

## Landguard Wing Right Battery

<b>Commenced</b>	1898	<b>Armament</b>	
<b>Completed</b>	1901	<b>1901</b>	2 x 6-inch BL CP Mk2 1 x 10-inch BL Mk 3 LCP Mk4
<b>Cost</b>	£ 13,950	<b>1911</b>	2 x 6-inch BL Wire Mk 7 1 x 10-inch removed
<b>Map Reference</b>	TM 284317	<b>1914</b>	2 x 6-inch Mk
<b>Position</b>	East of Landguard Fort	<b>1919</b>	1 x 6-inch Long Range RCD 15522C 1 x 6-inch Mk 7
<b>Type</b>	Coast Defence Battery	<b>1939</b>	2 x 6-inch Mk 7 with shields
<b>Ditch</b>	None	<b>1942</b>	2 x 6-inch Mk7 (nos 1 &2) 2 x 6-inch Mk 24 (H1 & H2)
<b>Guns</b>	3	<b>1944-57</b>	2 x 6-inch Mk24
<b>Barrack Accom.</b>	Huts	<b>Caponiers</b>	None
<b>Present use</b>	Bird Observatory	<b>Counterscarp galleries</b>	None
<b>History</b>	Coast Battery to 1956	<b>Haxo casemates</b>	None
<b>Disposal</b>	Crown land E.H. lease	<b>Moncrieff Pits</b>	None
<b>Condition</b>	Heavily Overgrown		
<b>Access</b>	Via observatory		
<b>Sources</b>	WO plans WO78 192 Yorke		

### History and Description

Construction of the New Right Flank Battery started in 1898. The fortification being specially designed for Landguard. It was armed in 1901 with two BL 6-inch wire Mk7 on CP Mk2 mounts, firing 100 lb. Piercing shell, range 12,000 yards, and one BL 10-inch gun Mk3 on a barbette BL 10-inch Mk 4, LCP. (Low central pivot) firing 500 lb. AP shell, range 11,500 yards. The southern most No 1 Emplacement was armed with one 6 inch, The northern No 2 emplacement held one 6 inch, the northern No 3 one 10 inch. This was later reported as - 'experimental', the only one of its type. Yorke - "*a 10-inch on a Mk5 mounting, like an enormous 9.2-inch.*" - the Mk5 Mount, introduced 1889. It may have been the prototype for the later standard CP mounted 10-inch, or for the 9.2-inch High Angle designed to replace the 9-inch RML HA guns, installed at Gibraltar and Plymouth and declared obsolete in 1929.

In 1911 the 10 inch was removed and its emplacement in 1912, No 3 Emplacement Right Battery converted to Fire Control, now the bird observatory. The two 6-inch remained the main armament From 1914 to 1942 with some equipment modifications and experiments in between. In 1919 Landguard Right Battery No 1 was changed to 6-inch BL Long Range Gun from RCD 15222 C(1) in place of 5-inch BL MkVII. This is probably the early work on High Angle mountings. The second world war saw overhead protection added and the building of H1 and H2 positions, fitted with 6-inch Mark 24 guns further north along the protective bank and in 1943 they took on the defence role. The 6-inch Mk 7 finally being put to other uses. The plan to put the third gun in No.1 Emplacement Right Battery, the old experimental long range site of 1919, was not carried out.

At the north of the bank between the batteries, where the road now enters the foreshore. Two 3pdr. practise guns existed, positions now covered by the road. Just south of them in front of H2, 6-inch Mk24 shell stores, in the bird sanctuary, - two 6-inch Mk2 on Slide carriages, were emplaced as practise guns. (*Ord BL 6-inch gun Mk4 or 6 on carriage garrison barbette BL 6-inch Mk1 or 2, or Vavasour CP Mk1. introduced in 1885 and 1889. The Mk2 barbette of 1894 being a more compact version of the Vavasour Mk1 mounting, 24 bolts in a circle.*)

From 1943 279 Battery manned Landguard 6-inch Battery with 2 x 6-inch Mk24 on Mk5 mountings. Range 24,000 yards. They remained the main armament to 1956 when the coast artillery disbanded.

Landguard Wing Right Battery

