



Liscard Battery was built on the south side of the Mersey approximately three quarters of a mile up river from Fort Perch Rock, adjacent to the Liscard Magazine which was where merchant ships deposited their powder and ammunition before proceeding up river to dock. Today the magazine site is a public park where it is easy to see its former use. In 1854 there was a proposal to erect a four gun battery near the magazine site; in time this resulted in the construction of the Battery for seven 10-inch SB shell guns.

The fort is very unusual in that it had to be built around an existing lifeboat station. The fort had two batteries of guns, a lower battery of three guns on D pivot traversing carriages, and an upper battery with one D pivot and three B pivot traversing carriages. Behind the gun batteries were a range of small barrack rooms, a cook house, store rooms and a guard room with two cells. To the left of the upper battery, built into the rampart, were the magazine rooms. To the front of the fort was built a loop-holed Carnot wall, the gorge wall (against which the barracks were built) was also loop-holed for defence. In the corners of the boundary wall were built five loop-holed turrets/caponiers. The fort was built between 1856 and 1858.

The defences of Liverpool were reviewed by the Committee considering the defences of Great Britain's commercial ports. It recommended that the Battery's armament be upgraded to receive two 18 ton 10-inch RML guns. The Inspector-General of Fortifications disagreed and stated that the Battery was too far up river to be of any protection to the docks; instead he recommended that it be used as a submarine mining station.

A review in 1887 stated that the Battery was obsolete, as it was surrounded by houses, and suggested that the site be handed over to the local authority. The Battery's days were numbered and it was disarmed and closed down in 1894.

The Battery's remains can be seen today; the twin towered battlemented entrance gate, with the date 1858, still exists. The gorge wall survives, but all the buildings erected against it have gone, it has been lowered and broken through at various points to provide access. In place of the gun positions are a detached house and two pairs of semi-detached houses. The western wall parallel to the road survives complete as does the north-

Details

| | |
|-------------------|---|
| Type | Coastal Battery |
| Position | At the end of Fort Street, Wallasey, Cheshire |
| National Grid Ref | SJ 313933 |
| Ditch | Dry |
| Barrack Accom. | 1 Officer, 22 men |
| Total Guns | 7 |
| Cost | Not Known |

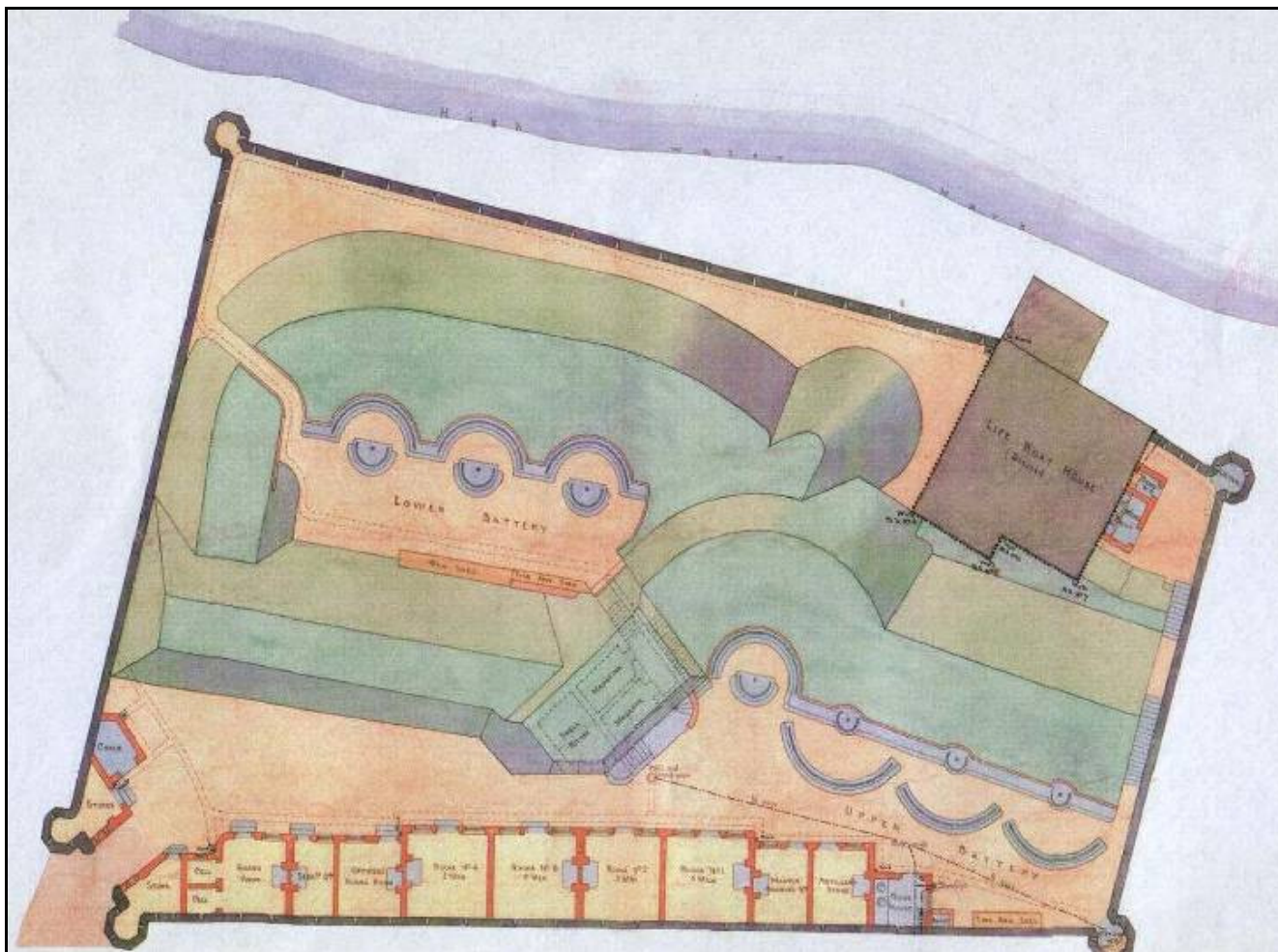
History

| | |
|--------------------|------------------------|
| Commenced | 1856 |
| Completed | 1858 |
| Armament | |
| 1858-1888 | 7 x 10-inch Shell Guns |
| Subsequent service | None |
| Disposal | 1894 |
| Later use | Residential Housing |

Access

| | |
|-----------------|--|
| Postcode | CH45 1HP |
| Condition | Gateway and some exterior walls remain |
| Access | Exterior only |
| Website | n/a |
| Sources | National Archive |
| Last updated by | I.Stevenson / D.Williams 4/07/2016 |

western turret. Along the front of the Battery the Carnot wall survives as does the north-eastern turret. How much survives of the eastern wall is conjectural as it is obscured by vegetation, but the south-eastern wall remains complete.



Plan dated 1878



Front Carnot Wall & Caponier