# Anderson Shelters in London & Southern England

### Oval, London SW8

This well-preserved shelter has featured in numerous television documentaries.

It has also been visited by lots of individuals and school parties, and by hundreds of people since 2023 during Open House, London weekends.

## Follow this link to learn more.



### **Brockley, London SE4**

This a wonderfully well-preserved shelter in Brockley, south-east London was discovered by its current owners at the end of a very neglected and overgrown garden which they cleared after moving into their new home. The fact that it was overgrown for so many years, and also set in concrete, means that the shelter remains in near perfect condition.

The escape hatch at the back of the shelter, and one of the original bunk bed frames, remain pretty much 'as new'.

And there is a very clear example of the 'Fountain' maker's mark.









## Enfield, Middlesex

This remarkable shelter in Enfield is dug so deep into the ground that it needed steps to access it. The current owners of the house discovered it when they bought the house in late 2018.

Why was it built so deep? One can only guess that the house was owned by someone – maybe a builder – with the skill and the time needed to dig so deep and build the entrance steps. And the house was only around 4km from the Enfield Rifle Factory, so the occupants probably feared that they would be subject to frequent air raids.



The entrance to the shelter is under the prominent shrub to the right., The shelter itself is under the flower garden to the left. It looks as though the earth that was removed to create the shelter was piled up to the left of the shelter.



The well-hidden entrance to the shelter. It originally had a metal grill over the top but this is now smothered by the shrub.



The steps leading down into the shelter.



You turn left at the bottom of the stairs to enter the main shelter. A Merino makers mark can still be seen on the corrugated iron



An escape hatch can be seen in the far wall of the shelter. Although well underground, this would still have been life-saving if the brick entrance had become blocked.

# Grays, Essex

There are two shelters in Grays.

This first one is a very well preserved shelter in the garden of a bungalow built in 1938.





Like most of the other shelters that have survived in their original position, the steel roof of this second Grays shelter is firmly set in concrete. And it has a very impressive set of concrete entrance steps and hatch doorway.





## Kentish Town, London NW5

This is a nicely modernised shelter in Kentish Town, set in concrete like most of the others that have survived until today. The doorway is very well preserved and the inside has since been wood-lined to transform it into a rather upmarket garden shed.





# Lewisham, London SE13

This shelter has become the centre piece of a bio-diverse conservation area. Follow this link for more detail and photographs.

# Stockwell, London SW9

One of the best preserved Anderson shelters in London can be found in a beautiful garden in Stockwell, London. It was owned during the war by the two Misses Hitch, the unmarried daughters of renowned sculptor Nathaniel Hitch, who clearly decided to build a particularly strong shelter in an area all too likely to experience severe bombing.







