

Ferring's W.W. 2 'Pill-box'

Ferring's W.W.2 defensive 'Type 26' Pill Box, located along what is now Patterson's Walk, was one of many along constructed the south coast. Now it is one of the only two that are left between Selsey Bill and Shoreham. It was built of concrete which was poured on-site. On the landward side there was a blast wall covering an entrance which led down a short flight of steps to a small chamber with three openings for its machine gun.

After the war, the blast wall was demolished and the rubble shovelled into the chamber; the entrance and apertures were bricked up and when the sea defences were built up in 1955, it was decided to build a promenade deck around it.

In 2005 the Parish Council, in collaboration with the Environment Agency, installed a plaque on the west side wall to commemorate the 60th anniversary of VE Day.

In 2007 the entrance was opened up, a steel door was fitted and a limited inspection of the interior was made by members of Ferring History Group. There was little to see other than rubble, puddles of water, and some of the fittings on which the machine guns had been mounted.

Ferring Parish Council had the plaque, containing brief facts about the pill-box, refurbished (by a Ferring resident) for the 75th anniversary of VE Day (8th May 2020).

