

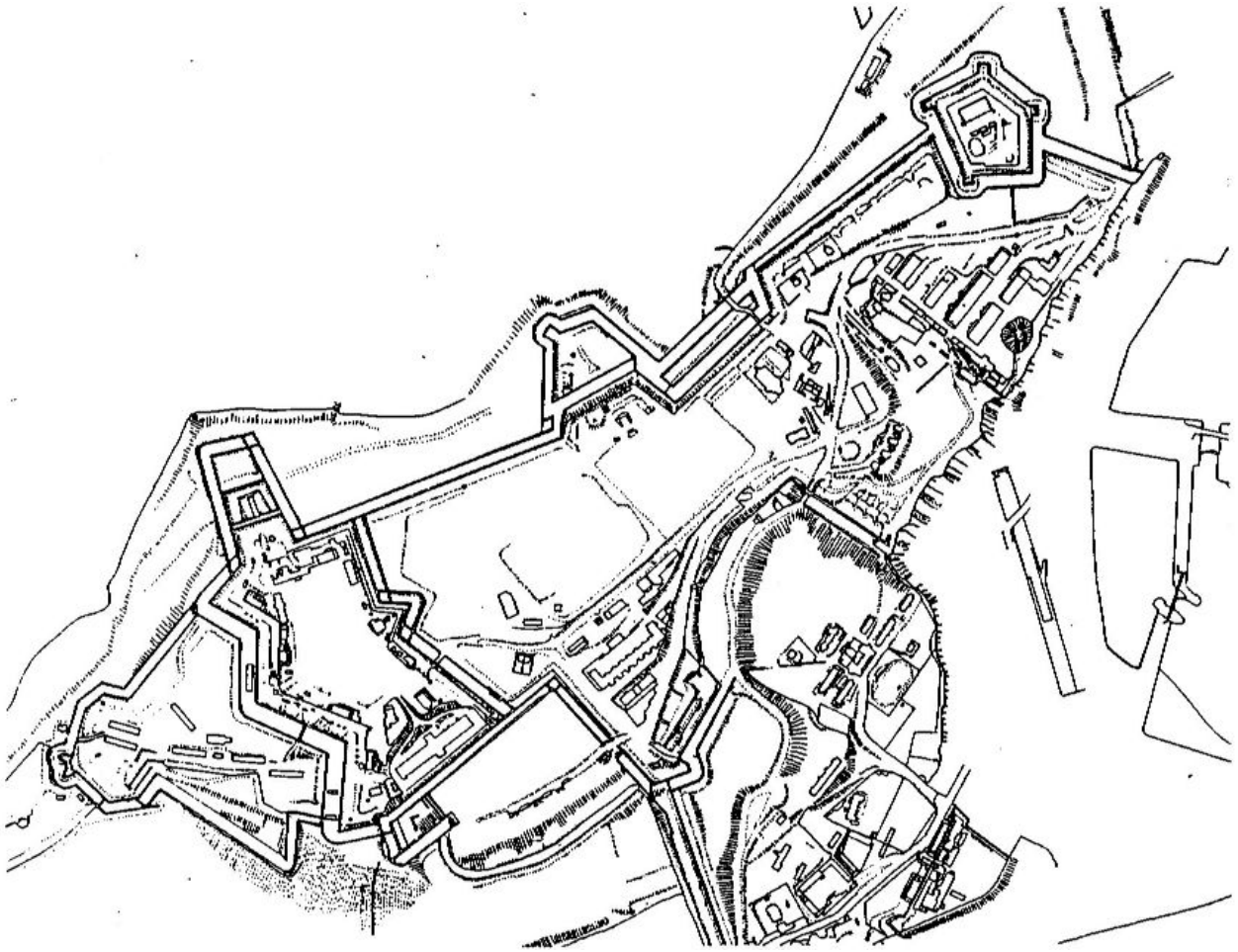
Western Heights Defences

Commenced	c.1780 as field works	Armament	Originally for a total of 160 (approx) guns on ramparts and in caponiers, scarp and counterscarp galleries.
Completed	February 1864		1892 Approved Armament included 10-inch RMLs, 64pr RMLs, 7-inch RBLs, 40pr RBLs, 4-inch BL, 6.6-inch howitzers, 3pr QFs, 24pr carronades and a 9pr saluting battery.
Cost	£ Total not known		
Map Reference	TR 305404 to TR 317411		
Position	Hills west of and overlooking		
Type	Dover Land front / Fortified line		
Ditch	Dry		
Guns	Approx. 160		
Barrack Accom.	85 officers, 2146 others, 16 horses		
Present use	Part H.M. Young Offender Institution, remainder derelict		
History	Army barracks, H.M. Prison, H.M. Borstal /Young Offender Inst.	Caponiers	Several
Disposal	Part sold to Dover Corporation 1960s.	Counterscarp galleries	Some at The Citadel
Condition	Y.O. Institution maintained: remainder derelict and deteriorating.	Haxo casemates	None
Access	White Cliffs Countryside Project keep footpaths clear and signposted.	Moncrieff Pits	None
Sources	Burridge, 'Guide to the Western Heights Defences'		

History and Description

The field works of c.1780 eventually expanded into a fortified line approximately 1.5 kilometres (almost 1 mile) with three separate self-defensible works and approximately 8 kilometres (5 miles) of ditches. The works were left incomplete when Napoleon was defeated at Waterloo in 1815. In 1850, in worsening international tensions, work began on their completion, and this work was adopted by the 1859 Royal Commission and completed by 1867. It consists of three major portions, from east to west, Drop Redoubt, North Centre Bastion with Detached Bastion and Western Outworks. Other gun batteries were added later in the 19 century, North Lines Right Battery, Citadel Battery, South front Battery and St. Martin's Battery.

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Looking West from Drop Redoubt

