

KEYS & MONAGHAN/ TAYLOR MCCARNEY ARCHITECTS
DONEGAL COUNTY COUNCIL

Dunree Fort Project

Built Heritage Impact Assessment



Dedalus Architecture
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*Figure 1 – Cover: Dunree Fort circa 1890; prior to remodelling & expansion to incorporate Dunree Hill Battery & Redoubt post 1895
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Architectural Heritage Impact Assessment

The following is a summary description of the proposed tourism development that is being submitted for 'Part 8' Planning Permission with respect to the Protected Structures comprising the Dunree Fort complex and Dunree Lighthouse. The former military structures affected by the development are referenced in the description by their historical functions within the fort complex and former Ordnance Grounds. For clarity, the new names proposed in the tourism development used in the public advertisement for the project are also included here to avoid confusion

1. Redoubt Fort/ 'High Fort':

- Change of use from disused 19th century military structure to new public tourist facility
- Removal of a section of 19th century glacis embankment and drystone counterscarp revetment wall to facilitate vehicle access and turning within existing defensive ditch
- Development of a section of access road and pedestrian pathway within the defensive ditch
- Demolition of WW1 concrete DRF Post Shelter to guardhouse bastion
- Construction of a new hilltop accommodation within the fort enclosure comprising exhibition space, viewing gallery, toilets, staff room, lift and external viewing platform.
- Restoration of 19th century parapet walkway and re-profiling works at corners to accommodate proposed increased width
- Installation of independent steel frameworks to support WW1 concrete blockhouse structures to facilitate safe access

2. Dunree Hill Battery/ 'High Guns':

- Conservation & repair works to facilitate safe access to disused 19th century military structure

3. Light Keeper's House/ 'Lighthouse':

- Change of use from disused 19th century residential lightkeeper's accommodation to public exhibition space
- Associated alterations & refurbishment works including formation of new opening between rooms
- Construction of new pedestrian pathway linking lighthouse grounds to part of fort complex.

4. 'Lighthouse/Northern Walkway':

- Construction of new sculptural feature walkway & viewing platform within an area of the Dunree Fort site/ former Ordnance Grounds with no earlier military function

5. Lower Fort/ 'Lough Swilly Walkway':

- Removal/ demolition of modern balustrades & flagpoles
- Construction of new partially cantilevered walkway & viewing platform structure - associated conservation & repair works to existing early 19th century masonry walls and archaeological investigations in connection with location of existing subsurface structures
- Demolition of existing modern drawbridge at entry point to early 19th century fort & renewal with new structure
- Removal/ demolition of existing modern car park area/ former parade ground and renewal with new pedestrianised landscaping with provision for two accessible parking spaces.

6. Dunree Fort Hutment/ 'The Village':

- Restoration of four early 20th century corrugated metal clad structures (former Quartermaster Store, Commander's Offices & Engine Houses to facilitate safe public access.

- Conservation & repair works to multiple corrugated metal clad structures, not proposed for restoration, to secure & prevent public access
- Restoration and change of use of two early 20th century red brick barrack buildings (Block C & D) to 'Welcome Buildings' comprising souvenir shop, pay station, toilets, store and changing facilities; adjacent new entrance gate & secure fencing to control public access
- Change of use of former 19th century RE Store to & associated alteration works to form extension to existing cafeteria

7. Infrastructure and Associated Ancillary Works:

- Improvements to existing vehicular and pedestrian access to the site
- Alteration to mid - 20th century vehicle entrance & entry barrier to site
- Construction of new car parking serving 110 no. cars, 5 no. buses & 5 no minibuses and associated removal of early 20th century kerbs, walling & other features to facilitate proposed new parking area.
- Conservation & repair of ruined early 20th century structure of former Officers' mess & officers' quarters to facilitate safe access through the car parking area
- Installation of independent steel frameworks to support 4 no WW1 concrete blockhouse structures to facilitate safe access
- Removal of collapsed walls & demolition of base of former gymnasium building; construction of new internal access road from the proposed 'Welcome buildings' connecting to the existing military access road serving the Redoubt Fort/ 'High Fort' to provide access for a wheelchair accessible electric vehicle.
- Replacement and upgrade of waste water treatment plants, new toilets, fencing, lighting, landscaping, security gate and barriers.
- Upgrade of electricity and water supply.
- Other associated ancillary works above and below ground necessary to facilitate the proposed tourism development..

Purpose of the Assessment

This assessment relates to a planning application for tourism related development at Dunree Fort and Dunree Lighthouse & Lightkeeper's House, a Protected Structure, listed in the Donegal County Development Plan.

The report has been prepared by Duncan McLaren, RIAI Grade 1 Conservation Architect. We have been instructed by KEYS & MONAGHAN/ TAYLOR MCCARNEY ARCHITECTS, to prepare an Architectural Heritage Impact Assessment to consider the heritage impacts of the proposed development.

Our assessment of the impact of the current proposals is based on the following information:

- Survey, inspection & preparation of a Conservation Plan for the historic buildings at the site.
- Drawings describing the proposed development that are submitted for the Planning Application.
- Attendance at periodic design team meetings
- Consultation with the project architects
- Site visits undertaken in 2022 and early 2023

In addition to the observations made at the visits, we have also made reference to earlier planning applications and the NIAH. A detailed condition survey has not been carried out as part of this impact assessment, however, in our role as conservation adviser, some observations have been made on the condition of the buildings where relevant.

The report is submitted in the form recommended in "Architectural Heritage Protection – Guidelines for Planning Authorities" and is intended to provide sufficient documentation to assist the Planning Authority in making an informed decision on the potential impact on the historic coastal artillery fort

and its setting by providing background information, analysis, and supplementary photographic information.

It is noted, however, that the scale of the project is such that, subject to grant of planning permission, further design development will be necessary in relation to some details of several of the proposed interventions. The assessment at this stage thus focusses on the principle of the development in the expectation that the relevant details may be addressed by way of condition attached to the planning permission, if it is granted, in due course. This is considered an acceptable approach to meeting the recommendations of statutory guidance documents and on the basis that conditions would include of the involvement of appropriately qualified conservation professionals at the relevant stages.

In undertaking the assessment, reference has also been made to: *ICOMOS Guidelines on Fortifications & Military Heritage 2021*; this is the international standard relating to conservation of military heritage sites.

Background

Planning History

Previous known planning applications are summarised in the table below, based on information available on the Donegal County Council planning website.

PLAN REF:	APPLICANT	AGENT	PROPOSAL	Decision	Date
044961	FORT DUNREE MILITARY MUSEUM LTD	Atlantic Architects	ALTERATIONS AND ADDITIONS OF FORMER MILITARY UNITS TO EXHIBITION UNITS AND REFURBISHMENT OF EXISTING...	Permission: Conditional	19/04/2004
044793	FORT DUNREE MILITARY MUSEUM LTD	Atlantic Architects	ALTERATIONS AND ADDITIONS OF FORMER MILITARY UNIT TO EXHIBITION UNITS AND REFURBISHMENT OF EXISTING CAFE FOR FORT DUNREE MILITARY MESUEM AT LINSFORT BUNCRANA. THE BUILDINGS ARE PROTECTED STRUCTURES, THE FLOOR AREA OF THE PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT IS 555.7 SQ METRES THE WORKS INCLUDE DEMOLITION OF BRICK UNIT LINKING TWO MILITARY UNITS AND REPLACE WITH NEW - BUILD FOYER LINK UNIT. THE WORKS TO THE MILITARY UNITS AND CAFE BUILDINGS WILL CONSIST OF REPAIRS AND MINOR INTERNAL MODIFICATION AND REPAIR WORKS TO EXTERIOR OF BUILDINGS	Invalid Application	23/03/2004
034221	JOHN MCCARTER	AQB Architectural Workshop	CONSTRUCTION OF PLAY AREA	Deemed WITHDRAWN	27/02/2003
024743	DUNREE MILITARY MUSEUM LTD	AQB Architectural Workshop	RETENTION FOR CHANGE OF USE FROM ABANDONED MILITARY HOSPITAL BUILDING TO OFFICE AND EXHIBITION USAGE	Permission: Conditional	11/07/2002
024586	MR. J MCCARTER		RETENTION FOR CHANGE OF USE FROM ABANDONED MILITARY HOSPITAL BUILDING TO OFFICE AND EXHIBITION USAGE	Invalid Application	17/06/2002

Whilst the content of the planning applications and related decisions are of interest, none have a direct bearing on the current application.

The following photographs are views taken from related artillery sites in Lough Swilly, which collectively form part of the defensive network established in the early 19th century. These images also provide an overview of the Dunree site, which is prominently located, and visible from several miles distance in every direction.



Figure 2 – Dunree Fort & Dunree Hill Battery & Redoubt Fort viewed from Knockalla (2013)



Figure 3 – view of Dunree Fort & lighthouse from Knockalla (2013) (Dunree Fort constructed circa 1810; reconstructed circa 1895)



Figure 4 – view of Dunree Fort & Dunree Hill Redoubt Fort from Macamish Fort



Figure 5 – view of Dunree Fort from south; hipped roof structure & shelter are modern additions affecting the character and visual interpretation of the gun-emplacement; otherwise, structures are substantially as reconstructed and re-armed circa 1895



Figure 6 – view of Dunree Fort from south; large masonry bastions and revetments are as constructed circa 1810



Figure 7 – view of Dunree Fort from north; large masonry sections are as constructed circa 1810; the original Martello tower and soldiers' accommodation were removed circa 1895 as part of remodelling in conjunction with development of Dunree Hill Battery & Redoubt Fort. Structures visible above the curtain wall were not part of this view post circa 1895.



Figure 8 – view of Dunree Fort from the lighthouse grounds to the north



Figure 9 – view of first 'hutment' built circa 1895 to coincide with remodelling of the Dunree Fort & construction of the Dunree Hill Battery & Redoubt Fort



Figure 10 – view of 1895 Dunree Redoubt Fort from Inishowen 100/ Wild Atlantic Way route from south



Figure 11 – view of 'hutment' towards Dunree Hill & Redoubt Fort; the iron clad timber hutment on the former camping grounds expanded mostly circa 1902 to 1912 to serve the expanded artillery base & further reinforcement during WW1



Figure 12 – view of the expanded 'hutment' from Dunree Hill



Figure 13 – view of Dunree Hill Redoubt Fort & Battery gun-emplacement from east side of lighthouse hill; the former Practice Battery is located in the right centreforeground



Figure 14 – view of 1895 Dunree Redoubt Fort from grounds of Dunree lighthouse



Figure 15 – view of 1895 Dunree Hill Redoubt Fort from Inishowen 100/ Wild Atlantic Way route from east



Figure 16 – view of 1895 Dunree Hill Redoubt fort from Inishowen 100/ Wild Atlantic Way route from east



Figure 17 – elevated view of hill battery & redoubt fort; the structure largely unchanged since circa 1900
Image: © Donegal Daily

Planning Policy

County Donegal Development Plan 2018-2024 (As Varied) (CDP)

Dunree is identified as a Rural Area Under Strong Urban Influence. The largest part of the site is also located within an Area of Especially High Scenic Amenity (EHSA) with important views towards the site identified from the Fanad Peninsula. According to the CDP: “Areas of Especially High Scenic Amenity are sublime natural landscapes of the highest quality that are synonymous with the identity of County Donegal. These areas have extremely limited capacity to assimilate additional development.”

The remainder of the site is located within an Area of High Scenic Amenity (HSA); According to the CDP: “Areas of High Scenic Amenity are landscapes of significant aesthetic, cultural, heritage and environmental quality that are unique to their locality and are a fundamental element of the landscape and identity of County Donegal. These areas have the capacity to absorb sensitively located development of scale, design and use that will enable assimilation into the receiving landscape and which does not detract from the quality of the landscape, subject to compliance with all other objectives and policies of the plan.”

There are a number of planning policies within the current CDP that relate to architectural heritage and are significant in relation to the proposed Planning Application to develop an historic building and its setting. These policies are contained in Chapter 7: ‘The Natural and Built Heritage’ and have been edited below to those directly relating to this property.

Policies

- BH-P-1:** *“It is a Policy of the Council to conserve and protect all structures (or parts of structures) and sites contained in the Record of Protected Structures that are of special architectural, historic, archaeological, artistic, cultural, scientific, social or technical interest.”*
- BH-P-3:** *“It is a policy of the Council to ensure retention of vernacular and/or historic structures (and parts of structures) not included on the Record of Protected Structures, including their functional and decorative details, that are sensitive to traditional construction methods and materials and do not have a detrimental impact on the character or appearance of a structure and are in accordance with current conservation guidelines and best practice...”*
- BH-P-4:** *“It is a policy of the Council to ensure the repair, reuse and appropriate refurbishment of vernacular and/or historic buildings not included on the Record of Protected Structures, which make a positive contribution to the built heritage of the area including those as referred to on the National Inventory of Architectural Heritage...”*
- BH-P-5:** *“It is a policy of the Council to protect and preserve vernacular and/or historic industrial and maritime buildings not included on the Record of Protected Structures. Proposals for restoration or adaptive re-use should be facilitated subject to a full architectural assessment...”*
- BH-P-6:** *“It is a policy of the Council to ensure, where appropriate, measures to extend, modify or materially alter the fabric of vernacular and/or historic buildings are sensitive to traditional construction methods and materials and craftsmanship and do not have a detrimental impact on the character or appearance of a structure.”*
- BH-P-7:** *“It is a policy of the Council to promote and retain building fabric such as lime mortar, slate, thatch, timber windows, rendering and joinery and the reinstatement of such will be encouraged.”*

BH-P-8: *“It is a policy of the Council to facilitate appropriate and high-quality design solutions including considerations of scale, proportion, detailing and material specification for development proposals affecting vernacular and/or historic buildings in both urban and rural settings.”*

BH-P-9: *“It is a policy of the Council to conserve and enhance the quality, character and distinctiveness of towns and streetscapes in the County, including street layouts, historic structures, building lines, traditional plot widths, signage and historical street furniture as well as the character of the area.”*

BH-P-17: *“It is a policy of the Council to require that any historic structures that have to be demolished or significantly altered are photographed and recorded (including scaled drawings) to agreed professional standards.”*

Details of Structure

Planning Applicant/ Developer:	Donegal County Council
Planning authority:	Donegal County Council
Assessor:	Duncan McLaren BSc Dip Arch RIBA MRIAI, RIAI Accredited Conservation Architect (Grade I) Dedalus Architecture
Date of Inspection:	1 st , 6 th & 19 th August & 19 th October 2022; 11 th March 2023
Declarations relating to structure:	None
Planning Reference No.	Refer to planning history above
Location/ Address:	Dunree Military Museum Fort Dunree Dunree Buncrana F93 C424 Co. Donegal
National Grid Coordinates:	E 228582 N 439014
County:	DG
Map Type:	OS 6” Map
Map Sheet:	018
NIAH Registration Number:	40901813 40901824 40901825 40901826 40901827 40901828 40901831 Importance rating: Regional Interest categories: AHG (Architectural, Historical, Social, Technical)
Location/ Address:	Dunree Head Lighthouse Fort Dunree Dunree Buncrana Co. Donegal F93 K6P9

National Grid Coordinates: E 228446 N 439091
County: DG
Map Type: OS 6" Map
Map Sheet: 018

NIAH Registration Number: 40901829
40901830
Importance rating: Regional

Protection Status

Under Planning & Development Act 2000

Record of Protected Structures: 40901813
40901830

The proposed development is located within the curtilage of Dunree Fort and the grounds of Dunree Lighthouse.

Architectural Conservation Area: No

Under National Monuments Acts 1930-2004

Record of Monuments & Places: DG018-007----
DG018-008---- "Burial Ground"
Both outside site boundaries

Zone of Archaeological Potential: No

Natural Heritage Protection: *Abutting to east:*
002012 North Inishowen Coast SAC & pNHA
Across Lough Swilly to west
004194 Horn Head to Fanad Head SPA

Outline of the Assessment Process & Brief Description of the Structure

The following series are outline descriptions of the structures at Dunree Fort and the group of 19th century coastal defences, of which these form a part. The summary descriptions provide an insight into their historic, strategic importance and character. Further description is based on an analysis of historical mapping and record drawings; together these are used to illustrate an assessment of the significance of the existing structure and its setting.

More detailed recording and assessment of the existing structures are also contained in building record data sheets that have been prepared for 106 different military structures that have been identified as making up the coastal artillery installation at this site. These data sheets, form the core records for a Conservation Management Plan for the site. Representative images of each of the buildings are attached as an appendix to this impact assessment report.

On account of the complexity of the site, and the large number of structures that were required for the technical functioning of the military defences here, conservation of the site is anticipated on an ongoing basis on the basis of need to conserve and protect the fort and its setting. Minor repairs will be undertaken on a 'like for like' basis, will be overseen by an appropriately qualified conservation professional, and will be unlikely to require planning permission. The Built Heritage Impact Assessment (BHIA) has been prepared, only for proposals that are being made in this planning application for alterations & changes of use associated with the preservation and enhancement of the existing tourism facility at the site. The assessment is provided in tabular

form as an appendix to this document, and uses the same reference numbering as used for the building record data sheets noted above.

It is noted that whilst description of the proposed work contained within the planning application documentation is comprehensive in identifying work to structures requiring planning permission, aspects of some of the proposals have yet to be developed pending site investigations to be undertaken in the course of carrying out the project. There is therefore some residual risk that impacts may arise that have yet to be identified. Some proposed new elements, such as the proposed new walkway to the lower fort where the presence of buried existing structures has yet to be ruled out, have thus been assessed on a provisional basis. This is appropriate in relation to this application for 'Part 8' Planning Permission, subject to further assessment being undertaken at appropriate stages during the design development process and subject to grant of planning permission in due course. As a provisional assessment of the relevant structures is only possible at this stage, it is recommended that the continuing involvement of suitably qualified conservation professionals will be necessary.

Setting & Landscape

This section considers the building in relation to its site both in terms of the immediate context and the wider landscape. Consideration is also given to the defensive network of which the fort forms a part and historic drawings and photographs are included which show the building and its setting.

In conjunction with Lough Foyle, Lough Swilly is of strategic importance to the protection of the northwest of Ireland and benefits from a deep water anchorage with potential as a natural harbour for a large number of ships.

In the later mediaeval period castles were established around the coast of Inishowen and along the opposite sides of the Foyle and the Swilly to secure the lands belonging to the native Irish clans.

At the end of 16th century these castles were taken by English forces which include artillery and the positions supplemented to allow Inishowen and Derry to form a secure footing from which to establish English rule in Ulster.

Subsequent fortifications were established by the British to prevent territorial incursion by the Spanish in the 17th century, then the French in the 18th and 19th centuries and Germany in the 20th century. Lough Swilly has thus been of strategic importance both for invasion and defence over a period of more than 500 years.

The fort at Dunree was built as defence against the French during the Napoleonic period. As well as forming part of a wider network of forts around the British Isles, the group around Lough Swilly and Lough Foyle are of particular importance. Wolfe Tone had had been intercepted at Lough Swilly in 1798, hence the priority given to defences here. The cannon from the La Hoche, the French warship that transported Tone, were initially distributed around the lough to provide temporary batteries before construction of the permanent defences in the first decades of the 19th century.

In addition to the impact on the individual structures, any development proposals for these buildings must also be considered in relation to the defensive network of structures as a whole. Although they are not physically attached, they are set out with visual links to each other which include a string of smaller signal towers around the coast.

There are also more obvious functional links where forts on the opposite shore were originally paired to provide artillery covering fire over the entire expanse of water to be defended. Each building is as important to the group as a single Georgian house is to its terrace. These buildings originate from the same period and are far less numerous – this group is unique in Ulster. Simple map details, from the 1st edition Ordnance Survey, are shown for each of the major structures in the Foyle/Swilly defences below. These maps demonstrate the variety of the structures which

result from the application of a limited number of simple building types which are designed to relate closely to the physical context of their sites.

The examples from the 1st edition Ordnance Survey map show single Martello towers at Magilligan on Lough Foyle, and Macamish on Lough Swilly; L-shape layouts linked to a 2 or 3-gun platform Martello tower and 5-gun lower battery at Greencastle on Lough Foyle, Knockalla Battery and at Down Fort (Inch) on Lough Swilly. A 5-gun battery with a blockhouse mounted twin gun platform was located at Rathmullan. Defences at Dunree were a Martello tower with a 2-gun platform and 7 guns at a lower level. This layout was altered significantly circa 1895, when Dunree Fort was supplemented by two 6-inch guns and a redoubt fort was developed on Dunree Hill, along with a fort to house 9" guns at Lenan Head. Works at the old fort in Dunree involved demolition of the Martello tower, removal of the iron cannon battery and replacement with a new concrete emplacement to serve 2no 4.7" guns.

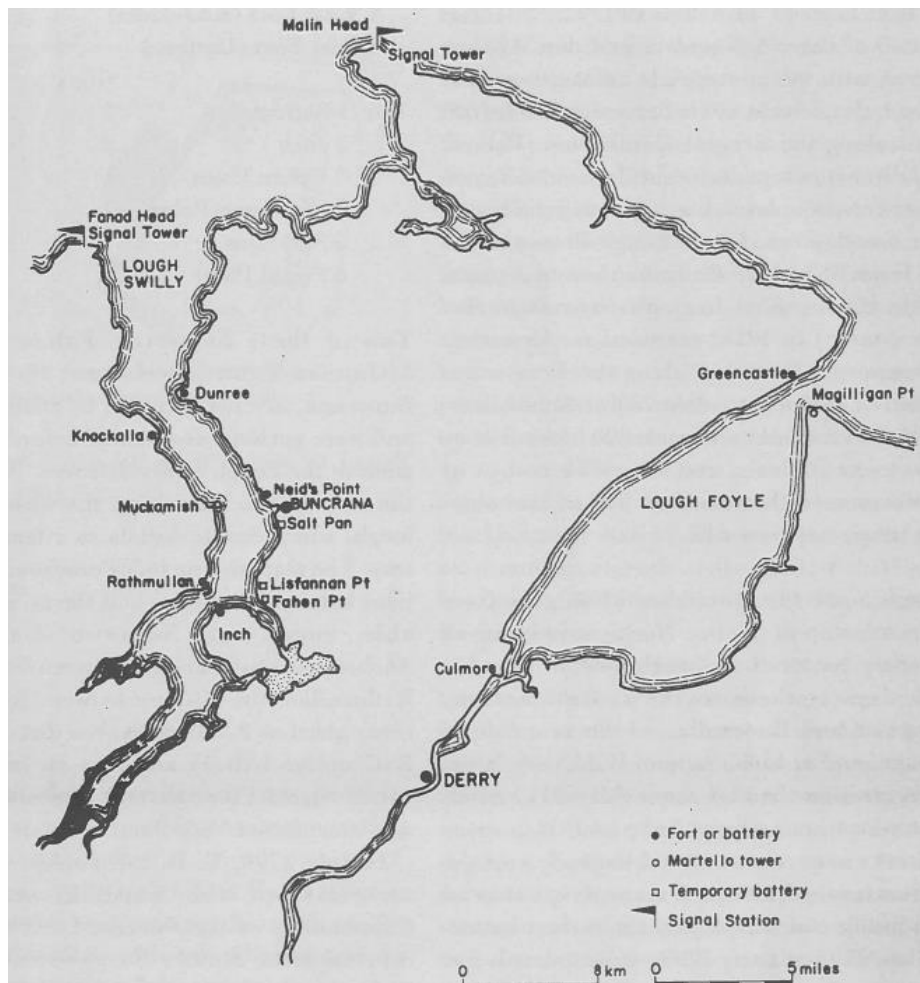


Figure 18 – map showing Loughs Foyle & Swilly, location of a network of Napoleonic period defensive structures © Kerrigan

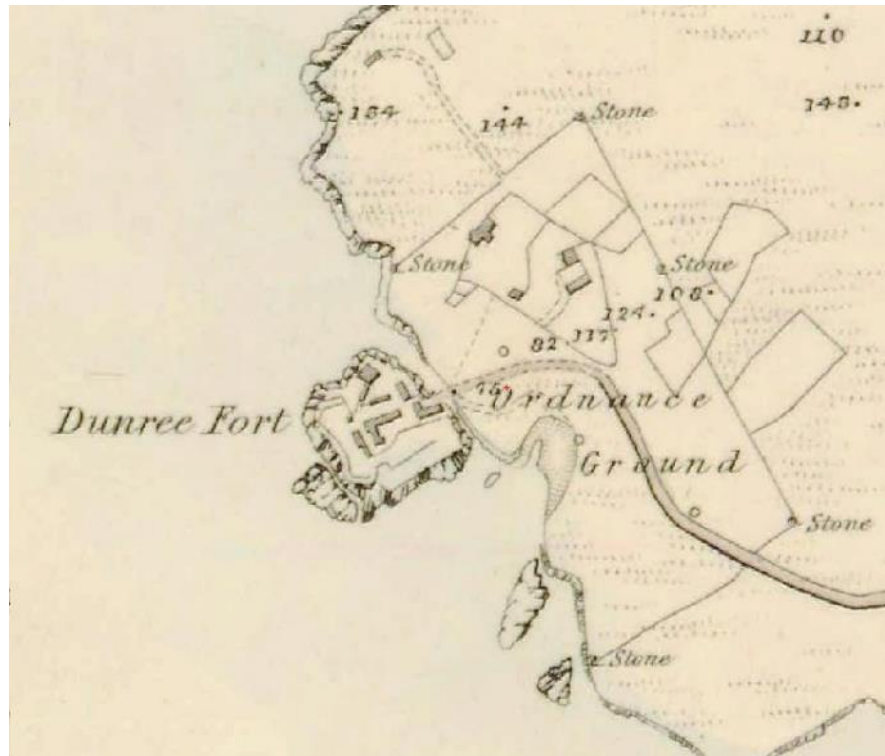


Figure 19 – 1st Edition Ordnance Survey map (c1840) showing Dunree Fort, Lough Swilly: current use museum © OSI



Figure 20 – 1st Edition Ordnance Survey map (c1840) showing Knockalla Battery, Lough Swilly: current use private house © OSI

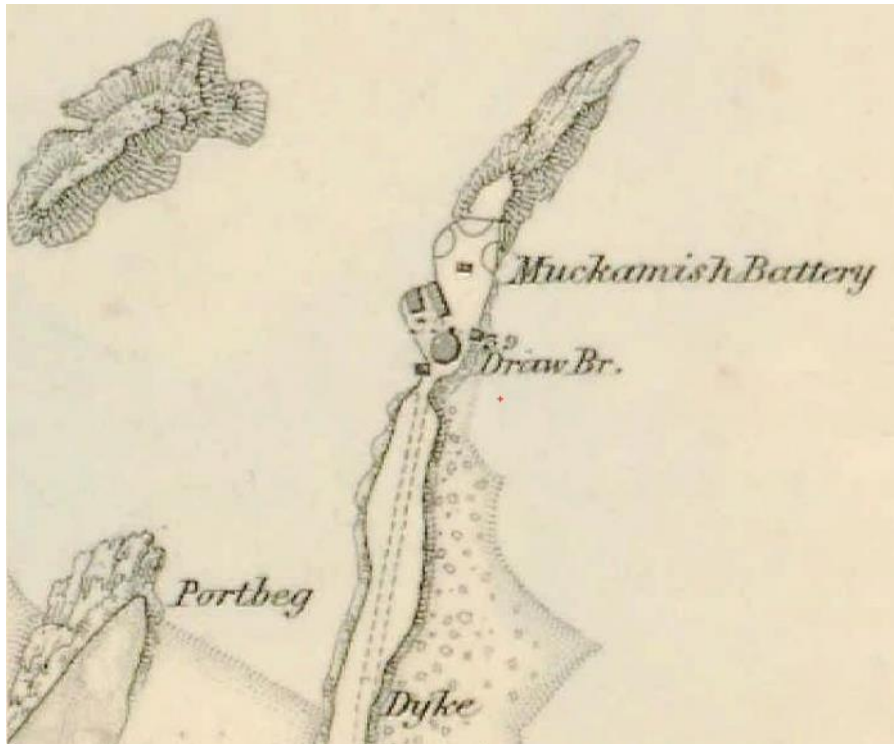


Figure 21 – 1st Edition Ordnance Survey map (c1840) showing Muckamish (Macamish) Battery, Lough Swilly; current use private house © OSI



Figure 22 – 1st Edition Ordnance Survey map (c1840) showing Ned's Point Battery, Buncrana, Lough Swilly; substantially altered circa 1895; currently disused © OSI



Figure 23 – 1st Edition Ordnance Survey map (c1840) showing Rathmullan Battery, Lough Swilly current use museum © OSI

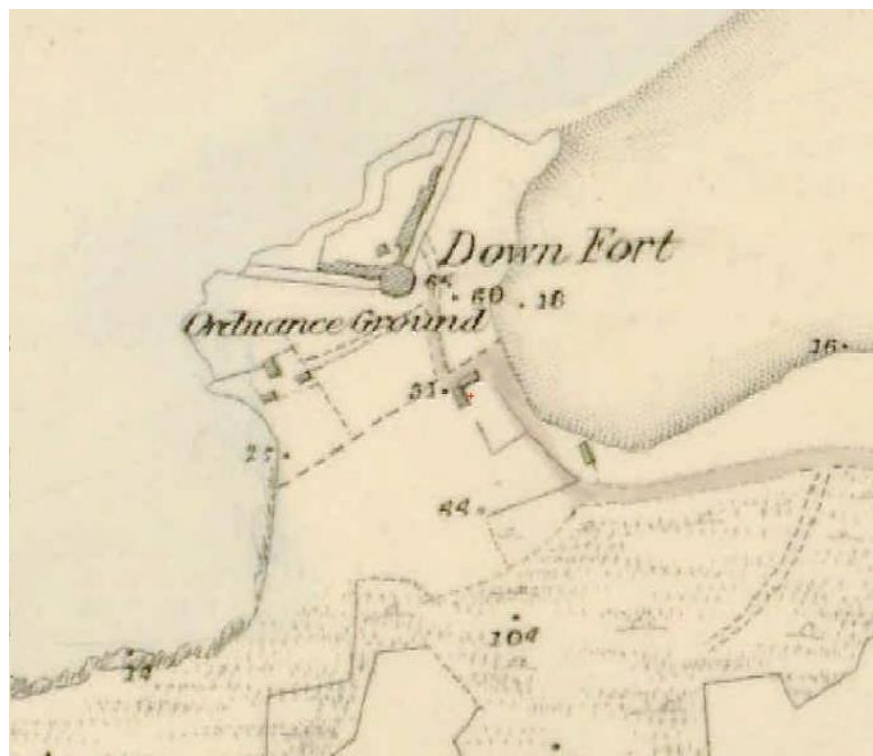


Figure 24 – 1st Edition Ordnance Survey map (c1840) showing Down Fort, Inch, Lough Swilly: substantially rebuilt circa 1895; currently disused © OSI

The architecture of Ireland – Maurice Craig (Batsford 1982)

“The Irish martellos are anonymous, and about them a certain mystery still lingers. They are slightly earlier than their British counterparts, and cannot therefore have been influenced by them in so far as both series have a common exemplar. The actions at Cap Mortella in Corsica in 1793 and 1794 undoubtedly much impressed the British military authorities. Yet the fact remains that the tower at Cap Mortella did not much resemble either the British or the Irish Martello towers. On the other hand, there are, in the Eastern islands of the Canary archipelago, several towers to which the Irish series bear quite a remarkably close resemblance; at least two on Gran Canaria (at San Cristobal and at Gando), one on Lanzarote (at Las Coloredas near Playa Blanca on the South-West tip of the island), and two on Fuerteventura (at Fustes on the East coast a short distance South of Puerto de Cabras, and at Cotillo on the North-West). The Las Coloredas tower is dated 1769 and one of those on Fuerteventura is said to be ‘about 1740’. Other similar structures on the islands which are not martellos have dates in the reign of Charles III (1759-88). A British force under Nelson invested the Canaries in 1797, and while there is much to be said for Mrs Sutcliffe’s suggestion that Lt-Col. Benjamin Fisher designed the Irish towers, the question remains open.

There are about 50 altogether. The largest concentration are on either side of Dublin, where building began in the middle of 1804. Unlike the English towers which are brick plastered over, they are as a general rule of the finest ashlar granite. The pronounced batter which they show is found also on the Canary towers and the English series, and cannot therefore be a revival or continuance of the Irish batter. But the workmanship of the towers is of a piece with that in other Irish buildings of the period, and must therefore have been locally contributed. The plans for the most part are simple, without the (literally) eccentric refinement of the English series, though the Meelick tower on the Shannon near Portumna is cam-shaped, struck from six centres, and that at Greencastle in Lough Foyle is elliptical. So is the Banagher tower. The five Cork harbour towers, exceptionally, have no batter. Being structures entirely in compression, the martellos are incapable of falling down, though a few have been removed, mostly in the course of railway works.

Their general similarity coupled with their lack of uniformity raises interesting questions about how they were built. The Dublin series at least were all constructed in a very short space of time and therefore in many cases simultaneously. Presumably the lieutenant in charge of each gang, or the leading mason, had been briefed in a general way as to the model to be followed, while the exact dimensions and details were left vague.

Other fortifications of the Napoleonic period, though differing in form from the Martellos, share their architectural character and have, often, great aesthetic appeal.”

The Buildings of North West Ulster – Alistair Rowan (Penguin 1979)

“LATER GEORGIAN BUILDINGS. Government work is represented in the northwest by a line of FORTS, MARTELLO TOWERS, AND SIGNAL TOWERS built round the Donegal coast ostensibly to protect the country and defend the entry to the natural harbours of Lough Foyle and Lough Swilly. Elaborate schemes prepared by the Royal Engineers for massive defense works at Enniskillen and in Co. Cavan show however that the government had been thoroughly shaken by the insurrection of 1798, and though the plans came to little – a small square redoubt was built to control the southern approaches to Enniskillen – the intention at least to supervise and perhaps to overawe the local population from these stations is clear. The Martello tower at Macamoosh Point dates from 1801 and was apparently the first to be extended by a battery and defensive ditch in 1806. Built half-way up Lough Swilly, it was intended to control entry to the upper reaches of the lough, a natural preoccupation for the government as it was here that Admiral Bompard and Wolfe Tone had attempted their invasion in October 1798. To strengthen the defences of the lough, battery forts were built soon after at Ned’s Point, just north of Buncrana opposite the Martello tower, at Rathmullen, and on Inch Island. Two impressive forts were sited near the mouth and on either side of the lough at Knockalla and Dunree Head, with a final battery almost at the entry to the lough at Lenan Head in Inishowen. Lough Foyle was less strongly protected, though one of the most substantial forts of this Napoleonic period was constructed at Greencastle at the narrowest point of entry to the lough, with a Martello tower to answer it at the tip of Magilligan Strand on the Co. Derry shore.”

Castles & Fortifications in Ireland 1485-1945 – Paul M. Kerrigan (Collins 1995)

“Dunree Fort. Five miles north of Neids Point is Dunree, on a high rocky promontory, shown on sketches by Captain Smith of 1800 and 1802 as approached by a narrow drawbridge. A circular, or semicircular battery was sited at the higher level of the small fort, with guns projecting over the parapet on the landward side. At a lower level are barrack buildings, and on a sketch dated 1800 there is a loop-holed wall for musketry defence on the southern side and a counterbalanced drawbridge. The fortifications are noted by Smith as ‘erected for a temporary expedient’, and described as the East Fort on some of the illustrations. The fort is smaller than Knockalla on the opposite side of Lough Swilly, confined to the top of an irregular promontory with steep cliffs. The interior of the fort has been altered in the late nineteenth century in such a way that it is not possible to determine the original layout when the place was reconstructed 1812-13. The perimeter masonry wall of squared rubble survives acting as a retaining wall; the entrance today is in the same place as depicted on Smith’s sketches, approached by a drawbridge. To the south of the entrance is an irregularly shaped flanking structure with musket-loops at a lower level; the upper level of this structure, level with the interior of the fort, now houses a reception area for the Dunree Fort Museum. In the centre of the fort is a new building with displays on the history of Dunree and the Lough Swilly defences. The Ordnance Survey map of 1836 indicates an ‘ordnance ground’ or military area inland of the fort; this was extended in the late nineteenth century to include Dunree Hill, on which gun emplacements and a polygonal redoubt were erected..”

“Lough Swilly. In 1894 a plan for the defence of Lough Swilly was drawn up, using only the fortifications on the east side at Dunree, Neids Point, and Inch. In the following year work started on a new work at Dunree, on the hilltop inland of the old fort, to be known as Dunree Hill Battery. The new fort or redoubt constructed at this time is an irregular seven-sided work, with flanking projections at four of the salient angles, occupying the hilltop some 300 feet above sea level. A record plan of 1898 indicates the layout with two gun emplacements on the west slope of the hillside some distance below the redoubt, overlooking Lough Swilly to the west and north.

The concrete scarp wall of the redoubt is some fourteen feet high from the base of the ditch, inclined almost three feet to give a battered wall face of 1:5. The flat-bottomed ditch surrounding the redoubt is about six feet wide, the counterscarp being in the form of a slope at an angle of some 40 degrees, the crest of which is some six feet above the bottom of the ditch. Entry to the redoubt is at the north end of the west front, through a pair of iron-sheeted doors.

The gun-emplacements are on the slope of the hill west of the redoubt. The battery appears to have been enclosed at some distance by an iron fence or spiked palisade, which connected with the redoubt on the south-west and north: in effect the redoubt defended the landward side of the battery. The perimeter palisade extended up the hillside on the south-west and on the north side, in each case being sited in the centre of a rock-cut ditch of similar dimensions to that surrounding the redoubt. The iron palisade remains in these ditches and originally connected to the scarp wall of the redoubt, crossing the redoubt ditch.

The two 6-inch breech-loaders were in position on the gun-emplacements by October 1897; these are recorded as the main armament in 1906, with one 4.7-inch QF gun at the old fort.. In 1907 two 4.7-inch guns were mounted at Dunree. In 1912 Mark VII 6-inch guns replaced those installed fifteen years earlier, constituting the principal armament at Dunree until 1945”

“The much-increased range of the guns now allowed for defence of Lough Swilly from the works on one shore only, resulting in the three fortifications on the west side being abandoned. The four batteries on the east shore described above were further reduced to two, those at Lenan and Dunree, before 1914. Lough Swilly constituted a defended port for merchant shipping of the American trade passing north of Ireland, and a fortified anchorage for the Royal Navy, which was to be an important naval base with headquarters at Buncrana between 1914 and 1918.”

“The importance of Cork Harbour, Berehaven and Lough Swilly was emphasised during the 1914-18 war: towards the end of the war ships of the United States Navy made use of these anchorages, and facilities were provided for naval air stations and seaplane bases.

The Anglo-Irish treaty of December 1921 included the retention of these three fortified harbours by Britain, subsequently to be known as the ‘Treaty Ports’.....

.....the batteries and redoubts continued to be garrisoned by British forces.

The port facilities remained available to the Royal Navy, and the fortifications were under British control until the Anglo-Irish Agreement of 1938, when they were handed over to the Irish government. Detachments of the Irish army replaced the British garrisons. The transfer included the fortifications, buildings, armament, ammunition and equipment.”

“In 1940 three anti-aircraft positions were constructed at Dunree Hill Battery and one anti-aircraft post in the old Dunree Fort”

“The Lough Swilly forts, Dunree and Lenan, ceased to have a regular garrison in 1952, but a maintenance staff was retained at Dunree.

Artillery fortifications, introduced into Ireland in the middle of the sixteenth century no longer had an active role in local or national defence after some four hundred years of development. The architecture of the earlier fortifications from the seventeenth to earlier nineteenth century, often of a monumental character with carefully constructed masonry, gave way by the beginning of the century to open concrete gun-emplacements, backed by small ancillary structures, often with little or no defensive features. The attempt was subsequently made to provide some protection against aerial attack, in some instances involving major construction by installing guns in casemates. The history of artillery fortification in Ireland comes to an end with these reinforced concrete emplacements.”

Building History - Synopsis

Dunree Fort is designated in the National Inventory of Architectural Heritage as a building of regional significance. The structure and attendant elements form part of a coastal group of defensive buildings that are of international interest and part of the shared heritage of the British Isles. Located at the northern end of Lough Swilly the building was originally one of a functioning pair of artillery forts which provided cannon fire across the Lough at this point to defend against further attempts at French invasion. This pair, comprising Dunree and Knockalla forts, is one of three pairs which defended the natural deepwater harbour provided by Lough Swilly.

After an initial temporary structure armed with cannon seized from the French warship, La Hoche, the old Martello fort was constructed after 1812. The building was originally designed to accommodate 7 no. cannons on timber traversing platforms; two howitzer cannons were located on the roof of the Martello tower. The Martello fort replaced a gun emplacement erected provisionally to defend this part of the lough following the capture of Wolfe Tone at Knockalla at the end of the previous century. In 1895 the fort was completely redeveloped to incorporate two 4.7-inch guns capable of firing exploding artillery shells over much greater distance. Two large magazine holds were built and the Martello tower dismantled and materials reused to build other accommodation. Additional land was acquired, including Dunree Hill to the east and the garrisons also extended substantially at this time. The Dunree Hill Battery comprised two 6-inch guns. These major alterations were carried out at the same time as alterations to Inch Battery, Ned’s Point and the development of the 9-inch gun emplacements at Lenan. These are all elements of the “Lough Swilly Fortification Scheme”. The artillery forts on the east side of the Lough, more easily accessed by the railway, were selected for improvement. The garrison at Inch battery was closed around

1910. The remaining defensive fortification at Lenan and Dunree continued in service as part of the British treaty port defence infrastructure that was retained by the British government until 1938 as part of the north Atlantic/ 'western approach' defences. The treaty ports were handed over to the Irish government sixteen years after the establishment of the Irish Free State.

With the exception of minor alterations to make some of the garrison buildings habitable and development of a new museum in the 1970's and 80's, periodic collapse and fire damage to the timber structures and the gradual encroachment of nature over the site, there have been few significant changes here since the fort was closed. This complex of buildings represents the pinnacle of coastal artillery defence design and is of greater significance on account of its rarity and state of preservation.

The National Inventory of Architectural Heritage (NIAH) provides a more comprehensive summary description of the buildings on the site, which is included here for information. Maps and a selection of historical record drawings are also included to provide an insight into the character of the fort and its workings.

NIAH Reg No 40901813: Battery Fort

Description

Military battery, built c. 1812-3, on complex irregular-plan having entrance over drawbridge to the east, defensive bastions (on circular-plan) to the south-east, south-west and north-west corners. Modified c. 1847 and c. 1895. Now in use as museum with modern museum building to the north end of the interior. Site enclosed by rubble stone curtain walls with cut stone coping over, partially roughcast rendered. Recessed segmental-headed door opening to the east with cut stone surround, set in canted projection to curtain wall having square-headed recess with tooled ashlar block-and-start surrounds; gun loops over door and in places along adjoining curtain walls. Square-headed window openings, some with surviving three-over-three pane timber sliding sash windows. Located on a natural rock outcrop jutting out into Lough Swilly with cliff faces to three sides (south, north, and west). Later battery (see 40901826) on hilltop to the east, complex of single-storey corrugated-metal buildings (see 40901824) to the east, dispersed pillboxes and assorted single-storey watch huts (see 40901825) etc. to site.

Appraisal

This impressive Napoleonic-era coastal fortification is an important element of the built heritage and history of County Donegal. Despite some modifications over the years, and recent works to create a museum, it retains much of its stark and imposing earlier character and form, and much of its salient fabric. The present fort replaced an earlier temporary earthen battery at this site, which was one of a number established by the British after 1798 and the continuing threat of French invasion (there was an attempted landing in Lough Swilly by the French in 1798 with a force of some 8,000 men, which was repelled at sea). Lough Swilly was also an important Royal Navy anchorage at this time. Two 42-pounder guns captured from the French ship Hoche, five British 18-pounders and two British 9-pounders were deployed here c. 1801, probably at a circular or semi-circular bastion to the north of the site (depicted in painting of 1802). A series of single and two-storey buildings were located in the centre of the fort at this time (see above; painting). Gother Man made proposals for updated Irish coastal defences in 1806 – this included rebuilding building six batteries towers along Lough Swilly, and some £10,000 was estimated for the works at Fort Dunree. £4,500 was estimated for the 're-forming of Dunree' by the Ordnance Office in 1809. Works took place in 1812 -13, and a Henry Haswell was appointed the master gunner at Dunree in 1813. A Mr Edgar of Bunrana was the main contractor, and a Captain Spicer was the works supervisor. Nine 24-pounders were in place at Fort Dunree in 1817. Two of the 24-pounders at Dunree were replaced in 1847 by two 5.5 inch howitzers. The gunners left the Napoleonic fort at Dunree in 1886. In 1889 the Defence Committee issued a report recommending that two 4.7-inch quick firing guns should be established in the old fort at Dunree

with two 6-inch breech-loading guns placed on top of Dunree Hill to the east along with two three-pounder quick firing guns to guard against attempted landings at Crummie's Bay to the north beneath Dunree Hill. The original Martello-type tower to the centre of the old fort was demolished c. 1900 as it obstructed the field of fire from the new fort on the summit of Dunree Hill to the east (see 40901826). As Lough Swilly was one of the Treaty ports, the fort remained under British military control until 1938. It was in use by the Irish Army during the Second World War when a number of anti aircraft guns were added to site. This complex forms part of a site that together constitute one of a number of coastal batteries built by the British military around Lough Swilly along with Inch Fort and Neid's Point to the south, Lenan Head to the north, and Muckamish, Rathmullan and Knockalla to the far side of the Lough. Of historic importance to the Irish nation, shedding light on the strategic value of Lough Swilly especially to the British during World War One, and played an integral role in safeguarding Ireland's neutrality during World War Two. Furthermore, the site provides insight into the defensive thinking of military planners and the skills of military engineers.

NIAH Reg No 40901824: Barracks

Description

Complex of c. thirty single-storey barrack buildings and ancillary structures associated with Fort Dunree (see 40901813 to the west; see 40901826 for later fort to the east) built c. 1900 and greatly extended c. 1920, comprising former billets, stores, workshops, canteens, messes, indoor squash court, chapel etc. Now mostly out of use and derelict, part of site to the west now in use as a heritage centre and art gallery; café to site. Pitched corrugated-metal roofs with red brick chimneystacks and some remaining sections of cast-iron rainwater goods. Corrugated-metal clad walls, generally mounted on concrete plinths; moulded red brick plinths to some buildings. Concrete block and red brick construction to the gable ends of some buildings. Roughcast rendered walls to some buildings. Square-headed window openings with remains of six-over-six pane timber sliding sash windows, and timber casement windows. Square-headed door openings, generally with battened timber doors. Metal water-tanks mounted on red brick piers/plinths to former billets and canteens. Single-storey shower block to centre of complex comprising pitched (originally natural slate) roof with red brick chimneystacks and timber bargeboards to gable ends, red brick walls (running bond) over sloping concrete plinth, square-headed window openings with timber casement windows, and square-headed door openings with battened timber doors. Lavatory building to site comprising open-roofed block (arranged on rectangular-plan) having red brick walls (running bond) with rounded red brick coping on stepped red brick stringcourse. Mess building to centre of yard comprising nine-bay single-storey block with projecting gable-fronted entrance porch to central bay; hipped natural slate roof with grey clayware ridge tiles, timber bargeboards to gables, roughcast rendered chimneystacks with moulded coping and terracotta pots, and cast-iron rainwater goods; roughcast rendered walls with moulded projecting red brick plinth; square-headed window openings, now blocked-up with corrugated-metal sheets; square-headed door opening, blocked-up with corrugated-metal sheeting, and four-paned timber-framed overlight. Single-storey engine-room to north of complex comprising hipped tiled roof with terracotta ridge tiles and hipped metal air vent, and with cast-iron profile guttering and downpipes; roughcast rendered walls; square-headed window openings with remains of six-over-six pane timber sliding sash windows; square-headed door openings with battened timber doors. Two-storey store building to south-west of complex comprising pitched natural slate roof with terracotta ridge tiles; concrete and brick walls; and square-headed window and door openings, now void of fittings. Cast-iron water-hydrants (water and fire) positioned strategically around complex comprising moulded base surmounted by fluted shaft with domed cap; foundry-stamp 'Baker and Company Ltd. Westminster' to shaft. Located to the east of the old Fort Dunree (see 40901813) and to the west of the later fort (see 40901826) located on Dunree Hill. Pillboxes and ancillary structures to site (see 40901825). Tarmacadam roads and pathways, and rubble stone walls to site.

Appraisal

This extensive complex of mainly single-storey corrugated-metal clad former barrack buildings is an integral element of the Fort Dunree complex. Although now largely derelict and out of use, many of these buildings retain their early form and character, as well as a great deal of their original fabric. The majority of the buildings are constructed using corrugated-metal sheeting, which suggests that they were intended to be only temporary structures. It is quite likely that this is the largest surviving example of a complex of corrugated-metal buildings in Ireland. The complex was probably built to house gunners etc. a short time following the construction of the new fort to the top of Dunree Hill (see 40901824) by the British military c. 1895 – 97, although it may date to a few decades afterwards. A number of the buildings to the north-west of the site are extant in 1905 (Ordnance Survey third edition six-inch map) but the majority of the buildings to site were built subsequently). It comprises mainly former billets, and also stores, canteens, messes, an indoor squash court, workshops, former military hospital, probable chapel, officers' quarters etc. As a treaty port, this site remained in British military hands until 1938, and it was later garrisoned by the Irish Army during World War Two\The Emergency' when a number of anti-aircraft guns were added to site. This extensive complex of buildings is an integral part of the Dunree batteries, and provide an interesting historical insight into the history of Ireland's coastal defences. This complexes forms part of a site that together constitute one of a number of coastal batteries built by the British military around Lough Swilly along with Inch Fort and Ned's Point to the south, Lenan Head to the north, and Muckamish, Rathmullan and Knockalla to the far side of the Lough. Of historic importance to the Irish nation, shedding light on the strategic value of Lough Swilly especially to the British during World War One, and played an integral role in safeguarding Ireland's neutrality during World War Two when a number of anti aircraft guns were added to site. Furthermore, the site provides insight into the defensive thinking of military planners and the skills of military engineers. The deteriorating condition of these buildings and the loss of integral fabric is most unfortunate as they constitutes an integral part of the areas military history and represents an intrinsic and unique part of Inishowen's heritage.

NIAH Reg No 40901825: Pillboxes & Lookout

Description

Complex former single-storey pillboxes and single-storey lookout positions associated with Fort Dunree (see 40901813 and 40901826), built c. 1920 and c. 1940. Now disused. Flat concrete roofs, some gently sloping from front to rear creating larger field of vision. Reinforced concrete and cement rendered walls; red brick construction in places to a number of the former watch huts\stations. Square-headed window and door openings with remains of metal fittings. Pillboxes\watch posts (on canted-plan) located along perimeter of later fort (see 40901826), c. 1897, to the summit of Dunree Hill. Two former pillboxes and\or look-out posts located on an island to the south-west of site, connected to mainland by timber footbridge with timber safety railings. Single-bay single-storey structure located on highest point to north-east of original Fort Dunree (see 40901813), probably originally in use as a communications\radio hut, having flat concrete roof, reinforced concrete walls, and square-headed window opening with remains of two-over-two pane timber sliding sash window, square-headed doorway with remains of timber door, and with radio aerial\antennae adjacent. Buildings located throughout site, strategically positioned to afford viewing\field of fire in majority of directions. Located on cliff-edge and slopes of Dunree Hill at Dunree Head peninsula to east bank of Lough Swilly.

Appraisal

This interesting and substantial collection of utilitarian former pillboxes, watch huts, and ancillary structures forms an integral element of the group of sites associated with Fort Dunree (see 40901813 for original fort; see 40901826 for later fort on summit of Dunree Hill). Although out of use and unassuming in form, these structures provide an interesting insight into the defence considerations afforded an important coastal battery at the time of construction. These structures

are scattered throughout site, strategically positioned to afford viewing\field of fire in majority of directions. A number of the larger former pillboxes have roofs sloping away from the gun ports\viewing posts to allow for greater field of view; some of these probably date to c. 1940 and may have been used to accommodate larger calibre machine guns etc. Many of these structures were probably originally built in conjunction with the construction of the later fort (see 40901826) by the British Military, built c. 1897, located around the summit of Dunree Hill to the east of the earlier fort; this includes the collection of structures on canted-plan with gun loops located at intervals around the perimeter wall of this fortification. Other pillboxes and ancillary structures were probably added by British authorities during World War One (1914 – 1918). As a treaty port, this site remained in British military hands until 1938, and it was later garrisoned by the Irish Army during World War Two\‘The Emergency’ when a number of anti-aircraft guns were added to site. It is likely that a number of structures to site were added by the Irish military during this phase of the history of the site. This extensive complex of structures is an integral part of the Dunree batteries, and provide an interesting insight into the history of Ireland’s coastal defences. They form part of a site that together constitute one of a number of coastal batteries built by the British military around Lough Swilly along with Inch Fort and Ned’s Point to the south, Lenan Head to the north, and Muckamish, Rathmullan and Knockalla to the far side of the Lough. Furthermore, the site provides insight into the defensive thinking of military planners and the skills of military engineers during the first half of the twentieth century.

NIAH Reg No 40901826: Redoubt Fort & Battery

Description

Military coastal battery and redoubt complex on polygonal seven sided-plan, built c. 1895-97, now out of use; part of military museum. Battered reinforced concrete curtain\scarp walls with external ditch surrounding summit of Dunree Hill. Metal railings to curtain wall in places. External section of boundary wall to the west and north of inner fort \redoubt having gun emplacements (on circular-plan) on raised concrete terrepleins. Vaulted subterranean chambers to site; including sunken magazines with pulley mechanisms adjacent to former gun emplacements. Chambers built into side of boundary walls to west and north of site having vaulted roofs covered in earth. Redoubt entered from north-west through two-storey blockhouse having brick walls to internal face at ground floor level and cement rendered brick walls, square-headed window and door openings to interior face at first floor level, square-headed window openings with remains of six-over-six pane timber sliding sash windows and with iron security bars to ground floor (external) and square-headed door opening with heavy metal double-doors; concrete stairways within giving access to redoubt having metal railings. Single-storey concrete lookout points\pillboxes (on canted-plan) to angles of curtain wall of redoubt having flat concrete roofs with remains of metal railings and parapet walls, reinforced concrete walls, square-headed window and door openings to interior face, and small square-headed gun embrasures and look-outs to external faces; sloping concrete coping to external faces beneath openings. Ruinous single-storey corrugated-metal clad buildings to north of site; ruinous single-storey building to site having flat concrete roof, cement rendered walls, and square-headed openings; now derelict. Single-storey store to site having flat concrete roof, red brick walls, and square-headed openings. Sunken water tanks to site. Pathways with intermittent flights of concrete steps approaches site from former barracks complexes (see 40901824) to the west of site. Located on Dunree Hill at Dunree Head peninsula to east bank of Lough Swilly. Earlier fort (see 40901813) to the west.

Appraisal

This impressively-sited coastal battery and redoubt survives in good condition despite a long period of disuse. It consists of two distinct structures: an enclosed inner redoubt with high cement walls with pillboxes at intervals along its length defending approaches from land; and a two-storey gatehouse to the north-west; and an outer section of wall with gun emplacements, sunken

magazines and extramural chambers to the west and the north defending the views over Lough Swilly and approaches from the sea. This fort was built in 1895 – 97 by the British Authorities to defend Lough Swilly, an important anchorage for the Royal Navy, and a potential location for an attempted invasion. It largely superseded the earlier Napoleonic-era coastal battery (see 40901813) to the west, which was built in 1812 – 13, and which was also modified at the same time that this new fortification was constructed. The later fort originally had two 4.7-inch guns, with an additional 4.7-inch gun added to the earlier fort. These were replaced in 1906 by two 4.7-inch guns, and in 1912 by two mark VII 6-inch guns that constituted the main armament at the site until its closure in 1945. This fort was built around the same time that a similar fortification was constructed at Lenan Head (see 40900913) to the north, and these two forts constituted the main defence for Lough Swilly. As a Treaty Port, these fortifications remained in British hands until 1938, when they were handed over to the Irish Army. Fort Dunree was occupied by the Irish Army during World War Two\The Emergency, and anti aircraft guns were added at this time. This fortification forms part of a site that together constitute one of a number of coastal batteries built by the British military around Lough Swilly along with Inch Fort and Neid's Point to the south, Lenan Head to the north, and Muckamish, Rathmullan and Knockalla to the far side of the Lough. Of historic importance to the Irish nation, shedding light on the strategic value of Lough Swilly especially to the British during World War One, and played an integral role in safeguarding Ireland's neutrality during World War Two. Furthermore, the site provides insight into the defensive thinking of military planners and the skills of military engineers at the turn of the twentieth-century, and constitutes an important element of the built heritage of Donegal.

NIAH Reg No 40901827: Guardhouse

Description

Detached five-bay single-storey former guard house on wedge-shaped plan positioned at to east side of main gateway to Dunree coastal defence battery (see 40901813 for Napoleonic fortification; see 40801826 for later battery, built c. 1910. Now out of use. Flat concrete roof, slightly overhanging walls. Squared and coursed rock-faced section to lower section of wall surmounted by reinforced concrete upper-section, projecting chamfered plinth course. Square-headed recessed gun loop openings to three sides with stepped concrete-block reveals and sheet-metal inner guard with central gun opening. Central square-headed door opening to main elevation with plate metal door. Single-storey corrugated-metal sentry hut to west side of main gateway to Fort Dunree having mono-pitched corrugated-metal roof, corrugated-metal clad walls, and having square-headed window and door openings. Detached three-bay single-storey former guard house to north of barrack complex having flat concrete roof; red brick walls (running bond), square-headed window openings with metal shutters, blocked square headed openings at plinth level to either side of doorway, and central square-headed doorway with metal double-doors. Main guard house located to the south of the old Fort Dunree (see 40901813) and to the south-west of the later fort (see 40901826). Pillboxes and ancillary structures to site (see 40901825), and complex of single-storey former barracks buildings to the north and north-east of site.

Appraisal

This interesting former guard house survives in relatively good condition and forms an integral element of the group of sites associated with Fort Dunree (see 40901813 for original fort; see 40901826 for later fort on summit of Dunree Hill). It is constructed using robust materials, while its wedge-shaped plan allows for a considerable field of fire from the gun loops located along three elevations, thus maximising the defence of the gateway. Although out of use, it provides an interesting historical insight into the defence considerations afforded an important coastal battery at the time of construction. The form and style of this former guard house indicates that it was either built in conjunction with the construction of the later fort on top of Dunree Hill to the north-east (see 40901826), built 1895 – 97, or in the following few decades. It was probably originally built by the British Army, which was stationed at Dunree Fort until 1938 (Lough Swilly was one of the three 'Treaty Ports'). It was subsequently occupied by the Irish Army who fortified the site

during World War Two\The Emergency. The site and this guard house were later abandoned following the end of World War Two. The adjacent sentry hut, probably a later addition c. 1940, is a simple and utilitarian structure but adds to the context of the guard house. The red brick guard house to the north is another interesting defensive structure with plate metal guards to the openings and robust red brick walls, and adds further to the setting. These structures form part of a site that together constitute one of a number of coastal batteries built by the British military around Lough Swilly along with Inch Fort and Neid's Point to the south, Lenan Head to the north, and Muckamish, Rathmullan and Knockalla to the far side of the Lough. Of historic importance to the Irish nation, shedding light on the strategic value of Lough Swilly especially to the British during World War One, and played an integral role in safeguarding Ireland's neutrality during World War Two. Furthermore, the site provides insight into the defensive thinking of military planners and the skills of military engineers at the turn of the twentieth-century, and constitutes an integral element of the built heritage of Donegal.

NIAH Reg No 40901828: Barracks

Description

Complex of detached and formerly detached single-storey buildings associated with Dunree coastal defence battery (see 40901813 for Napoleonic fortification; see 40801826 for later battery, built 1895 - 97), built c. 1860 and extended c. 1910. Three formerly detached buildings to east now modified for use as café, shop, and as gallery and museum, with modern single-storey glazed sections linking the buildings to the rear. Formerly detached five-bay single-storey building over partially raised basement level to the south-west end of complex having pitched natural slate roof with rendered chimneystack to the north-east pitch, roughcast rendered walls, square-headed window openings with cut stone sills, painted flush roughly squared stone block-and-start surrounds and six-over-six-pane timber sliding windows, and central doorway to front elevation having replacement timber panelled door with plain overlight; doorway reached by flight of steps from the west end having cement rendered wall south. Modern glazed section to the rear (north-east) of five-bay single-storey building (see above) linking building with five-bay single-storey structure having pitched natural slate roof with rendered chimneystack to the rear pitch, rubble stone walls with roughly dressed and squared stone quoins to the corners, square-headed window openings with stone sills, roughly dressed flush roughly squared stone block-and-start surrounds and six-over-six-pane timber sliding windows, and with square-headed doorway to the north-east end of the rear elevation (north-east) having flush roughly squared stone or concrete block-and-start surrounds and replacement timber door. Formerly detached single-storey building to the north-east end of complex of three buildings, now attached to central building to south by modern glazed linking structure, having pitched natural slate roof, roughcast rendered rubble stone walls, and square-headed window openings with stone sills and six-over-six pane timber sliding sash windows. Detached four-bay single-storey building with attic level to the rear of group of three buildings linked by modern glass sections, possibly formerly a toilet or shower block, having pitched natural slate roof with raised rendered verges to the gable ends, rubble stone walls, square-headed window openings to the north-west gable end with wrought-iron security bars and six-over-six pane timber sliding sash windows, and with square-headed doorways to the front elevation (south-west) having concrete block-and-start surrounds and battened timber doors; concrete steps to each doorway. Rubble stone boundary walls to site. Altered single-storey buildings to the south-east of site having pitched slate and artificial slate roof, rendered walls, and square-headed openings; building to south-west of this complex now in use as a café. Detached six-bay single-storey building to the west of complex, built c. 1910, having two single-bay flat-roofed porch extensions to the east\south-east elevation, single-bay flat-roofed porch extension to the north-east gable end, and with single-storey extension to the centre of the rear elevation (west). Pitched artificial slate roof with two cement rendered chimneystacks with clay pots over. Roughcast rendered walls over moulded red brick plinth course; cement rendered finish to porches to the north-east end of the main elevation and to the north-east gable end, red brick construction to porch to the south-west end of the main elevation. Square-headed window

openings with moulded timber surrounds, timber sills, and timber casement windows (some with fixed-pane timber windows over), metal security meshes to openings. Square-headed doorways to porches having replacement battened timber doors and double doors, concrete lintel over doorway to the south-west end of front elevation. Square-headed doorway to the centre of the front elevation (east) having timber battened double-doors with multiple-pane timber overlight. Detached red brick toilet block to the south-east of building to the west having moulded red brick coping over; rubble stone boundary walls to site having random rubble stone coping over. Buildings set within larger complex of structures associated with fort Dunree, located to the east of the Napoleonic fort (see 40901801); to the west of the later fort (see 40901826) on the summit of Dunree Hill, and to the west of the substantial complex of corrugated-metal clad buildings (see 40901824).

Appraisal

This substantial group of single-storey structures constitute an integral element of the Fort Dunree site (see 40901813 for original fort; see 40901826 for later fort on summit of Dunree Hill). Although some of these buildings have been altered, they retain much of their original character and form, and a good deal of their original fabric including natural slate roofs and timber sliding sash and timber casement windows. These buildings were robustly constructed using local rubble stone masonry, their continued existence after a long period of neglect indicative of the quality of their original construction. The robust form of these stone-built structures is in contrast to the mainly corrugated-metal clad utilitarian structures to the main barrack complex (see 40901824) adjacent to the east. The three central buildings to site have been sensitively modified in recent years to accommodate new use as a museum, gallery and exhibition space, retaining much of their early character and form, and providing a new facility for tourists and the local community. The southern most of these three buildings was reputedly formerly in use as a military hospital, an important facility in a relatively large military complex. A number of the buildings in this complex may predate the establishment of the later fort on Dunree Hill in 1895 – 97 to the east and are probably the earliest buildings still extant outside the confines of the original fort to the west (see 40901801). The domestic appearance of the detached or two semi-detached buildings to the west of the site with multiple porches suggests that this was formerly in use as a house or houses, perhaps for military medical personnel living quarters or officer's quarters. The unusual single-storey structure to the north-east of the complex having four doorways to the front elevation suggests that this may be a store, or perhaps a toilet or shower block. These structures date to c. 1900, or slightly beforehand, and were constructed by the British Army (or Royal Engineers), which was stationed at Dunree Fort until 1938 (Lough Swilly was one of the three 'Treaty Ports'). It was subsequently occupied by the Irish Army who fortified the site during World War Two/The Emergency. The site was later abandoned following the end of World War Two. These structures form part of a site that together constitute one of a number of coastal batteries built by the British military around Lough Swilly along with Inch Fort and Ned's Point to the south, Lenan Head to the north, and Muckamish, Rathmullan and Knockalla to the far side of the Lough. Of historic importance to the Irish nation, shedding light on the strategic value of Lough Swilly especially to the British during World War One, and played an integral role in safeguarding Ireland's neutrality during World War Two.

NIAH Reg No 40901831: Officer's House

Description

Detached and semi-detached single-storey probable former officer's houses associated with the later fortification at Fort Dunree (see 40901826), built c. 1910. Now out of use and derelict. Pair of semi-detached three-bay single-storey houses to south of complex, possibly originally officer's quarters, having projecting single-bay flat-roofed entrance porches to centre of the front elevation (west) of each house; hipped slate roofs with grey clayware ridge tiles, three smooth rendered

chimneystacks (one to either end and one central shared chimneystack to party wall); smooth cement rendered walls; shallow segmental-headed window openings with remains of eight-over-eight pane timber sliding sash windows to outer bays of main elevation and to side elevations, and with tripartite windows to inner bay to front elevation having central eight-over-eight pane timber sliding sash windows flanked to either side by two-over-two pane windows; shallow segmental-headed door openings to inner side elevations of porches, doorway now blocked; remains of wrought-iron lamp standard hanging to centre of front elevation (west). Detached three-bay single-storey house to site, possibly originally an officer's house, now disused, having hipped red tiled roof with terracotta ridge tiles, smooth rendered red brick and red brick chimneystacks, and cast-iron rainwater goods; smooth rendered walls; segmental-headed window openings with remnants of timber sash windows, including six-over-six pane windows, tripartite to outer bays; recessed segmental arch headed door opening to south side elevation with remnants of timber panelled door with glazed tripartite overlight; wrought-iron lamp standards to corners of building; and with single-storey outbuilding to the rear having mono-pitched roof. Located to the south/south-east of the old Fort Dunree (see 40901813) and to the south-west of the later fort (see 40901826). Pillboxes and ancillary structures to site (see 40901825), and complex of single-storey former barracks buildings (see 40901824) to the north and north-east of site.

Appraisal

This group of two buildings, one a pair of semi-detached houses, and one a detached house, constitute an integral element of the Fort Dunree site (see 40901813 for original fort; see 40901826 for later fort on summit of Dunree Hill). Although now sadly derelict, they retain much of their original character and fabric including the remains of timber sliding sash windows. The comfortable domestic form of these structures is in contrast to the more utilitarian form of the mainly corrugated-metal clad barrack buildings and ancillary structures to site, which suggests that these buildings may have been originally built as officer's quarters or married officer's quarters associated with the later coastal battery to the summit of Dunree Hill. These structures date to c. 1900, and were probably built in conjunction with the later fort or a few years/decades afterwards. They were probably originally built by the British Army, which was stationed at Dunree Fort until 1938 (Lough Swilly was one of the three 'Treaty Ports'). It was subsequently occupied by the Irish Army who fortified the site during World War Two/The Emergency. The site was later abandoned following the end of World War Two. These structures form part of a site that together constitute one of a number of coastal batteries built by the British military around Lough Swilly along with Inch Fort and Neid's Point to the south, Lenan Head to the north, and Muckamish, Rathmullan and Knockalla to the far side of the Lough. Of historic importance to the Irish nation, shedding light on the strategic value of Lough Swilly especially to the British during World War One, and played an integral role in safeguarding Ireland's neutrality during World War Two. Sensitively restored these buildings would make a positive contribution to the built heritage of the site, and form part of a complex that is an important element of the history of County Donegal.

NIAH Reg No 40901829: Lighthouse

Description

Attached polygonal lighthouse, established 1876. Polygonal multi-paned lights set in cast-iron frame, mounted on smooth rendered base with projecting tooled ashlar plinth. Canted conical ridged sheet-metal roof surmounted by cylindrical pipe-shaft, with wrought-iron weathervane, cornice-profile guttering to eaves. Accessed through attached lighthouse keeper's house (see 40901802). Set within own grounds with whitewashed rubble stone boundary walls.

Appraisal

In March 1871 the Duke of Abercorn looked for better lighting in the Lough and suggested converting the two Martello towers at Macanish and Dunree. The Inspecting Committee surveyed the site and reported that the Fort at Dunree was not a suitable position but suggested a position

on higher ground to the north. A lantern attached to a dwelling for the Keeper was built and the light established on 15th January 1876, non flashing with a two wick oil burner. The dwelling and lantern were built by McClelland & Co. of Derry. The optic was supplied by Chance Brothers of Birmingham. On 9th December 1927 the light was converted to unwatched acetylene with a carbide generating plant attached to the station. The light was converted to electricity in 1969. If the supply should fail a small electric alternator automatically takes over until the mains supply has been restored. The light and house (40901830) are an important part of the maritime infrastructure of this coastline.

NIAH Reg No 40901830: Light Keeper's House

Description

Attached three-bay single-storey lighthouse keeper's house, built 1875, with single-bay lean-to wings to both gables, single-bay entrance porch to front, canted bay to west with polygonal lighthouse (40901801). Pitched slate roof with whitewashed brick chimneystacks with stepped ashlar coping and terracotta pots to gables, ashlar gable copings, ashlar projecting skew-putts and cast-iron guttering on ashlar corbels; flat-roofs with ashlar coping to entrance porch and canted bay. Whitewashed squared rubble walls with ashlar block-and-start quoins, and projecting ashlar plinth. Square-headed window openings with ashlar surrounds and six-over-six and six-over-one horned timber sash windows, three-over-three horned timber sash windows to canted bay, painted stone sills. Square-headed door openings with battened timber doors. Detached outbuilding to north with lean-to slate roof, ashlar gable-coping and cast-iron rainwater goods. Whitewashed squared rubble walls with ashlar block-and-start quoins and projecting ashlar plinth. Square-headed door opening with brick surround and battened timber doors. Whitewashed rubble stone boundary wall.

Appraisal

This attractive lighthouse keeper's house associated with Dunree Lighthouse (see 40901829), which connects to this dwelling to the west. Robustly constructed of local rubble stone masonry, this building retains its early form and character. Its visual appeal and expression is enhanced by the retention of much of its original fabric including timber sliding sash windows. The dwelling and lantern were built by McClelland & Co. of Derry. This building forms part of a pair of related structures along with the associated lighthouse, and is an important element of the built heritage and maritime history of Donegal. The simple outbuilding and boundary walls add considerably to the setting and context of this building, which is spectacularly located close to Fort Dunree on a cliff top to the east side of Lough Swilly.

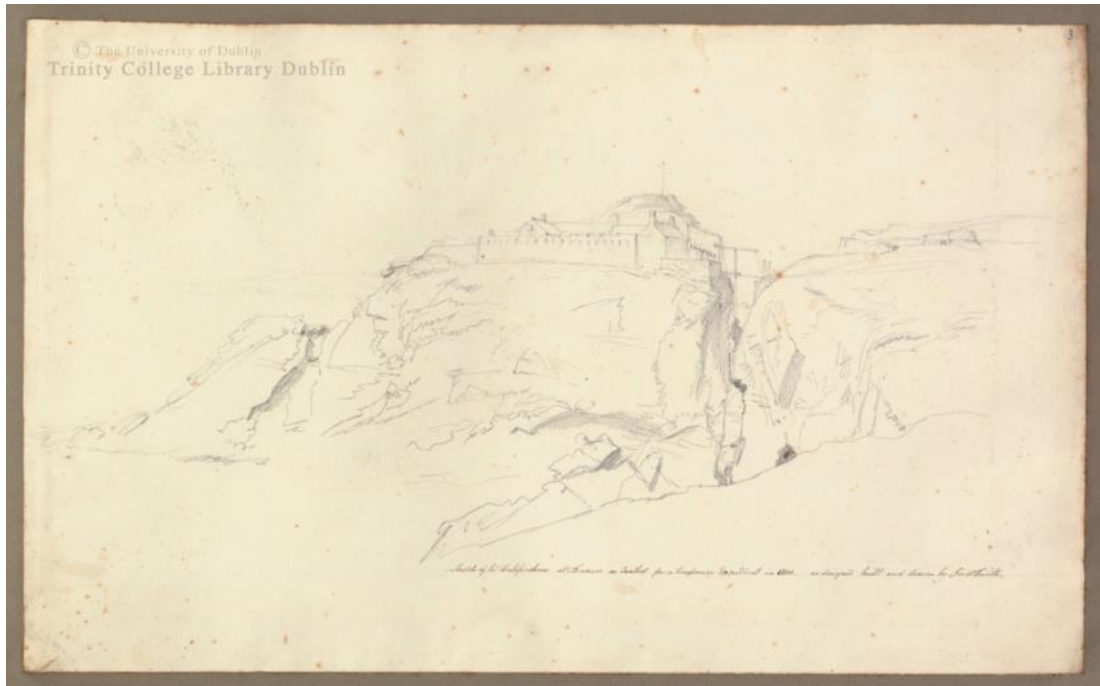


Figure 25 – “View of the fortifications at Dunree as erected for a temporary expedient in 1800? as designed, built and drawn by Sir Wm Smith”. ©TCD

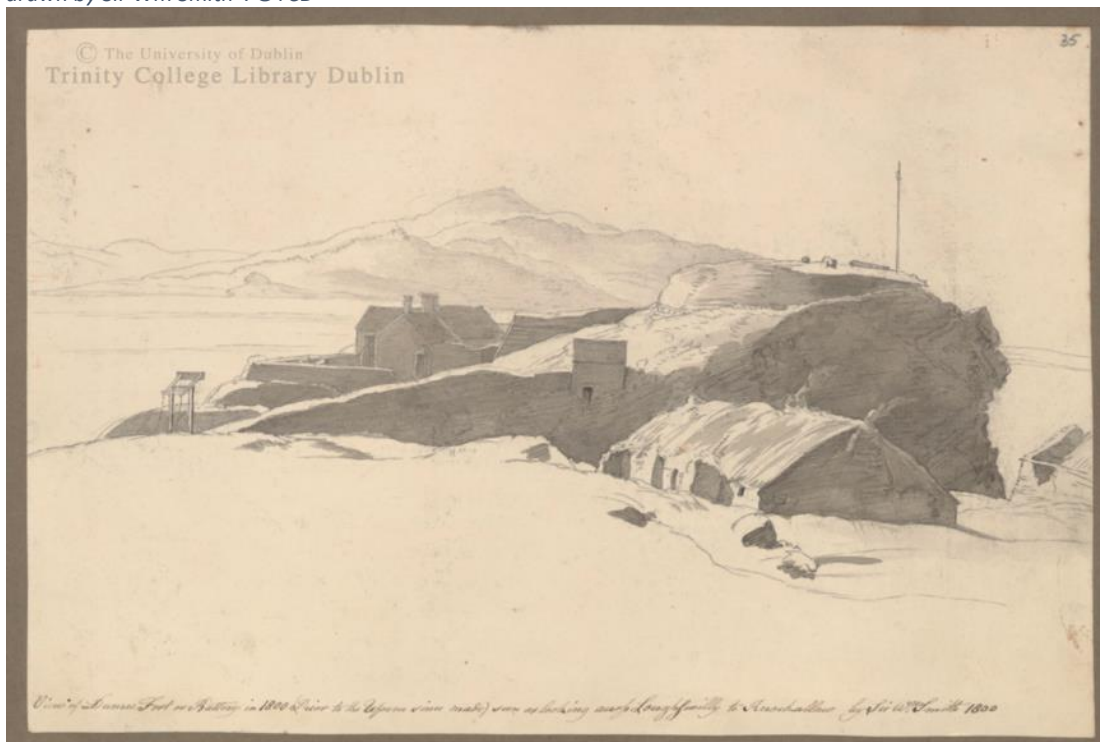


Figure 26 – “View of Dunree Fort or Battery in 1800 (prior to the reform since made) seen as looking away Lough Swilly to Knochallaw by Sir Wm Smith 1800”. ©TCD



Figure 27 – 1st edition Ordnance Survey map (c.1835) – overview of townland of Dunree. © OSI

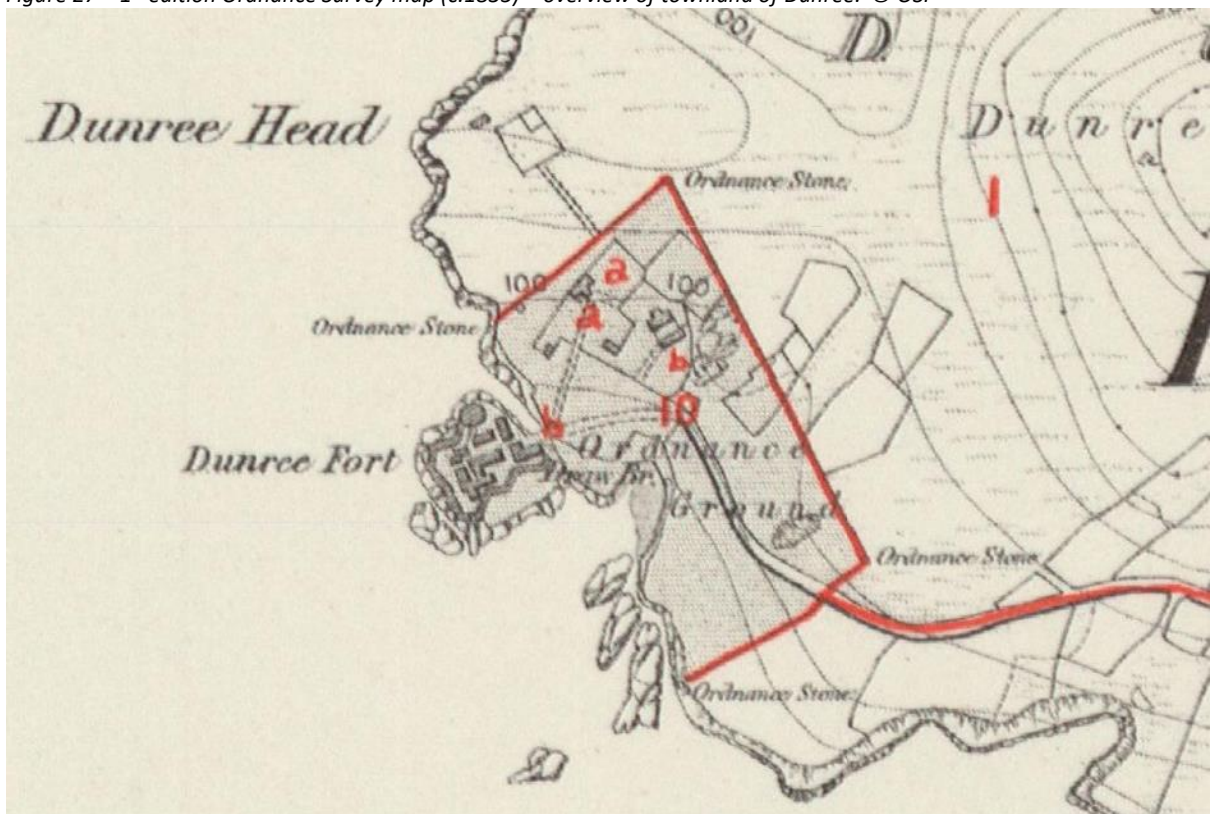


Figure 28 – Griffiths Valuation Map (c.1858) showing the extent of the Ordnance Grounds associated with the 'old fort' ©NLI

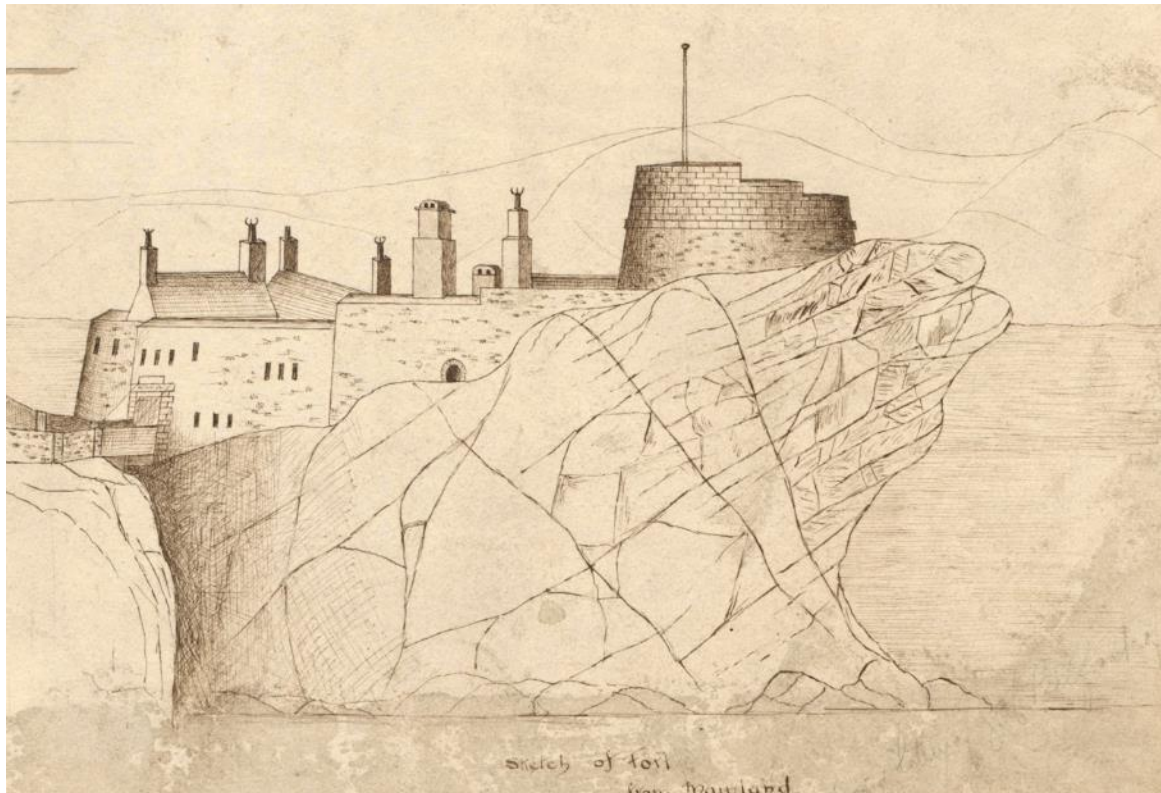


Figure 29 – record drawing of the 'old' fort drawn 1893, after permanent fortifications were made & prior to later remodelling that accompanied expansion of the site ©UK National Archives

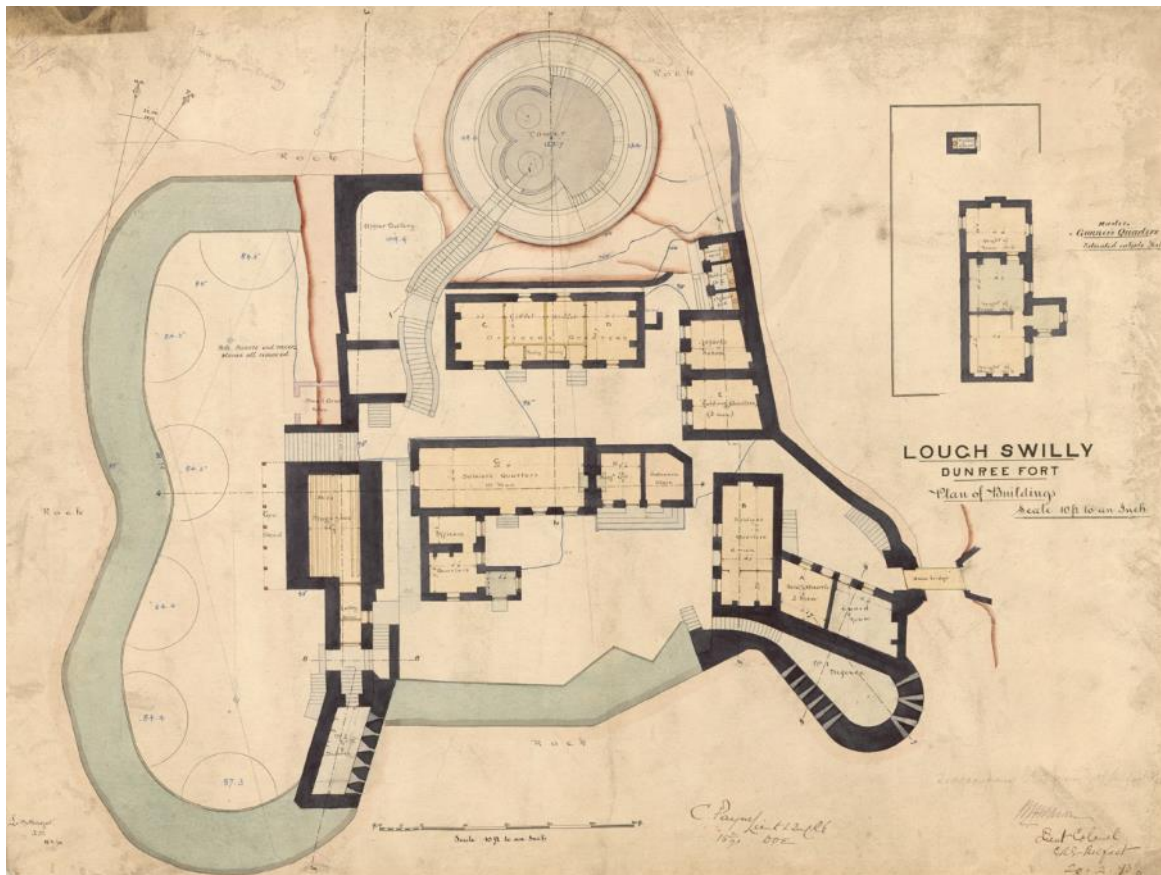


Figure 30 – record drawing of the 'old' fort; drawn 1893 prior to alterations ©UK National Archives

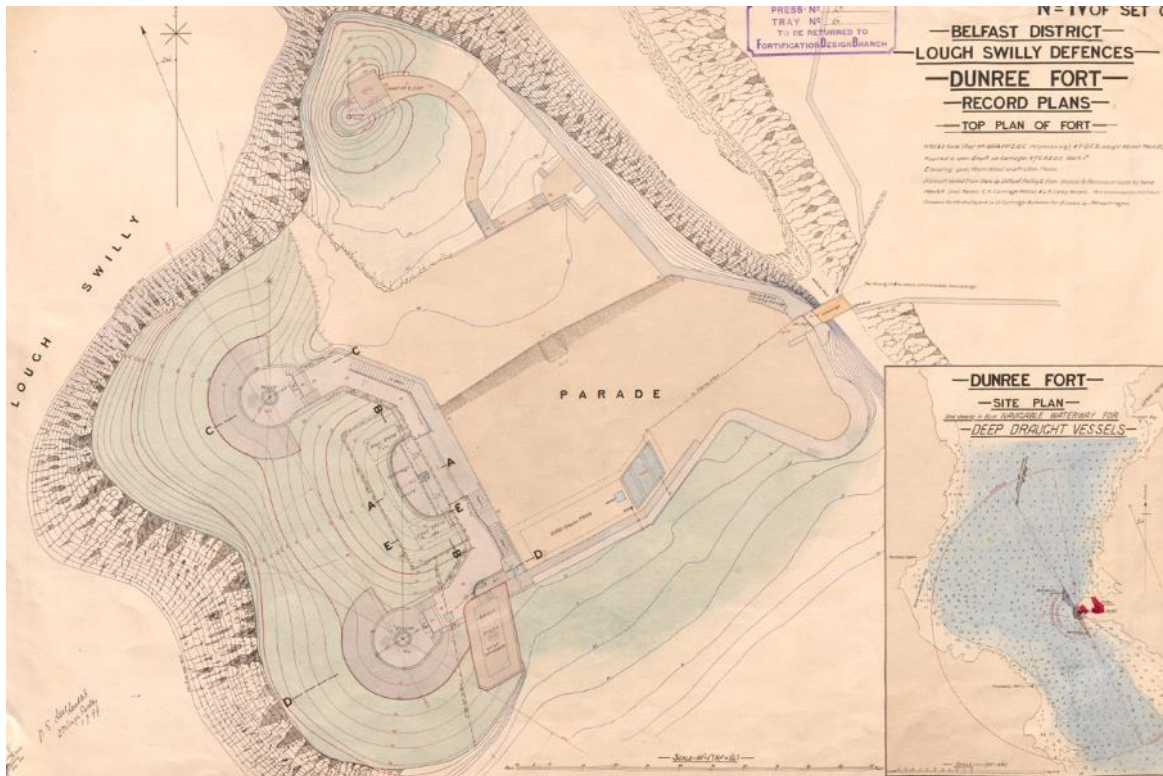


Figure 31 – record drawing of the 'old' fort; drawn 1899, after alterations ©UK National Archives

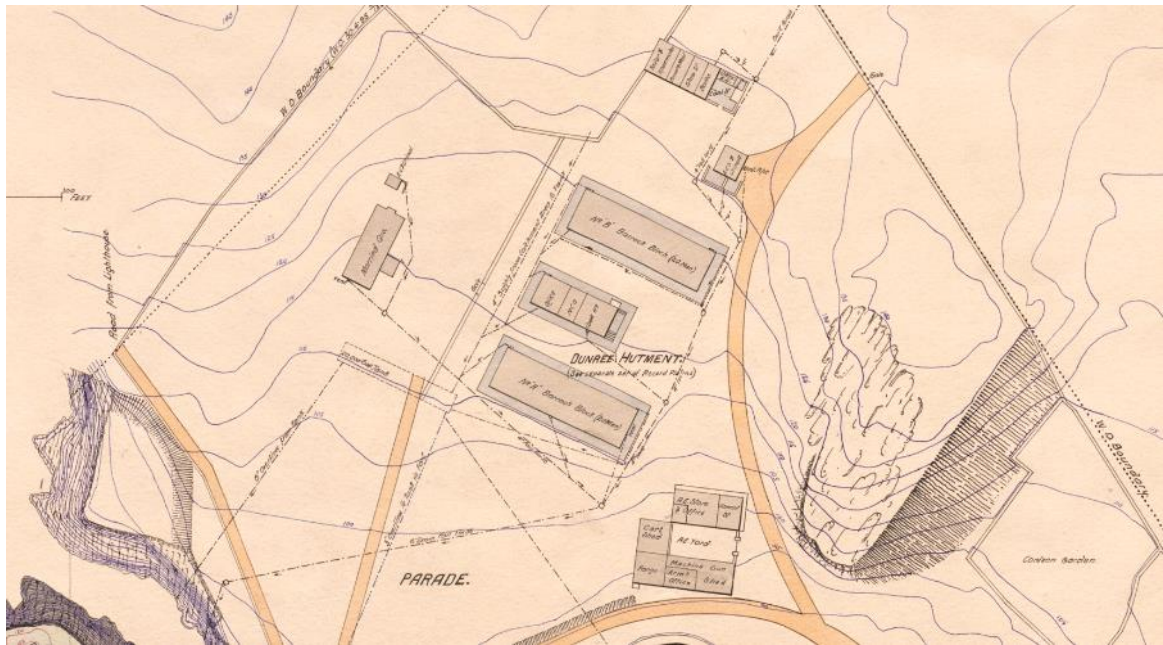


Figure 32 – record drawing of the hutment serving the personnel previously housed in the 'old' fort; drawn 1899, after alterations ©UK National Archives

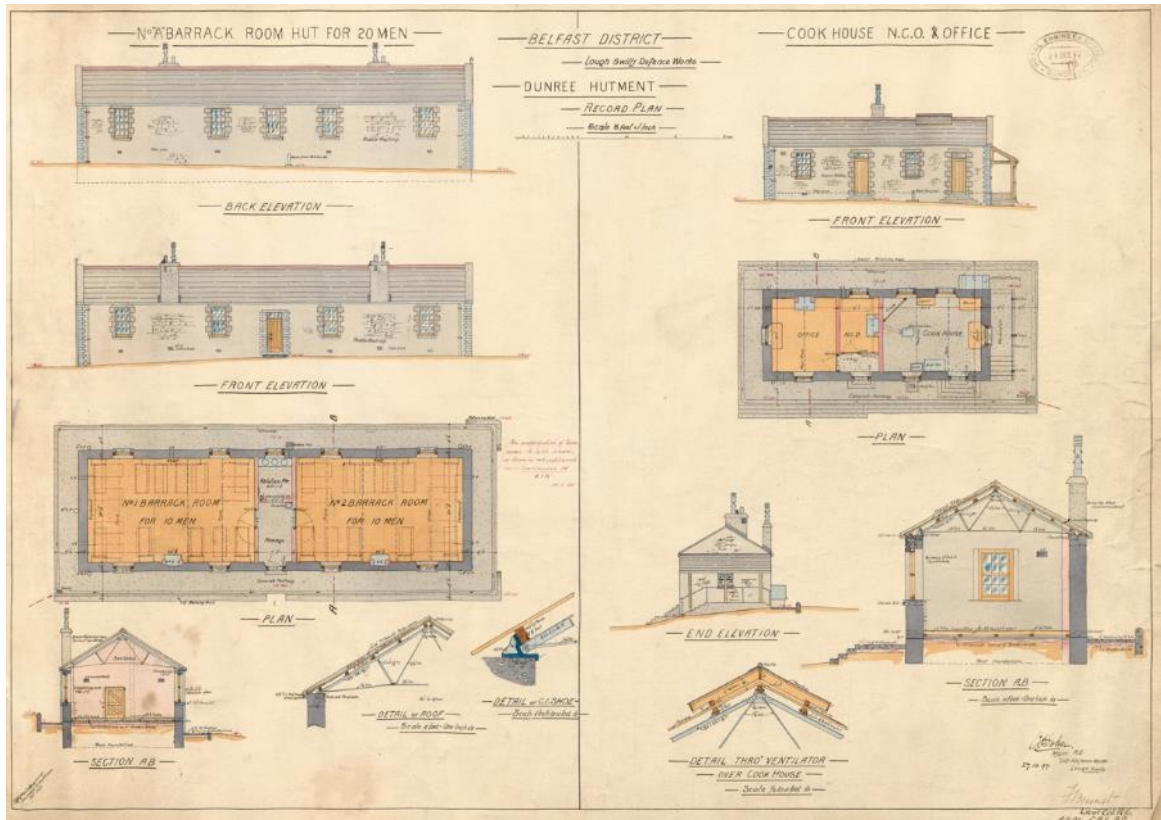


Figure 33 – record drawing of the hutment serving the personnel previously housed in the ‘old’ fort; drawn 1899, after alterations ©UK National Archives

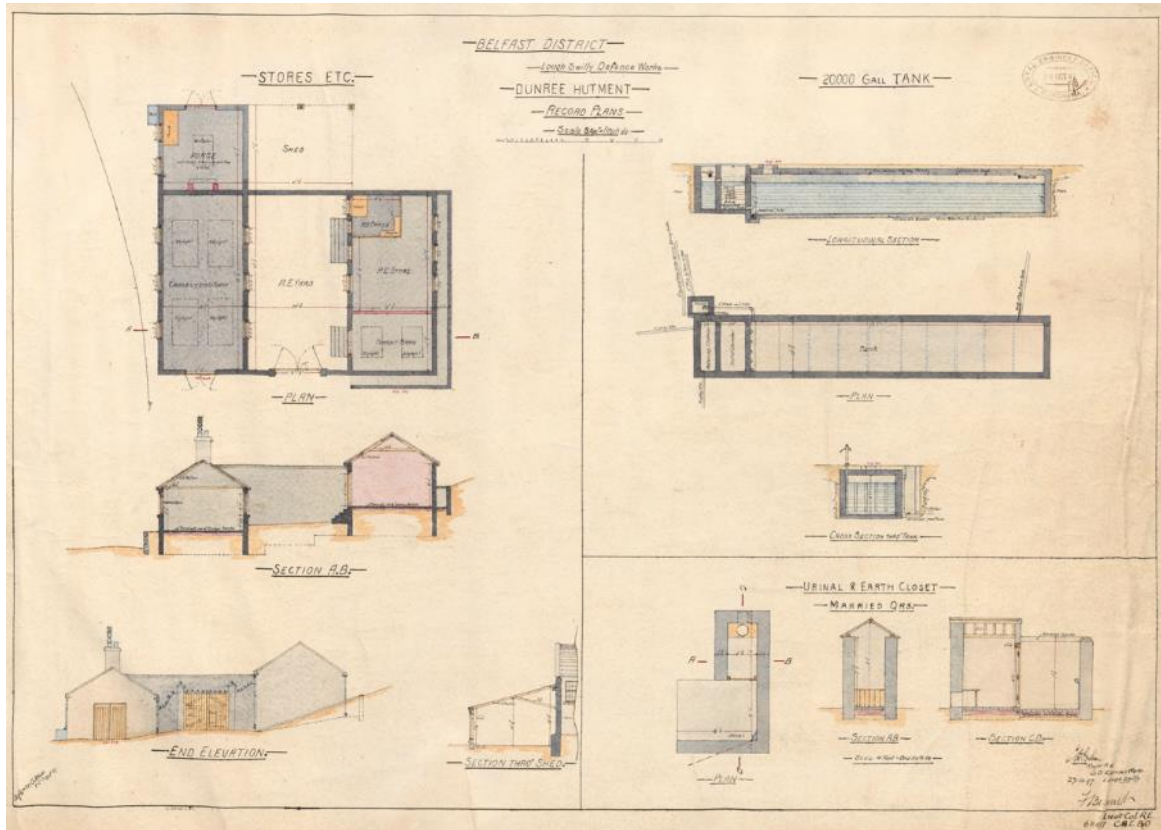


Figure 34 – record drawing of the engineering stores, water tank and other services; drawn 1897 ©UK National Archives

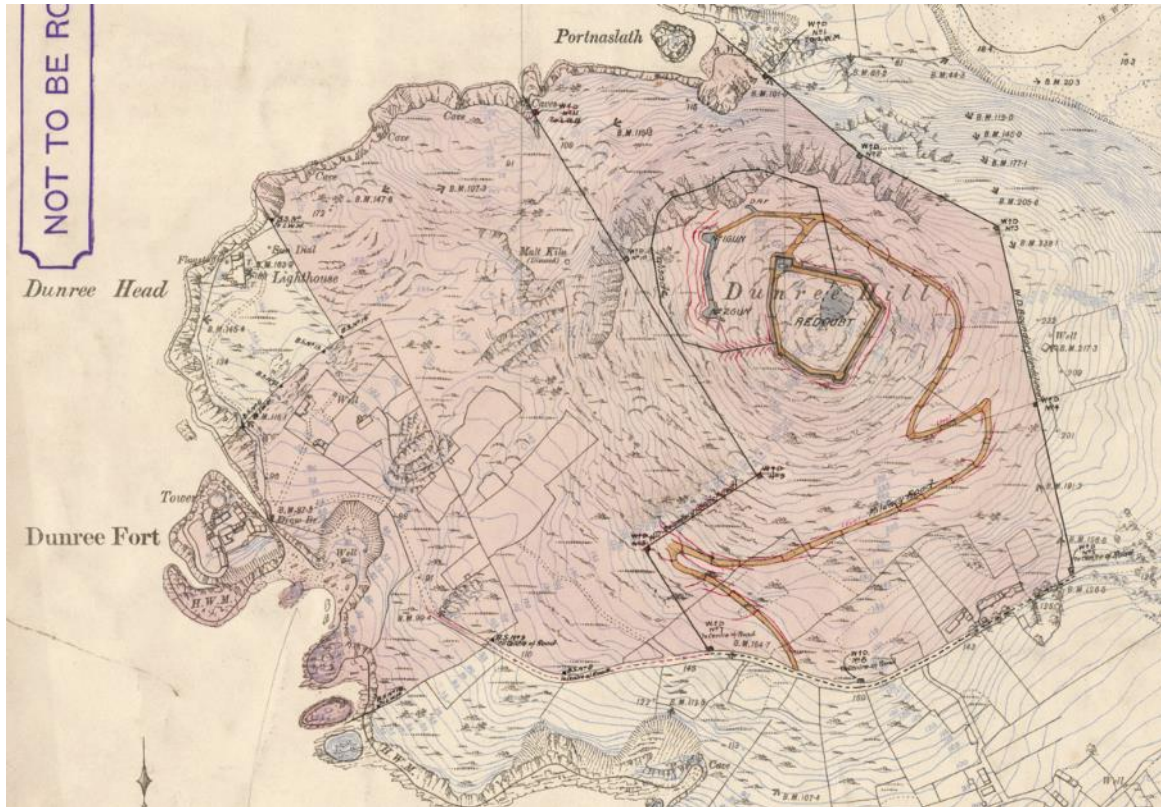


Figure 35 – record drawing of Dunree Hill Battery & Redoubt showing the new extent of the Ordnance Grounds that accommodated the new defences. This area corresponds closely with the planning application site with the exception of lands in the NW corner, in ownership of the Irish Lights Commissioners, also forming part of the application site for the proposed development ©UK National Archive

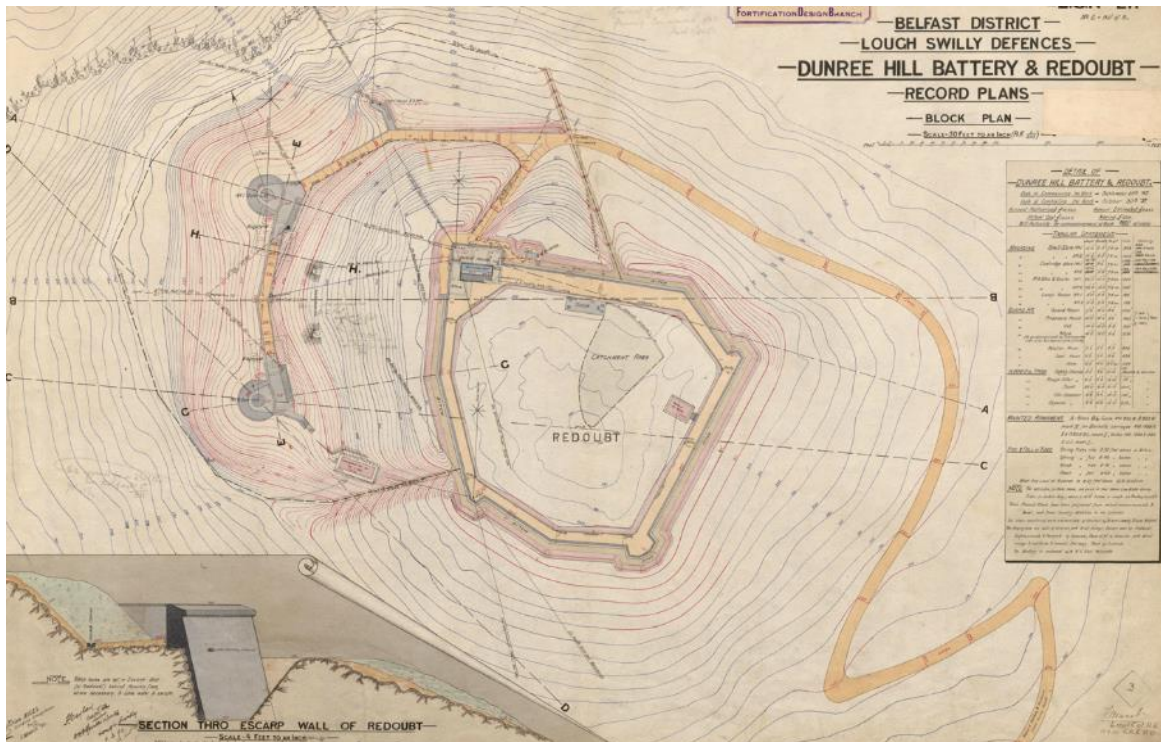


Figure 36 – record drawing of the Dunree Hill Battery & Redoubt fort; drawn 1899 immediately after completion ©UK National Archives

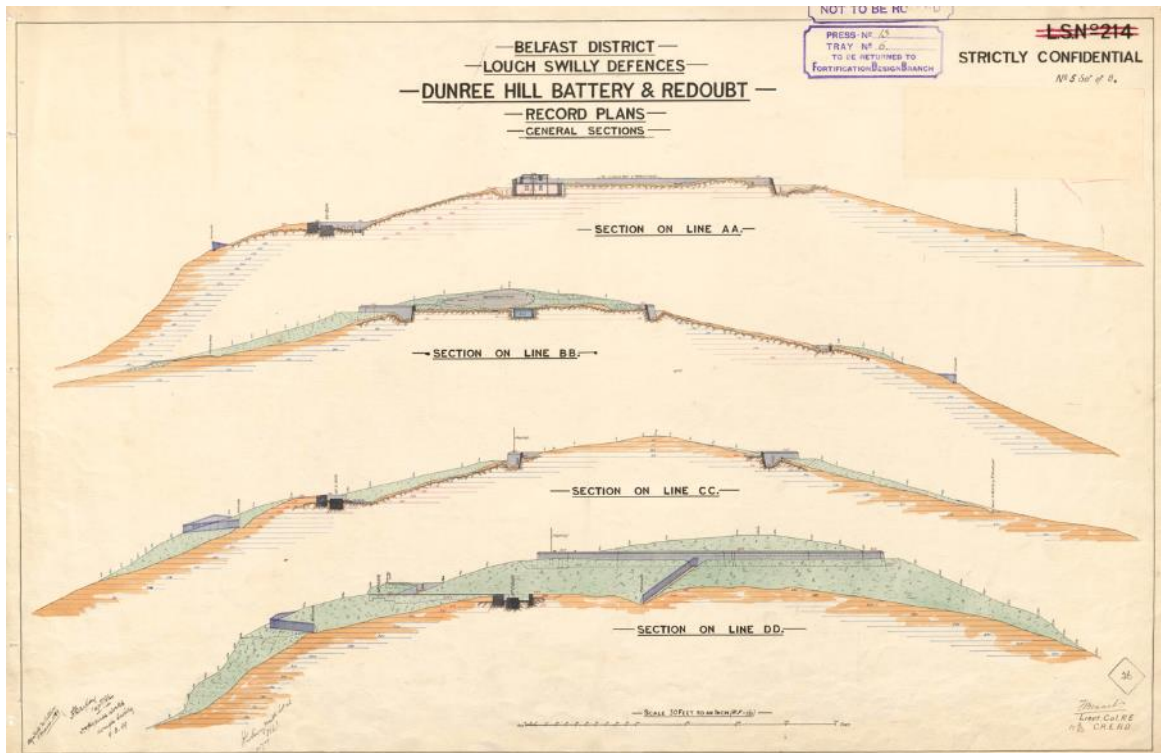


Figure 37— record drawing of the Dunree Hill Battery & Redoubt fort; drawn 1899 immediately after completion. Note that, whilst not shown in drawing of the Redoubt Guardhouse, Section AA already shows the upper storey shelter to the DRF post; a hand-written note suggests this adjustment may date from 1904 ©UK National Archives

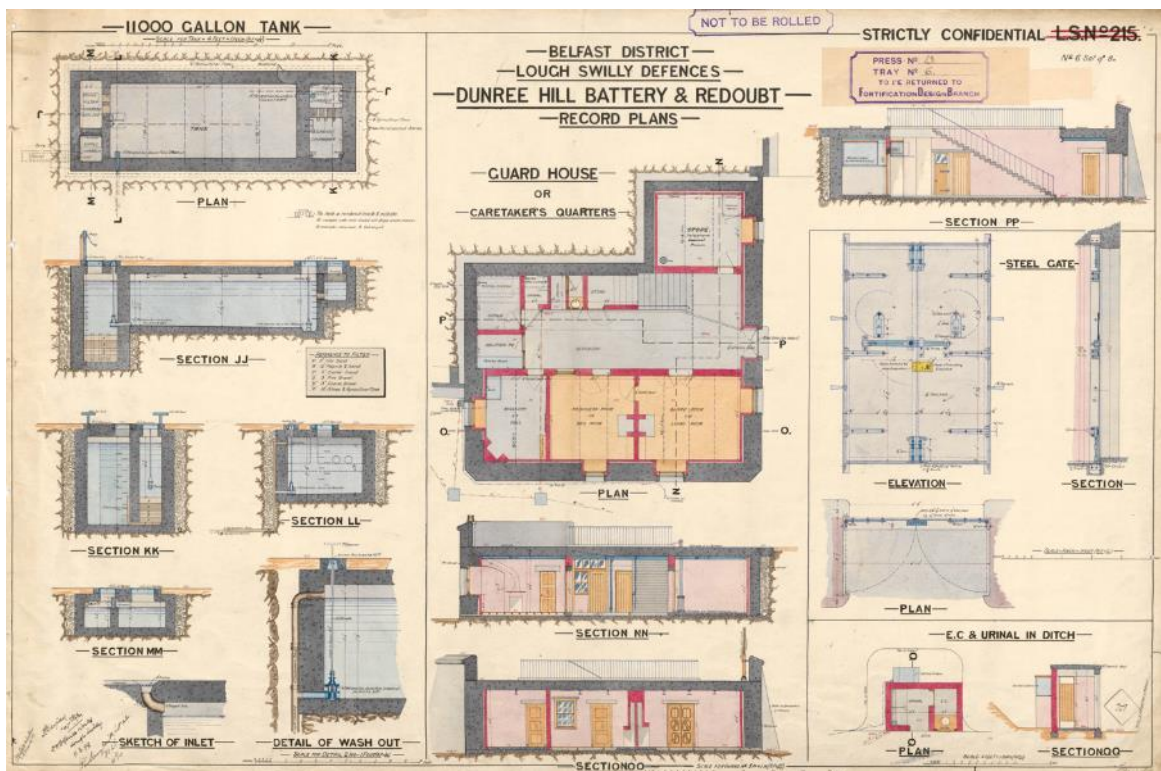


Figure 38 – record drawing of the guardhouse to the Dunree Hill Battery & Redoubt fort; drawn 1899 immediately after completion ©UK National Archives

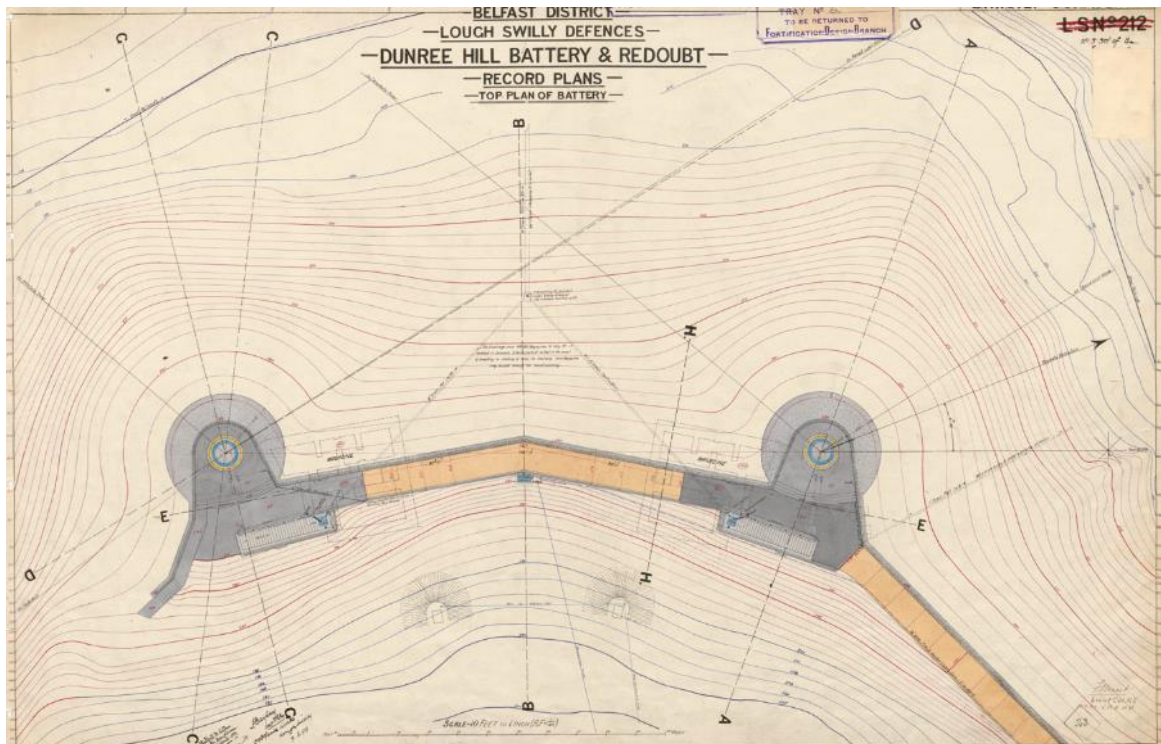


Figure 39– record drawing of the gun emplacements to the Dunree Hill Battery; drawn 1899 immediately after completion. Guns & shell lift mechanism were updated in 1907 ©UK National Archives

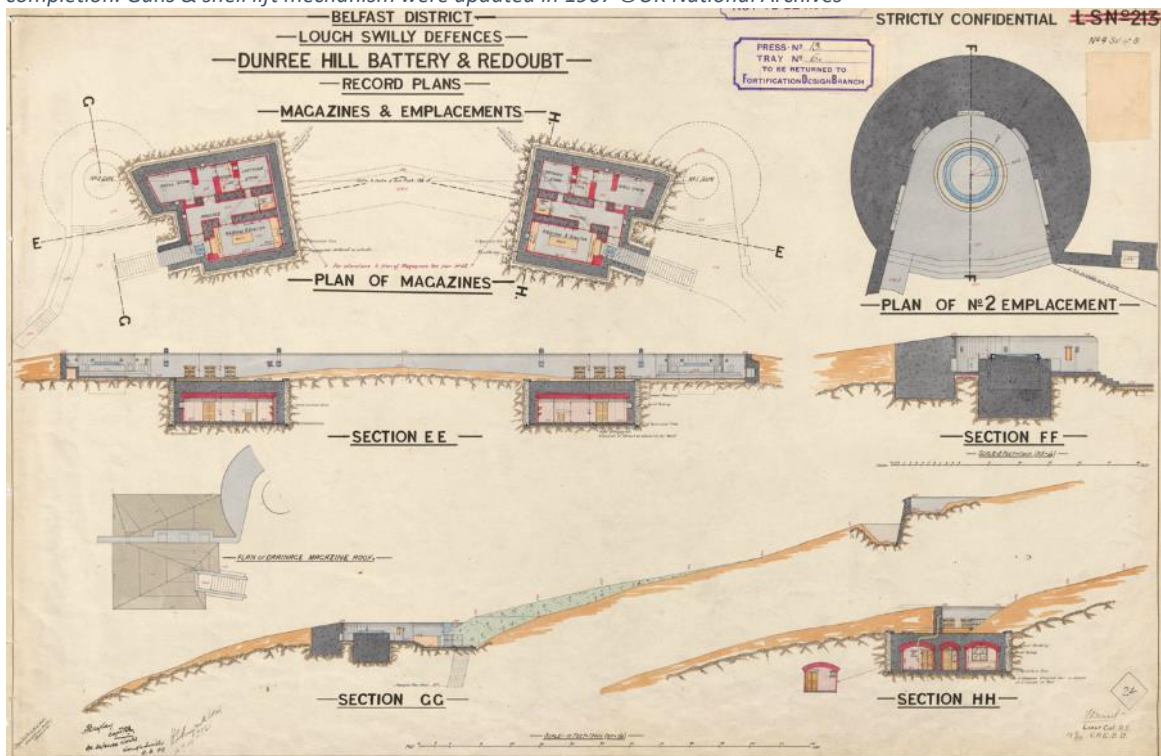


Figure 40 – record drawing of the gun emplacements to the Dunree Hill Battery; drawn 1899 immediately after completion. Guns & shell lift mechanism were updated in 1907 ©UK National Archives

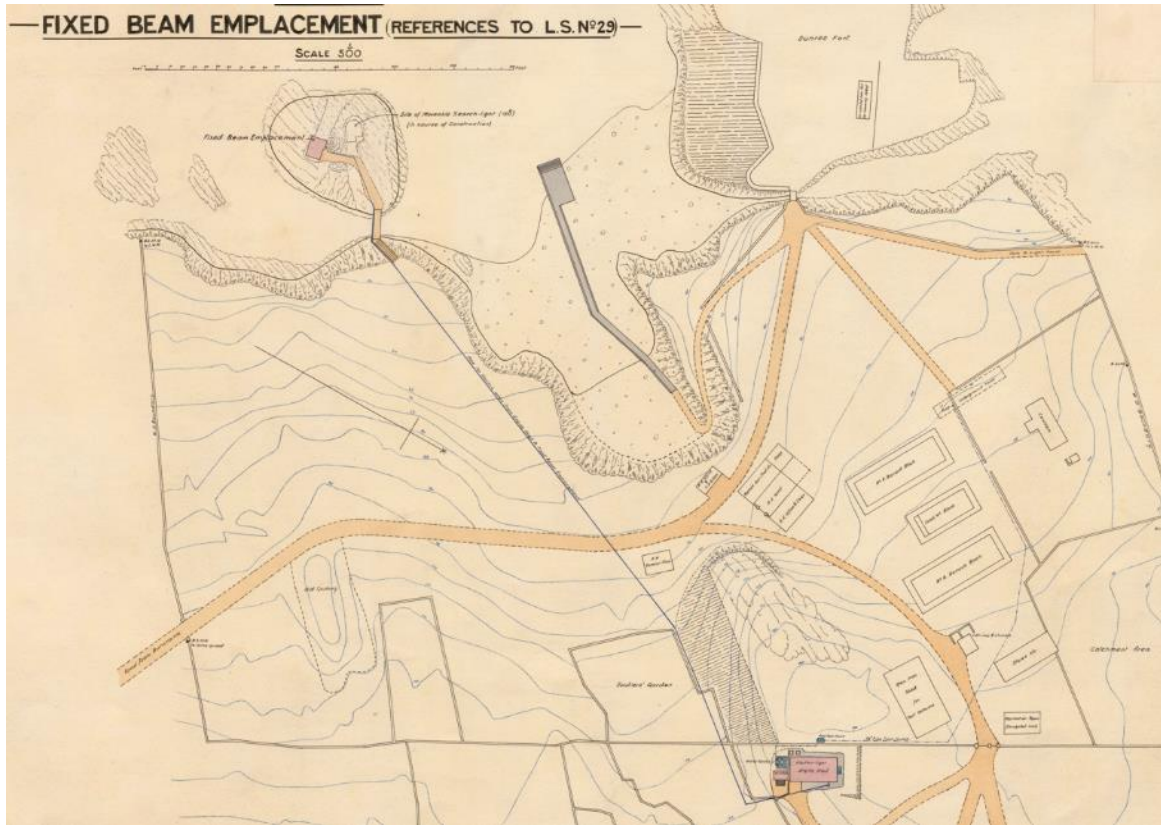


Figure 41 – record drawing power generation plant for lighting the entry point to the lough at night; drawn 1906. These are the concrete blockhouses along the eastern/landward side of the site ©UK National Archives

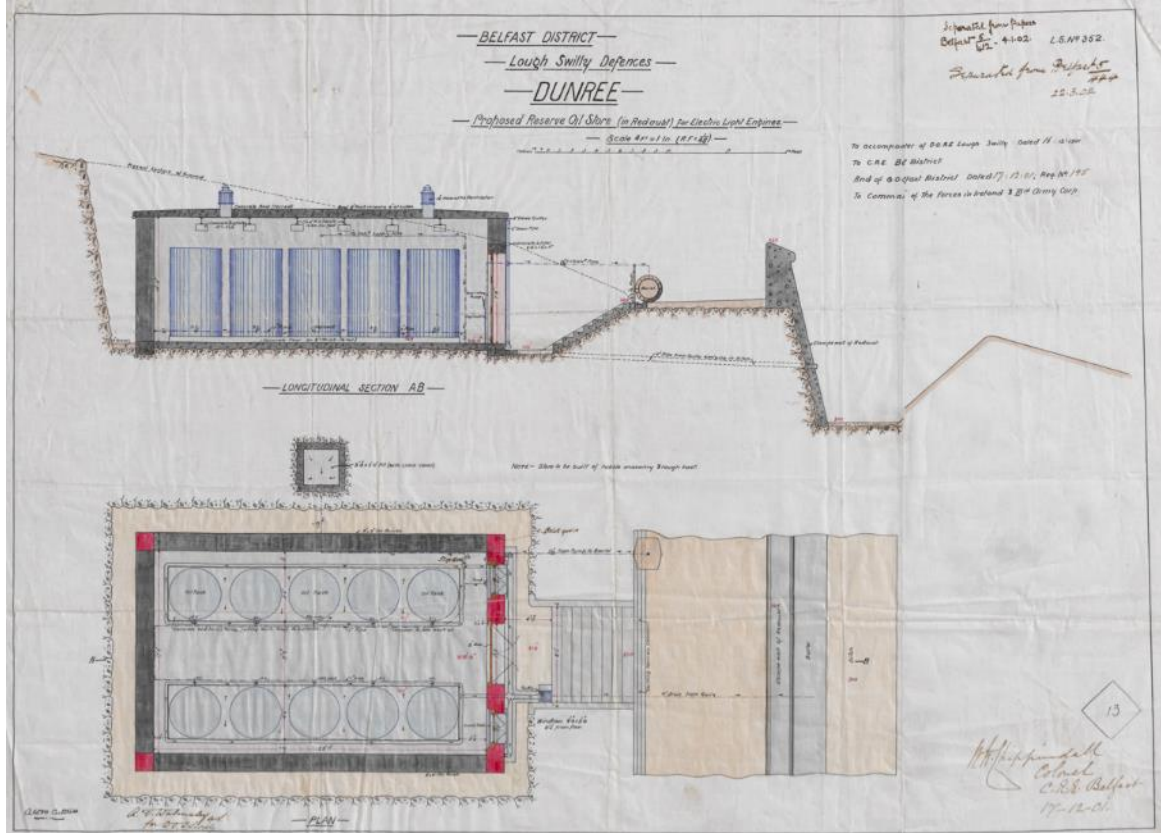


Figure 42 – proposed drawing for reserve oil storage within the Dunree Hill redoubt fort to supply t power generation plant located at the base of the hill; drawn 1901. ©UK National Archives



Figure 43 – drawing of additional defences to the Dunree Hill Battery & Redoubt fort; drawn 1915. These are the concrete blockhouses along the eastern/ landward side of the site ©UK National Archives

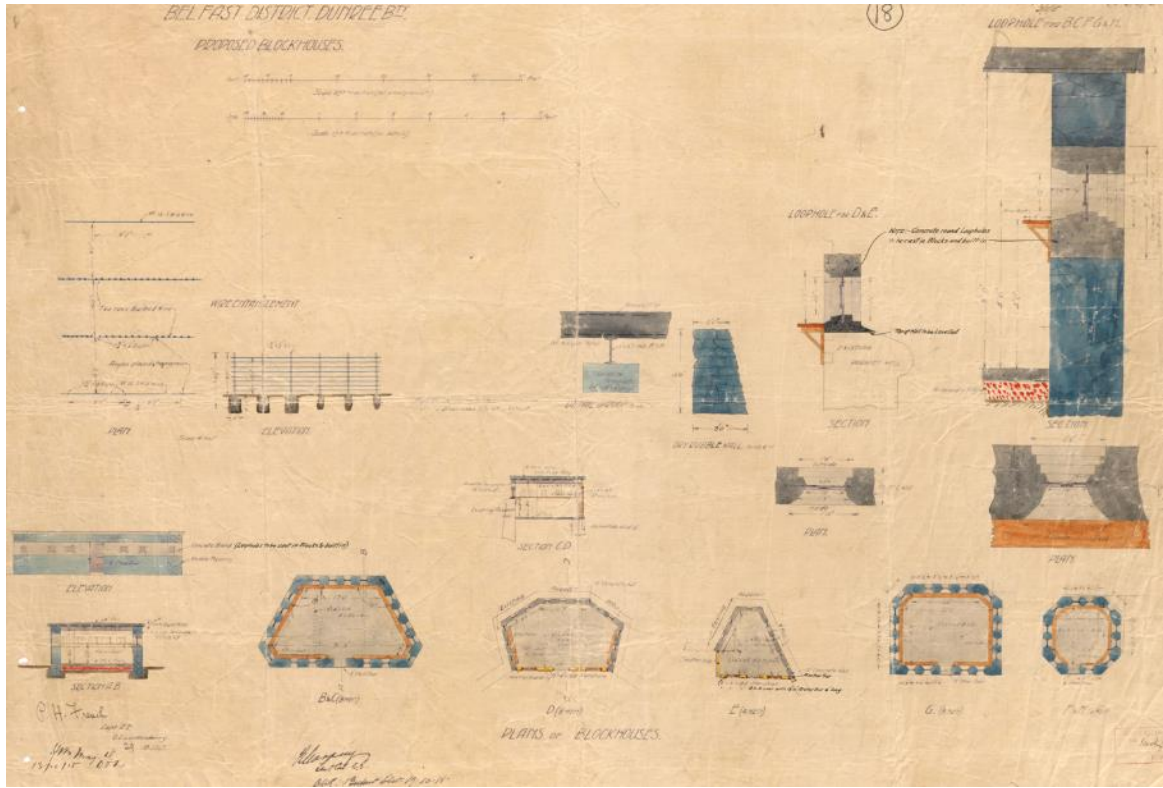


Figure 44 – detail of the Dunree Hill Battery blockhouses; drawn 1915. ©UK National Archives

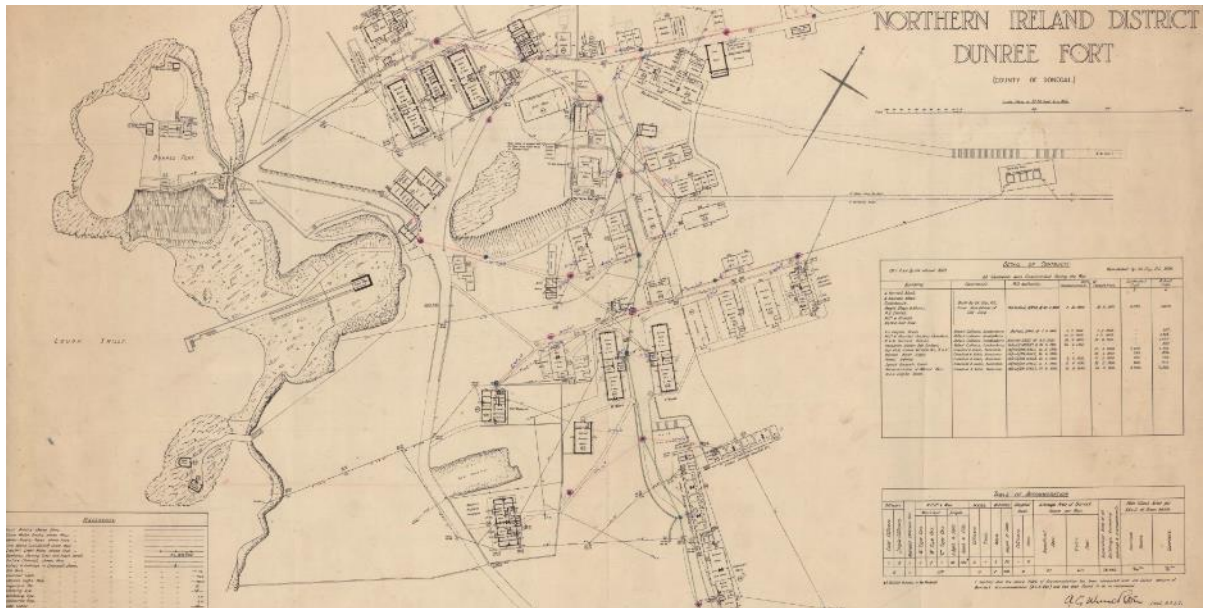


Figure 45 – detailed record map showing the layout in 1932. The drawing states that all of the ‘hutments were constructed during the war’ from which it is interpreted that the corrugated iron clad structures, as distinct from the earlier stone ‘hutments’ were constructed between 1914 and 1918 © OSI



Figure 46 – Aerial view showing the current layout © DigitalGlobe Inc.

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Analysis of Existing Structure & Statement of Significance

Dunree is primarily a complex and extensive disused military site which is included in the record of Protected Structures for County Donegal. This is overlaid with a small number of contemporary uses that make up the existing Fort Dunree Military Museum. Only a handful of the historic buildings are actually in use and a smaller number of purpose-made modern buildings developed to provide specific museum accommodation. These latter facilities, uninformed by best conservation practise, were developed with only passing regard to historic material and detail. The structure of the main museum building, whilst providing an essential facility for the functioning of the museum, demonstrates the potentially negative impact of a new intervention on the character of the historic structure. Associated features, such as safety railings and flagpoles, also obscure the historic character of the structure of the 'old fort' and, to a lesser degree, throughout other parts of the site. The current proposals are designed to enhance the tourist offering at the site by providing additional visitor facilities and preserving and reusing some of the existing historic structures here. This latter aspect involves development of a conservation plan, or strategy for future management of the site and care of over 100 historic structures. The proposed plan thus offers a significant opportunity to remedy some past mistakes as well as conserve and protect the historic fabric which defines the essential character of the site. The alteration of historic buildings, and development of new structures also has potential to diminish the well-preserved character of the site thus compounding past damage. The preparation of a Conservation Plan for the site, and assessment of the impact of new proposals during the design process have been undertaken in support of the development enhancing the site from a conservation perspective rather than further eroding its special character.

The site also incorporates the Dunree Head lighthouse and keeper's accommodation; whilst ownership is retained by Irish Lights, a new exhibition use & artist's studio is proposed within part of the keeper's house.

The artillery fort site is exceptionally well-preserved, as it was originally designed, to function as a means of independently securing, provisioning, operating and maintaining a coastal heavy artillery installation prior to that means of defence being superseded by the development of military air defences in the course of the 20th century. As a functional design, all of the structures, material and equipment are characterised by their utility. The most substantial structures, designed to withstand enemy artillery attack, were the gun emplacements. The lower fort, constructed at the beginning of the 19th century to withstand impact from cannon balls, is made of stone. The later structures are designed to withstand attack from exploding shells, similar to those which the redoubt fort gun emplacements were designed to fire. These later massive reinforced concrete structures are partially concealed, and low lying against the contours of the hilltop to minimise the target area from enemy fire. Other structures, such as living accommodation and social facilities within the 'hutment' encampment are lightweight and made from utilitarian materials.

Of particular interest are the supporting facilities that enabled the fort to operate 'off-grid' and to be self-sufficient in water supply and power generation. These are attributes which reflect the position that the threats to the security of the fort were at times from a potential local source, and indeed the fort was operated by the British State for nearly two decades after Irish independence.

The state of preservation of these structures has occurred on account of there being no significant development here other than what was necessary to sustain its use as a military base, and latterly as a museum whose prime concern is celebrating that history.

The absence of long term maintenance, since the fort was closed for military use, has also resulted in some loss of historic fabric in the past and will continue to do so into the future without the investment that is promised through funding of the current proposals. The proposed development thus also provides a significant opportunity to make a positive contribution to the built heritage of the site. A key part of the strategy to protect and conserve the buildings is to prioritize and target the building repair works so as to reduce the risk of further losses in future.

As a concrete military structure, complete with its weaponry, support structures and much of its original fittings, Dunree Fort is not only well-preserved, its scale and state of preservation is also thought to be unique in Ireland.

In addition to its Architectural and Technical value, the following values, identified in ICOMOS guidelines are relevant to the structure at Dunree:

- Territorial and geographical value.
- Cultural Landscape Value.
- Strategic Value.
- Human and Anthropological Value.
- Memory, Identity, Educational Value.
- Historic value.
- Social/Economic Value.

Drawings

The Built Heritage Impact Assessment is based on the drawings, reports and other documentation made available to us at the time of this undertaking. Proposed drawings completed prior to 15th August 2023

Photographs

The first section of this report gives an overview of the historic site and its development. Details of individual structures are contained within the data sheets associated with each structure in the Conservation Plan. For purposes of providing a concise assessment report, a representative image is provided for each of the structures in Appendix 2 below.

Impact Assessment of Proposals

General Observations – Architectural & Technical Value

The Dunree Fort complex has architectural value in terms of its form and character. Whilst extensive, comprising more than 100 individual well-preserved elements, these, collectively, characterise a historic structure of great integrity. The overall structure, comprising Hill Battery, Redoubt Fort and lower battery complete with its supporting infrastructure (security, water supply, power generation, maintenance, housing & recreational facilities) has value from a technical and social perspective, as well from an architectural perspective. Unlike many other protected sites, Dunree, is also significant for its rare, possibly unique, character. For this reason alone, great care must be taken in development of new proposals in order that unacceptable losses are avoided. It is noted that, whilst well-preserved in the sense that all of the component parts are visible, the condition of many structures, is poor, and this has also been taken into consideration in the assessment.

The new development will also address some of the increasingly derelict structures at the site by undertaking urgent repairs and priority maintenance work. This aspect of the project is essential in avoiding future loss of fabric through attrition which will be the inevitable consequence of further neglect. This is the most important element of the proposed investment from a conservation perspective. The other aspect of the investment will, however, involve development of new infrastructure, or involve alteration of structures to facilitate development of new uses. This is driven by a need for investment in the tourism infrastructure at the site which is planned to generate sufficient income to sustain and preserve the site into the future.

Proposed works at the site can be described under three headings:

1. Repairs to the existing fabric – these are to be carried out using principles of good conservation practice, with minimum intervention, using like-for-like materials. Where there are alterations proposed and making good required, making good will be undertaken using matching materials. These are not all described on the drawings.
2. Demolitions/alterations – the impact of these on the external fabric of the house are detailed in the table below. The extent of some of these alterations is shown on the proposed drawings submitted with this application. However, as discussed above, it is noted that there is a significant amount of further detail needed to be developed post planning.
3. New structures and siteworks – these impacts are shown on the drawings submitted with the application and are referred to in the Appendix below.

A summary of the proposed significant new interventions is as follows:

Hutment

- Site Entrance – widening of the existing site entrance; changes to the road access changes to boundary wall, drop barrier, timber electrical pole
- Car Parking – 1) development of a new car park area, changing setting of existing access roadway, ruin of former officer's mess & squash court; permeable block paving finish; 2) ornamental landscaping; hedging & specimen trees to adjacent road margin; 3) pedestrian & cycle pathway/ increased access road through line of outer defences
- Construction of new gate between former barrack buildings C & D and any associated fencing, gates & boundary treatments
- Restoration & change of use of former barrack buildings C & D to use as public toilets, ticketing & sales offices
- Restoration of Power Generation buildings; Drill Hall/ Tent Store
- New section of Roadway to Redoubt Fort - involving removal of collapsed former 7.07 Gym & construction of raised roadway up to 3m over existing adjacent ground level
- Removal of collapsed building 24.01
- Parade Ground – 1) removal of tarmac car park; regrading of ground; 2) ornamental landscaping to regraded area
- WWTS – 1) construction of new WWTS system; 2) ornamental landscaping; hedging & specimen trees to adjacent road margin
- Cafeteria – partial demolition; construction of new extension & conversion of existing wing to cafeteria use including construction of partial basement to serve stairway

Lower Fort

- Renewal of draw bridge
- Construction of new fully accessible walkway – 1) changes to levels through fort; 2) removal of existing balustrading; 3) construction of partially cantilevered balustraded structure to allow access over cliff edge on west & north sides

Dunree Hill Redoubt

- Existing Roadway to Redoubt Fort – localised widening works & installation of power & water supplies along length of roadway to Redoubt Fort
- Alterations to Redoubt fort defensive ditch to facilitate vehicle access & turning
- Redoubt Fort – 1) demolition of collapsing upper storey; construction of new larger contemporary intervention in a different location; 2) restoration of new parapet walkway; different to presumed existing layout concealed by vegetation shown in record drawings; layout shown will require rock removal; 3) Ornamental landscaping to part of ditch & margins to restored parapet walkway; specimen trees to ditch access
- WWTS – construction of new WWTS system with an increased capacity and percolation area

Practice Battery

- Lighthouse walkway – new viewing platform over cliff edge

Lighthouse

- Change of use for lightkeeper's house to art studio, shop & lighthouse exhibition

General Services

- Electrical supply – underground infrastructure throughout site
- External lighting – to hutment only
- Water supply – existing; new supply to redoubt; no fire hydrant service
- Foul drainage – remove existing redundant; install new foul to WWTS
- Surface drainage – to be refurbished

Construction Stage Facilities

- Construction compounds – access points & elements of structure to be protected to be shown

The impact of these proposed changes is considered on a structure by structure basis in the table in Appendix 1.

The numbering of the structures in the application corresponds to existing architectural drawings being submitted as part of the planning application. It is noted that the naming of some of the features in the drawings for the proposed development do not necessary correspond to the naming or terminology contained in military record drawings or conservation documents for the site. It has been recommended that terminology is reviewed and corrected so that it is consistent with historical use in due course.

Appendix 1 – ‘Part 8’ Planning Application: Built Heritage Impact Assessment

Part 8 Application for a Tourism Development Project at Dunree Fort, Inishowen, Co. Donegal

The table on the following pages sets out an assessment of the impact of the design proposals on the historic building and landscape elements that are included in the inventory and Conservation Plan for the site.

There is no nationally accepted standard for assessment of the impact of development proposals on built heritage in Ireland, however a number of comparable methodologies that are currently in use. The most widely recognised, which is relatively simple to understand and is robust, is the ICOMOS “*Guidance on Heritage Impact Assessments for Cultural World Heritage Properties*”. Whilst designed with reference to World Heritage sites, the methodology is set out in a form that is applicable to different types of heritage and built heritage of varying degrees of importance.

For the most part, the individual structures that are present on the site make up a much larger complex that is the former Dunree coastal artillery fort. These have been assessed as having ‘high significance’ on account of their ‘Protected Structure’ status as well as their forming part of the complex, aspects of which are of national and international interest.

The magnitude of impacts are graded: ***major, moderate, minor, negligible or none.***

Impacts are considered as being either: ***beneficial, adverse, or neutral.***

Assessments are based on the drawings presented, and whilst recommendations have been made to mitigate some of the likely impacts, the future assessment can only be undertaken in response to revised drawings of the proposals. The Impact Assessment process may thus also be seen as a design tool, reflecting the iterative nature of the design process; in this case informing design proposals from a Built Heritage perspective.

Ref	Structure/ Current Use	Location	Former Uses/ Accommodation	Historic Description/ Construction	Significance	Current Condition (2022)	Proposal/Nature of Impact	Comment/ Potential Mitigation	Impact of Development as Proposed in Application Documents
1 OUTER DEFENCES									
1 Entrance Gate									
1.01	Sentry Post	Main gate	Shelter for gate sentry	Corrugated iron clad timber frame	High	At Risk	Removal of outer sentry barrier, electrical pole & other features marking the historical site entrance	Recommended reposition only to facilitate access to parking area instead of removal.	Moderate/ adverse
1.02	Guard House	Main gate.	Accommodation for troops defending main gate	Corrugated iron clad timber frame	High	Demolished - Rising walls & base only	Possible removal of rising wall & base; removal of adjacent early c20 drystone walls & kerbs	Surviving Guardhouse elements retained & drystone walling to be reconstructed as part of landscaping treatment of car parking area; pattern of existing kerbs & channels to inform new work; landscape design to be developed to mitigate impact	Moderate/ adverse
1.03	Military Road	Main gate to Redoubt	Access road to Redoubt	Rolled gravel roadway	High	Good	Proposal to widen road locally & use for buried services. Proposal to widen existing pedestrian access at redoubt for to serve vehicles.	Road widening locally, subject to detail, will have minimal visual impact. Widening of existing access to the Redoubt Fort will compromise authenticity of defensive entrance. Recommend retain existing entrance width or reduce proposed usage accordingly.	Moderate/ adverse
2 Blockhouses									
2.01	A	Swilly shore line	Lookout & defensive structure	2' rubble rising wall; concrete band; 1/2" steel loops cast into blocks & built in; granite lintel; 8" concrete slab to falls reinforced with no.9 expanded metal; intermediate steel beams	High	At Risk	No work proposed	n/a	Structure outside application site
2.02	B	Main Gate	Lookout & defensive structure	2' rubble rising wall; concrete band; 1/2" steel loops cast into blocks & built in; granite lintel; 8" concrete slab to falls reinforced with no.9 expanded metal; intermediate steel beams	High	At Risk	Alterations to low wall in landscape to facilitate widened vehicle entrance	Investigate defensive line in undergrowth. Paving/ landscaping where wall removed to be designed to show residual line of outer defences; assumed line of defences concealed in undergrowth to north of structure affected by cycleway/footpath entrance. Further site investigation required to inform detail design of proposals.	Moderate/ adverse
2.03	C	Dunree Hill Battery & Redoubt	Lookout & defensive structure	2' rubble rising wall; concrete band; 1/2" steel loops cast into blocks & built in; granite lintel; 8" concrete slab to falls reinforced with no.9 expanded metal; intermediate steel beams	High	At Risk	No new work proposed this phase	Short term access control measures recommended - Future repairs anticipated in Conservation Plan	None
2.04	F	Dunree Hill Battery & Redoubt	Lookout & defensive structure	2' rubble rising wall; concrete band; 1/2" steel loops cast into blocks & built in; granite lintel; 8" concrete slab to falls reinforced with no.9 expanded metal; intermediate steel beams	High	At Risk	No new work proposed this phase	Short term access control measures recommended - Future repairs anticipated in Conservation Plan	None
2.05	G	Dunree Hill Battery & Redoubt	Lookout & defensive structure	2' rubble rising wall; concrete band; 1/2" steel loops cast into blocks & built in; granite lintel; 8" concrete slab to falls reinforced with no.9 expanded metal; intermediate steel beams	High	At Risk	No new work proposed this phase	Short term access control measures recommended - Future repairs anticipated in Conservation Plan	None
2.06	H	Dunree Hill Battery & Redoubt	Lookout & defensive structure	2' rubble rising wall; concrete band; 1/2" steel loops cast into blocks & built in; granite lintel; 8" concrete slab to falls reinforced with no.9 expanded metal; intermediate steel beams	High	At Risk	No new work proposed this phase	Short term access control measures recommended - Future repairs anticipated in Conservation Plan	None

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REDOUBT									
3	Dunree Hill Battery & Redoubt								
3.00	Scarp wall	Dunree Hill Battery & Redoubt	Defensive wall; north & southwest bastions mounted with DRF posts	Concrete defensive wall	High	Requires access for detailed inspection	Current layout at variance with historic record drawings; will require rock removal to implement.	Recommend original gravelled walkway to be restored and drawings to be altered to reflect this	Moderate/adverse (This assessment would change to Major/ beneficial if recommendations are adopted)
3.01	Guard House or Caretaker's Quarters	Dunree Hill Battery & Redoubt	Living accommodation; doubled as guard house & prisoner accommodation	Mass concrete; habitable rooms lined with brickwork & plastered	High	At Risk	Mixed impacts: Development of new use – would be Major/ beneficial however principal existing rooms are not proposed for reuse; Demolition of collapsing 1st floor DRF post shelter; replacement with construction of new substantially bigger structure & removal of rock/ widening of parapet walkway are proposed	The proposals will have a significant visual & material impact on the existing upper fort. Recommendation – the design should be revised to reuse the existing accommodation available by addressing level changes for access at ground floor level; work proposed to stairway & metalwork to be detailed. Proposed new structure at upper level to be relocated to match existing late 19th century DRF post structure. Consider leaving stairwell open to the air, as existing & as proposed at concept stage. Recommended mitigation: restoration of equivalent to existing.	Major/adverse (This assessment would change to Major/ beneficial if recommendations are adopted)
3.02	E Blockhouse/ East bastion	Dunree Hill Battery & Redoubt	Bastion extended to form blockhouse 1915	2' concrete wall; concrete band built onto existing scarp wall; 1/2" steel loops cast into blocks & built in; granite lintel; 8" concrete slab to falls reinforced with no.9 expanded metal; intermediate steel beams & steel stanchions to secure side wall clad with weather boarding	High	At Risk	Undertake repairs/ install independent supports	Detail of proposals & method statement to be refined at detail design stage	Major/ beneficial
3.03	D Blockhouse/ South bastion	Dunree Hill Battery & Redoubt	Bastion extended to form blockhouse 1915	2' concrete wall; concrete band built onto existing scarp wall; 1/2" steel loops cast into blocks & built in; granite lintel; 8" concrete slab to falls reinforced with no.9 expanded metal; intermediate steel beams & steel stanchions to secure side wall clad with weather boarding	High	At Risk	Undertake repairs/ install independent supports	Detail of proposals & method statement to be refined at detail design stage	Major/ beneficial
3.04	Reserve Oil Store	Dunree Hill Battery & Redoubt	Reserve oil for electrical power generation	18" concrete walls; 9" concrete roof; intermediate steel beams	High	Requires maintenance	Design statement shows relocation of oil storage tanks to new structure this phase	Propose short term access control measures - Future repairs anticipated in Conservation Plan. Loose partially dismantled sections of oil storage tank to be lifted & reinstated to interior of storage bunker.	Moderate/adverse – with reference to proposed relocation of equipment from its original location.
3.05	11,000 Gallon Tank	Dunree Hill Battery & Redoubt	Water storage collected from catchment area within redoubt fort	12" concrete walls & roof; intermediate steel beams	High	Requires maintenance	Area shown as construction compound in drawings; Safety measures required – nature of proposals & impact not known	Detail of access control measures to be designed - Future repairs anticipated in Conservation Plan	Not known
3.06	Catchment Area	Dunree Hill Battery & Redoubt	Concrete laid to collect & divert rainwater to tank	Mass concrete laid over quartzite rubble	High	Requires maintenance	Proposed work to scarp wall parapet walkway will impact catchment area as it is currently shown on drawings	Recommended original gravelled walkway to be restored and drawings to be altered to reflect this. Proposals for safety barriers to tank to be indicated on drawings. Investigate repair & use of original infrastructure catchment to supplement water for fire-fighting & use in WC accommodation to Redoubt.	Moderate/ adverse (This assessment would change to Major/ beneficial if recommendations are adopted)
3.07	Flagpole	Dunree Hill Battery & Redoubt		Flagstaff	Moderate	Pole missing - base only	Flagpole reinstatement proposed in design statement	Future repairs anticipated in Conservation Plan	Major/ beneficial

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3.08	Earth Closet & Urinal	Dunree Hill Battery & Redoubt		Facilities for guards on duty at entrance through glacis	Moderate	Requires maintenance	No work proposed this phase	Propose short term access control measures - Future repairs anticipated in Conservation Plan	Not known
3.09	Ditches & Glacis	Dunree Hill Battery & Redoubt		Defensive ditch & glacis from excavated material	High	Requires further investigation	Provisional assessment/ more information required - vehicular access proposed to entrance will require widening of ditch; surfaces within ditch are not specified	Limit vehicle access to nearest point to entrance where widening of the defensive ditch is not required. The current proposal is wider than the space available; further site investigation needed to determine to confirm constructed width of original access path. Ditch base to be cut vegetation; heavily trafficked access into ditch to be gravelled. The proposed, hammerhead turn does is not possible without interference with the glacis embankment – design proposals to be moderated to minimise damage.	Major/ adverse
BATTERY									
3.10	Chart House & DRF	Dunree Hill Battery & Redoubt		Installation for aim & direction of fire of large guns	High	At Risk	No work proposed this phase	Propose short term access control measures - Future repairs anticipated in Conservation Plan	None
3.11	Ranging Post/ BC Post	Dunree Hill Battery & Redoubt		Installation for aim & direction of fire of large guns	High	At Risk	No work proposed this phase	Propose short term access control measures - Future repairs anticipated in Conservation Plan	None
3.12	Gun Platform 1	Dunree Hill Battery & Redoubt		Above ground platform, glacis, gun emplacement & blast screen	High	Requires maintenance	New balustrade/ handrails proposed this phase	Design to be developed	Not known
3.13	Magazine	Dunree Hill Battery & Redoubt		Below ground ammunition store & lift to gun platform; access via stairway	High	Requires maintenance	No work proposed this phase	Propose short term access control measures - Future repairs anticipated in Conservation Plan	None
3.14	Gun Platform 2	Dunree Hill Battery & Redoubt		Above ground platform, glacis, gun emplacement & blast screen	High	Requires maintenance	New balustrade/ handrails proposed this phase	Design to be developed	Not known
3.15	Magazine	Dunree Hill Battery & Redoubt		Below ground ammunition store & lift to gun platform; access via stairway	High	Requires access for inspection	No work proposed this phase	Propose short term access control measures - Future repairs anticipated in Conservation Plan	None
3.16	Shelter	Dunree Hill Battery & Redoubt		Corrugated iron clad timber frame	Moderate	At Risk	No work proposed this phase	Propose short term access control measures - Future repairs anticipated in Conservation Plan	None
3.17	Stairway	Dunree Hill Battery & Redoubt		Stair to upper fort & gun platforms	High	Requires maintenance	New balustrade/ handrails proposed this phase	Design to be developed	Not known
3.18	Filter & Sedimentation Tanks	Dunree Hill Battery & Redoubt		Water tanks serving lower fort, fed from tank in redoubt	Moderate	Requires maintenance	No work proposed this phase	Propose short term access control measures - Future repairs anticipated in Conservation Plan	None
3.19	Metal palisade fencing	Dunree Hill Battery & Redoubt			High	Missing - requires access for inspection	No work proposed this phase	Propose short term safety measures to galvanised steel fencing along edge of pathway to west side of hill - Future repairs anticipated in Conservation Plan	None
3.20	Wire fencing & gates	Dunree Hill Battery & Redoubt		Wire entanglement	High	Missing wire - requires access for inspection	No work proposed this phase	Future repairs anticipated in Conservation Plan	None

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3.21	Outer defensive walls & scree slopes	Dunree Hill Battery & Redoubt			High	Requires access for inspection	No work proposed this phase	Future repairs anticipated in Conservation Plan	None
HUTMENT - ACCOMMODATION									
4	Officer's Mess & Officer's Quarters								
4.01	Officer's Mess	Former camping ground		Corrugated iron clad timber frame	High	Demolished - Rising walls, base & chimney only	Moderate - neutral; reuse to reduce visual impact of car park area; no repair works proposed this phase.	Propose short term access control measures; recommend repairs to masonry stacks - Future repairs anticipated in Conservation Plan; recommend surfacing of adjacent car parking bays in gravel to minimise visual impact.	Moderate/neutral
4.02	Single Officer's Quarters No.1	Former camping ground		Corrugated iron clad timber frame		Demolished - Rising walls, base & chimney only	Moderate - neutral; reuse to reduce visual impact of car park area; no repair works proposed this phase.	Propose short term access control measures; recommend repairs to masonry stacks - Future repairs anticipated in Conservation Plan; recommend surfacing of adjacent car parking bays in gravel to minimise visual impact.	Moderate/neutral
4.03	Single Officer's Quarters No.2	Former camping ground		Corrugated iron clad timber frame		Demolished - Rising walls, base & chimney only	Moderate - neutral; reuse to reduce visual impact of car park area; no repair works proposed this phase.	Propose short term access control measures; recommend repairs to masonry stacks - Future repairs anticipated in Conservation Plan; recommend surfacing of adjacent car parking bays in gravel to minimise visual impact.	Moderate/neutral
4.04	Fd Officer's Quarter	Former camping ground		Corrugated iron clad timber frame		Demolished - Rising walls, base & chimney only	Moderate - neutral; reuse to reduce visual impact of car park area; no repair works proposed this phase.	Propose short term access control measures; recommend repairs to masonry stacks - Future repairs anticipated in Conservation Plan; recommend surfacing of adjacent car parking bays in gravel to minimise visual impact.	Moderate/neutral
5	"D" Block								
5.01	Barracks	Former camping ground	Soldiers quarters	4 1/2" brick; hoop iron bond & steel stanchions; external walls roughcast; internal plastered; roofs covered with 3/4" boarding & asbestos slates laid diagonally	High	At Risk - roof collapsed	High - positive; restoration of partially collapsed barrack building	Review proposed extent of internal demolitions & connect room spaces through formation of openings within existing load bearing walls	High/positive
5.02	WC's & Urinals	Former camping ground			High	Requires maintenance	No work proposed this phase	Propose short term access control measures - Future repairs anticipated in Conservation Plan	None
6	"C" Block								
6.01	Barracks	Former camping ground	Soldiers quarters	4 1/2" brick; hoop iron bond & steel stanchions; external walls roughcast; internal plastered; roofs covered with 3/4" boarding & asbestos slates laid diagonally	High	Fair - in use as storage	Moderate - positive; restoration of barrack building requiring repair	Review proposed extent of internal demolitions & connect room spaces through formation of openings within existing load bearing walls	Moderate/positive
7	Accommodation Huts								
7.01	Hut 1 - Quartermaster Store	Former camping ground		Corrugated iron clad timber frame	High	At Risk	High - positive; renovation of barrack building at risk	Develop proposals & method statement for review during detail design phase	Not known
7.02	Hut 2 - Grocery (NAAFI) Store	Former camping ground		Corrugated iron clad timber frame	High	At Risk	Moderate - positive; external maintenance of barrack building at risk	Develop proposals & method statement for review during detail design phase	Not known
7.03	Hut 3 - Sergeant's Bunks & Billiard Room	Former camping ground		Corrugated iron clad timber frame	High	At Risk	Moderate - positive; external maintenance of barrack building at risk	Develop proposals & method statement for review during detail design phase	Not known
7.04	Hut 4 - Church	Former camping ground		Corrugated iron clad timber frame	High	At Risk	Moderate - positive; external maintenance of barrack building at risk	Develop proposals & method statement for review during detail design phase	Not known

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7.05	Hut 5 - Commander's Offices	Former camping ground		Corrugated iron clad timber frame	High	At Risk	High - positive; renovation of barrack building at risk	Develop proposals & method statement for review during detail design phase	Not known
7.06	Hut 6 - Barrack	Former camping ground		Corrugated iron clad timber frame	High	At Risk	Moderate - positive; external maintenance of barrack building at risk	Develop proposals & method statement for review during detail design phase	Not known
7.07	Hut 7 - Gymnasium	Former camping ground		Corrugated iron clad timber frame	High	Collapsed	Moderate - adverse; removal of collapsed structure & bases for new roadway.	Proposal to be investigated for reconstruction & use as shelter for electric bus/ passengers using roadway; propose retention of concrete base; distinguish new roadway from existing retained.	Moderate/adverse
7.08	Hut 8 - Barrack, Office & Wireless Room	Former camping ground		Corrugated iron clad timber frame	High	At Risk	Moderate - positive; external maintenance of barrack building at risk	Develop proposals & method statement for review during detail design phase	Not known
7.09	Hut 9 - Barrack	Former camping ground		Corrugated iron clad timber frame	High	At Risk	Moderate - positive; external maintenance of barrack building at risk	Develop proposals & method statement for review during detail design phase	Not known
8	Married Soldier's Quarters	Former camping ground			High	At Risk	Moderate - positive; external maintenance of barrack building at risk	Develop proposals & method statement for review during detail design phase	Not known
9	Flagpole	Former camping ground			High		No work proposed this phase	Future repairs anticipated in Conservation Plan	None
10	Drying Rooms	Former camping ground		Corrugated iron clad timber frame	High	At Risk	Moderate - positive; external maintenance of barrack building at risk	Develop proposals & method statement for review during detail design phase	Not known
11	Married Soldier's Quarters	Ordnance ground Hutment		brick walls; roof boarded & asbestos slates, 1921;	High	At Risk	No work proposed this phase	Future repairs anticipated in Conservation Plan - recommended use as visitor accommodation	None
12	Warrant Officer's Quarter	Ordnance ground Hutment		brick walls; roof boarded & asbestos slates, 1921;	High	At Risk	No work proposed this phase	Future repairs anticipated in Conservation Plan - recommended use as visitor accommodation	None
13	Squash Racquet Court	Ordnance ground Hutment			High	At Risk	Moderate - positive; external maintenance of early squash court building at risk	Develop proposals & method statement for review during detail design phase; recommend surfacing of adjacent car parking bays in gravel to minimise visual impact; develop landscape design proposals to mitigate visual impact on structure	Not known
14	Sergeant's Mess	Ordnance ground Hutment			High	At Risk	No work proposed this phase	Propose short term access control measures - Future repairs anticipated in Conservation Plan	None
15	Bath House	Ordnance ground Hutment							
15.01	Bath House	Former soldiers gardens			High	At Risk	No work proposed this phase	Propose short term access control measures - Future repairs anticipated in Conservation Plan	None
15.02	Ablution Rooms	Former soldiers gardens			High	Demolished			None

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HUTMENT - ENGINEERING & SERVICE ACCOMMODATION									
16	Store/ Wireless Charging Room	Former camping ground				Demolished - Rising walls & base only	No work proposed this phase	Future repairs anticipated in Conservation Plan	None
17	EL Engine House								
17.01	Engine Room & Dynamo	Former camping ground			High	Requires maintenance	High - positive; renovation of service building requiring maintenance	Develop proposals & method statement for review during detail design phase	Not known
17.02	Oil Storage Shed	Former camping ground			High	Requires maintenance	No work proposed this phase	Future repairs anticipated in Conservation Plan	None
17.03	Oil fuel, Cistern & Cooling Tanks	Former camping ground			High	Requires maintenance	No work proposed this phase	Future repairs anticipated in Conservation Plan	None
17.04	8,000 Gallon Tank	Former camping ground			High	Requires maintenance	No work proposed this phase	Future repairs anticipated in Conservation Plan	None
18	BEL Engine House								
18.01	Engine Room	Former camping ground			High	Requires maintenance	High - positive; renovation of service building at risk	Develop proposals & method statement for review during detail design phase	Not known
18.02	Fuel & Cooling Tanks	Former camping ground			High	Requires maintenance	No work proposed this phase	Future repairs anticipated in Conservation Plan	None
18.03	Battery House (last used as WC's & Urinals)	Former camping ground			High	At Risk	Moderate - positive; external maintenance of service building at risk	Develop proposals & method statement for review during detail design phase	Not known
19	Carpenter's shop & Office	Former camping ground			High	At Risk	Moderate - positive; external maintenance of service building at risk	Develop proposals & method statement for review during detail design phase	Not known
20	Drill Shed	Former camping ground	Tent shed	corrugated iron, 1921;	High	At Risk	High - positive; renovation of service building at risk	Develop proposals & method statement for review during detail design phase	Not known
21	Adult School	Ordnance ground Hutment	Recreation room	corrugated iron, 1921;	High	Demolished - Rising walls & base only	No work proposed this phase	Future repairs anticipated in Conservation Plan	None
22	Quartermaster Office & General Store	Former camping ground			High	Demolished - Rising walls & base only	No work proposed this phase	Future repairs anticipated in Conservation Plan	None
23	Recreation Establishment	Former camping ground			Moderate	Demolished - Rising walls & base only	No work proposed this phase	Future repairs anticipated in Conservation Plan	None

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HUTMENT - TRANSPORT									
24	Transport Office & Petrol Pump								
24.01	Garages	Former camping ground			Moderate	Collapsed - Rising walls & base only	Removal of collapsed structure	Future repairs anticipated in Conservation Plan	Moderate/neutral
24.02	Vehicle Shelter	Former camping ground			Moderate	Demolished - Rising walls & base only	No work proposed this phase	Future repairs anticipated in Conservation Plan	None
24.03	Washing Platform	Former camping ground			Moderate		No work proposed this phase	Future repairs anticipated in Conservation Plan	None
HUTMENT - DOMESTIC FUEL									
25	Fuel Store								
25.01	Coal Yard & Wood Store	Former camping ground			Moderate	Requires maintenance	No work proposed this phase	Future repairs anticipated in Conservation Plan	None
25.02	TC's Workshop & Store	Former camping ground			Moderate	Requires maintenance	No work proposed this phase	Future repairs anticipated in Conservation Plan	None
HUTMENT - VISITOR FACILITIES									
26	Saldanha Suite								
26.01	Block "A"	Ordnance ground Hutment	Barrack - passage, ablution room, 2 x barrack rooms (20 men total; increased to 26, 1897)	<p>rubble masonry walls; concrete quoins to windows; stone quoins to door & ends of building; steel roof truss, timber purlins; roof diagonal boarded & slated; concrete barges; rendered brick chimneys; timber sliding sash windows, framed ledged & braced doors; timber boards on joists & battens; ventilated void over concrete slab internally; concrete steps & footway with drainage channels externally</p>	Low	Requires maintenance	No work proposed this phase	Future repairs anticipated in Conservation Plan	None
26.02	Block "B"	Ordnance ground Hutment	Barrack - passage, ablution room, 2 x barrack rooms (20 men total; increased to 26, 1897)	<p>rubble masonry walls; concrete quoins to windows & door; stone quoins to ends of building, verandah; steel roof truss, timber purlins; roof diagonal boarded & slated; concrete barges; rendered brick chimneys; timber sliding sash windows, framed ledged & braced doors; timber boards on joists & battens; ventilated void over concrete slab internally; concrete steps & footway with drainage channels externally</p>	Low	Requires maintenance	No work proposed this phase	Future repairs anticipated in Conservation Plan	None
Ref	Structure/ Current Use	Location	Former Uses/ Accommodation	Historic Description/ Construction	Significance	Current Condition (2022)	Proposal/Nature of Impact	Comment/ Potential Mitigation	Impact of Development as Proposed in Application Documents

26.03	former Cookhouse NCO & Office	Ordnance ground Hutment	Lobby, NCO, Office & Cookhouse; service window & external verandah	rubble masonry walls; concrete quoins to windows, door & ends of building; steel roof truss, timber purlins; roof diagonal boarded & slated; raised ventilator over cookhouse; concrete barges; rendered brick chimneys; timber sliding sash windows, framed ledged & braced doors; timber boards on joists & battens; ventilated void over concrete slab internally; concrete steps & footway with drainage channels externally	Low	Requires maintenance	No work proposed this phase	Future repairs anticipated in Conservation Plan	None
26.04	WC's & Urinals	Ordnance ground Hutment		brick roughcast in mortar externally; brick walls, 1897;	High	At risk	External maintenance of service building at risk	Develop proposals & method statement for review during detail design phase	Moderate/ beneficial
26.05	Stores	Ordnance ground Hutment	Stores, Baths x2, Earth Closet & Coalyard	rubble masonry walls; concrete quoins to windows, doors & ends of building; timber tied rafters, roof boarded & slated; concrete flat roof to Officer's EC, oil store & shed	High	At risk	External maintenance of service building at risk	Develop proposals & method statement for review during detail design phase	Moderate/ beneficial
27	Site Office								
27.01	Reception Station	Ordnance ground Hutment	Canteen; Sickbay/ Hospital	4 1/2" brick; hoop iron bond & steel stanchions; external walls roughcast; internal plastered; roofs covered with 3/4" boarding & asbestos slates laid diagonally	Moderate	Requires maintenance	No work proposed this phase	Future repairs anticipated in Conservation Plan	None
27.02	WC & Urinal	Ordnance ground Hutment		brick walls, 1921;	High		No work proposed this phase	Future repairs anticipated in Conservation Plan	None
27.03	20,000 Gallon Tank (underground)	Ordnance ground Hutment		Built of concrete 12" to bottom & sides; top from 1'3" concrete with flat bottom railway metal reinforcement; cement rendered to base & sides	High	To be investigated	Proposals to former parade ground appear to overlap with existing underground tank structure	Future repairs anticipated in Conservation Plan – adjust proposal for Parade Ground to avoid impact to tank; update drawings accordingly.	Moderate/ adverse
27.04	Water Catchment Area	Ordnance ground Hutment			High	Requires maintenance	No work proposed this phase	Future repairs anticipated in Conservation Plan	None

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DUNREE FORT/ VISITOR FACILITIES									
28	Car Park	Ordnance ground	former Parade Ground		Low		Restoration of parade ground area	Develop proposals & method statement for review during detail design phase - confirm extent of cutting & filling requires no import or export of fill material	Major/ beneficial
29	Cafeteria	Ordnance ground Hutment	RE Yard & Stores (RE? - Recurring Engineering; Royal Engineers)	Built of concrete throughout; roof slated; 1897. 1903 reference to destroyed by fire; Stone walls; roof battened & slated, 1921;	Low	Requires maintenance	Potential Moderate - positive; development of improved cafeteria facility	Develop proposals & method statement for review during detail design phase - review layout & extent of unnecessary proposed demolition of original fabric internally to work with existing building; use opportunity to restore rather than remove historic character; existing proposal not feasible without undermining existing foundations. Drawings to be reviewed and updated accordingly.	Moderate/adverse
29.01									
29.02	Armament Office & Store	Ordnance ground Hutment		cement walls, 1921;	Moderate	At Risk	No work proposed this phase	Future repairs anticipated in Conservation Plan	None
30	RA General Store & Skidding Shed	Ordnance ground Hutment	RA -Royal Artillery	corrugated iron, 1921;	Moderate	Demolished - Rising walls & base only	No work proposed this phase	Future repairs anticipated in Conservation Plan	None
31	Dunree Fort								
31.01	Museum	Dunree Fort			High		No work proposed this phase	Future repairs anticipated in Conservation Plan	None
31.02	Drawbridge & Gate	Dunree Fort			High		Renewal of modern draw bridge	Develop proposals & method statement for review during detail design phase	Not known
31.03	Shop/ former RE Yard & Fuel Store	Dunree Fort			Low		No work proposed this phase	Future repairs anticipated in Conservation Plan	None
31.04	12,000 Gallon Tank	Dunree Fort			High		No work proposed this phase	Future repairs anticipated in Conservation Plan	None
31.05	Chart House & DRF/ later Spirit Store	Dunree Fort			High		No work proposed this phase	Future repairs anticipated in Conservation Plan	None
31.06	No.1 Gun & Searchlight	No.1 Gun & Searchlight			High		Proposed new outer walkway	Develop proposals & method statement for further review during detail design phase - investigate archaeology below proposal to confirm feasibility of foundations without interference with historic fabric	Major/neutral - subject to archaeological investigation during the detail design stages & monitoring during the construction stages.
31.07	No.2 Gun	Dunree Fort			High		Proposed new outer walkway	Develop proposals & method statement for further review during detail design phase – recommend engineering inspection & confirmation of masonry repair/ pointing works to revetment walls; all considered as necessary mitigation measures	Major/neutral - subject to engineering proposals for repair to early 19 th century revetment walls; archaeological investigation during the detail design stages & monitoring during the construction stages.
31.08	Exhibit/ Group Store	Dunree Fort			Low		No work proposed this phase	Future repairs anticipated in Conservation Plan	None
31.09	Magazine/ Shell Store	Dunree Fort			High		No work proposed this phase	Future repairs anticipated in Conservation Plan	None
32	Pier								
32.02	Stairway	Ordnance ground			Moderate	Requires maintenance	No work proposed this phase	Recommend short term maintenance to facilitate visitor safety	None

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32.03	Target Shed & Slipway	Ordnance ground			Moderate	At Risk	No work proposed this phase	Future repairs anticipated in Conservation Plan	None
33	Water Level Defences								
33.01	Moveable Searchlight	Ordnance ground		concrete with flat concrete roof	High	At Risk	External maintenance of service building at risk	Develop proposals & method statement for review during detail design phase	Moderate/ beneficial
33.02	Fixed Beam Searchlight Emplacement	Ordnance ground		18" concrete walls; 12" concrete roof to falls - tarred on top; intermediate steel beams; 4" concrete slab floor	High	At Risk	No work proposed this phase	Future repairs anticipated in Conservation Plan	None
33.03	Bridge	Ordnance ground			High	At Risk	External maintenance of service building at risk	Develop proposals & method statement for review during detail design phase	Moderate/ beneficial
33.04	Stairway	Ordnance ground			Moderate	At Risk	No work proposed this phase	Future repairs anticipated in Conservation Plan	None
34	Practice Battery								
34.01	Gun platform	North lower hillside			High	Requires maintenance	No work proposed this phase	Future repairs anticipated in Conservation Plan	None
34.02	DRF Posts	North lower hillside	Depression range finder		High	Requires maintenance	No work proposed this phase	Future repairs anticipated in Conservation Plan	None
34.03	Helipad/ former Tennis Court	North lower hillside			Low		No work proposed this phase	Future repairs anticipated in Conservation Plan	None
34.04	Laurentic Memorial	North lower hillside			Low	Requires maintenance	No work proposed this phase	Future relocation anticipated in Conservation Plan	None
34.05	Practice Range Magazine Store	North lower hillside	Shell store, cartridge store, shifting lobby; adjacent RA store not present	16" brick cavity wall; 6" concrete slab floor; 9" concrete slab roof to falls; 3/4" asphalt finish (tarred on top according to WO 78_4910_003); door sheeted 1/8" iron	High	At Risk	No work proposed this phase	Propose short term access control measures - Future repairs anticipated in Conservation Plan	None
34.06	Moveable Searchlight Emplacement	North lower hillside		Concrete with flat concrete roof; sliding steel shutters	High	At Risk	No work proposed this phase	Propose short term access control measures - Future repairs anticipated in Conservation Plan	None
35	Rifle Range	South lower hillside			Low	Demolished - Rising walls & base only	No work proposed	Outside current site area	n/a
36	Lighthouse & Light Keeper's Cottage	Irish Lights ground			High	Requires maintenance	Development of new use to former Lightkeeper's house currently disused	Develop proposals & method statement for review during detail design phase - review extent of demolition proposed to form new opening to connect from & back rooms for exhibition space; wide doorway recommended	Moderate/beneficial

Conclusion & Recommendations

The following conclusions are based on analysis of the significance of the existing structures at Dunree Fort and the potential impact of the current proposals that are to be submitted for planning permission.

The assessment is based only on the information provided by the design team at planning application stage; it is therefore possible to modify or provide further information in connection with the assessments where this is appropriate in due course. In a number of significant locations, the proposals will require further development at the detail design stage and will be subject to further review, however, in the majority of cases this is a matter of detail. Further work during the detail design stages should reduce many of these instances; mitigation measures have been recommended in the assessment and continuing conservation advice should ensure the recommended measures are adopted.

However, there are a small number of instances identified in the assessment, where the proposals are considered to have an adverse impact on the Protected Structure. Whilst the corresponding repair work in these cases might provide for a beneficial outcome, it is considered that the importance of the Protected Structure, and the change in character that is proposed will have sufficient impact than an alternative approach to that currently proposed is recommended. In those areas, in accordance with best practise guidance, the unique character of the historical site at Dunree must take precedence.

The essential character of this site is as a preserved artillery fort, little changed since the late-c19 modernisations comprising construction of concrete hilltop redoubt fort & 6" gun emplacements with redevelopment of Napoleonic era fort to accommodate modernised sea-level defenses. Whilst designated as being a structure of Regional Importance, the site is also of importance to a National and International audience.

The proposed tourism uses in conjunction with planned conservation and repair work are all positive outcomes for the Protected Structure providing an opportunity for conservation & future management of the historic site. The tourism use relies heavily on the unique nature of the site its historical significance and the authenticity and survival of its fabric.

The most significant new elements also have the highest potential impact; these are proposed at two points, at the upper & lower forts which are also of highest importance from a functional military perspective. The proposed walkway to the lower fort is currently assessed as having a neutral impact, although requires further site investigations & ongoing detail design development to ensure this. The current assessment of the proposals for the site overall is Moderate/beneficial. However, it is noted that this is based on review of development as it affects a complex of more than 100 buildings, many of which are in poor condition and require urgent repair. The proposals include measures to address many of these buildings which is a significant beneficial outcome. Within this group there are a smaller number of buildings which are highly important for the operation of the military defenses and are thus especially significant from a built heritage perspective. In the cases highlighted in the commentary, where there is an adverse assessment of the impact of the current proposals, these may be addressed by condition of planning permission where this is appropriate. Where the recommended mitigation is followed there is potential for the impact of the development overall to be highly beneficial.

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Appendix 2 – Photographs



Figure 47 - 1.01 Sentry Post



Figure 48 - 1.02 Guard House



Figure 49 - 2.02 Block House 'B'



Figure 50 - 2.03 Block House 'C'



Figure 51 - 2.04 Block House 'F'



Figure 52 - 2.05 Block House 'G'



Figure 53 - 2.06 Block House 'H'



Figure 54 - 3.00 Redoubt Fort - Scarp Wall



Figure 55 - 3.01 Guardhouse or Caretaker's Quarters



Figure 56 - 3.01 Guardhouse or Caretaker's Quarters



Figure 57 - 3.01 Guardhouse or Caretaker's Quarters



Figure 58 - 3.02 Blockhouse E East Bastion



Figure 59 - 3.03 Blockhouse D & Bastion tower



Figure 60 - 3.04 Reserve Oil Store



Figure 61 - 3.05 Water Storage/ Collection Tank



Figure 62 - 3.06 Rainwater Collection/ Catchment Area



Figure 63 - 3.07 Flagpole (base only)



Figure 64 - 3.08 Earth Closet & Urinal



Figure 65 - 3.09 Ditches & Glacis



Figure 66 - 3.10 Chart House & DRF Post



Figure 67 - 3.11 Ranging Post / BC Post



Figure 68 - 3.12 Gun Platform 1



Figure 69 - 3.13 Magazine



Figure 70 - 3.14 Gun Platform 2



Figure 71 - 3.15 Magazine



Figure 72 - 3.16 Shelter – for Manning Relief



Figure 73 - 3.17 Stairway



Figure 74 - 3.18 Filter & Sedimentation Tanks



Figure 75 - 3.19 Metal Palisade Fencing (Location of)



Figure 76 - 3.20 Wire Fencing – Entanglement



Figure 77 - 3.21 Outer Defensive Walls & Scree Slopes



Figure 78 - 4.01 Officer's Mess



Figure 79 - 5.01 Barracks



Figure 80 - 5.02 WC Block & Urinals



Figure 81 - 6.01 Barracks



Figure 82 - 7.01 Quartermaster Store



Figure 83 - 7.02 Grocery (NAAFI) Store



Figure 84 - 7.03 Sergeant's Bunks & Billiard Room



Figure 85 - 7.04 Hut 4 – Church



Figure 86 – 7.05 Hut 5 - Commander's Offices



Figure 87 - 7.06 Hut 6 – Barrack



Figure 88 - 7.07 Hut 7 – Gymnasium(collapsed)



Figure 89 - 7.08 Hut 8 - Barrack, Office & Wireless Room (beyond gymnasium)



Figure 90 - 7.09 Hut 9 – Barrack & 8 Married Soldiers Quarters



Figure 91 – 9 Flagpole (base only)



Figure 92 – 10 Drying Rooms



Figure 93 – 11 Married Soldier's Quarters



Figure 94 – 12 Warrant Officer's Quarter



Figure 95 – 13 Squash Racquet Court



Figure 96 – 14 Sergeant's Mess



Figure 97 – 15.01 Bath House



Figure 98 – 16 Store/wireless Charging Room



Figure 99 – 17.01 Engine Room & Dynamo



Figure 100 – 17.01 Engine Room & Dynamo



Figure 101 – 17.02 Oil storage shed



Figure 102 – 17.03 Oil fuel, Cistern & Cooling Tanks



Figure 103 - 17.04 8,000 Gallon Tank & water supply network



Figure 104 - 18.01 Engine Room



Figure 105 – 18.02 Fuel & Cooling Tanks



Figure 106 – 18.03 Battery House



Figure 107 – 19 Carpenter's shop & Office



Figure 108 – 20 Drill Shed



Figure 109 – 21 Adult School



Figure 110 - 22 Quartermaster Office & General Store



Figure 111 – 23 Recreation Establishment



Figure 112 – 24.1, 2 & 3 Garages, Vehicle Shelter, Washing Platform



Figure 113 – 25.01 Coal Yard & Wood Store



Figure 114 – 25.02 TC's Workshop & Store



Figure 115 – 26.01 Visitor Facilities (former Barrack – Block A)



Figure 116 – 26.02 Visitor Facilities (former Barrack – Block B)



Figure 117 – 26.03 Visitor Facilities (Cookhouse NCO & Office)



Figure 118 – 26.04 WC & Urinals



Figure 119 – 26.05 Stores



Figure 120 - 27.01 Reception Station



Figure 121 – 27.02 WC & Urinal



Figure 122 – 27.03 20,000 Gallon Tank (underground)



Figure 123 – 27.04 Water Catchment Area



Figure 124 – 28 Car Park (former parade ground)



Figure 125 – 29.01 Cafeteria (former Engineering Yard & Stores)



Figure 126 – 29.02 Armament Office & Store



Figure 127 – 30 RA General Store & Skidding Shed



Figure 128 – 31.1 Battery Fort

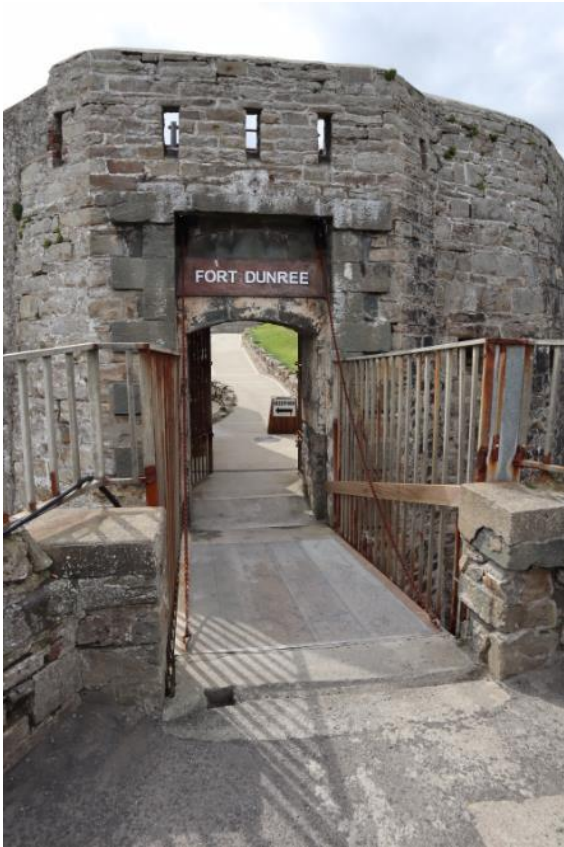


Figure 129 – 31.2 Drawbridge & Gate



Figure 130 – 31.3 Sales Office (former fuel storage)

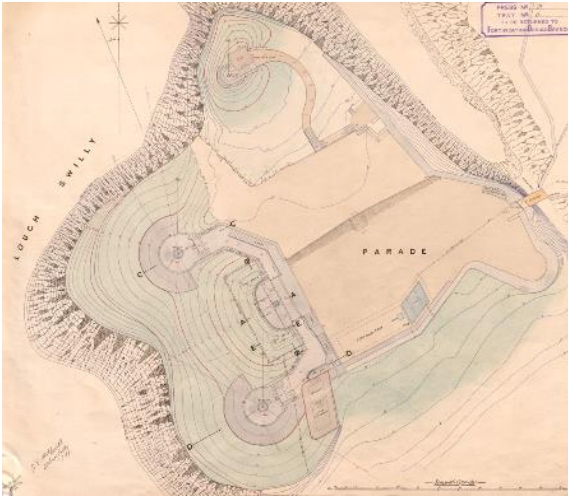


Figure 131 – 31.4 12,000 gallon tank (underground)



Figure 132 – 31.5 RE Spirit Store/DRF Post



Figure 133 – 31.06 No.1 gun & searchlight



Figure 134 – 31.07 No.2 Gun



Figure 135 – 31.07 Exhibit/ Group Store



Figure 136 – 31.08 Magazine/ Shell Store



Figure 137 – 31.08 Magazine/ Shell Store



Figure 138 – 32.01 The Pier



Figure 139 – 32.02 Pier Stairway



Figure 140 – 33.01 Moveable Searchlight



Figure 141 – 33.02 Fixed Beam Searchlight



Figure 142 – 33.03 Bridge & 33.04 Stairway



Figure 143 – 34.01 Practice Battery



Figure 144 – 34.02 DRF Posts



Figure 145 – 34.04 Laurentic Memorial



Figure 146 – 34.05 Practice Range Magazine Store



Figure 147 – 34.06 Moveable Searchlight Emplacement



Figure 148 – 34.06 Moveable Searchlight Emplacement