

STUDIES OF GERMAN DEFENCES NEAR LILLE

11

§7.

AUBERS RIDGE.

SOMERSET FARM.

Divisional Artillery Headquarters Post—"Amberg" I.

Plates 7A, 7B, 7C, 7D. Photographs 5, 6, 17, 18.

General Description.—The farm selected by the Germans for this evidently very important artillery Hd. Qrs. is situated about 1,300 yds. back from the crest of the Aubers ridge.

From the top of the large barn in which the main observation tower is constructed an excellent view was obtained of the British and German front lines 2,800 yds. to the north-west.

The buildings were well screened from British observation both by trees in its immediate vicinity and by the buildings of Le Maisnil-en-Weppes.

Excellent accommodation was provided for both officers and men, and the Hd. Qrs. were connected by light signal in addition to telephone and telegraph with the Division at Loos and the Regimental Hd. Qrs. at Fin de la Guerre. (*Vide Plate IA.*)

A "cat walk" runs along the whole length of the ridge of the main barn, so that several shoots could, if necessary, be observed at once.

List of Concrete Structures.—

A—G.O.C.'s quarters. Offices, signal office, light signal station.

B—Main artillery O.P. tower.

Pill-boxes Nos. 1, 2, 3 and 4—Concrete pill-boxes for personnel. No. 2 probably officers' quarters.

All these structures were made of ferro-concrete inside the farm buildings, and from a distant view there is little to indicate the important and extensive nature of the headquarters.

Approximate Estimate of the Amount of Concrete and Steel Used:—

	Concrete	Steel
Headquarters A	507 cub. yds.	10 cub. yds.
Tower B	278 "	5'6 "
Pill-box C2	177 "	3'5 "
Pill-box C3	166 "	3'3 "
Pill-box C1	190 "	3'8 "
	1,318 cub. yds.	26'2, say 26 cub. yds.
1,318 cu. yds. of concrete =	2,200 barrels of PC.	= 360 tons
	625 cub. yds. sand	= 625 "
1 : 2 : 4 concrete	= 1,280 cub. yds. aggregate	= 1,280 "
26 cu. yds. of steel	= 26 × 6	= 156 "
		= 2,421 tons material.

Description du site en 1920 in : Studies of German defences near Lille

Référence du document reproduit :

- WILSON, Bevil Thomson. **Studies of German defences near Lille** by captain and brevet major B. T. Wilson. [s.n.] : Chatham W. and J. Mackay and Co Ltd, [1920 ?]

IVR32_20175900224NUC

Auteur de l'illustration : Pierre Thibaut

(c) Région Hauts-de-France - Inventaire général ; (c) Service historique de la Défense
reproduction soumise à autorisation du titulaire des droits d'exploitation