoint.pdf
1861	The Old Battery constructed as a small two tier work. Sebire 2009. Two guns on roof and three in casemates, typical of a Commercial Harbour Defence of the period. Davison 2000. Guardroom divided into one room for an officer and a larger room for the soldiers of the guard, this having beds for six men. Three murder holes in the floor covering the entrance. EH 2013.
1861	A small battery recently restored at (One) Gun Point, intended to counter desultory attack. PRO WO 33/10
By 1861	Castle lighthouse serving as accommodation for a river pilot and his family. EH 2013.
1863	Painting of Dartmouth Castle from the north by J.T. Tester.
1864	Improved access to St. Petrox sees it brought back into use. Phil Scoble website.
1864	Lighthouse taken out of commission. EH 2013. Replaced by that at Kingswear.
1868	Lighting passage added to Old Battery to increase safety in magazine. Other modifications to the battery. Sebire 2009.
1870	Blore sketch of Castle and church. BL.
c1870	Coleman etching of the Castle from the north showing the landing place.
c1870	Oil painting by follower of Havell showing the Castle from the north.
1871	Gun tower slate hung.
1874	64lb RML converted from 1830s smooth bore. EH 2013.
1880s	Depression rangefinders introduced. EH 2013.

1884		Painting of the Castle complex from the south by Henry Thomas Dawson shows church tower completely covered in vegetation.
1886		MOW survey of Old Battery. In Davison 2000 and EH 2013. This shows that the square tower was divided in two by a cross passage leading to the stairs to the roof. Rear room was a kitchen with fireplace; front room used as a bedroom. Round tower undivided. Gun tower occupied by the master gunner and two artillerymen. EH 2013.
By 1886		Lighthouse abandoned. Davison 2000. Note that EH 2013 states that it was taken out of use in December 1864.
1886		Armament comprised 3 x 68lb, 1 x 8" shell gun and 2 x 10" guns, all smooth bore. EH 2013.
1886		Garrison consisted of one master gunner and two men. O'Neill 1935.
1886		Lighthouse shown as disused on a War Dept. survey. Morgan 2001.
1888		Joint Committee of the Royal Engineers and Royal Artillery recommend that the castle should be re-armed with RBLs. This not enacted. Refurbished RMLs supplied. Davison 2000.
1889- 1891		Original guns on the Old Battery replaced with RMLs. Davison 2000. Replacements were 5 x 64lb RMLs. EH 2013.
1891		Recommended that a QF gun should be mounted in the empty emplacement in the left of the casemate battery, to prevent torpedo boats entering the harbour. Report of Sir John Fox Burgoyne. PRO WO 196/29
By 1891		Jane Allert, wife of a former gunner ran a tearoom at Castle Green beside the lighthouse. Swimming club started about the same time in Castle Cove. EH 2013.
1893		Photo of swimming club. EH 2013.
1895		Point Battery – 4 x 64pd RMLs approved and mounted. To be replaced by 2 x 4.7" QFs.
c1900		Collection of photographic prints of various views of the castle held at the Devon Heritage Centre, Exeter, probably by John Stabb (VSL B/Dartmouth/Castles/ Dartmouth Castle/ca. 1900). Useful for demonstrating the appearance and setting of the castle at this time.
1902		Guns at Dartmouth marked for removal. EH 2013.
1906		Photo of gun crew at Old Battery. Davison 2000.
1906		Cannon used as mooring bollards recovered from Dartmouth town quay. Davison 2000.
Just before 1909		6 th Devon Artillery Volunteers disbanded. EH 2013.
1909		Gun tower and North and South Batteries handed over to the Commissioners of His Majesty's Works under the terms of the Ancient Monuments Act. War Department retains Grand Battery, which had been fitted with two QF guns mounted on its roof. Davison 2000. Plan indicates that the area from the landing place through the gun tower and gun platforms, walk to battery and battery transferred 27 February 1909. War Dept retain a right of way to the battery.
1909-14		After the transfer of the site from the War Department to the Ministry of Works the first phase of masonry repairs took place (dated to 1914 by, <i>inter alia</i> , a dated rainwater head on the Old Castle). The distinctive recessed masonry repairs (typically around windows or other features) belong to this period (see below, 2002; Morgan 2002, 12-13). The files of this period have not been consulted (<i>ibid.</i> , 7).
1910		MoD transfers the gun tower to the MoW, but not the battery and the wider site including the fortalice.
1910		A memo indicates that a decision was being taken to remove the slate hanging and to rake out and repoint the masonry. The tower was re-fenestrated and replaced with timber and

metal leaded windows to the designs of the MoW. The proportions of some windows were altered, the new masonry being recessed. Some lintels replaced and repairs undertaken to the gun ports (which had been concealed behind the slate hanging). Front entrance door replaced, opening modified, courtyard excavated to a new lower level. Chimney stacks reduced in height and re-capped, all rainwater goods replaced (dated 1914).

- 1910s Phase plans drawn up. EH archive.
- 1911 Mrs Allert running the tearoom. First caretaker and guide to the castle appointed – army pensioner Sergeant Thomas Lawson. He lived on site with his family. Photo of him guiding. EH 2013.
- 1912 Plans and sections drawn up of Dartmouth Castle. EH archive.
- 1913 New windows fitted at Dartmouth Castle. Record of wall openings exposed during works. EH archive.
- 1913 Proposed to use the ground floor of the tower as a museum.
- 1914 Defences brought back into use to protect the anchorage. EH 2013.
- 1914-18 Apparently no on-line records for how the battery was used during this period. Consultation of the Battery Record Books would clarify how the site was used during the Great War.
- After 1918 Office of Works restored the Castle. No details of works undertaken readily available.
- 1922 Castle leased to the Borough as a tourist attraction with a tearoom in the battery. There had been a tearoom in the lighthouse for about thirty years. Morgan 2001
- 1929 Photographic record of Dartmouth Castle, lighthouse, battery, bathing hut. EH archive.
- 1929 Mention of excavations and a proposal to examine the ruins of the castle in a press report (*Western Morning News*, 30th November 1929: source: VSL cuttings file B/Dartmouth/A183).
- 1930s Public toilets built. Morgan 2001.
- 1934 Oblique AP of Dartmouth Castle. EH archive. OWS01/02/D00747.
- 1934 Publication of first modern guide book to the site, by Bryan O’Neil (O’Neil 1934). This relates primarily to the ‘Old Castle’, which was clearly the main visitor element at the time, called variously ‘The Later Castle’, or the ‘Strong Tower’. ‘The Earlier Castle’ is mentioned, including key details that the ditch ‘has been and is still being filled with rubbish’ and the fragments of the curtain wall on the SW side were ‘found during the clearance of a landslide.’ (*ibid.*, 14; see also *idem* 1936, 133). **Suggests that the curtain wall was formerly more extensive.** The history is taken no further than 1667 (*idem* 1934, 13). The ‘Old Battery’ appears simply as ‘the existing battery’ (it is salutary to remember that O’Neil was as near in time to the construction of this as we are now to him). There is an aerial photograph of the site as the frontispiece to the guide, useful for showing the appearance of the site before WW2.
- 1935-6 Bryan O’Neil’s paper *Dartmouth Castle and other defences of Dartmouth Haven* (read to the Society of Antiquaries 4th April 1935, published in *Archaeologia* volume 85, 1936). This was and remains a work of fundamental importance on the castle. The text of the 1934 guidebook is clearly drawn from this, and in most other ways this lengthy paper should be treated as the primary source, and most considered version, of O’Neil’s views on the castle (cf., for example, *idem* 1960). This paper is also unique for the attention it gave to the total spatial and chronological spread of Dartmouth’s defences, and thus for the context of the castle. Many influential ideas on the history of the castle originate with O’Neil. He first suggested that the circular part of the ‘Old Castle’ originated as an earlier circular tower, for instance (O’Neil 1936, 134); commented on the similarities with Fowey in the provision of a chain to block the mouth of the harbour (*ibid.*, 137); identified the importance of the

building as an early artillery fortification, and commented on aspects of the form and typology of the gunports (*ibid.*, 139-41). He also outlined the significance of the chain and its relationship to the structures (*ibid.* 140). O’Neil was also unusual for his day in considering the later history of the defences, through the 16th and 17th centuries. Some aspects of his work have inevitably been revised or superseded by further work: for instance, it would now be accepted that the relieving arches over the gunports in the basement level of the circular tower demonstrate that these openings are original to the fabric in which they are placed (*contra ibid.*, 134; 138, although the disturbed masonry of the jambs may well indicate that the masonry has been cut back to improve the splays); O’Neil thought that the Licence to Crenellate granted to John Corp in 1402 referred to Kingswear Castle (*ibid.*, 136), whereas this has subsequently been thought to relate to Godmerock (a possibility allowed by O’Neil, *ibid.*, 136 and 140; Higham 1988, 146; Watts 1997, 5), or to Paradise Point, Warfleet (Watkin 1935, 88; Russell 1950, 41; Freeman 1990, 36).

- 1935 O’Neill states that the dry ditch on the northern and western side of the Fortalice had and was then being filled up with rubbish. The south-western end had been lost to a landslide. On the north-west, traces of the walling could be seen and the present north wall of the cemetery follows its line. Assumed that the construction of Castle Road destroyed the bastion or small tower shown in the plan of 1740. The walling to the left of the Church gates represents part of another corner tower. He assumed that there was a return which followed the shoreline. The remains of the tower by the chasm noted. Assumed that lowest part of the Round tower is an early feature. The belvedere tower also thought to have early foundations and to represent the end of the original curtain wall.
- 1937 Photographic survey of the castle, including interior before and following partial removal of some internal fittings. EH archives (not accessed).
- 1937 Recommendations for the stripping of match boarding from the interior of the gun tower, except the staircase. Floors to be lowered to their original levels. EH Archive.
- 1938 Around this date the carpark was re-surfaced. Morgan 2001.
- 1938 Custodian vacates gun tower. Floors of brick and concrete removed, magazine in the round tower demolished. Overhaul of first floor timbers found to be required. EH archive, Morgan 2001.
- 1938 Proposed new wall and railings to site entrance, stepped entrance path. EH archive.
- 1938 Replacement of timber fence adjacent to the battery with a stone wall. Morgan 2001.
- 1939 New roofs and ceilings for the gun tower designed. Survey of floors in Dartmouth Castle EH archive.
- 1939 New stone wall constructed. Photographs in EH archive.
- 1939-45 Wartime records for Dartmouth Castle not available on line. Battery Record Books available? Showers installed in battery gorge ditch. Terry Edwards. Old lighthouse used as a canteen.
- 1939 Castle became an artillery camp. Soldiers housed in the battery and in huts along Compass Road and behind the curtain wall and mound. Two lean-to shelters behind the curtain wall also used as accommodation. Cookhouse and mess at the entrance to the ‘square’. Tearoom/lighthouse also used? Castle was NCO’s quarters whilst officers moved into the Gunfield Hotel. EH 2013.
- 1940 Building now used as ticket office built on top of western embrasure in Old Battery to site one of two 4.7” guns. These were ex-RN 1916 naval guns. The second was in a cliff-top emplacement 150m to the south of the Castle. Each was served by a searchlight; machine gun post built on the waterline by the gun tower. Sergeants quartered in the old gun tower, other ranks in the casemates until Nissen hut accommodation was constructed in what is now the car park. Davison 2000. Castle designated Dartmouth Battery, manned by 361 Coast Battery Royal Artillery, capable of engaging enemy shipping up to 6km out to sea.

- This operated fully until 1943, when its role was taken over by Brownstone Battery on the cliffs to the east of the river mouth. EH 2013.
- 1942 2 x 6" battery with two searchlight units constructed at Froward Point to defend against E Boats. Machine gun post and torpedo station near Kingswear Castle. Anti-submarine net across the mouth of the harbour, together with a minefield. Davison 2000.
- 1943 Dartmouth Point Battery put on care and maintenance as Brownstone Battery was active from June 1942. Dartmouth Castle taken over by the Home Guard. Terry Edwards. Machine gun post at Kingswear Castle. MTBs also based there.
- 1945 The MoW resumes responsibility for Dartmouth Castle in December, stripping out temporary military fittings and leasing the site to Dartmouth Corporation. Tearoom re-opened.
- 1946 Photographic survey of details of the castle, including doors, 4.7" gun emplacement, searchlight station. EH archives.
- 1947 Photo of pillbox for machine gun post or searchlight battery below the gun tower. Possibly also incorporated smoke generators on its roof. EH 2013.
- 1948 Drawn record of gun emplacement probably before conversion to ticket office. EH archive MP/DAR0059
- 1950 Percy Russell's *Dartmouth: A History of the Port and Town*. Russell gives a summary of expenditure on the tower and chain. He has useful comments on the sequence of construction of the castle, and points out explicitly, where O'Neil had not, that little progress had been made on the tower before 1488: '*Actually the customs annuity came in very slowly and little had been done towards the construction of the strong tower before 1488, when the annuity was running at Henry the Seventh's revised figure of £40, at which it stood for the next three hundred years. [...] The wording of the grant of 1481 [...] indicate that the first plan was to build a round tower in Cornworthy stone; but, on work being resumed in 1488, a square tower to be built with superior stone was designed to take the guns, and the wall of the round tower partly demolished.*' (Russell 1950, 53). Russell also found documentation for the construction of Kingswear Castle at the beginning of the 16th century, which O'Neil had thought belonged to an earlier period (*ibid.*, 54-5; O'Neil 1936, 136).
- 1951 Record of the ground floor of the former guardroom prior to new concrete roof being constructed. EH archive.
- 1951 New edition of the Ministry of Works guidebook (O'Neil 1951). Again the 'present castle' refers to the late 15th century tower: '*The term castle, although formerly embracing the whole area within the curtain wall, is now usually restricted to the strong tower of 1481 with the gun platforms which flank it.*' (*ibid.*, 8). The 'scanty remains' of the 14th century castle are referred to as just above the present castle; this is tentatively equated with 'the fortalice built by the burgesses in 1388' (*ibid.*, 2). The history is not really taken beyond 1660, other than to say that the office of governor was abolished in 1857, and in 1910 the War Department placed the castle in the care of HM Commissioners of Works, the predecessors of the MoW (*ibid.*, 6-8). No attention is paid to the later fabric of the castle.
- 1951 Photographic record of aspects of the castle, including guardroom. EH archive.
- 1952 Photographic record of aspects of the castle, including general views, curtain wall and shelter on east side of west wall, new roof to castle battery. EH archive.
- 1953 Photographic record of castle showing reconstructed first floor, external views. EH archive.
- 1955 Old Battery and the remains of the fortalice handed by the MOD into the guardianship of the Ministry of Works as an Ancient Monument from the Borough of Dartmouth. Davison 2000. The Old Battery subsequently leased to the Corporation of Dartmouth and used as a restaurant. Fortalice deed of Guardianship 17/10/55

- 1959 Aerial photograph of Dartmouth Castle. EH archive.
- 1961 Sketch plans and elevations of Dartmouth Castle as of March 1961 and as proposed, including new staircase, sales counter. EH archive.
- 1962 Photographic record of castle following reconstruction works, including new staircase. EH archives.
- 1963 Photographic record of newly-built traversing gun carriage and guns on site. EH archive.
- 1965 Record of electrical supply arrangements. EH archive.
- 1965 First edition of a new guide book to the site written by Andrew Saunders for the MoW. This was to last until the 1990s through several editions under successive government departments and agencies (MoW/MoPBW/DAMHB/DoE/English Heritage), with increasing numbers of illustrations and, eventually, colour photographs. It was eventually replaced by Brian Davison's new guide book in 2000. The text remains very much the same throughout, especially that of the history section, placed first, as was traditional in MoW/DoE guidebooks. The description was originally tailored to cover only the Old Castle, treating the other elements very briefly under a general description of 'the exterior' (the Old Battery was used as restaurant in the 1960s and was not accessible to visitors: Saunders 1965, 24). The interpretation of the relationship of the round and square towers given here was another variation on the established history '*Work began on the building of a round tower but after this had been taken to a fair height there was a change of plan and a rectangular tower was built alongside the round one. Ultimately the two structures merged into one.*' (Saunders 1965, 11; *idem* 1995, 23). Like previous interpretations this would now be seen slightly differently (below, pp. 20-21). This edition, with black and white illustrations contained two valuable and interesting illustrations that were dropped from later editions: a late 17th century chart of Dartmouth Haven by G. Collins, printed over a double-page spread (*ibid.*, 16-17; BL King's mss 45, f. 51); and a good late-19th century photograph showing the Old Battery and the lighthouse (without render), looking north east over the mouth of the harbour (*ibid.*, 21). Neither of these has survived in the explanatory material available on the site.
- Around 1967 Restaurant in battery abandoned after the introduction of the breathalyser. Terry Edwards.
- 1970s Pillbox adjacent to North battery removed
- 1971 Photographic record of guns at Dartmouth Castle. EH archive.
- 1974 Dartmouth loses borough status, and is thereafter administered by a Town Council.
- 1979- Dr Bob Higham's thesis (Higham 1979) and a number of associated publications (particularly, for Dartmouth, *idem* 1987; 1988) saw real developments in the study of castles in Devon. Higham briefly examines the development of coastal defence generally, and the Dartmouth defences in particular (*idem*, 1987, 44-46), and provides useful lists (*inter alia* of Licences to Crenellate) and bibliographies (*idem* 1988).
- 1980s Ticketing facilities transferred from the gun tower to the battery WW2 blockhouse. Morgan 2001.
- 1981 Fears over future of Castle after loss of custodian. WMN article.
- 1982 Survey of 1st floor of castle. EH archive.
- 1984 Dartmouth Castle placed in the care of English Heritage.
- 1985 Record of new electrical services. EH archive.
- 1986 Topographic survey of the castle site and immediate environs carried out by Plowman Craven and Associates for the Property Services Agency, the plans being dated November 1986. The basic survey is at 1:100, covering the whole castle site in two sheets (drawing Nos AS2/1 and 2), further sheets show reductions of the survey onto one sheet at scales of 1:200 (AS3/1) and 1:500 (AS4/1). The survey

was a traditional hand survey, although it is now also available in digitised form. This survey is the only modern accurately surveyed plan of the whole site and is the basis of much of what has followed, although some details of the Old Castle, in both plan and elevation, still depend on the Ministry of Works plans and elevations from the 1920s or 30s. Some areas of the site are treated schematically, notably the whole cliff and foreshore area, where bedrock above the high water line is schematically represented, and that between high and low water not shown at all. Over much of the circuit between the Old Castle and the Old Battery the *de facto* limit of the survey is the stone perimeter wall on the edge of the cliff.

- 1987 Roof plan, section and details of 'observation post'. Plans elevations and sections of battery and guardroom. EH archive.
- 1987 Survey of electrical services. EH archive.
- 1988 Survey of ground and 1st floors of the gun tower, guard room. Plans, sections, cross-sections. EH archive.
- 1988 Photographic survey of the Old Battery by Francis Kelly prior to conversion works.
- 1988 Details of proposed new shop. EH archive.
- 1989 Proposed new custodians' toilet. EH archive.
- 1989 Saunders Fortress Britain published.
- 1990 Proposals for new interpretative material. EH archive.
- 1990 Ray Freeman's *Dartmouth and its Neighbours* provides a modern and up to date history of the town, with some new material on the castle, notably a conjectural reconstruction of the plan of the 14th century castle (here dubbed 'Hawley's Fortalice') that keeps the structure on the high ground in the southern half of the site and proposes the return of the curtain wall to the south of St Petrox Church, i.e. the whole structure is proposed as set back from the water's edge on the higher ground (Freeman 1990, 36; figs 21-22). This runs against the suggestion by others O'Neil, Edwards (qv) that the round tower element of the Old Castle represents a survival of such a tower from the 14th century castle, and also against the evidence of the various mid-18th century plans, which show an interval tower half way down the slope on the west side of this enclosure, and the curtain wall continuing beyond it. There are also topographical objections to details of the reconstruction, specifically that the steep slopes would preclude continuous ranges of buildings within the curtain wall (cf. also Davison 2000, 26). In her discussion of the new castle of the late 15th century, Freeman stresses the innovative aspects of the defences for use with artillery, and notes the need to be as near the waterline as possible as a factor in the construction of the Old Castle (Freeman 1990, 53). Freeman's view of the relationship of the two halves of the Old Castle is that 'First, a round tower was built, then a square one which was joined to it on the south.' (*ibid.*, 53).
- 1991 Botanical survey.
- 1993 Collapse of part of 1st floor ceiling
- 1994 Record of proposed ceiling repairs and other works. EH archive.
- 1994-5 Repairs to surviving plasterwork, existing RSJs and leadwork; parts of the parapets repointed
- 1996-9 Recording and survey at Bayard's Cove fort (SX 8785 5096) by Exeter Archaeology for English Heritage consisted of observations of below-ground archaeology before resurfacing of the interior and survey of the standing building prior to repointing. The fort was probably built in the 1530s, as it is described by Leland as 'a faire [bulwa]rk made of late in [Dertmouthe toune]' (Toulmin Smith 1907, 221), although it has been dated as early as 1509 in the past. (EA project no. 2999; draft report only [unfinished]: Watts 1997). Other work at Bayard's Cove took place in 1998, a

watching brief on the installation of a bollard (EA project no. 3483; no report); and in 2004, observation of a sewage pipeline to the north of the fort (EA project no. 4998; report: SMR entry). Additionally a documentary research project to investigate the history of Bayard's Cove Castle was carried out in 1999 by Exeter Archaeology for Devon County Council. (EA project no. 3670; Report **99.64**, Collings and Henderson 1999 [unfinished]).

1996-7

Survey of buildings and other remains at Godmerock, on the east bank of the estuary (centred on SX 8889 5052) by Exeter Archaeology for Devon County Council and English Heritage. A wide-ranging research project, including documentary and cartographic research as well as building survey. The site is heavily wooded, and consists of a number of component parts, chiefly the ruins of Godmerock Fort, a tower house probably of late 14th or early 15th century date, a blockhouse probably of late medieval origin (and certainly present by 1522) constructed nearer the water line to defend the eastern end of the chain, and rock-cut structures connected with the chain terminal itself. In all 14 buildings and features were identified and surveyed, ranging from the late-medieval castle to a modern tennis court, and including a possible Civil War period breastwork and a WW2 observation post. Many of the structures are in poor condition. (EA project no. 2935; Report **97.61**, Watts 1997).

1997-8

Survey, research and vegetation clearance on the Civil-War period earthwork on the hill above and to the south west of the castle, known as Gallants Bower (centred on SX 8840 5020). The site had become intensively wooded in the recent past, and the clearance was necessary to protect the earthworks. As a result a new sense of the size and preservation of these massive earthworks can be gained by the visitor. The clearance provided the catalyst for The National Trust, the owner of the site, to obtain a new survey of the earthworks from the Royal Commission on the Historical Monuments of England). A summary report on the site, including a copy of the survey plan, research into the history of the site by Ray Freeman and evocative photographs of the tree clearance using heavy horses, is given in the National Trust's *Annual Archaeological Review* for 1997-8 (Blaylock *et al.* 1998, 7-11; 5; rear cover); there is also a separate report on the earthwork survey (Wilson-North 1998).

1998

Terry Edwards' *Hawley's Fortalice: Dartmouth's First Castle*, published by the Dartmouth History Research Group, examines the 14th century castle in its own right in some detail for the first time, and proposes a conjecturally reconstructed plan that incorporates the round tower of the Old Castle, and the arched substructures and entrance arches in the present retaining wall of St Petrox churchyard (Edwards 1998, 16-17, and plan p. 7). Further towers are proposed (on a very conjectural basis) on the seaward side of the enclosure so formed. The reconstruction proposed for the western side of the site has some basis in evidence of surviving fabric or of cartographic sources for every element and is likely to be both reliable and probable. Individual elements of the fabric shown in the water-side of the site (such as the archways, and curtain wall with crenellations revetting St Petrox churchyard) could as well relate to the late 15th century 'Old Castle' than to the late 14th century fortifications. The 2004 survey has confirmed that there is likely to be some earlier fabric at the very base of the round tower of the Old Castle, and this should be taken to increase the basic reliability of Edwards' proposals, although (as has been stressed) there can be no guarantee of individual elements belonging to this structure rather than to later constructions. The reconstruction of the seaward side of the site is considerably more conjectural, and must be treated with caution. Blaylock 2005.

1998

Fragmentary remains of three disturbed inhumation burials were observed on 8.v.1998 by Bill Horner of Devon County Council Archaeological Service during a watching brief on the creation of a Garden of Remembrance for St Petrox Church at NGR SX 8859 5033. These were left in situ and the PCC agreed to discontinue the ground works. No dating evidence was recovered, but it was thought that the burials were probably post-medieval. They were interpreted as further burials of shipwrecked mariners (cf. the summary of earlier discoveries in the area of One Gun Point by Ray Freeman: Freeman 1985, 132-4;

W.S. Horner, personal communication).

1998

A watching brief on a sewer trench was carried out by Exeter Archaeology for South Hams District Council. This involved observing and recording a trench dug from near the present café, situated in the 19th century lighthouse building (c. SX 88671 50277), across the car park and into Castle Road in front of the public lavatories (c. SX 88609 50302). No ancient deposits were observed in the main run of the trench, although bedrock was recorded in a deeper pit excavated for a pumping station near the south-east corner of the lighthouse. No trace of buildings within the 14th century castle enclosure had survived, neither those contemporary with the construction nor traces of the later mansion house of the Carews that stood within the enclosure. The west end of the trench ran across the line of the defences of the 14th century castle and here a section of the demolished curtain wall and outer ditch were recorded: footings 2.20m wide and at least 550mm deep lay only 100mm below the road surface. The ditch was shown to be 10m wide, with its eastern edge some 4m west of the outer face of the curtain wall. Comparison of cartographic evidence shows that the wall was still standing in this position in 1745 (plan of that date) and in 1841 (Tithes Map), but that by the 1890 first edition 1:2500 map (surveyed in 1885) construction of the present Castle Road had taken place. Demolition of the wall and infilling of the ditch probably took place in association with the construction of this road. (EA project no. 3351; Report **98.64**, Dyer 1998).

1998

Barrier railing to terreplain gun embrasure replaced

1998

Broad phase plan of Castle produced.

1999

Ecological survey.

1999

Condition survey.

1999-2000

Christopher Henderson, the former director of Exeter Archaeology who died in 2001, developed a considerable interest in the defences of Dartmouth during the late 1990s, and this subject played a large part in his research in the last year or two of his life. He chose the Defences of Dartmouth and Salcombe as the subject of his presidential lecture to the Devon Archaeological Society (DAS) on 27th March 1999. A considerable amount of documentary research was carried out by staff of Exeter Archaeology initially in the context of several specific research projects on Dartmouth defensive subjects (see the 'overview of work on other sites', below), but also specifically in preparation for this lecture, and for a site visit to Dartmouth for members of the DAS on 16th May 1999. The latter occasion provided a catalyst for the preparation of plans and drawings suitable for a handout, and the opportunity to synthesise some of the work carried out over the previous few years, especially in 1996-99. Unfortunately Chris did not leave a publishable text of his lecture, and the few notes by others to have survived represent an inadequate record.

Henderson's lecture emphasised, amongst other things, that the Dartmouth defences provide a full typological development of early gunport design. The blockhouses at Fowey and Polruan of c. the late 1450s are without gunports at basement, or water, level; they have only small keyhole gunloops at higher levels. There is an example of the inverted keyhole type in the tower house at Godmerock, opposite the castle, most probably of the late 14th or early 15th century (Watts 1997, 19; fig. 13 and pl. 5; Kenyon 1981, 208-12), although Dartmouth Castle has none of this type. The gunports integral to the primary build of the Old Castle have internal splays and were positioned level with the floor to permit use with guns mounted on timber bed stocks (widely acknowledged as an advanced form for their time, and of national significance in the development of artillery fortifications: O'Neil 1936, 140-41; Kenyon 1981, 218; Saunders 1989, 27; for the guns see Carpenter 1984, 2-5). Twenty years on from the Old Castle, at Kingswear Castle (of 1501/2-1505) similar basement gunports occur, but here there are also first-floor gunports with wooden sills/beams for mounting swivel guns, representing a significant advance in the development of gunport design.

Later still in the early 16th century, at Bayard's Cove (sometimes dated to 1509-10, e.g. Saunders 1989, 27; but to around 1530 by Collings and Henderson 1999, 1-3; 12), other advances in gunport form are visible, although this 'bulwark' looks distinctly archaic in relation to other purpose-built artillery fortifications of the later part of Henry VIII's reign (Saunders 1989, 34-52). Bayards Cove fort was memorably described by Percy Russell as 'an artillery work, pure and simple [...] It is, however, very inferior in design to other coastal forts of the same period, and the retention of the inward splay embrasures for guns on stocks made it obsolete before the mortar was dry.' (Russell 1950, 55).

Henderson also pointed out the similarities between the chain defence at Dartmouth and that at Portsmouth, where there was a chain at least from the early 15th century from the 'round tower' across to Gosport. Fragments of this were found after WW2 and are on display at Southsea Castle.

Post-1999	Extension to mess hut.
2000	Castle complex reinterpreted with new displays, signs and interpretation panels. Morgan 2001.
2000	Wildlife statement.
2000	A watching brief on trenches associated with the construction of new custodians' lavatories was carried out by Exeter Archaeology for English Heritage (centred on c. SX 88676 50272). Three small trenches were observed in the area of the approach to the 'Old Battery', but no significant ancient archaeological deposits were observed. (EA project no, 3887; report: SMR entry, by Martin Dyer).
20 th century	Landing place converted to garden of remembrance (Church guide). Probably incorrect?
2000	Publication of a new official English Heritage guidebook by Brian Davison, with completely re-written text and new illustrations (Davison 2000). This represents the most up to date account of the monument as it is now visited (and incidentally reflects contemporary interests in later fortifications, covering the 19 th century battery in considerable detail: <i>ibid.</i> , 5-9; 30-36). One significant development was the inclusion of watercolour reconstruction paintings of the site at various dates, namely in the late 14 th century (<i>ibid.</i> , 22); c.1550 (<i>ibid.</i> , 26); and c.1750 (<i>ibid.</i> , 31). These provide informative snapshot views of the castle at three key points of its development (although, as with other attempts at reconstruction by Freeman and Edwards [above], the conjectural nature of the process again besets the reconstructions of the earliest phases). On the central question of the structural relationships in the gun tower, Davison is circumspect: 'The odd shape of the gun tower – part round, part square – betrays its complicated history. Its construction seems to have started with the repair of an old tower or gun platform built at the water's edge. Almost immediately, however, it was decided to build another tower alongside it. Eventually, the two were joined together to form the building we see today, although there were several changes of plan and the exact sequence of events is hard to unravel.' (Davison 2000, 11-12).

Another key observation, that does not seem to have been made in earlier sources, is that the north and south gun platforms are likely to be additions (at least in their present form) of the early 16th century, dated to between 1539 and 1544, although the outward-splayed embrasures in their present form are 18th-century alterations (*ibid.*, 15; 25-6). This would place them close in date to the construction of Lamberd's Bulwark, an earth battery for 6-8 guns, and the first known defensive structure on the south-east facing site of the Old Battery. Although O'Neil thought there was no extant work of this period at the castle documentary sources make it clear that this bulwark was in existence by 1545-46 (O'Neil 1936, 143; see also documentary sources, below). The bulwark is depicted in the form as rebuilt in the late 17th century on the Buck brothers' engraving of the castle and on the earliest of the 18th century plans under its later name of the Maiden Fort (*ibid.*, 145; pl. 33;

- Davison 2000, 30).
- 2001 Geotechnical assessment of cliffs at Dartmouth Castle (report to SHDC).
- 2001 Repairs to southern cliff-edge walling carried out.
- 2002 Plans and details of shop, battery, guardroom, lighting, emergency lighting, bridge, various repair works, replacement windows, information panels. EH archive.
- 2002 Compilation of a draft 'Conservation Statement' for Dartmouth Castle by David Morgan for English Heritage (Morgan 2002). Morgan tabulates 22 phases in the history of the site, from the earliest conjectural phases of St Petrox Church through to the castle after World War II (*ibid.*, 8-15). A number of important points are noted, which have not been identified or sufficiently emphasised by previous commentators, including the modification of the gun tower between 1509-47 'to take an increasing range of artillery pieces' (*ibid.*, 9), and the gun platforms and Lamberd's Bulwark of the 1540s (*ibid.*). Morgan was able to consult some contemporary 19th and 20th century documentation, and is thus particularly strong on the modifications and improvements to the site in this period. Significant phases of work identified (Morgan 2002, 11-15) were the fitting out of the gun tower for accommodation and storage facilities; the slate hanging of the exterior, possibly in 1871; the transfer of the site from the War Department to the Ministry of Works in 1903-09; and some elucidation of the programme of repairs to the gun tower up to 1914, although the main files for this period have not been located (and may be lost). The work included the removal of the slate cladding, the repointing of the exterior, refenestration, and significant masonry repairs (generally to be identified by the recessed plane of the new masonry). Other work included modifications to the entrance, reduction of chimneys, and new rainwater goods throughout. Major alterations to the interior of the gun tower took place in 1938 after the building had been vacated by the custodian (*ibid.*, 13). Various alterations to the battery, lighthouse, and churchyard are documented in the course of the 1920s-30s. During WWI the Victorian Battery was requisitioned by the Navy, and many alterations were made; it was returned to the MoW in 1947 (*ibid.*, 14). The second half of the text considers statutory constraints, and presentation, maintenance, and development proposals for the site (*ibid.*, 16-26) and defines policies to achieve these (*ibid.*, 27-30).
- 2002 Standing fabric recording and a watching brief were carried out during restoration and renovation works to the lower entrance to the castle by Exeter Archaeology for Quadron Services Ltd and English Heritage. This area consists of an approach path to the west (usually 'north') gun platform, carried on a bridge over a rock-cut dock or inlet in the foreshore, and a doorway to the gun platform proper now acting as a subsidiary entrance to the ancient monument. Two trenches were monitored: Trench 1 provided a transverse section across the path to the west of the bridge (at c. SX 88635 50332) and showed 18th and 19th century make up layers. Trench 2 spanned the bridge on its longitudinal axis (centred on SX 88645 50333), and showed that the bridge had origins in the late 17th or early 18th century, but had been rebuilt in the 19th or 20th century with a supporting arch of factory-made bricks on earlier brick springing. A cobbled surface was observed beneath the modern tarmac surface, presumably 19th century in date (as it has to post-date the reconstruction of the arch). The doorway onto the west gun platform probably dates to the late 17th or early 18th century (associated fabric contains Flemish bricks, above, p. 3), but the door itself was assigned to the 19th century in the report on this work (although it should be noted that the door appears to be shown on an anonymous 'early-19th century' sketch in the latest guide book: Davison 2000, 16); various modern repairs to the door were charted. (EA project no. 4478; Report **02.41**, Goodwin 2002).
- 2003 Record of new safety handrails, repair works, Phase 2 repairs, repairs to earth rampart, battery roof repairs. EH archive.
- 2003 Topographic survey. EH archive. **Not made available.**

- 2020 Repairs to bridge and shop.
- 2003 A watching brief on the removal and replacement of a bridge leading from the car park to the ticket office and various other works was carried out by Exeter Archaeology for English Heritage. The bridge (centred on SX 88675 50272) had originated as the access to the WWII gun emplacement on top of the Old Battery that now accommodates the ticket office. No ancient deposits were observed. On the two terraces to the west of the rock-cut inlet west of the west gun platform new safety railings were inserted. Seventeen holes for stanchions were excavated into topsoil and terrace fills without observing anything of archaeological significance. (EA project no. 4687; report: SMR entry by Martin Dyer).
- 2003 Cyclical building maintenance report.
- 2003-4 A watching brief and fabric recording on the Old Castle (SX 88671 50334) was carried out by Exeter Archaeology for English Heritage as a part of the condition survey of the castle done in 2003-04. Works done at this time included the repair and replacement of masonry, and extensive repointing of the exterior from scaffolding. Some repairs on a smaller scale were undertaken to the 14th century curtain wall and the churchyard walls, and so these were also included in the programme of recording. This involved the inspection and photographic recording of the external walls of the tower, the adjacent gun platforms, the churchyard wall and the curtain wall before works; the correction of the mid-twentieth century Ministry of Works (MoW) elevation drawings of the Old Castle and marking up with new observations made during works, construction of outline measured drawings to act as corrective overlays to the MoW drawings, and a programme of mortar sampling. Re-surfacing of the south gun platform and adjacent 'belvedere' involved some archaeological recording of exposed ground levels, but these were all modern in date. (EA project no. 4804; Report 04.48, Young 2004).
- Results of the observations include some refinement of the sequence of gunports in the round and square towers, and clarification of the structural sequence of square and round tower. Young concluded that there was some evidence for an early phase in the base of the round tower, based on variant building materials that could represent the survival of a structure from the 14th century castle (Young 2004, 5). The main builds of the square and round towers, however, show a clear sequence in which the square tower is undoubtedly earlier than the round tower, and the straight join that represents this relationship was observed through the full height of the structure (*ibid.*). Furthermore a cut in the bedrock for the foundations of the west wall of the square tower was observed and recorded, showing that this had at least been planned, if it was not actually built, before the round tower was begun (*ibid.*, 7; pl. 7). In fact Young concluded that the evidence of the foundation cut in the bedrock supported the interpretation that the square tower did, in fact, stand independently, at least for a short while (*ibid.*, 8). Nevertheless the documentary evidence suggests that the two structures must have been constructed in the period c.1481-1494, and the dendrochronological survey (above) provides some support for this.
- 2004 Plans and elevations for Phase 4 repairs. EH archive.
- 2004 Dendrochronological survey and sampling of floor and ceiling timbers in both round and square sections of the Old Castle (centred on SX 88671 50334), constructed between c.1481 and c.1495, was carried out by Ian Tyers of Sheffield University at the request of English Heritage, with the aim of refining the sequence of construction and specifically of identifying any difference in date between timbers of the two sections of the tower. Three beams from the first floor structure of the Old Castle were sampled; of these one provided a 112 year sequence that dated against reference chronologies to the years AD 1351-1462, meaning that the estimated felling date range of the timber was AD 1472-1508. The other samples had too few rings, or were otherwise unsuitable, for dating. The absence of sapwood on the dated

sample, and the failure to obtain datable samples from both parts of the structure prevented successful comparative dating of the two elements of the structure. The one dated timber, however, does fall within the date bracket for the original construction of both parts of the Old Castle, and confirms that the beam belongs to the original phase of construction. (Report: Tyers 2004).

- 2005 A watching brief was carried out by Exeter Archaeology for English Heritage on the installation of a foul-water storage tank to serve the custodians' hut situated on the western terrace (at SX 88637 50335). A small area was cleared on the lower terrace to the west of the landing dock for the installation of the tank, and a pipe-trench observed N-S across the upper terrace for a length of 6m. All the deposits encountered were late infill layers, and no archaeological features were observed. The work was carried out on 6th April 2005 (EA project no. 5353; report in the form of an SMR entry on EA/Draftrep/SMR drafts/5334smr [sic]).
- 2005 Blaylock's report on the development of Dartmouth Castle.
- 2006 Shop repainted externally.
- 2009 Summary Statement of Significance written by Heather Sebire.
- 2009 Asbestos report.
- 2009 Cyclical building maintenance report.
- 2009 Condition survey.
- 2011 Update to draft CMS by Francis Kelly.
- 2012 Digital colour photographic record of castle and detail of elements of it. EH archive.
- 2013 New English Heritage guidebook produced.
- 2015 EH commission CMP from CAU.
- 2015 Ecological Survey commissioned by CAU.
- 2015-16 English Heritage proposes new interpretation scheme for Dartmouth Castle.

16 APPENDIX 5 - POLICIES

a. Managing the site

i. Boundaries

Policy DC1 - 1: *A clear definition of the boundaries of English Heritage management will be available on site and clearly understood by the custodial and the curatorial staff.*

ii. Care of the monument and guardianship site

English Heritage's primary duty is the care of the monument. This includes funding both capital repairs as identified in appropriate condition surveys and, importantly, appropriate maintenance.

Policy DC2 - 1: *The condition of the monument will be kept under regular review.*

Policy DC2 - 2: *The maintenance of the site is paramount. The maintenance plan should be reviewed and updated annually. Works or alterations should be so designed as to allow effective future maintenance.*

Policy DC2 - 3: *English Heritage will augment programmes for physical works with revised interpretation for the site reflecting these works.*

b. Understanding the site

All works of repair and display should be informed by suitable research and recording. Understanding leads to appreciation. It is therefore important that improved insights into the historic construction and development of the site are made available to the public in a timely, accessible and retrievable manner.

Policy DC3 - 1: *All works of repair and/or display shall be informed and mitigated, where appropriate, with a programme of research and archaeological recording duly disseminated on completion of work.*

There is also the issue of gaps in knowledge. Uncertainty remains about various aspects of the site including Lamberd's Battery, Clifton Mansion and the sequence of development of the Gun Tower. Any research that would shed light on these will be welcomed, whether associated with programmes of development or as stand-alone academic research.

Policy DC3 - 2: *Academic research that will enrich the understanding of the site, its setting and associations will be welcomed.*

Policy DC3 - 3: *Every opportunity will be taken to extend our knowledge of the below-ground archaeology of the site.*

On-line retrieval and study of key documents relating to the site which are held in the National Archive and the English Heritage Archive is currently not possible, as the relevant archive material has not been scanned.

Policy DC3-4: *English Heritage will seek to identify key research documents relating to Dartmouth Castle and seek to have these scanned and made available online via the National Archives and English Heritage Archive websites.*

c. Setting

Dartmouth Castle was part of a network of defences for Dartmouth's deep-water haven. It is also part of a long-recognised picturesque grouping at the mouth of the River Dart. Its landscape character and local ecology are important constituent elements of the significance of the site.

Policy DC4 - 1: *The wider setting of the Castle should be made explicit to assist appreciation by operators, the public and neighbours.*

Policy DC4 – 2: *The natural history (geology and wild life) of the site will continue to be studied and respected, made accessible to the visiting public and publicised to deepen appreciation and care.*

Policy DC4 – 3: *Discussions should be undertaken with the owners and managers of areas adjoining the Dartmouth Castle site to seek ways in which its setting can be enhanced.*

d. Compliance with legal constraints

English Heritage no longer enjoys Crown Exemption. It needs to be seen to exemplary in planning and executing work and in undertaking appropriate consultation both internally and externally. Whilst Tier 1 and 2 works are effectively covered by a standing SMC for cyclical maintenance and like for like replacement, works which would result in other changes to the monument are classed as Tier 3 Works and require specific SMC applications, which must state how these might potentially affect the significance of the monument.

Policy DC5 - 1: *No work will be planned or executed on site without due consultation and securing appropriate external consents and internal clearances.*

e. Relationship with stakeholders

Maintaining good working relations with neighbours and other stakeholders, such as South Hams District Council, the National Trust, Dartmouth Town Council, The Church of England, Natural England and local clubs and bodies is important to English Heritage, not simply to secure good-will but, reciprocally, to encourage good practice locally and regionally.

Policy DC6 – 1: *Every opportunity will be taken to develop and foster good relations and to liaise both professionally and personally with relevant neighbours of and stakeholders in the Dartmouth Castle site.*

f. Displays and interpretation

i. The Gun Tower

Policy DC 7-1: *English Heritage will consider the reinstatement of one of the rooms in the Gun Tower which were removed in the clearance of the 1930s, to an agreed and detailed brief.*

ii. The Battery

Policy DC7 - 2: *English Heritage will consider the reinstatement of the World War II gun emplacement to an agreed and detailed brief. This proposal will have to be considered in conjunction with Policy DC13 - 1 for the provision of a new shop and visitor facilities.*

g. Visitor operations/visitor care

i. Health & Safety

Policy DC8 – 1: *English Heritage will keep the Health and Safety of its staff and visitors under regular review and will undertake a programme of signage and physical barriers to enhance visitor safety where required.*

ii. Access for the disabled

Policy DC9 – 1: *English Heritage will develop a programme of measures to facilitate greater access for people with disabilities, both physical and intellectual. This programme will be drawn up by the regional site team in conjunction with English Heritage access consultants.*

Policy DC9 – 2: *English Heritage will consider developing an interpretation facility on the site for disabled visitors. This may include an information technology-based facility located in an accessible area of the site.*

iii. Signage

Policy DC10 - 1 English Heritage will review the adequacy of the signage relating to the Dartmouth Castle site.

h. Education

Policy DC11 - 1: English Heritage will promote the Castle site as an educational resource for the schools of Devon.

Policy DC11 - 2: English Heritage will explore with the Local Education Authority the possibilities for developing affordable water transport links with the Castle for school groups.

Policy DC11 - 3: English Heritage will consider the feasibility of dedicating specific car parking space to school group vehicles in conjunction with South Hams District Council. This policy may also need to be considered in conjunction with policy DC13 - 2, which suggests that English Heritage take on the management of the car park.

i. Access to the site

i. Transport

Policy DC 12 -1 English Heritage will encourage visitors to access Dartmouth Castle by means of public transport, by ferry, using bicycles and on foot.

ii. Car park

Policy DC12 - 2: English Heritage will work with the local authority to explore means by which the carpark use might be reduced.

Policy DC12 - 3: If and when the carpark is resurfaced, the opportunity will be taken to investigate the subsurface archaeology within this area of the site.

j. Consolidation of area under English Heritage management

Management of the whole of the Dartmouth Point site including the carpark, the WC and the former Lighthouse, as well as St Petrox church (should it ever close), together with its churchyard would, in the long-term, give English Heritage's the ability to enhance the site and improve the visitor experience. The acquisition/lease of the Lighthouse would make available a building with the potential for enhanced ticketing, interpretation and shop facilities, whose relocation would allow the reinterpretation of the WWII gun battery.

Policy DC13 – 1: The potential for the acquisition or management by other means of the Old Lighthouse should be explored with its current owners as a high priority.

Policy DC13 – 2: English Heritage should consider taking over the management of the carpark and the remainder of the interior of the 14th Century castle.

k. Visitor and Education Development

Policy DC14 - 1: English Heritage will consider the development of further resource material covering the history of the monument in the C20. This will include more information on the history of the site and town during the two World Wars.

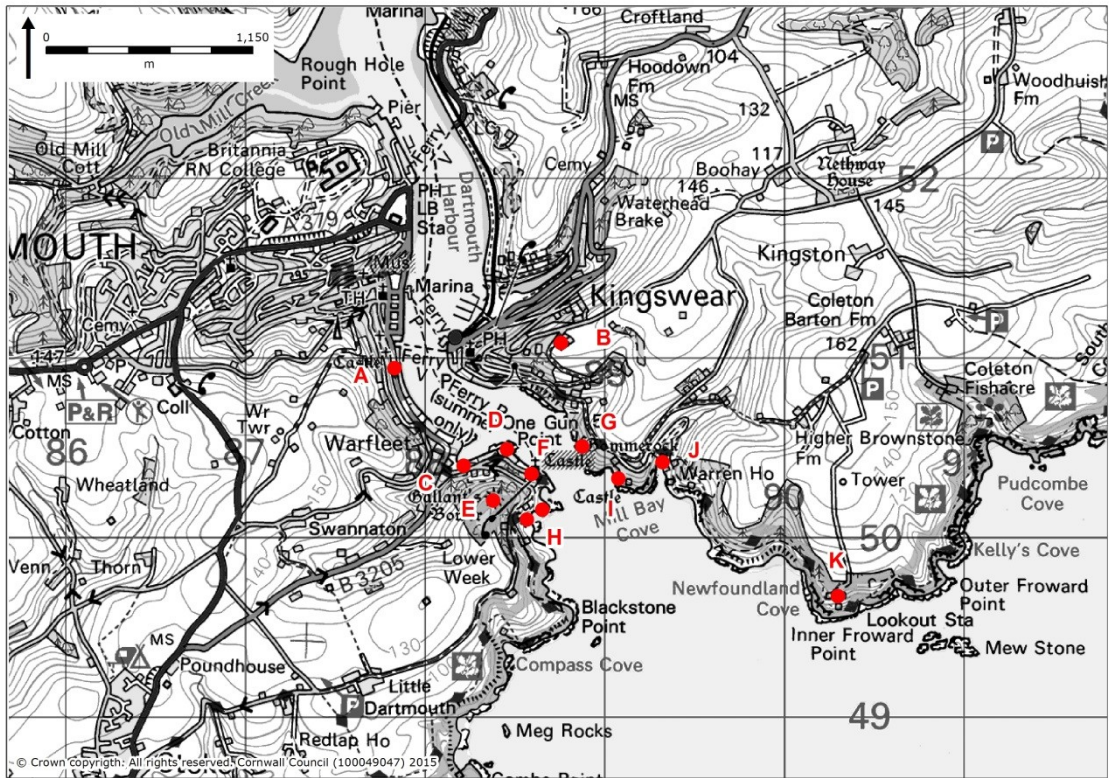


Fig 8. The defences of Dartmouth Harbour. A. Bayard's Cove Fort, B. Mount Ridley, C. Paradise Fort, D. One Gun Point, E. Gallants Bower, F. Dartmouth Castle, G. Godmerock Fort, H. Dartmouth Point battery and its predecessors, I. Kingswear Castle, J. Kingswear torpedo station, K. Brownstone Battery.

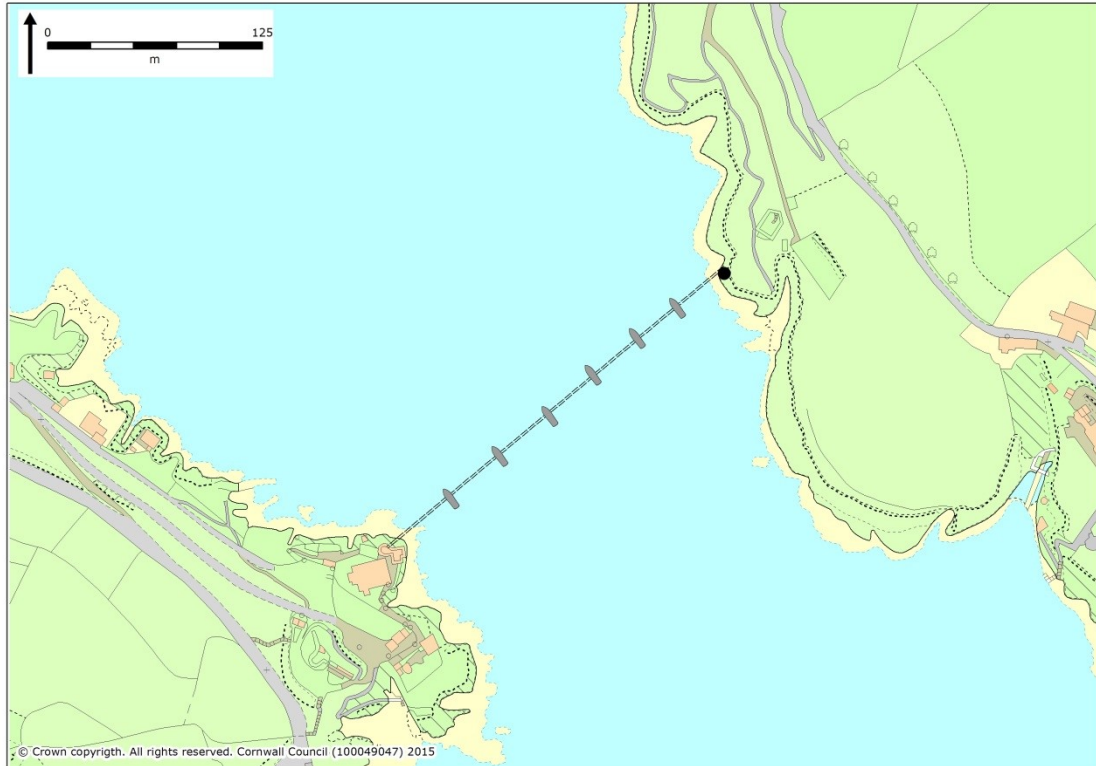


Fig 9. The location of the Dartmouth Castle to Godmerock Fort chain boom.

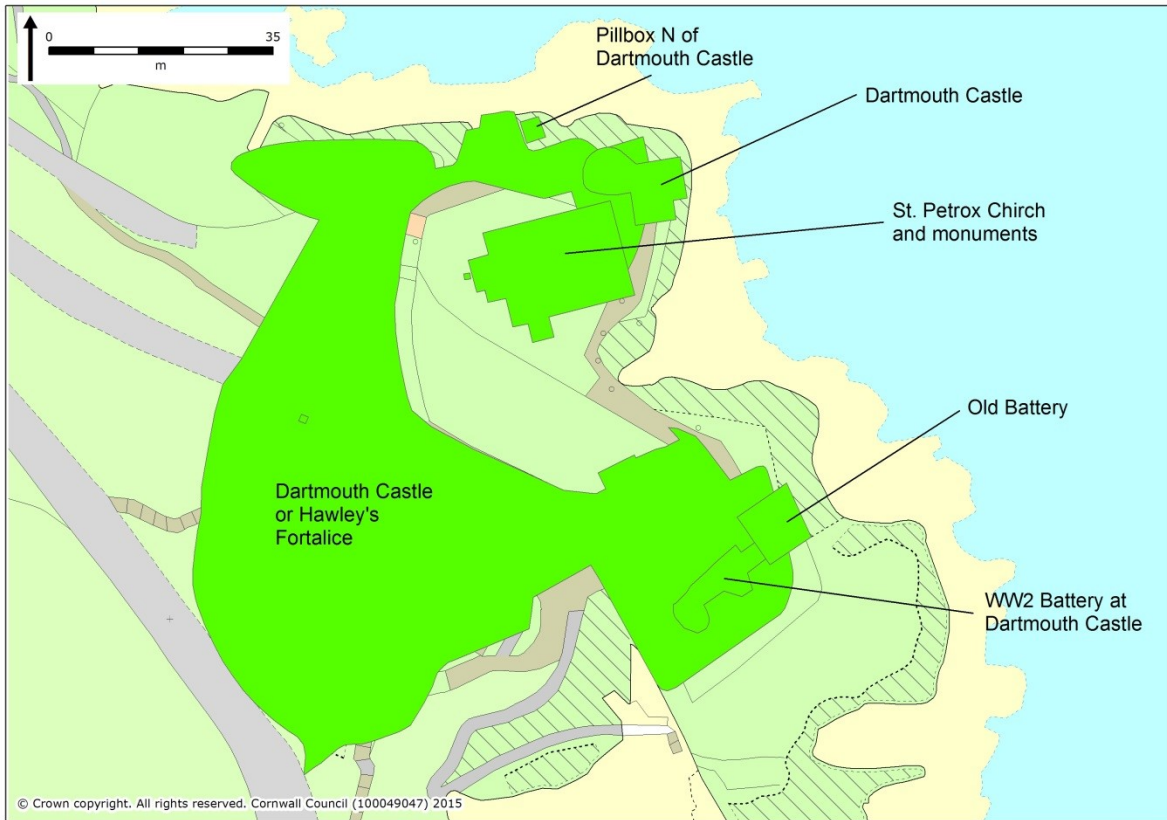


Fig 10. Devon CC HER entries – polygons.

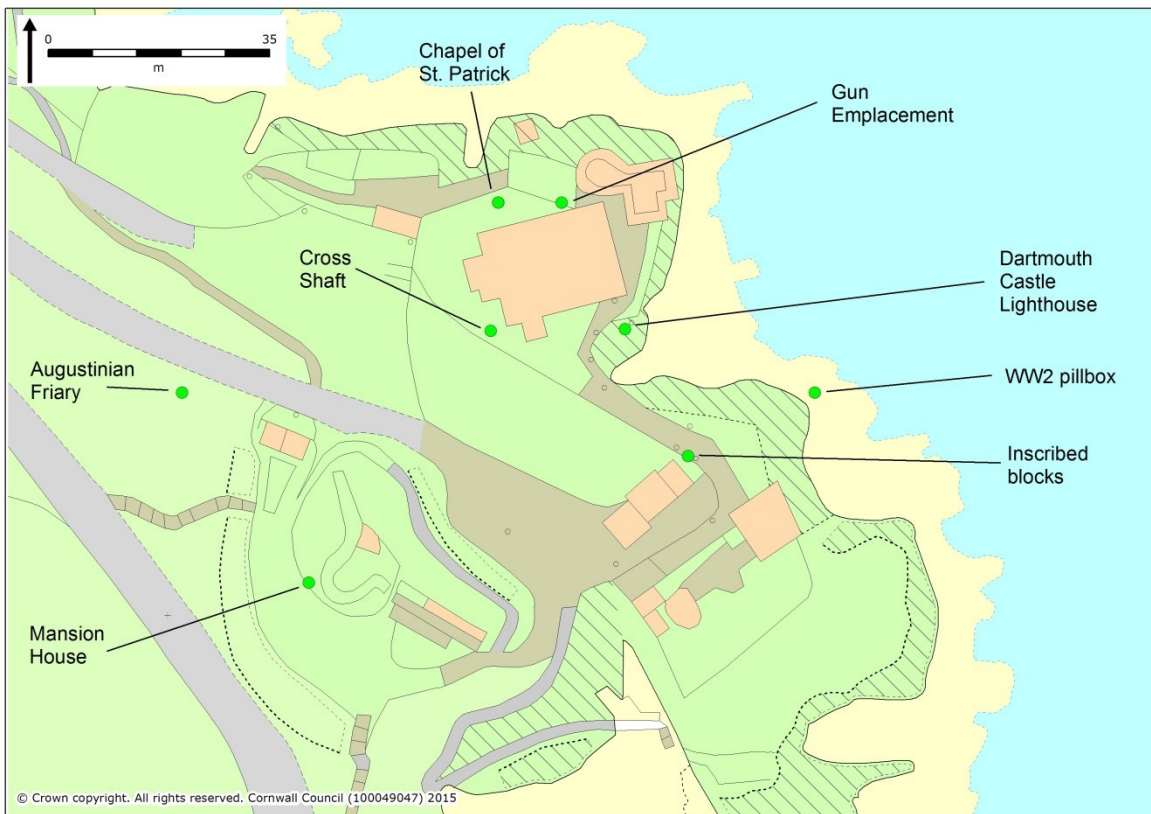


Fig 11. Devon CC HER entries – points.

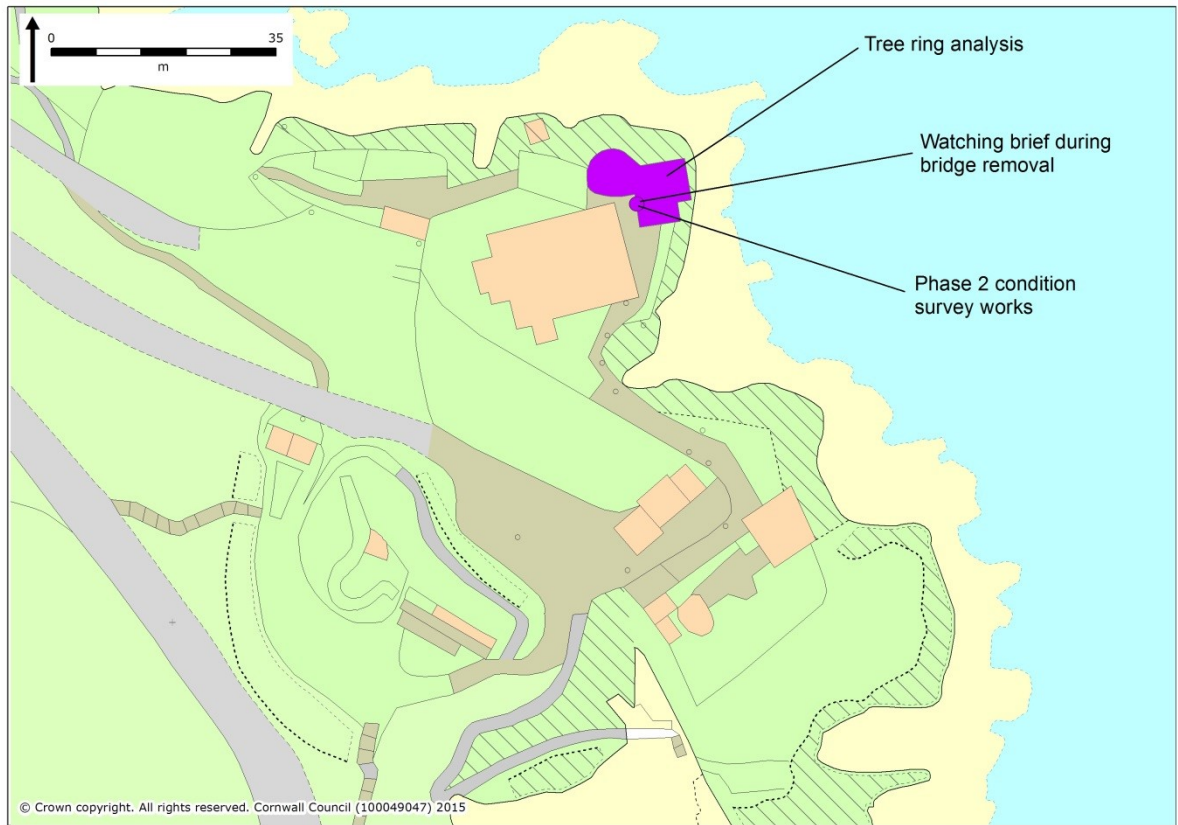


Fig 12. Devon CC HER – record of interventions.

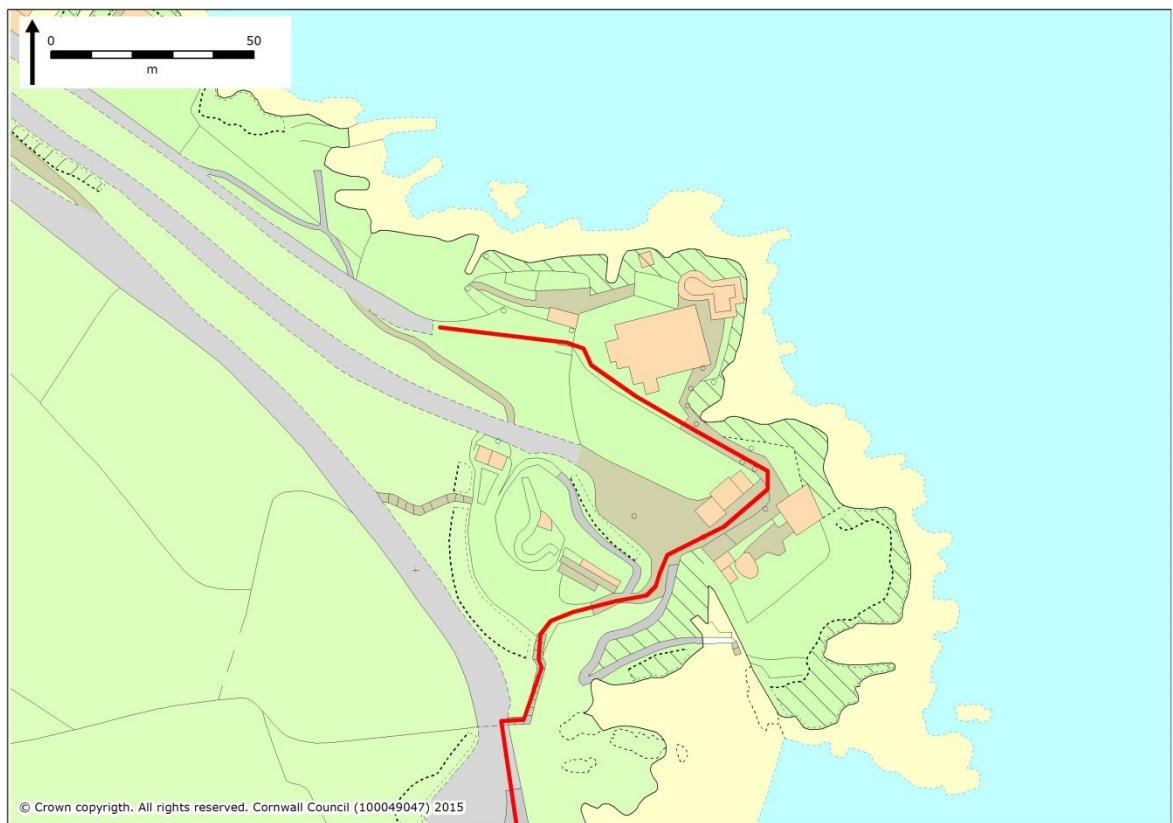


Fig 13. The route of the South West Coast Path National Trail at Dartmouth Castle.

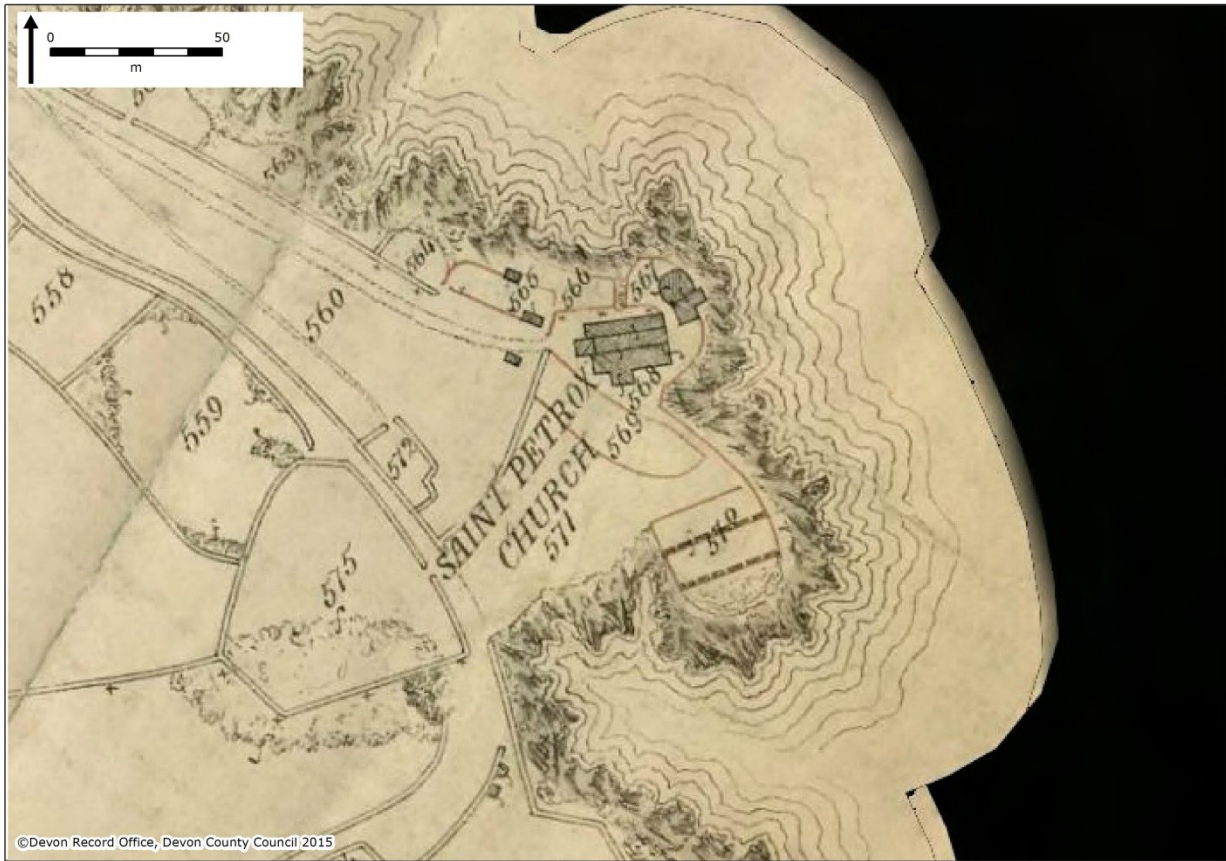


Fig 14. An extract from the circa 1840 Dartmouth Tithing Map showing the arrangement of features at Dartmouth Castle at the time, including the two tier Grand Battery and the store buildings at the landing place to the west of the gun tower. Reproduced with the kind permission of Devon Archives and Local Studies Service.

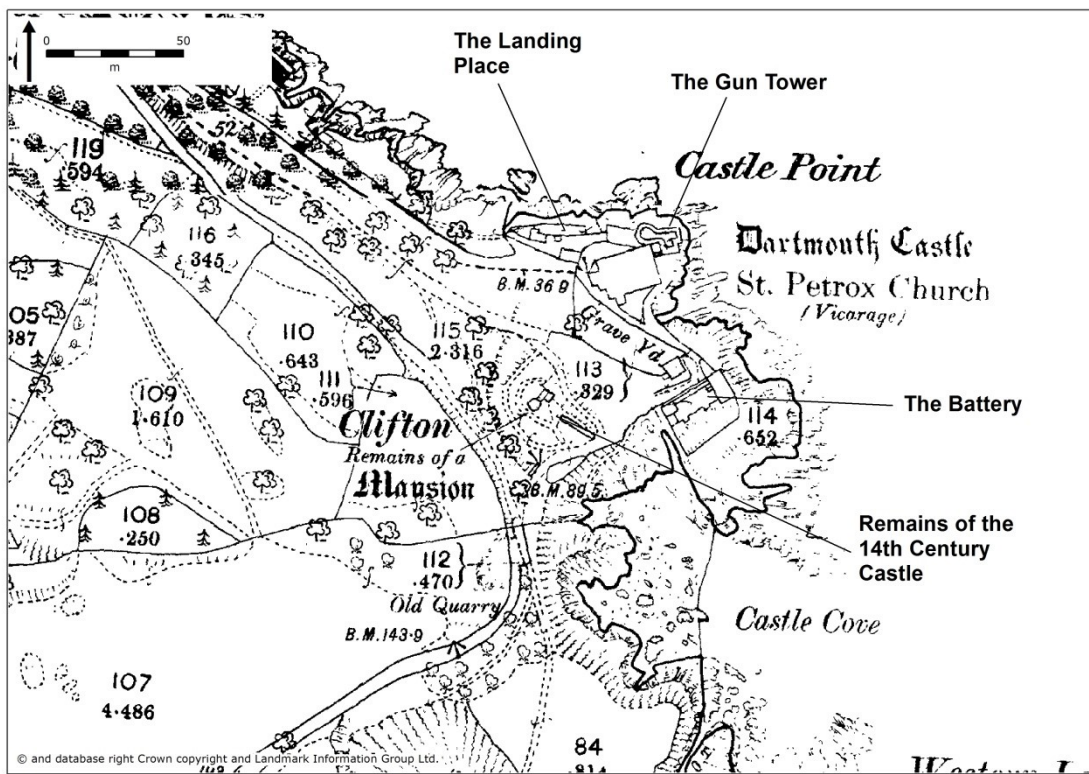


Fig 15. Features at Dartmouth Castle as recorded by the Ordnance Survey circa 1880.

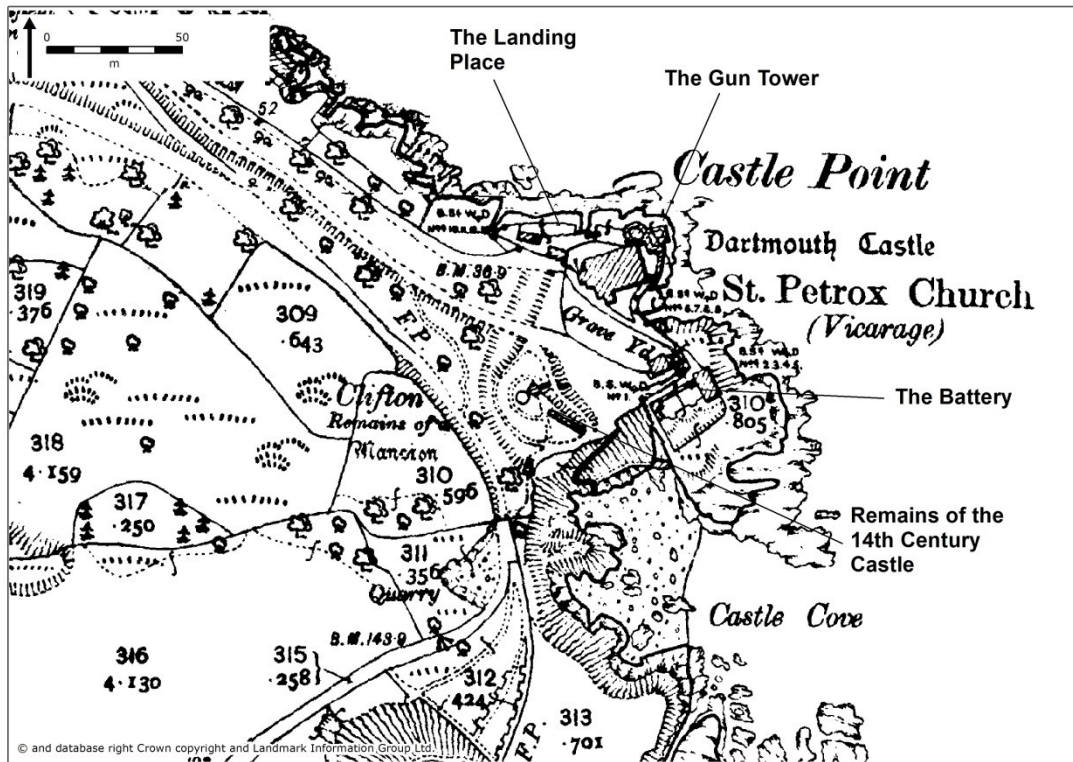


Fig 16. Features at Dartmouth Castle as recorded by the Ordnance Surey circa 1908.



Fig 17. Dartmouth Point Battery during the late 19th Century showing the two RMLs installed behind the open embrasures on its roof.



Fig 18. Dartmouth Point Battery during the inter-war period in the 20th Century showing the mountings for the pair of QF guns which had been mounted there during WWI.

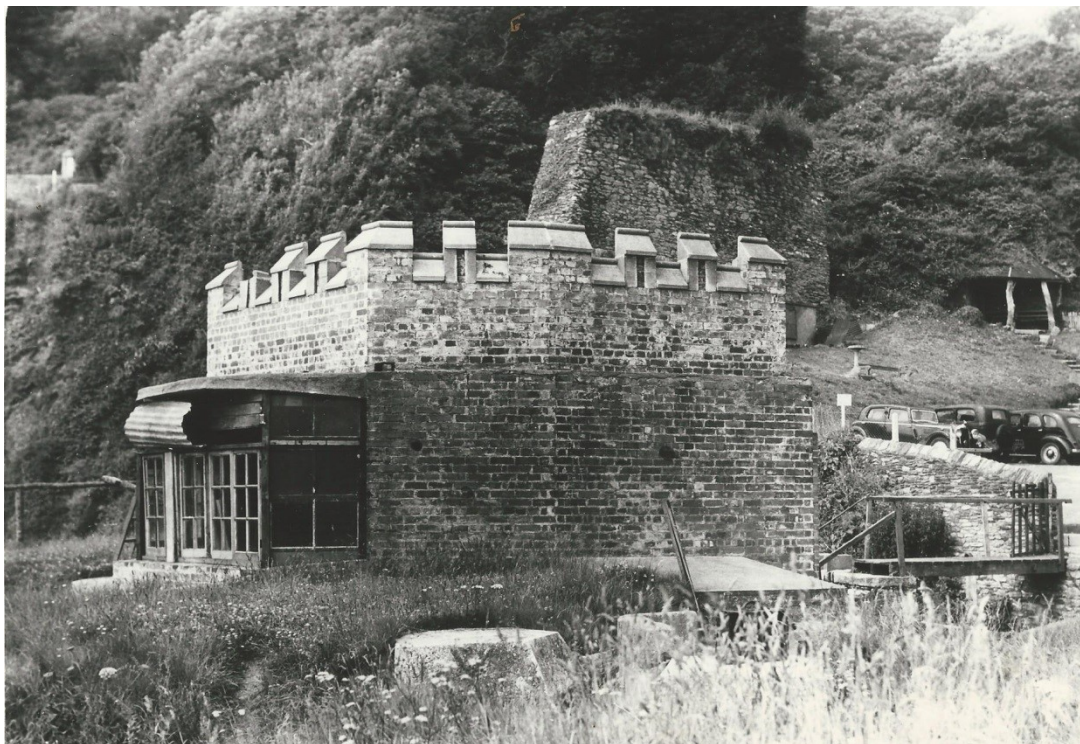


Fig 19. The eastern WW2 Dartmouth Point Battery QF building, this view probably dating to the late 1950s by which date the battery was being used as a tearoom.

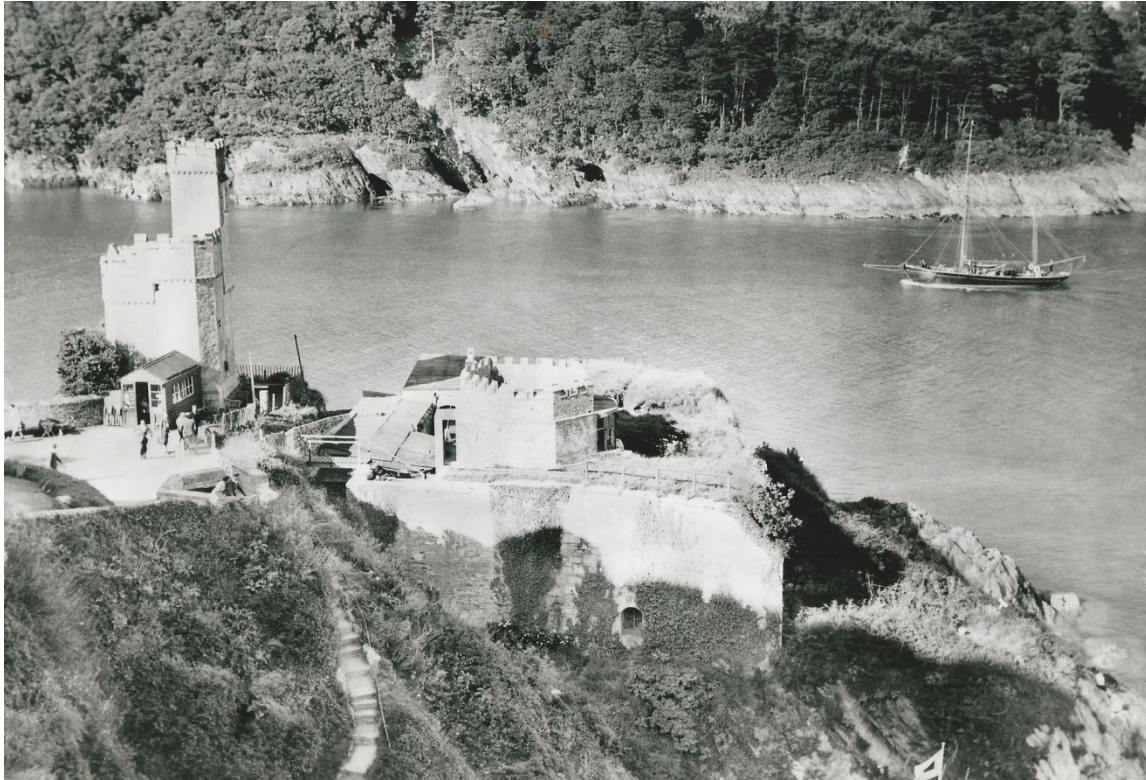


Fig 20. Dartmouth Point Battery during MoW works following the handover of this part of the Dartmouth Castle in 1955.



Fig 21. Dartmouth Point Battery and the Lighthouse Tearooms today.



Fig 22. The pillbox for the heavy machine gun covering the harbour boom during WW2. It has been suggested that the two features on its roof might have housed smoke generators. The pillbox, which was sited next to the northern gun platform, was demolished a few years ago.



Fig 23. A cutaway drawing of the lower floor of the mid-19th century gun battery, incorporating its modified magazine area.

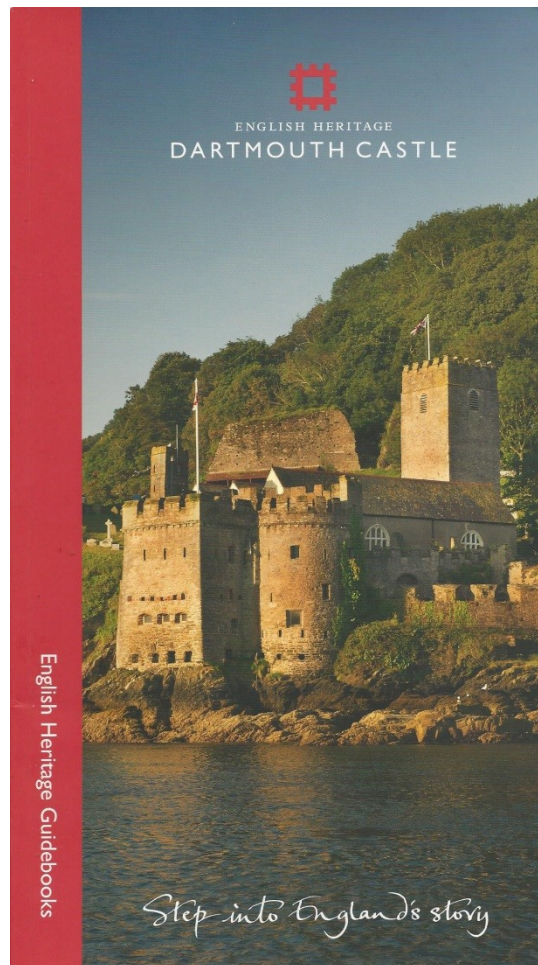
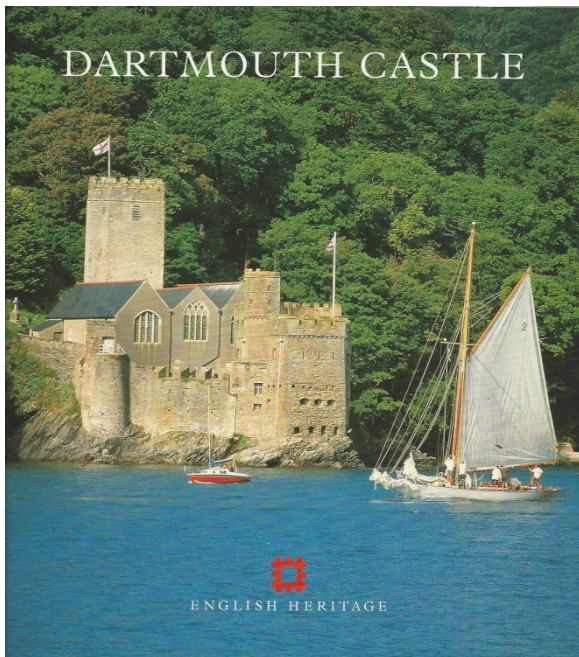
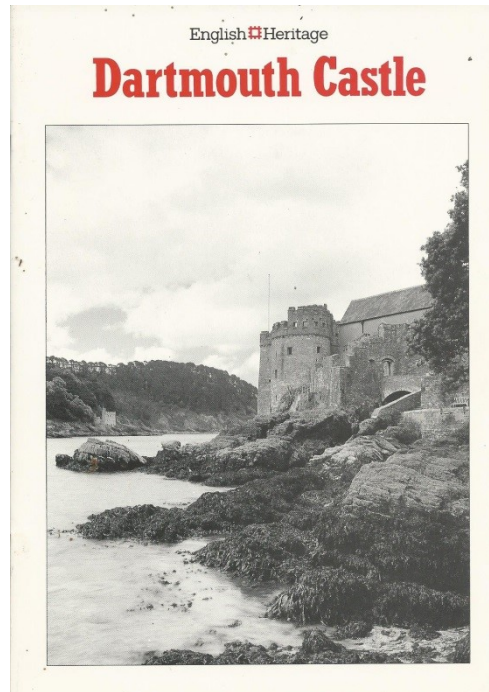
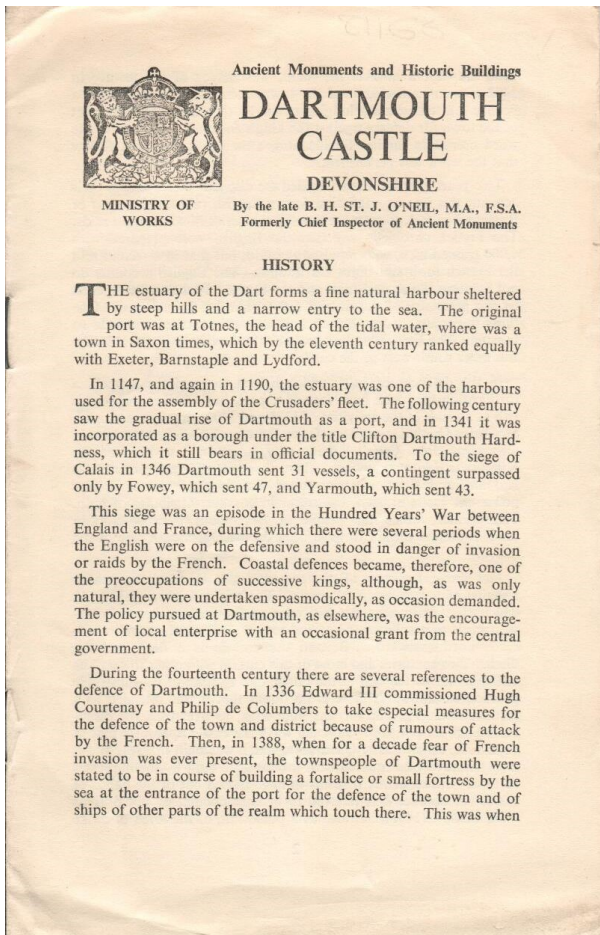


Fig 24. Four iterations of the Dartmouth Castle guidebook, dating to 1936, 1965, 2000 and 2013.

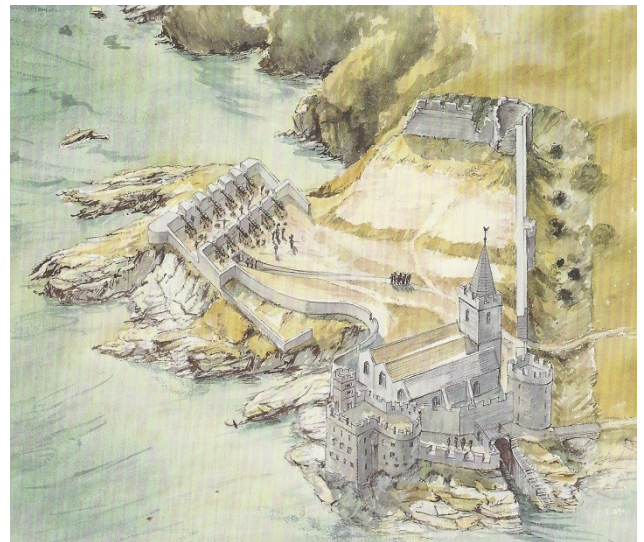
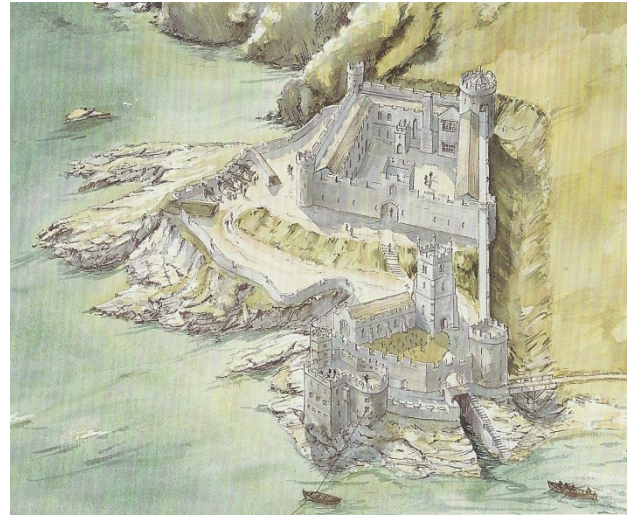
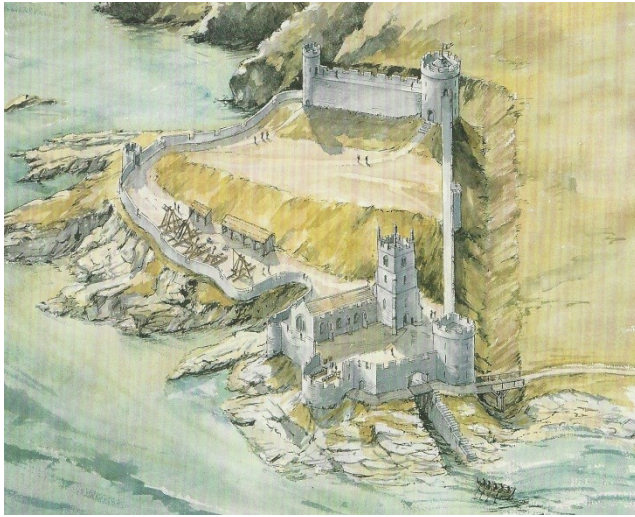


Fig 25. Reconstructed views of Dartmouth Castle reproduced from guidebooks to the site showing (top left, 2000) the site circa 1388 showing the 'fortalice' and the early church building; (top right, 2000) the site circa 1550 showing Clifton Mansion, the gun tower and chain boom, together with the first open battery to the south; (bottom left 2010) an alternative view reconstruction of the site circa 1550 omitting Clifton Mansion and the south-western corner tower, as well as slightly re-locating the north-eastern gatehouse; (bottom right, 2000) the site circa 1750 showing the rebuilt church and the two tier Grand Battery.



Fig 26. The likely elements of the harbour defences at Dartmouth Point during the 14th century – ‘Hawley’s Fortalice’.

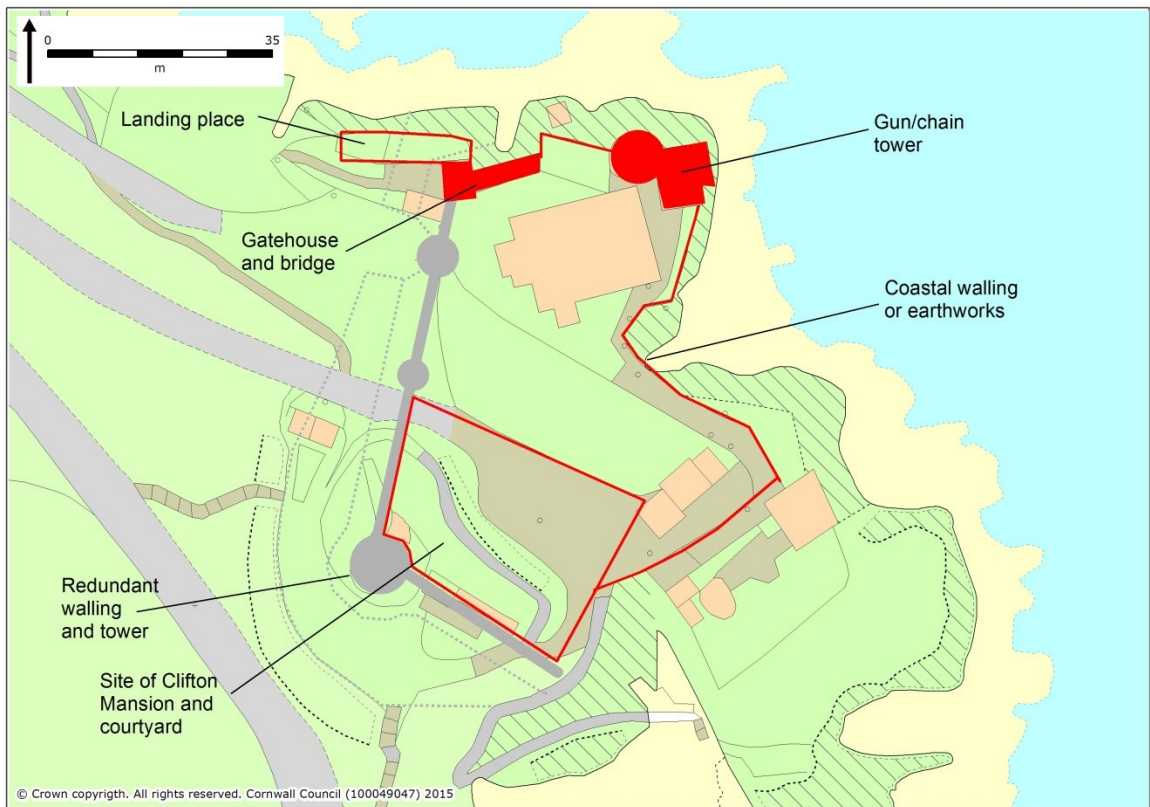


Fig 27. The 15th century gun tower, chain boom and associated features, together with the general area occupied by Carew’s Clifton Mansion.

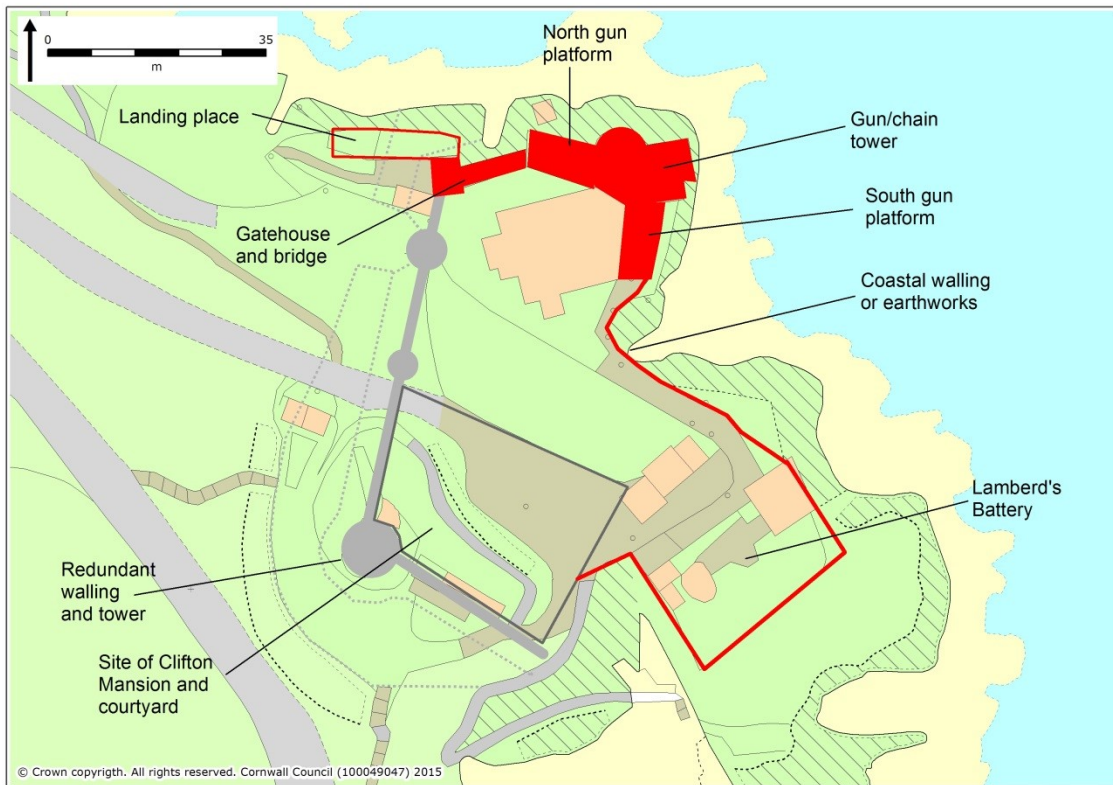


Fig 28. The mid-16th extensions to the gun tower and the site of Lamberd's Battery. Active elements of the defences are shown in red and redundant feature in grey.

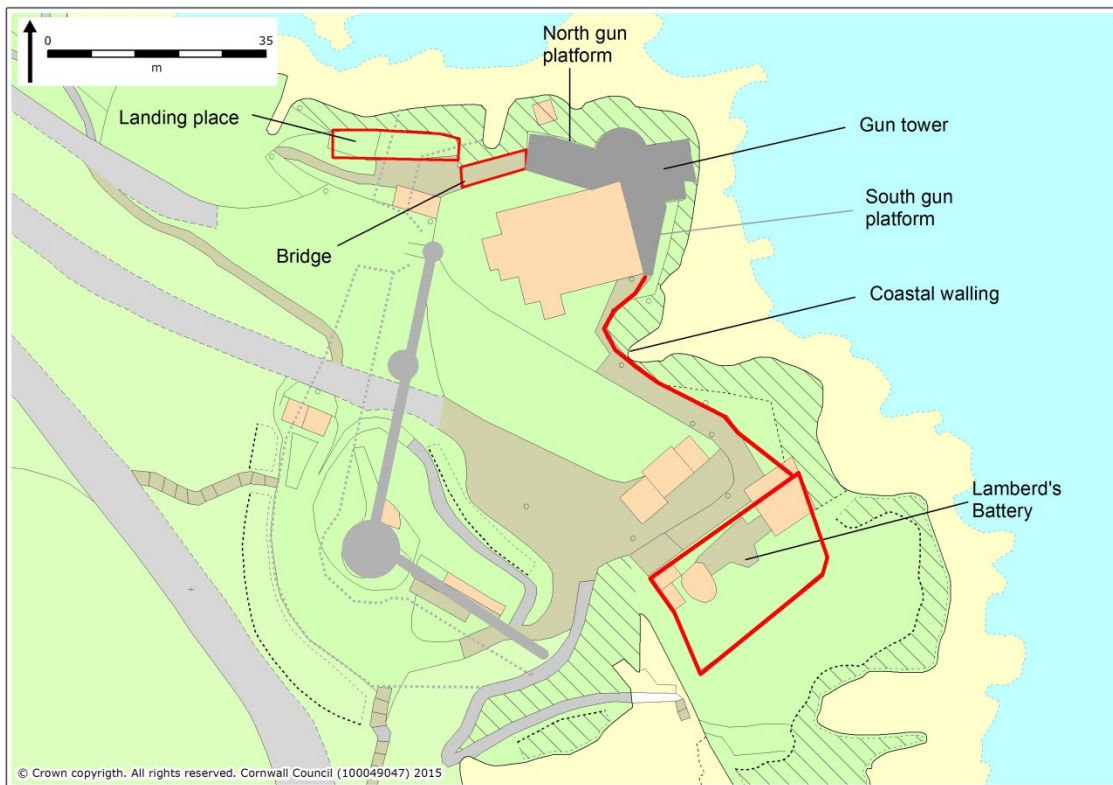


Fig 29. The Dartmouth Point defences after the Civil War following the demolition of Clifton Mansion.

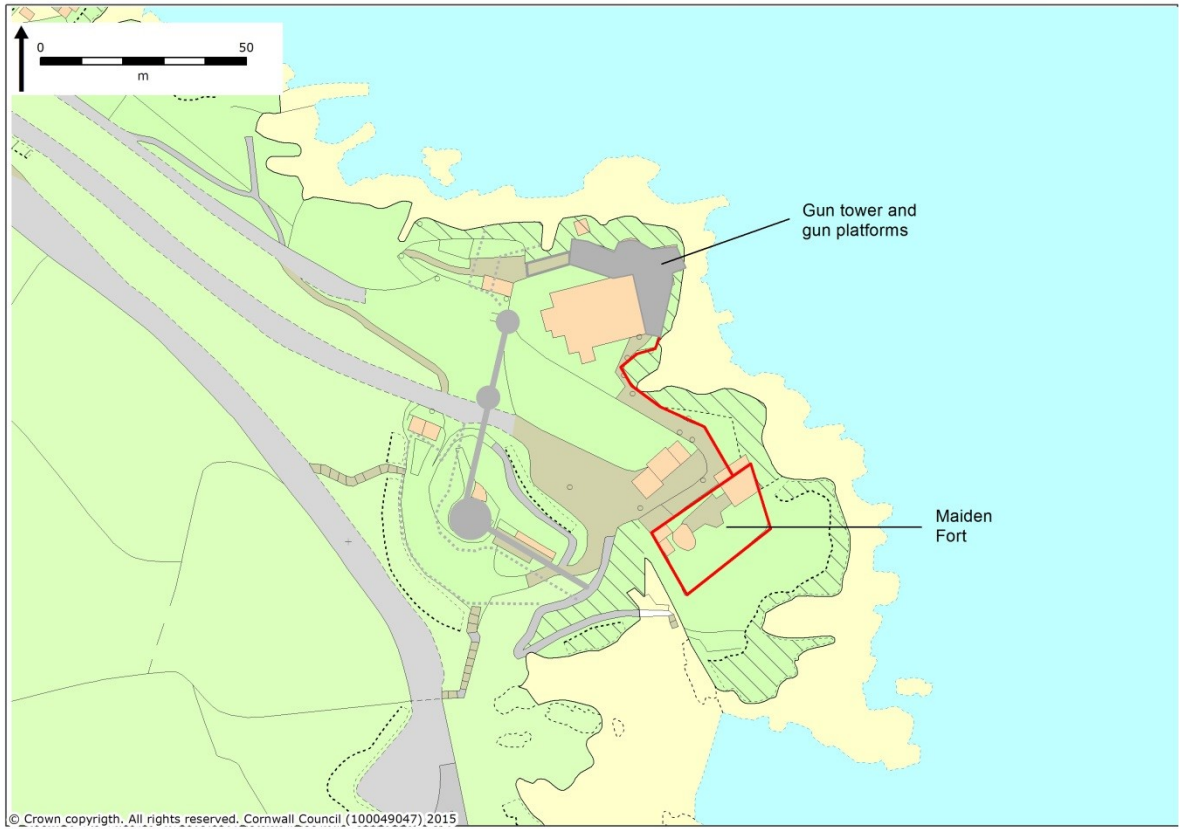


Fig 30. The 17th century Maiden Fort at Dartmouth Point.

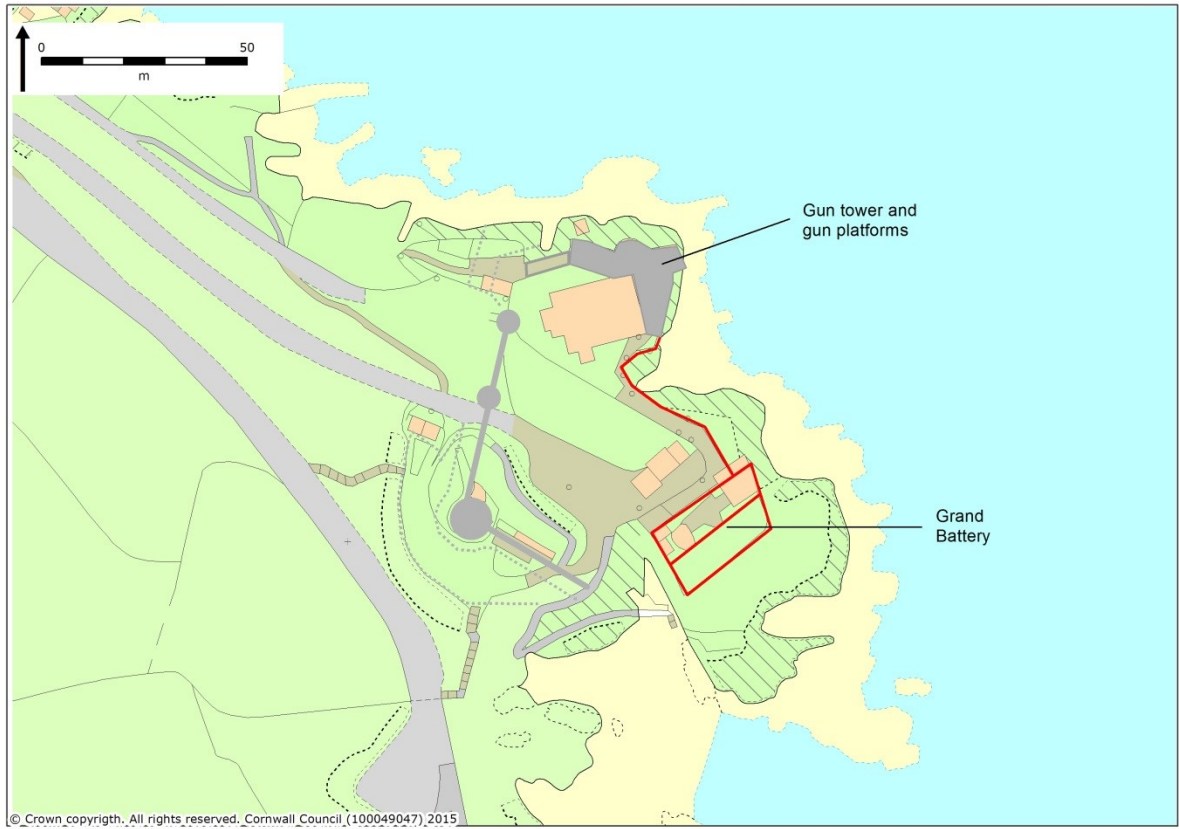


Fig 31. The 18th century Grand Battery at Dartmouth Point.

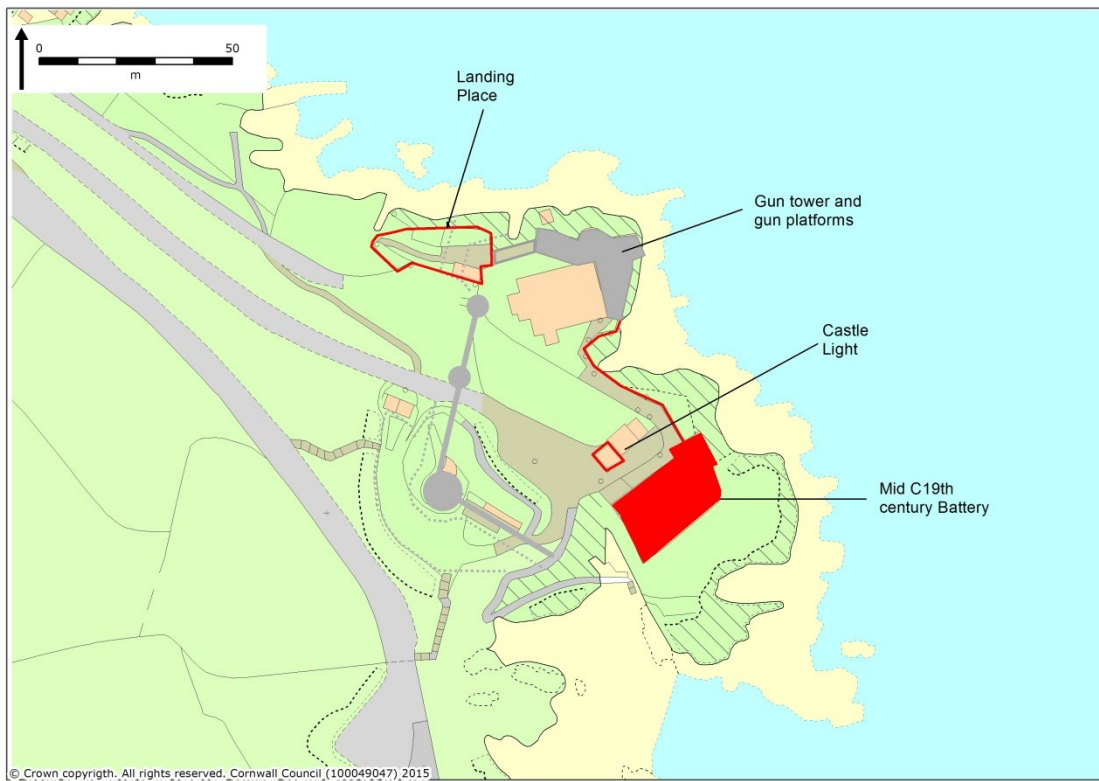


Fig 32. The mid-19th century Battery at Dartmouth Point.

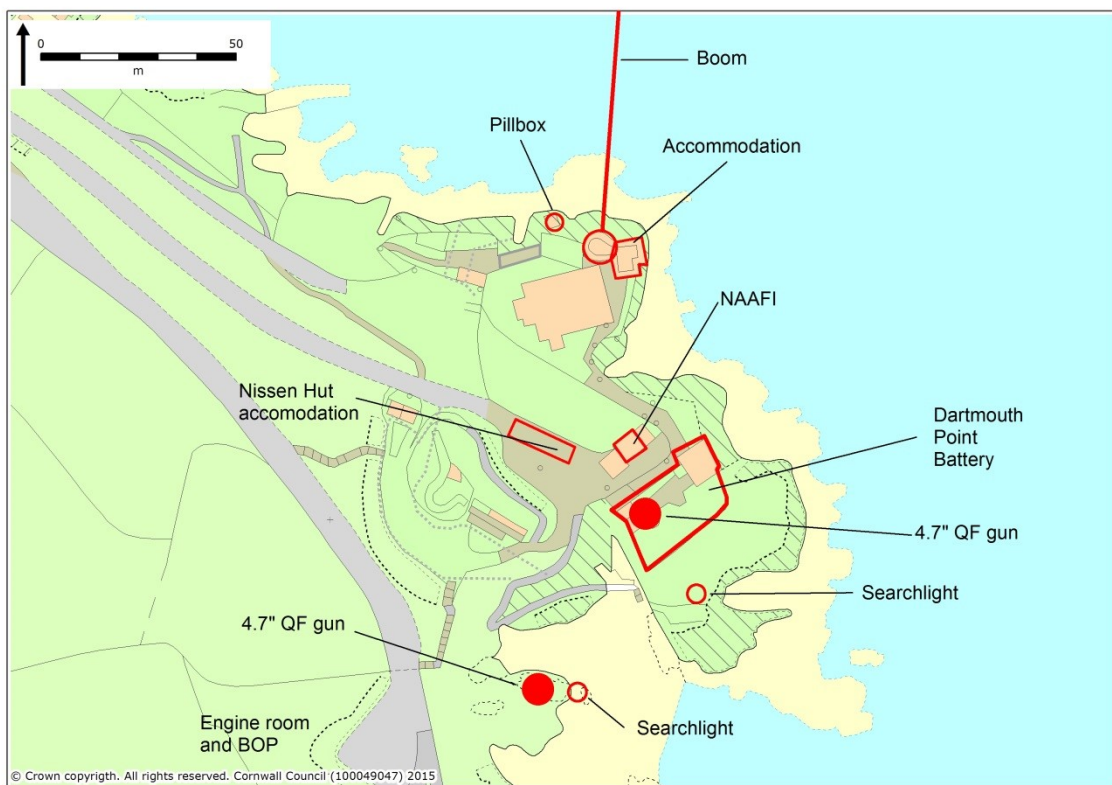


Fig 33. The WW2 defences at Dartmouth Point.



Fig 34 The 19th century 64pdr RML on its reconstructed traversing slide carriage in the battery casemate.

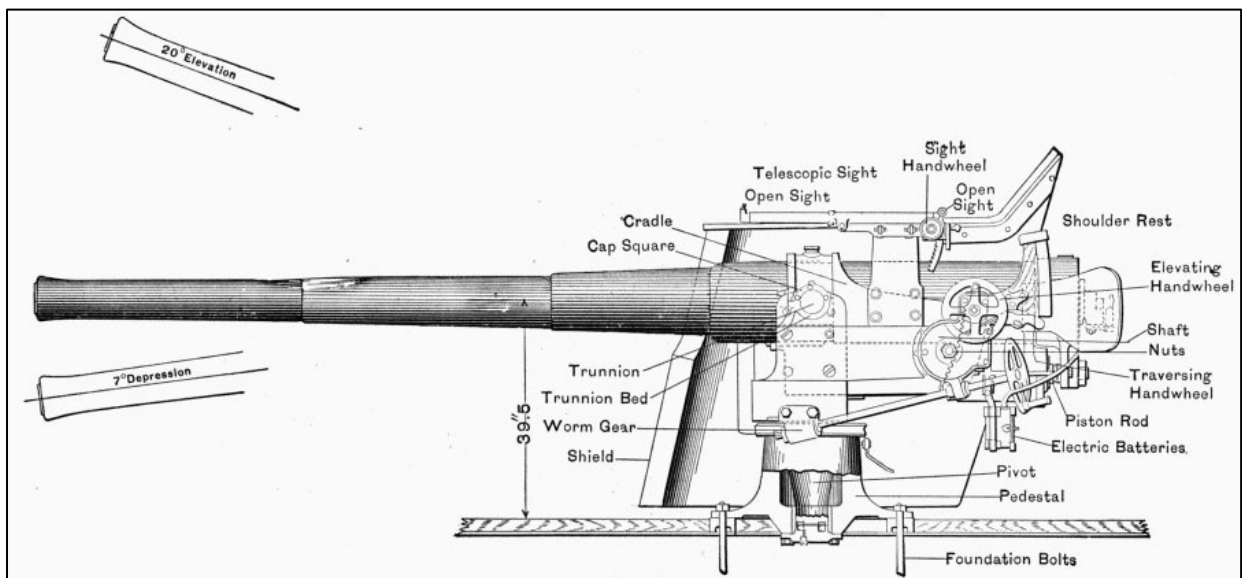


Fig 35. A diagram of a 4.7" QF gun similar to the pair installed at Dartmouth Point Battery during WW2, and probably also during WW1.

