

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

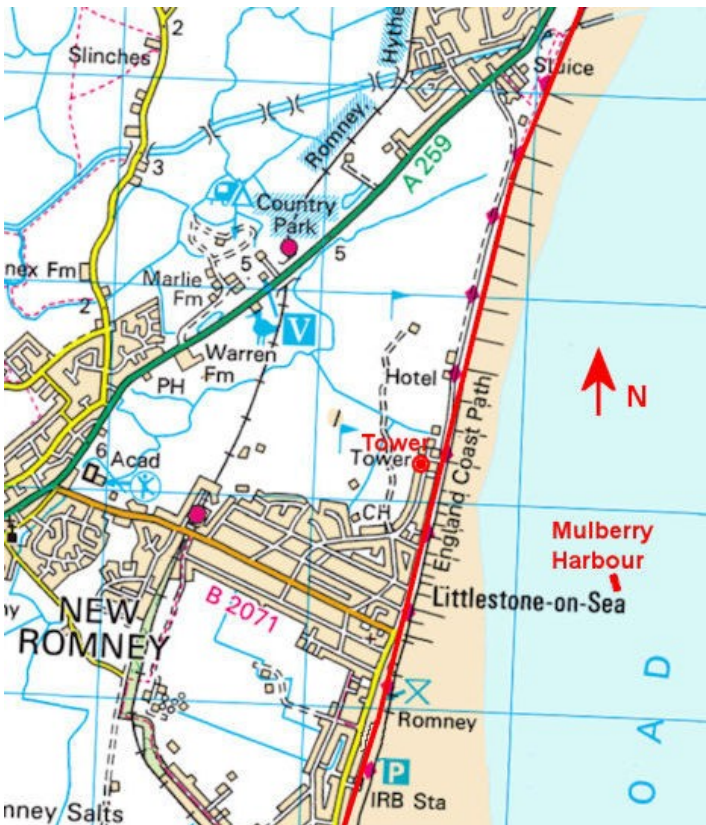
Section 5 Dymchurch Wall

Section 3 Greatstone to St Mary's Bay

On this section of the walk, you will see the Mulberry Harbour, the Water Tower and the start of the Dymchurch Wall.

This section is about 2¼ miles.

The Walk



From the car park entrance, with the sea on your right, enter the large green area (Littlestone Greens), walk past the children's play areas and continue until you meet up with the start of the sea wall, which you can follow all the way through to Dymchurch Redoubt.

About ½ mile further on your left-hand side you will see a 120ft tower.

What You Will See



If you look out to the sea at this point, you will see part of the Mulberry Harbour. A Mulberry harbour was a portable temporary harbour developed by the British in World War II to facilitate rapid offloading of cargo onto the beaches during the Allied invasion of Normandy. The harbour was built in 1943-4 from Phoenix caissons, floatable breakwater components which effectively created a mobile port facility,

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designed to sink or float as necessary. Two prefabricated or artificial military harbours were taken in sections across the English Channel from Britain with the invading army and assembled off the coast of Normandy.

As part of the D-Day invasion of France in 1944, and they were used by the Allies to land troops and arms at Normandy as part of Operation Overlord.

Part of one of the harbours is visible at low tide off Littlestone. It survives remarkably intact and is now an Ancient Scheduled Monument.

This tower was built as a water tower in 1890 by Henry Tubbs to supply water to his properties in Littlestone. The military used the Tower during World War Two as a lookout post and they made some changes to the structure, partly the reason for its slightly wobbly look. The Army also added a substantial concrete stairway inside. It is now a residential property

Martello Tower 26 was built on the eastern side of the Globsden Gut Sluice, which ran into the sea near Dunstall Lane. Tower No. 27 was built approximately a quarter of a mile to the west; both were built to protect the Globsden Gut Sluice. Neither tower stands today. Damaged by sea erosion, No. 27 was demolished in 1841 and No. 26 lasted until 1871.

The site of Tower 26 was on what is now the sea wall next to the car park opposite Dunstall Lane, roughly in front of where the toilet block now stands.

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

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