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## RAF Cosford's Dornier at centre of battle to save sands from the dredgers

**It is the resting place of scores airmen from both the RAF and Luftwaffe who lost their lives in the Battle of Britain.**



The remains of the Second World War Dornier bomber, the only surviving such German plane, which is being restored at Cosford

The stretch of sand is also where a German Dornier bomber was recovered before being taken to RAF Cosford, where it is now being meticulously restored.

But the English Channel bank where the Dornier crashed is now at the centre of a bitter battle amid plans to bring in dredgers.

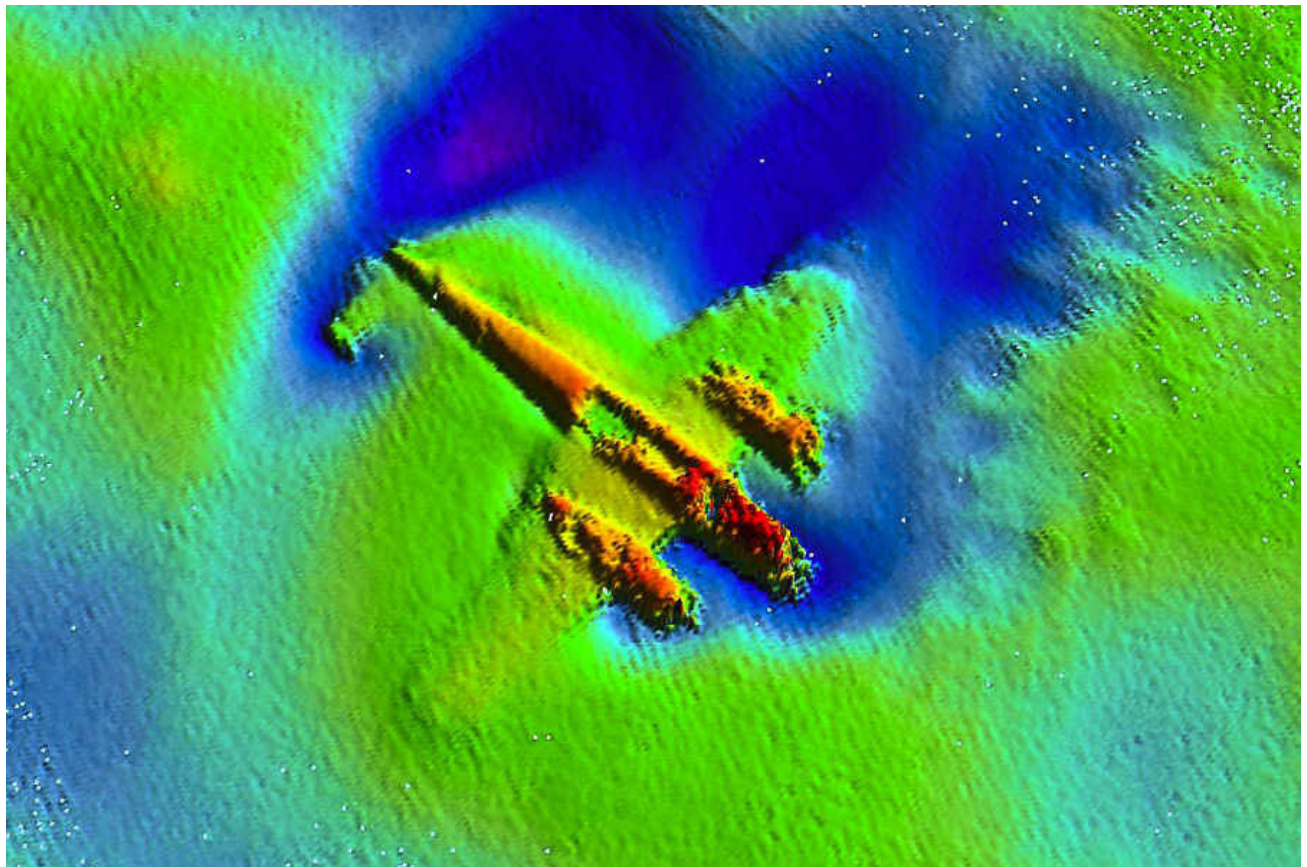
More than 10,000 people have signed a petition to stop the Dover Harbour Board dredging Goodwin Sands for gravel to expand cargo facilities and build a marina at Dover port.



**40th Entry**  
RAF Cosford



Actor Mark Rylance, star of hit film *Big Friendly Giant* and TV's *Wolf Hall*, is among those behind the SOS (Save Our Sands) campaign.



Sonar imaging on the Kent sands revealed the plane in its watery grave

They said the raising of the Dornier in 2013 is proof that the sands should be left undisturbed because of its status as a war memorial.

Rylance has urged developers to “respect the graves” adding: “Would they dredge an **ancient** graveyard or battlefield?”

The actor is joined by Miriam Margolyes, whose home on top of the white cliffs of Dover overlooks the Goodwin's.

The Harry Potter actress said: “Battle of Britain planes and pilots could be disturbed and war graves desecrated. I am profoundly disgusted at this plan.”