

Invasion Coast Walk

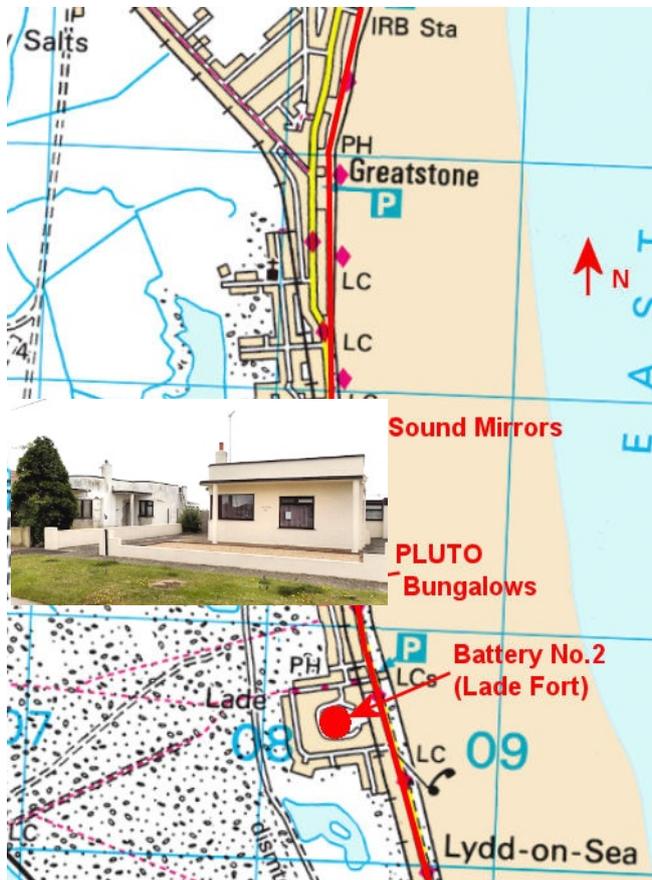
A walk along part of this part of the Romney Marsh coast, to view many of the defensive historical sites and structures that helped to defend this part of the Kent coast.

- Section 1 Dungeness to Lydd-on-Sea
- Section 2 Lydd-on-Sea to Greatstone**
- Section 3 Greatstone to St Mary's Bay
- Section 4 Dymchurch
- Section 5 Dymchurch Wall

Section 2 Lydd on Sea to Greatstone

On this section of the walk, you will see Dungeness Battery No. 2 (Lade Fort), the PLUTO Bungalows and the Sound Mirrors.
This section is about 3 miles.

The Walk



Follow the road round to the left, passing the Pilot in on your right and into Coast Drive, with the shingle and sea on your right. Continue along Coast Drive for about 1½ miles, passing Kerton Road and Williamson Road on your left. Just past Williamson Road, on the left you will see Dungeness Battery No.2 (Lade Fort). You can get closer access to the Battery by going down Taylor Road, a bit further on, on the left, and then turning left into Lade Fort Crescent. (NA)

If you continue down Taylor Road to the end and look towards the north-west, you will see the Sound Mirrors.

Return down Taylor Road to Coast Drive, and turn left to continue walking to northwards. NB After a short distance, the road name changes to the Parade. After about

¼ mile, turn left down Derville Road and then left into Leonard Road. Walk down a little way and you will see the three PLUTO Bungalows.

Once you have seen the PLUTO Bungalows, turn round and retrace your steps in Leonard Road, continuing down this road, passing Derville Road on your right, until you reach Prior Road on your left. Turn into Prior Road and continue to the end where you will come into Dungeness Nature Reserve. Bear to the right - north-west - and make your way across the reserve until you meet a well-defined footpath running south and north, with Greatstone Lakes opposite and a view of the Sound Mirrors. Turn right and follow the footpath, bearing right - westward - along the shingle trail between the south and north lakes. Continue along this

trail, bearing left until you reach the swing bridge with all three of the Sound Mirrors in view.

Once you have viewed the Sound Mirrors, retrace your steps along the shingle path, into Prior Road, then Leonard Road and Derville Road until you are back in The Parade. Map Icon See map. Turn left - northwards - and continue along The Parade until you come to the Holiday Park on your right.

Here you have a choice; you can either continue along The Parade or cross the road onto the beach and or Greatstone Dunes. *NB Please take care if there is a high tide*

Whatever you choose, continue walking northwards. If you continue on along the road, you will pass The Jolly Fisherman pub on your left, when the road name changes back to Coast Drive again. After about ½ mile after the pub, turn right into Coast Drive car park and onto Littlestone Greens. You will arrive at the same location by taking the beach/dunes route.

What You Will See



Built in 1798, No.2 Battery/Lade Fort was a brick-built self-contained fort on a small scale. The top platform, slightly raised to give command of the sea, accommodated 4 or 5 24-pounders, and a brick loop-holed wall 3.5 metres high extended from the corners to form a sharp point at the rear.

Operation PLUTO (Pipe-Line Under The Ocean or Pipe-Line Underwater Transport of Oil) was a Second World War operation to construct undersea oil pipelines under the English Channel between England and France in support the Allied invasion of Normandy in June 1944. To protect both the pipeline and the necessary pumping stations, all installations were disguised to prevent the Germans from identifying their proper use. Terminals and pumping stations in Dungeness and Greatstone were disguised as bungalows, gravel pits, garages and even an ice cream shop. Three such bungalows still exist as now normal residential properties in Leonard Road.

The Sound Mirrors, also known as Acoustic Mirrors, Concrete Dishes or Listening Ears,



are large concrete structures, built in the late 1920s and early 1930s, designed as an early warning system for Britain to detect enemy aircraft. These worked by focusing the sound from the plane's engine so it could be heard before it was visible. There were three designs of mirrors, 20ft, 30ft and 200ft, and all three can be seen in Greatstone, located in the northeast side of the Dungeness Nature Reserve.

More Information

To view this walk on your mobile, tablet etc, please go to www.theromneymarsh.net/invasioncoastwalk

To find out more about the Invasion Coast and its defensive historical sites, please go to www//theromneymarsh.net/invasioncoast