



Liscard Battery was built on the south side of the Mersey approximately three quarters of a mile up river from Fort Perch Rock, between the Liscard Magazine, which was where merchant ships deposited their powder and ammunition before proceeding up river to dock, and the Mersey Dock Board lifeboat station. In 1854 a proposal was submitted to erect a four-gun battery near the magazine site. By 1858 this proposal had evolved into the construction of the Liscard Battery mounting seven 10-inch SB shell guns.

On the 25<sup>th</sup> February 1860 the *Liverpool Daily Post* described the newly completed battery that had just had its guns installed:

*The Liscard Battery, which can in no sense be called a fortress, is, however, enclosed by a substantial stone wall, quadrangular in form, of no great thickness or height, but with a low tower at three of the corners, and one at each side of the gateway. The wall, which is of red sandstone, is loop-holed for musketry, but not battlemented; and there is a small window or look-out in each of the towers. There is barrack accommodation inside—and not of the most superior description—for about 30 gunners; but the place, of course, will never be fully occupied except in case of positive danger. A winding earthen parapet serves as a shelter for the guns, which are placed on two tiers of different elevation, four on the upper and three on the lower.*

In 1882 the defences of Liverpool were reviewed by the Morley Committee which was 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 upriver to be of any protection to the dock. Instead, he recommended that it be used as a submarine mining station.

A further 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. Following this the Battery's days were numbered and it was disarmed before 1894. However, it remained in War Office ownership being used for training Volunteers. In 1912 it was sold at auction for £1,620 and became the headquarters and club-house of the Liverpool Yacht Club which utilised the barrack rooms. In 1935 it was sold once again and the interior of the fort was levelled for housing.

### Details

Type	Coastal Battery
Position	At the end of Fort Street, Wallasey, Cheshire
National Grid Ref	SJ 314933
Ditch	Dry
Barrack Accom.	1 Officer, 22 men
Total Guns	7
Cost	Not Known

### History

Commenced	1858
Completed	1859
Armament	
1860-1893	7 x 10-inch Shell Guns
Subsequent service	Volunteer Training
Disposal	1912
Later use	Yacht Club, Residential Housing.

### Access

Postcode	CH45 1HR
Condition	Gateway and some exterior walls remain.
Access	Exterior only.
Website	n/a
Sources	National Archive, BNA
Last updated by	D.Williams 9/02/2023

The Battery's remains can be seen today; its impressive twin towered crenelated entrance gate, with the date stone 1858, still exists. The gorge wall survives in pieces, but all the buildings erected against it have gone and 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-western turret. Along the front of the Battery the Carnot wall partially survives as does the north-eastern turret.



Plan dated 1878



Front Carnot Wall & Turret Caponier