

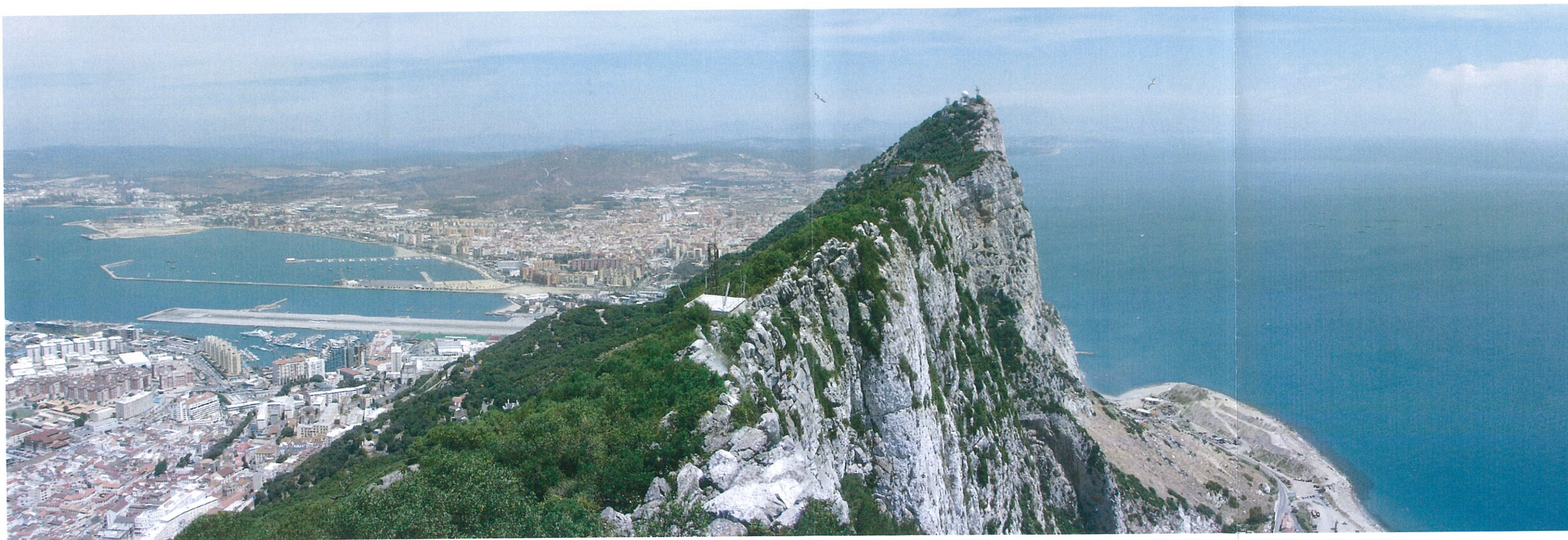


Upper Rock Nature Reserve

Proposed Improvements and Alterations

Outline Planning Application – 30th June 2014

TOWN PLANNING AND
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Master-plan Proposal - Objectives

The proposals described in this document are intended as an extension of the objectives and guidelines set under the Gibraltar Development Plan 2009 as well as the GONHS and Department of the Environment's Management and Action Plan for the Upper Rock Nature Reserve, and should be read in conjunction with these.

The objectives for these proposed improvements and interventions are to improve and maintain the asset that is the nature reserve in the following aspects:



Pedestrian Trails

- Improve and re-open existing pedestrian trails.
- Creation of thematic routes to cater for different interests and fitness levels.
- Improved way-finding and interpretation signage.



Recreation

- Enhancing recreation areas and facilities.
- Improving safety and accessibility at existing sites.
- Catering to different ages and interests.



Information

- Better and more uniform signage.
- Enhance maps and guides to assist visitors to the Nature Reserve.
- New mobile phone app to allow visitors interactive and up-to-date information.



Heritage

- Restore and preserve structures and elements of historical interest, many of which are currently in a dilapidated state.
- Re-open currently inaccessible areas of historical interest to the general public.



Nature

- Protect the existing flora and fauna.
- Ensure better definition of public footpaths.
- Educating visitors on the natural heritage.



Management

- Part of the wider Gibraltar Nature Reserve Management Plan.
- Ensuring continued maintenance of publicly accessible sites.
- Preventing vandalism and litter.

Pedestrian Trails – Thematic trail network and nodes

Joining existing sites with similar themes to create a flexible route network to cater for different interests. Dispersed nodes at start and junctions of pedestrian trails to serve as way-finding landmarks and refreshment points.



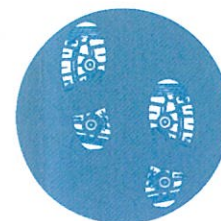
'The Nature Lover'

Devil's Gap Footpath, Devil's Gap, Genoese, Tovey and Princess Caroline's Batteries, Inglis Way.



'The History Buff'

Devil's Gap, Genoese, O'Hara's, Lord Airey's and Princess Caroline's Batteries; Royal Anglian Way, Moorish Castle and Tower of Homage.



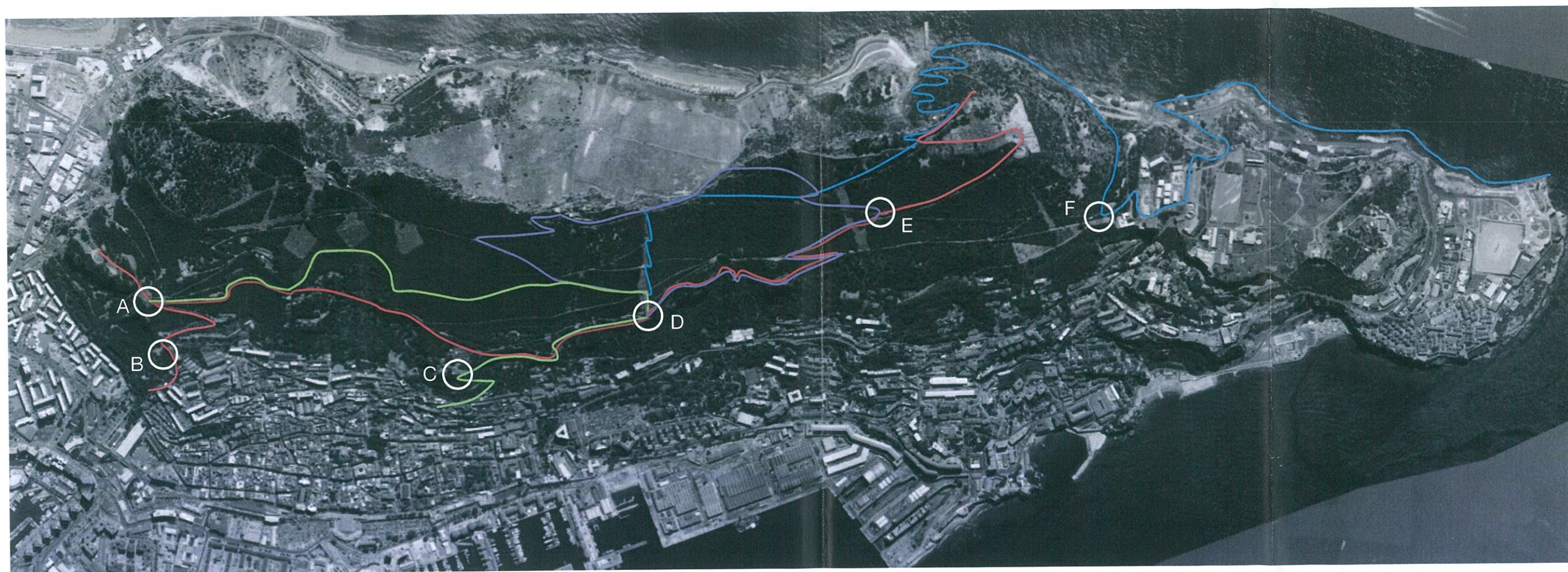
'The Thrill-seeker'

Europa Point, Europa Advance Batteries, Windmill Hill, Jew's Gate, Mediterranean Steps, Lord Airey's and O'Hara's Batteries, Charles V Wall, Royal Anglian Way.



'Go Ape'

Queen's Road Tunnel, Genoese Battery, Ape's Den, St Michael's Cave, Prince Phillip's Arch.



Node A.
Princess Caroline's Battery



Node B.
Moorish Castle



Node C.
Devil's Gap Battery



Node D.
Ape's Den



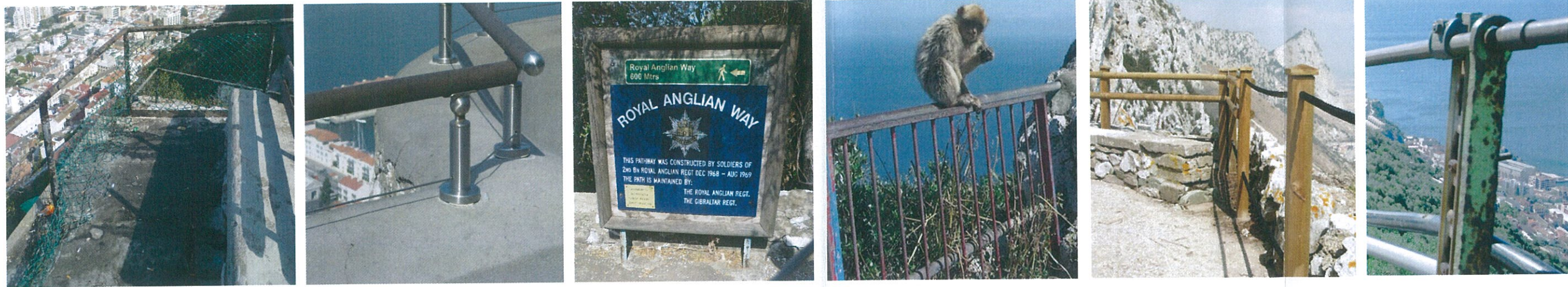
Node E.
St. Michael's Cave



Node F.
Jew's Gate

General Improvements – Materials palette and standard details

Ensuring a standardization of materials, standard details and graphic styles to ensure a more coherent and uniform aesthetic throughout the Nature Reserve.



Existing:

- Mixture of various materials and details, often in very disparate state of repair from each other
- Piecemeal refurbishments and interventions, each with a different language; poor legibility and lack of cohesion that detracts from the visitor experience



Proposed:

- Select a suitable palette of materials and standard details to be employed throughout, developing a consistent look to be used for all works the Upper Rock Nature Reserve
- Ensure an aesthetic that is sensitive to the historic and natural setting, avoiding pastiche and 'sanitised' looks that detract from the real attractions of the Upper Rock
- Possible materials to be discussed and developed, could include Corten steel, anthracite metallic paint, polished timber, etc.

General Improvements – Signage and visitor information

Improved and more uniform way-finding and interpretational signage, as well as interactive mobile phone app.



Proposed intervention:

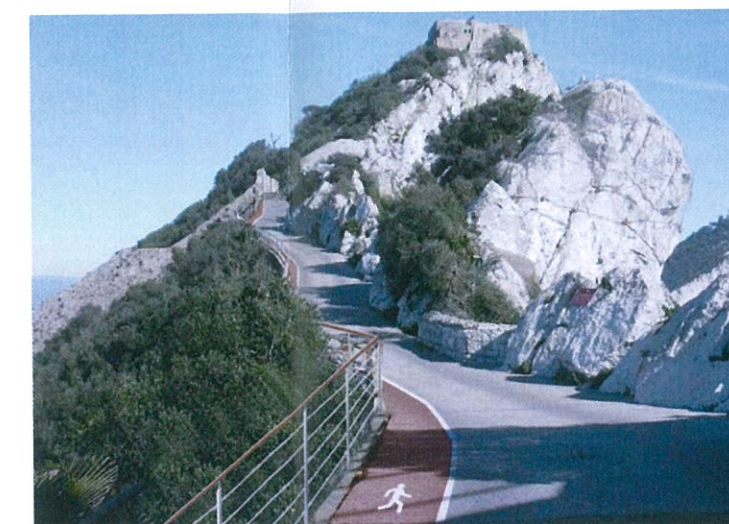
- Simple and legible way-finding signage, including maps, directional signs and informative interpretation signs
- Clearly identified pedestrian routes and sites, linking the Upper Rock Nature Reserve to the urban context
- Unified graphical look, typeface and colour scheme, readily recognizable in different locations throughout the Upper Rock
- Improved printed material: maps and brochures clearly highlighting pedestrian routes and sites of interest
- Interactive content for visitors with smartphones, including aspects such as way-finding assistance, additional information accessed by scanning QR codes in different locations, augmented reality, interactive games, etc.
- Marked pedestrian bands on roads to improve safety, ensuring pedestrians are on a designated side, easing traffic flow.



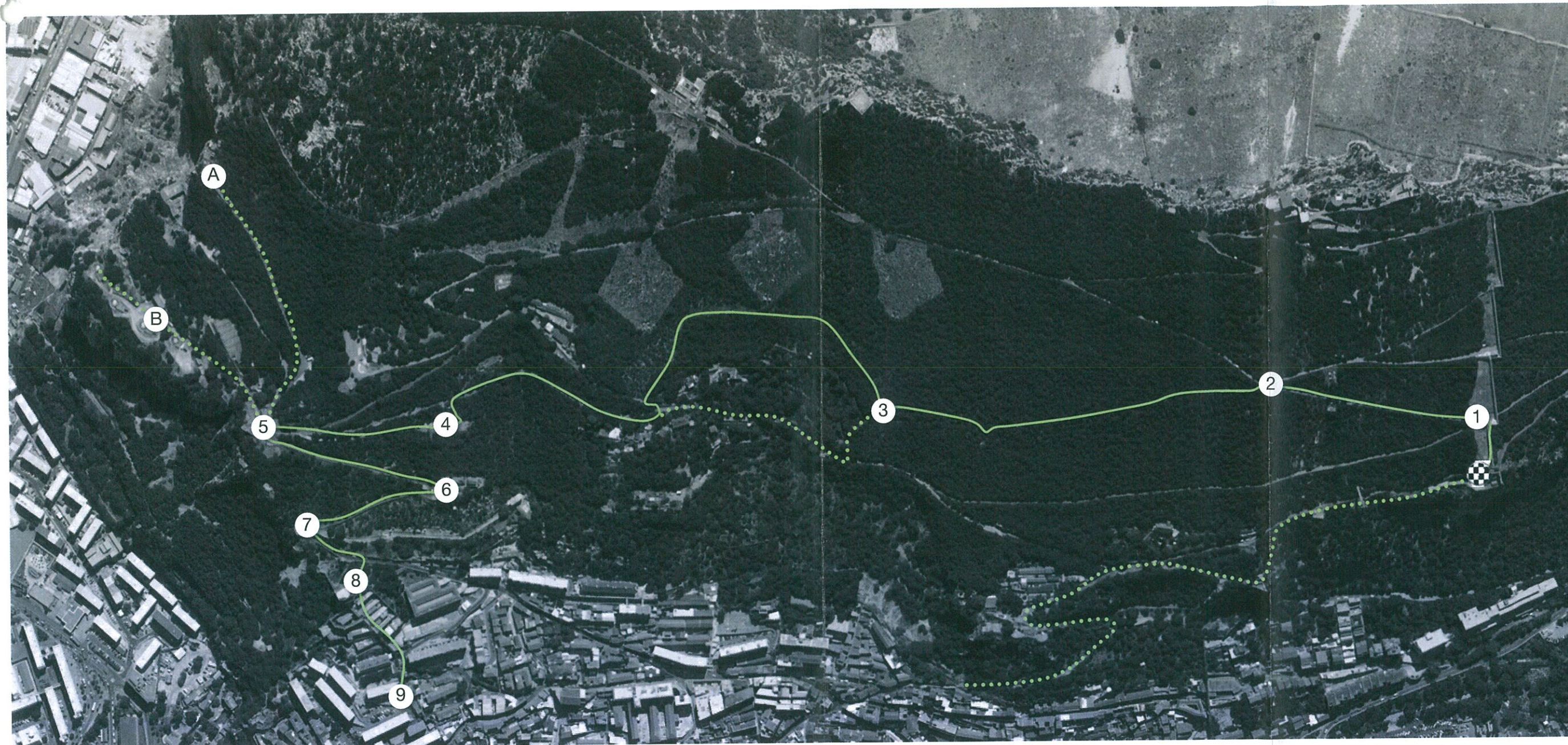
Sample reference: Taronga Zoo Wayfinding Signage, Australia



Sample reference: Médine Line Wayfinding, Larus Design



'The Nature Lover' Trail



Route and connections:

🏁 Ape's Den / Prince Ferdinand's Battery

1. Start of Inglis Way, adjacent to Charles V wall

2. Connection to Signal Station Road

3. Route fork, adjacent to MoD Nursery

4. Tovey Battery

5. Princess Caroline Battery and lookout

6. 'A City under Siege' exhibition

7. Hay's Level, connection to WWII tunnels

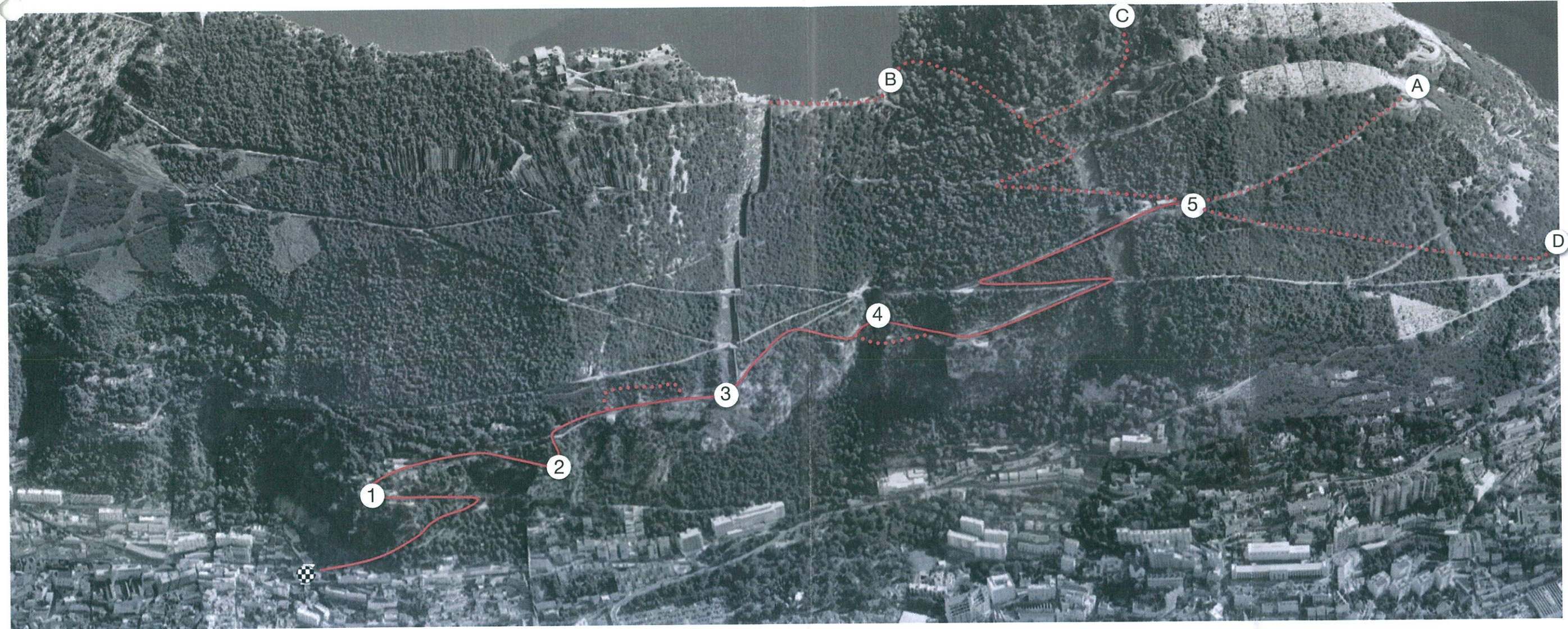
8. Moorish Castle – Tower of Homage

9. Moorish Castle – Gatehouse and Tower

A. Great Siege Tunnels

B. WWII Tunnels, Princess Amelia, Anne Batteries

'The History Buff' Trail



Main Route:

 Start/Finish: Devil's Gap Footpath, entrance to Nature Reserve

1. Devil's Gap Battery
2. Genoese Battery
3. Prince Ferdinand's Battery / Ape's Den
4. Royal Anglian Way / Rooke Battery
5. St. Michael's Cave

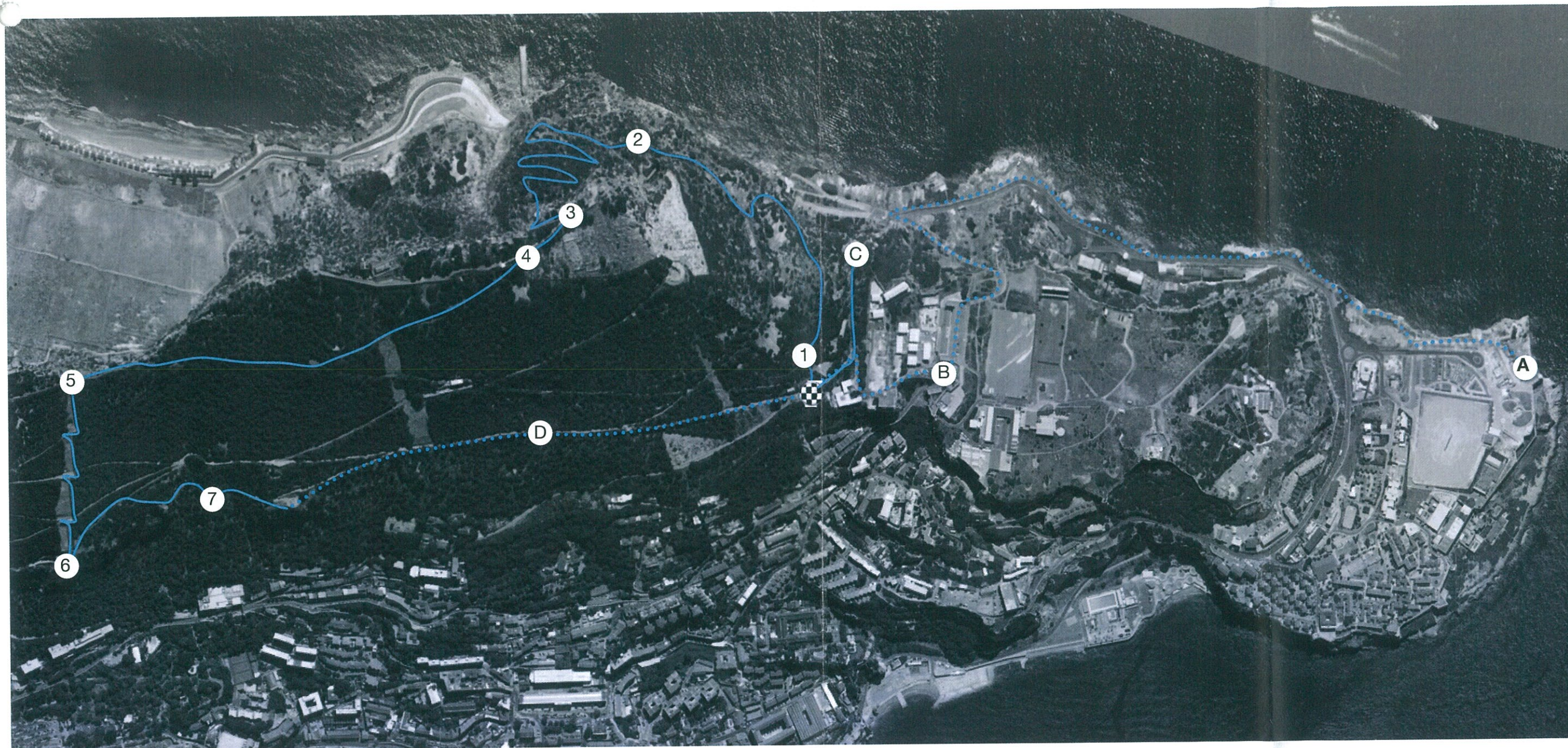
Extended Route Sites:

- A. Spur Battery
- B. Douglas Path / Mount Misery
- C. O'Hara's, Lord Airey's Battery
- D. Link to Levant Battery

Main Route Overall Distance: approx. 2.8 km



'The Thrill-seeker' Trail



Route and connections:

 Jew's Gate, Entrance to Nature Reserve

1. Start of Mediterranean Steps Trail

2. Connection to Spyglass Battery

3. O'Hara's, Lord Airey's Batteries

4. Tracer's 'Stay Behind Cave'

5. Top of Charles V Wall

6. Ape's Den, Princess Ferdinand's Battery

7. Royal Anglian Way

Potential connections:

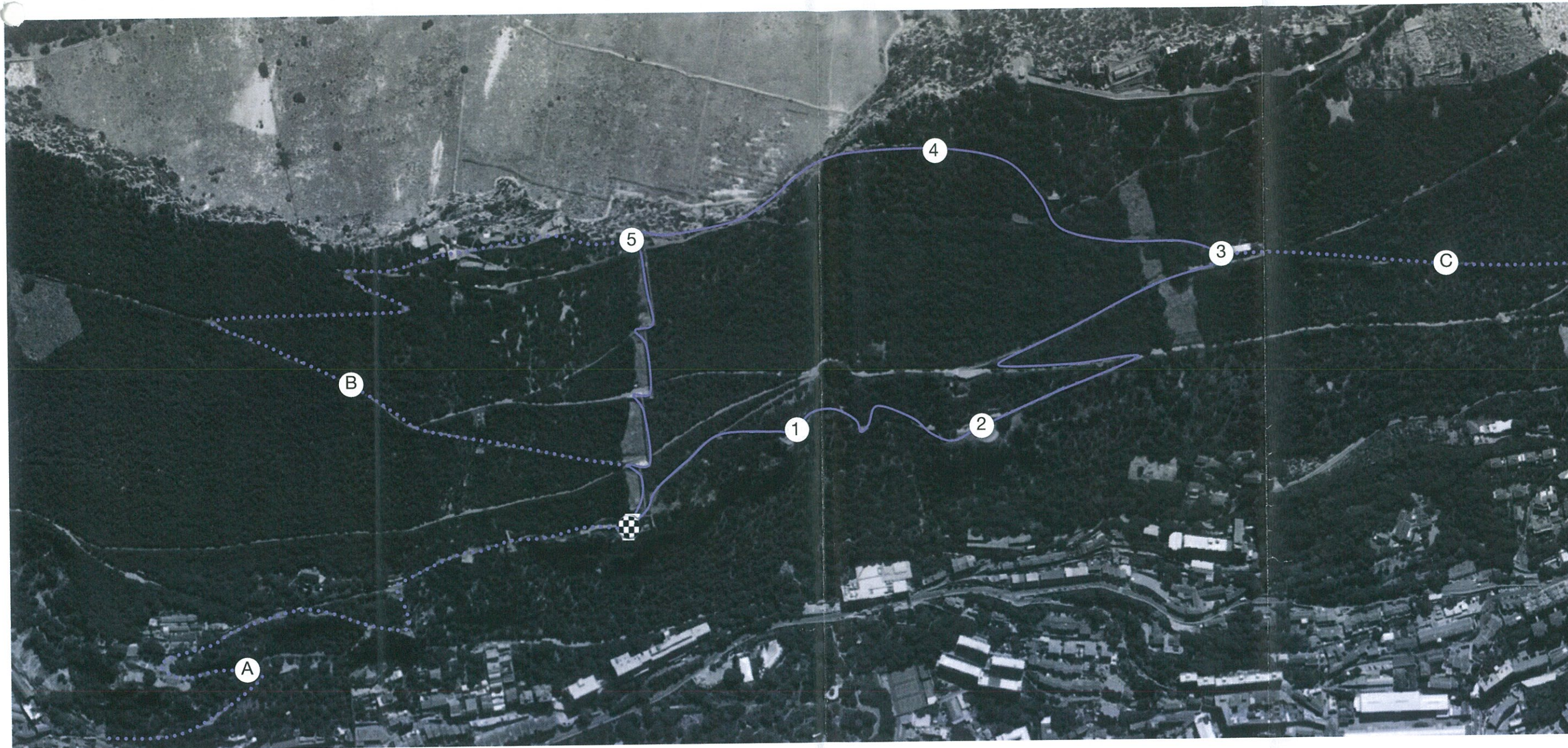
A. East side trail to Europa Point

B. Wind Mill Hill – Potential future entrance point to Upper Rock Nature Reserve

C. Levant Battery

D. Circular trail back to Jew's Gate

'Go Ape' Trail



Route and connections:

Ape's Den, Princess Ferdinand's Battery

①. Royal Anglian Way

②. Rooke Battery

③. St Michael's Cave

④. Douglas Path

⑤. Prince Phillip's Arch , top of Charles V Wall

Ⓐ. Connection to Devil's Gap Path

Ⓑ. Alternative route via Signal Station Road

Ⓒ. Connection to Jew's Gate

