



firstsite



Battery Observation Post, Bawdsey



Naze Tower

IF EVER YOU'RE IN THE AREA

Bettina Furnée

For further information and updated details visit the website

www.ifever.org.uk

or phone 01223 575737

Go to 'live camera' on the website to see 'Lines of Defence', the first ephemeral artwork to be in situ at Bawdsey. Catch it before it is gone!

A publication on the project will be launched at the Naze Tower in 2006, to order a copy in advance contact firstsite.

Thank you, to the communities involved.

Supported by



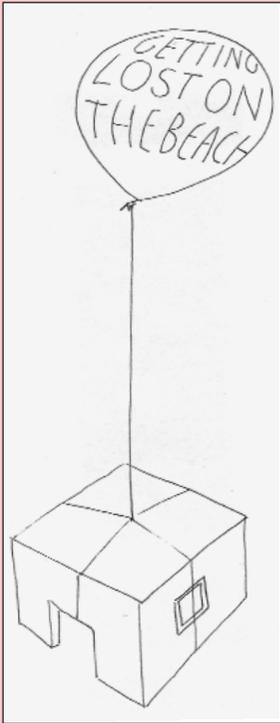
firstsite
Registered charity no 1031800



firstsite @ the minorities art gallery, Colchester, Essex
18 June – 23 July 2005 : Exhibition

East Lane, Bawdsey Suffolk
Throughout 2005 : Site Specific Artworks

Naze Tower & The Naze Walton-on-Naze, Essex
10 June – 16 July 2006 : Exhibition & Site Specific Artworks



Getting Lost on the Beach

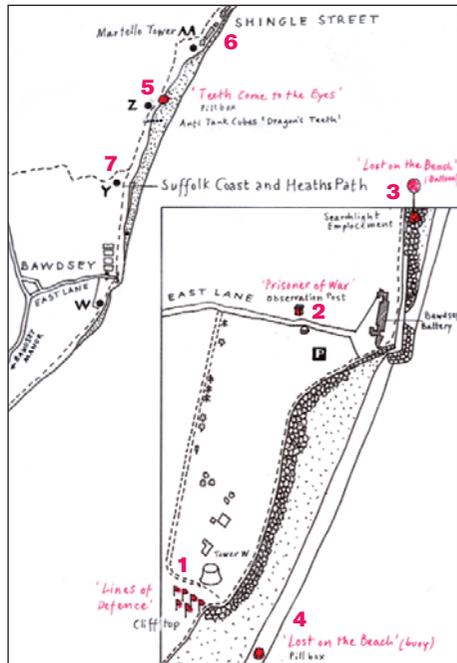
'If Ever You're in the Area' is a unique and thought provoking art project by artist Bettina Furnée in collaboration with poets Tony Mitton & Simon Frazer that takes place at a contemporary art gallery, a historical tower and inspiring coastal locations in Suffolk and Essex.

An exhibition of new three dimensional works that explore the memory of war, fear of invasion and the customs and rituals of remembrance is on show at firstsite, Colchester, Essex 18 June – 23 July 2005. Coinciding with the 60th anniversary of the end of the Second World War. The exhibition will evolve to be shown at the Naze Tower, Walton-on-Naze, Essex 10 June – 16 July 2006.

A series of temporary site-specific text works that incorporate local wartime memories are created throughout 2005 at military defences located at the desolate yet evocative seascape of East Lane, Bawdsey, Suffolk.

Further site-specific works are developed at Walton-on-Naze, Essex in Summer 2006 at the Naze, a dramatic cliff and beach location in response to the extensive wartime uses of the area and the 18th century Naze Tower.

Bettina Furnée grew up in The Hague, Holland, on the other side of the North Sea to East Anglia. Migration across the two coastlines, both studded with bunkers, has been an inspiration for the project. The military remains are decaying reminders of our fear of invasion and the military efforts of recent history. The present threat to the coastline is now coastal erosion, making the sea the imminent invading force.



The Locations

East Lane, Bawdsey, Suffolk

Throughout 2005 : Site Specific Artworks

- 1 Coastal erosion is estimated at this point to be 8 metres of land per year. 'Lines of Defence' when installed in January 2005 consisted of 38 flags in five lines spelling out SUBMISSION IS ADVANCING AT A FRIGHTFUL SPEED. Throughout 2005 the work will show the invading force of the sea. A camera linked to the project website is positioned at Martello Tower W documenting the progress of the work.
- 2 Local reminiscences of the Second World War are incorporated into 'Prisoner of War', on display from May to October 2005. For full public access to the Battery Observation Post attend a Bawdsey Visitor Day; details on next page.
- 3 A large helium balloon with the text HOLD SWAY is flown off the Searchlight Emplacement during June and July 2005. 'Lost on the Beach' (balloon) creates an image of transformation as well as war time defence.

4 A buoy with the text SEA CHANGE and CURRENT ISSUE is attached in Summer 2005 to one of the bunkers which has fallen into the sea by Tower W. 'Lost on the Beach' (buoy) marks the submerged pillbox and shifting coastline and border.

5 At the half buried bunker, close to a line of anti-tank blocks and a Martello Tower, a poem by Tony Mitton is displayed from Summer 2005. 'Teeth Come to the Eyes' has text stenciled onto the face of the bunker, which is likened to a knight's helmet:

*Teeth come to the eyes like tears.
This concrete helmet, wrought from fears,
must scan the sea for years on years.*

*As from this fragile shore it peers,
the waves' invasion slowly nears.
Teeth come to the eyes like tears.*

6 Shingle Street – Location of the rumoured German invasion attempt of 1940.

7 Suffolk Coast and Heaths Path – Bawdsey to Shingle Street, past various military structures is a three mile walk, car park at East Lane.

Bawdsey Visitor Days

26 June, 10 and 24 July, 28 and 29 August: 12am – 4pm

View the artworks in situ, meet the artist and have full access to the Battery Observation Post housing the work 'Prisoner of War'. The dates coincide with Open Days at the Transmitter Block, Bawdsey Manor, a runner-up on the BBC programme 'Restoration' where radar, invaluable during the Second World War, was developed.

firstsite

@ the minorities art gallery, 74 High Street,
Colchester, Essex CO1 1UE
t 01206 577067 / www.firstsite.uk.net
Open Mon – Sat including bank hols 10am – 5pm
Admission free
18 June – 23 July 2005 : Exhibition

Naze Tower & The Naze

Old Hall Lane, Walton-on-Naze
Essex CO14 8LE
t 07966776417 / nye-browne@ntlworld.com
Open Mon – Sun 10am – 5pm
Admission £2
10 June – 16 July 2006 : Exhibition & Site
Specific Artworks



Lines of Defence eroding, March 2005



Martello Tower Z, Bawdsey



Lines of Defence detail