

## Coalhouse Q.F. Battery

<p><b>Commenced</b> 1893  <b>Completed</b> 1893  <b>Cost</b> £  <b>Map Reference</b> TR 693 765  <b>Position</b> South of Coalhouse Fort</p> <p><b>Type</b> QF Battery  <b>Ditch</b> Wet  <b>Guns</b> 4  <b>Barrack Accom.</b> None  <b>Present use</b> None</p> <p><b>History</b></p> <p><b>Disposal</b>  <b>Condition</b> Overgrown but recognisable  <b>Access</b> Open</p> <p><b>Sources</b> 'Coalhouse Fort and The Artillery Defences at East Tilbury' by Victor Smith</p>	<p><b>Armament</b></p> <p><b>1893</b>  4 x 6pdr Q.F.</p> <p><b>Caponiers</b> None</p> <p><b>Counterscarp galleries</b> None</p> <p><b>Haxo casemates</b> None</p> <p><b>Moncrieff Pits</b> None</p>
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### History and Description

In the 1880s there was a concern that fast, highly manoeuvrable torpedo boats could travel up the Thames and carry out a lightning raid on shipping in the river. They would be relatively immune to fire from the existing B.L. guns at Coalhouse. This gave rise to a new generation of Quick Fire gun batteries and at East Tilbury a new four gun Q.F. battery was placed between Coalhouse Fort and the River whilst others were added to the defences at Cliffe and Shornmead.

The new Coalhouse Battery consisted of an earth mound into which were built concrete emplacements and magazines. A small water filled ditch with an unclimbable fence surrounded the work. These Q.F. guns batteries along the Thames worked in association with minefields and searchlights to provide a much more formidable defence against fast attack boats.

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