**Camp 96** **- Wolseley Road Camp, Rugeley, Staffordshire**

Included in the 1945 ICRC camp list – Labour Camp. 96. Wolseley Road Camp, Rugeley, Staffs

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| **1947 camp list** | | | | | | | |
| 96(G.W.C.) | Wolseley Road Camp, Rugeley, Staffs | W. | Prislab, Rugeley | Rugeley 307 | Rugeley (T.V.) | Lt.Col.E.L.Hughes | v/1453/2 |

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| **Prisoner of War Camps (1939 – 1948) - Project report by Roger J.C. Thomas - English Heritage 2003** | | | | | | | |
| OS NGR | Sheet | No. | Name & Location | County | Cond’n | Type 1945 | Comments |
| SK 030 197 | 128 | 96 | Wolseley Road Camp, Rugeley | Staffordshire | 3 | German Working Camp | STANDARD type. Site used as a sewage farm |

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| **Location:** About 1.5 km NW of Rugeley.  **Before the camp:** Farmland  **Pow Camp:** Italian Pows until at least 1945, then a German Working Camp.  The site had a standard layout with a main pow compound, and with guards’ huts and offices at the front, towards the road. Buildings included a water tower, offices, officer's mess, a canteen, guard rooms, barrack huts, ablution blocks, cell blocks, a camp reception station (CRS = medical facility/hospital), a cookhouse, dining rooms, recreation rooms and living huts.  **1943** – Camp opened for Italian pows.  **1943** - Hostels listed for Italian pows – Lichfield C.S.D.; Ridware Hall; Uttoxeter C.S.D.  **5 May 1944** - Hostels listed for Italian pows, (WO 32/10737): Lichfield, Staffs  **May and November 1944 -** The camp was |  |  |
| 1949 [raf\_541\_28\_rp\_3296 - Aerial Photo | Historic England](https://historicengland.org.uk/images-books/archive/collections/aerial-photos/record/raf_541_28_rp_3296) | Ordnance Survey 1960 |

listed as an Italian Labour Battalion under the Western Command area and then as an Italian Working Camp in November 1944, (WO 32/10737). The Italians were recorded as non-co-operators.

**1944** (date?) – A story that 13 pow officers escaped for a short while. This was followed by a plan to rush the gates by other pows armed with shovels. The rush was halted when the guard commander threatened to shoot. (Details from ‘*A Taste of Freedom’* by R Jackson. [Problems – no date / nationality / German officers were not held here].

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| Oversight and development of re-education activities and English teaching for German pows was carried out by PID (Political Intelligence Department of the Foreign Office) / COGA (Control Office for Germany and Austria – UK). Visits and reports were made. The standard of the reports varied greatly. The visitors took little interest, if any, in activities other than re-education. They rarely mentioned welfare, sports, games, pastimes, crafts, etc of the pows. If there were still Italian pows in hostels, they were usually ignored by PID. |

**26-29 April 1945** – PIDCamp Report. German pows. Strength – 0 officers, 65 NCO’s, 638 Other Ranks = 703. No hostels mentioned.

Commandant: Major Toomey Camp Leader: Gefr Schlesiger

Interpreter: Lt Welseley Deputy leader: None

German M.O. Dr Strobel.

The camp leader was recorded as doing excellent work, but had a, “*tendency towards authoritarianism*.”

Pows were employed at local farms (+ some in the camp admin, cooks, etc).

A debate arose in the camp (and others) about the difference between militarism and military discipline. Some pows disputed the authority of the Camp Leader.

Estimates varied regarding the number of pows who were Nazis. A group of 24 pows had been politically re-screened after being listed by the camp leader - the results agreed with his assessment. However, it was generally agreed that although some pows retained their Nazi political views, they were not politically active.

Youth pows (under-25) were housed in separate huts. They had Sunday morning classes to discuss political matters.

A list of activities was given. A standard list of re-education and other activities was developed later –

Wochenpost and Ausblick – received and appreciated.

Newspapers – a wide range of English papers and periodicals were taken. Some Swiss papers were also received. These were paid for by the Welfare Fund – money raised from sales of items in the canteen.

English - lessons were taking place with about 120 pows of varying ability. More teaching texts and blackboards were needed.

Lectures – visiting lecturers organised by PID had started.

Theatre – a group was developing and performing comedies.

Orchestra – none. Only a piano accordion and violin had been purchased by the Welfare Fund.

Library – just 259 books. More books requested.

Press reviews – well attended meetings.

Religion – Protestant and RC pastors. 90/100 RC pows and 60/70 protestants attended Sunday services. No separate chapel.

Wireless – 1 set in the Camp Leaders office with 4 loudspeakers.

General education classes – French, maths, German.

Recreation – Football pitch with up to 10 games on Sundays, boxing, table tennis, handball.

Films – 1 German film shown. Projector shared with Penkridge camp.

A Camp Magazine was started soon after this report - ‘*Die Zeit’* (The Time).

**5 July 1945** – A letter was sent by a visiting lecturer to PID concerning 6 or 7 pows who were, *“half-Jews and people married to Jewesses who were sent to the front-line as working troops*.” They had been captured with other soldiers, but did not regard themselves as being pows, and were not regarded as such by the other prisoners. They were most anxious to leave the camp. The command at the camp had tried unsuccessfully to have them removed, so this letter requested that it be taken up as a political matter by PID.

**18 July 1945** – In response to the letter above, Henry Faulk (Executive Field Officer responsible for re-education) stated that technically, as para-military, the men were indeed prisoners of war, and therefore; “*All we can however hope to do is to remove them where necessary to a Camp with good conditions*.” There were no further mention of these men in reports.

**May to July 1945** – Notes were made by the Commandant / Camp Leader / lecturers / PID that there was ‘friction’ between the Camp Leader and some other pows.

**2-3 August 1945** – General report and investigation about the reported friction mentioned above. Camp strength; 668.

Commandant Major Toomey was generally supportive of the aims of re-education with some reservations.

The camp was considered to be overall ‘white’ (A grade – non-Nazi).

Camp leader, Gefr Schlesiger, had attended the special training camp at Ascot before being transferred to Camp 96 together with a group of other pows. Members of this group lead activities but they fell out, over how the camp should be run. Some were described as; “*extreme left elements*.” Further arrivals from Ascot made matters worse. These included pows who were “*permanently unfit*” and refused to work giving a bad impression. A verbal attack was made against the C/L by the camp doctor (Dr Strobel) after a lecture. The Commandant backed the C/L and refused to have any kind of committee (“*Soviet*”) running the camp. He had Dr Strobel transferred from the camp and requested the removal of ten other pows.

The visitor stated that Schlesiger was very conscientious, but “*very humourless*.” He agreed that some of the other pows should be removed.

Despite these difficulties, various re-education and general education activities were developing.

**15 September 1945** - Hostel listed for pows from this camp, (WO 32/10737): Lynn, Shenstone, Staffordshire.

**Early 1946** – A new Commandant Major Jarvis.

**14 February 1946** – Notes from a lecturer’s report. There was a new Camp Leader and it was stated that morale had risen since the former leader had been transferred – “*Under his old regime prisoners would not dare to voice any opinion from fear of being in his bad books and being removed to another camp*.” A socialist group (SAG) had formed to organise further activities - they did not allow ex-Nazis to join.

**6 March 1946** - Notes from a lecturer’s report. The Camp Leader’s name was Niebergall, the visitor thought he was excellent. A batch of pows had arrived from camps in Canada and the USA – there were complaints that food in UK camps was far less. Further general complaints were made, especially by the SAG, about Nazis in other camps getting better treatment and being released before anti-Nazis. This was a common complaint in many camps. In part it arose because some pows were requested to be sent back to Germany to help in reconstruction – many of these were administrators who had a Nazi background.

**15 and 16 June 1946** - Notes from a lecturer’s report. 2 lectures – HQ + one at Armitage hostel. Commandant Jarvis was popular due to his “*very humane attitude,”* but it was reported he was due to leave and be replaced by the Commandant at Camp 39.

**28 June – 2 July 1946** – Progress report and “*to investigate activities of certain PW causing dissension in the camp*.” Strength; 0 Officers, 904 OR at HQ, 2 hostels and billets.

Commandant: Major Jarvis Camp Leader: Fwl Niebergall (A)

Interpreter: S/Sgt Weiss Deputy leader: Ofwl Worms (est B)

German M.O. UArzt Emmerich (est B)

The interpreter was of Austrian origin, he had been appointed 3 months previous – though new to the work – “*he should prove capable*.”

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| Political screening: | A+ | A | A- | B+ | B | B- | C | C+ | Unscreened |
|  | 2 | 258 | - | 33 | 42 | 1 | 7 | - | 561 |

Unscreened pows were from camps in Canada / USA.

It was stated the camp had a “*good atmosphere*,” due to good administration and pleasant living conditions. Negative factors included slow repatriation, bad news from home and tensions between ‘white’ (A graded) pows and others.

The SAG had led many re-education activities, but had “*degenerated into a political clique*, *representing only extreme left-wing views*.” A further aspect to the disturbing affect of this group was given in a later report as it was suspected they had received material and encouragement from, “*certain former members of the British staff.”* Over the next few months, the SAG would be ‘absorbed’ into a larger, more representative group, to curb their influence.

About 15% of pows were ‘youth’ in HQ – only 15% in hostels. They were not regarded as a problem. The Sunday classes were no longer listed.

The standard list of re-education activities was given:

Wochenpost and Ausblick – 110 / 65 copies respectively.

Newspapers – 5 English papers for HQ. None for the hostels, but this was being arranged. No mention of Swiss or German papers.

Library – 657 books. Inadequate.

Lectures – regular and welcome.

Discussion groups – Held weekly by the SAG with 100 to 300 attending. A Catholic Action Group of 70 had also been formed.

Films – PID films fortnightly at HQ. YMCA films fortnightly at HQ and hostels.

Wireless – Set controlled by Camp Leader with loudspeakers n the dining hall and recreation hut. Both hostels had sets.

Camp newspaper – weekly. Some articles “*making scurrilous attacks on individuals”* had been published in the past, but it was believed this was now under control.

Press review – each evening, given by the leader of the SAG and so bias was suspected.

English Instruction – 45 attending classes in HQ, none at the hostels.

Other camp activities –

Religion – Protestant padre, Christmann was considered to be a “*Nazi minded opportunist*.” He organised the resignation of 8 teachers as a protest against the activities led by the socialist group. Christmann was transferred out of the camp - three of the teachers were graded ‘C’ and were also due to be transferred. Services were held by a lay preacher. No mention of provision for RC pows.

Education – a wide range of classes at HQ.

Theatre and orchestra – a theatre hut could hold up to 150, mainly comedies performed. Still no further instruments purchased, so no orchestra. There was a band using the violin and accordion and some home made instruments.

**August 1946** – HQ, Satellite Camp - Loxley Hall, and 2 hostels – Stallington and Armitage.

**Summer 1946** – New Commandant; Lt Col G L Hughes.

**20/24 February 1947** – Screening and re-educational survey. Strength; actual numbers for each site = **1036** – BUT, incorrect totals given were 2 officers and 1628 OR = 1630.

Commandant: Lt Col Hughes, MC, RA. Camp Leader: Hans Koening (B)

Interpreter: Captain Wolseley Deputy leader: Werner Leutheuser (B-)

German M.O. UArzt Emmerich (B)

The Interpreter was described as an “*elderly officer.”* He supported re-education and promoted the welfare of the pows.

The Camp leader and deputy were; “*faithful, obedient and co-operative PsW, but they did not shine*.”

Only limited screening numbers were given – A 41 – B 368 – C 112. 86 pows were appealing against their grades, ( the better the grade, the sooner repatriated, in theory).

Morale was ‘satisfactory.’ Some negative factors had recently arisen – lack of coal and Sunday work for the last 3 weeks. Greater freedoms for walking out of camp had a positive effect.

The SAG was not mentioned at all in the report.

Changes to the standard list of re-education activities –

Discussion group - had become more general and no longer under the control of the SAG.

Press review - printed weekly.

Other camp activities –

Religion – A new protestant padre (unnamed). RC priest from Camp 99 visited and RC pows could attend services at Rugeley.

Education – Small classes held for; Shorthand, sign-writing, book-keeping, theatrical recitation, and French.

Entertainment – A choir and theatre group.

**March / April 1947** – Two lecturers commented on the strict discipline within the camp, and both stated that morale was low. It was stated that the last Camp Leader resigned “*because he was unable to uphold the rights of the men.”* The new Leader came from a different camp and he too complained of, “*petty restrictions and regulations, red tape, unhelpfulness and a very strict militaristic spirit.”*

One lecturer questioned why there were so many British officers at a camp with only 1088 pows. Normally there would be just 2 or 3 senior ranks – but there were 1 Lt.col, 2 majors, 4 or 5 captains and 2 lieutenants.

**8/11 April 1947** – Re-educational Progress report. Strength; 0 Officers, 1169 OR at HQ, satellite, 2 hostels and billets.

The new Camp Leader: OGefr Hackenberg (B+), aged 28, a commercial buyer’s clerk, not a Nazi Party member – “*somewhat pessimistic and not an outstanding personality, he is nevertheless genuinely interested in re-education and certainly has the interests of the Ps/W at heart.”*

A new Deputy leader: Uffz Wolter (B+), a clerk, “*very quiet and sincere*.”

The report backed up the comments made by lecturers that the Commandant showed little interest in re-education and had a “*rigid insistence on military detail and lack of discretion.”* One example was given; the pows had to march to and from Sunday church services. He was shortly due to leave the army – however, he remained as Commandant until the camp closed in August.

The Interpreter (Capt Wolseley) was respected by the pows, but he was over 60 years old, and, “*he is tired and anxious to leave the Army.”*

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| Political screening: | A | A- | B+ | B | B- | C | C+ |
|  | 1 | 87 | 224 | 502 | 260 | 94 | 1 |

95 pows were appealing against their political grades. 470 pows repatriated to date.

Morale was very low. The Commandant had issued a Camp Order forbidding pows to enter Rugeley because, “*he feared this small town would be ‘swamped’ with Ps/W*.” This contravened the regulation that pows were able to travel up to 5 miles on Sundays. To make matters worse, other pows from nearby Shugborough Military Hospital walked past this camp on their way to Rugeley. The Commandant agreed to a suggestion that groups of pows be allowed to visit.

Complaints were made that private property had been confiscated – the Commandant promised to investigate this matter.

Changes to re-education activities –

Newspapers - Some Swiss papers were being received.

Press review – again being held weekly.

Changes to Other Camp Activities –

Religion - The Protestant padre was San gefr Metzger (B). The camp church was part of the recreation hut which caused some difficulties. The Bishop of Lichfield showed interest in the camp and pows were frequently invited to local religious functions.

Entertainment – an 8-10 member orchestra had been formed.

**30 May 1947** – pow Otto Port, aged 20, was tried by military court at the camp. He had been charged with; *‘conduct to the prejudice of good order and discipline amongst prisoners of war’* for illegally consorting with Eunice Evelyn Jackman, a 17-year old domestic servant living in Burton-on-Trent. It was alleged that they were found asleep in a store hut on the edge of RAF Tatenhill aerodrome. Constable Tomkinson had found Port standing behind the door of the hut at 5a.m. on 30 March. Jackman was hiding behind some stacks of radar material. Although the couple contended that they had been 'walking around all night', 'dodging' the police, Tomkinson stated that not only was Jackman in possession of an alarm clock to wake them up, a stack of radar paper strips had an imprint of two persons who had been lying there.

While the court-martial took place, hundreds of Port's comrades crowded the court room at the camp*.* He pleaded not guilty. The German camp leader stated that that regulations regarding fraternisation were displayed in the camp mess and had been read out to POWs. Jackman, provided several false names when asked by Tomkinson, eventually admitted that she had met Port at 10 pm on 19 March at an inn in Needwood, and had spent the night with him in the shed; she had known Port for about a month. Port maintained that he had tried to leave, but stayed when Jackman said she was afraid of the dark. He denied that anything improper had taken place.

President of the Court, Major l’Estrange, remarked that Eunice was “*an extremely foolish girl,”* for giving a false name, refusing to answer questions, and being so impertinent. The Defending Officer’s suggestion that it had been Eunice who was running after Otto, seems to have been widely accepted. The court also heard that the “*accused was a product of Hitlerite Germany, and yet, despite the doctrine and teaching of the creed of the superior race he was not a Hitlerite Nazi. In fact, he had taken an active part in assisting victims of Nazi persecution*.”

This event was reported in several newspapers; *'Girl Set the Alarm at Six'*, Daily Mail, 31 May 1947 - *'P.O.W. CHARGED'*, Gloucester Citizen, 28 May, 1947 - *'Fraternisation Charge: Court Told Of P.o.W. and Girl in Hut at Aerodrome,’….* Theverdict was delayed, and I have not seen it reported.

**June 1947** – Only HQ, Armitage and Loxley Hall listed in lecturer’s reports.

**15 July 1947** – Lecturer reported that Loxley Hall was in process of closing.

**19 and 20 August 1947** – Lecturer reported that the camp had just ended a, “*three day period of confinement,”* – unfortunately no details about the cause was given.

**30 August 1947** – Note in the file stated the camp was disbanded on this date.

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| Memories of a girl living at her uncle Alfred’s farm (there was also a German pow called Alf) about pows billeted there, [edited]:  Farmers were to provide ‘*suitable lodging quarters and full board*.’ The man should be supplied with; ‘*straw to fill palliasses, artificial light, heating, crockery, facilities for washing*.’ This might be within the farmhouse or, *‘in a suitable farm building*’ (e.g. barn or outhouse). Sternly underlined was the admonition: ‘*Empty cottages which are suitable for civilian farm workers must not be used for accommodating prisoners*.’  In matters of food: *‘Each prisoner who lives and works on your farm must be provided with three meals a day on the same scale as for a British farm worker who lives in. The prisoner will come under the civil rationing scheme. The Camp Commandant will issue ration books. Farmers will be able to obtain the agricultural cheese ration for prisoners*.’  The standard cheese ration, per person, per week, was down to 2 ounces – equivalent to a couple of bites of a single snack in today’s gluttonous times.  Aunt Mary was a resourceful cook, but like everyone, Gerry Alf was prone to complain about the monotony of the austere diet; *“Feesh - feesh…all the time blutty feesh,”* was his frequent refrain, and although she was very young at the time, Ros remembers him looking, with wide, mischievous eyes at her little dog and saying, “*Pup in oven - gut* ”  Conditions of employment included modest wages, and the POW’s medical and dental treatment was paid for by the Army, who also supplied his clothes. He was to wear battle dress, but emblazoned on the back was an almost comical large patch of felt, which displayed his POW status. The colour of the patch indicated the result of their assessment. Lighter coloured patches indicated a relative indifference to politics. Black patches flagged up an unrepentant Nazi – but such prisoners were seldom seen in a camp like No. 96 at Rugeley – they were usually dispersed to camps in remoter areas of the country, well out of harm’s way.  Nevertheless, the movements and conduct of German workers were severely restricted. Their employer was to ensure that he strayed no further than a mile from the premises, extended, with permission, and only during hours of daylight, to 5 miles on Sundays, when he was to enjoy a full day off.  Alfred had also signed his agreement to regulations which forbad fraternisation.  (2013 – From; <https://staffordshirebred.com/2013/10/02/1947-for-you-the-war-is-over/> ) |

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| Memories of the German pow camp by a guard – [edited];  *“The camp consisted of 3 large cages, the left and right-hand side being normal type Germans, but the middle was kept for* *nazified Germans, so that had more attention. The war was over and these prisoners were agitated* *to get back home. Some more then others because their homes fell in the Russian section of Germany...*  *One of* *my* *duties consisted of looking after the guards... I had 16 men for* the *towers - each corner of the cage had a tower* with a *man* *chang*ed *every two hours - and a guard outside the guard house, he would come in and wake me up at two-hour intervals so we could change the tower guards*… *I arrived in October 1945 and the weather was already beginning to deteriorate. We never had to shoot anybody. Nobody escaped because the war was over and they could see an end to the whole situation.*  *During January 1946, there were very bad blizzards. Rugeley was cut off by snow… I took a party of Germans down to the road with shovels to clear them, so that there would be food for our camp, and for the whole town of Rugeley apparently… We got them into columns… and then just dug the snow off in slabs on to the side of the road…*  *We never had any trouble with the POW’s - quite a good bunch… We took them almost into Birmingham on the railway to help dig out the coal trains. They had a sort of a cape mac the army presented them, with* *space at the back for a kit bag - that was convenient as they filled that up with coal to take back to their huts. We got some as well… I’ve seen the corrugated roof of a Nissen hut actually glowing red with the fire.*  *We had to be on our toes in Birmingham and Walsall, because people would come down in their back gardens and hand out hot drinks*, but we *didn’t want too much fraternization…*  *They celebrated Christmas* and *New Year far more robustly than we do, the noise coming from the main hut in the compound was terrific. I thought there was a fight going on. I took a chap with me and we went in to see there was only good-humoured fun. Their humour was a bit weird, I mean chaps dressing up as women, very queer…* *We had a pipsqueak of an officer who came round – “Guard-commander, keep that racket down” – “Any suggestions, sir? I've only two men spare. Can I have your permission to fire some shots over their heads?” – “Don’t talk ridiculous” – “Any other suggestions then, sir?” - and of course the suggestion was let them get on with it until midnight until they got tired and it gradually died down. It was a bit hair-raising at the time.*  *One of the POW’s made me a cigarette case of wood.* O*ne side depicted Norwood Paragon Cycling Club colours, green black and yellow, and on the other side was the regimental badge. He made this with hand tools, there was no machinery at all - it was all hand made and I was very pleased with it*…  *Eventually there came a time for the Germans to be returned. It was heading towards Autumn... The Red Cross stipulated that pows can only carry so much weight… They’d collected a load of stuff and so they took them to a football field* where *there was a platform weighing machine - of course everybody failed. The RSM said tell them to take two items out of their bag. Ridiculous - the weight hardly altered. Then they said, another cruel, sadistic idea - lay it all out and the soldiers will go along and take five items out their load to lighten it. Not only was it cruel it was heartless, it was a job we didn’t want to do... So that failed, and we found out that while we were trying to take stuff to lighten the load, they were taking stuff and hiding it in the hedge on the edge of the football field. Obviously once they got back, they could put* those things *back into their kit bags. It was the Red Cross that were sticking their heels in… A compromise was reached in the normal civil service fashion, and the Red Cross decided to turn a blind eye.*    *We lined up onto a train taking us to Harwich. Six of us went as guard. The RSM said to me, if they want to run let them run, don’t get excited about it, and if they don’t want to go back to Germany its up to them. I commandeered a luggage rack in a compartment, which was my bed. When we* arrived, *there was a POW boat already in - but they had been in North America and Canada and they were bronzed, brown. Not only that, their uniforms were brand new, a sort of brownish colour which matched the shades of suntan and they looked the absolute picture of health* like *they were returning from a holiday in America. Our poor devils had still got ragged old clothes, dirty grey. They nearly rioted, they were so angry with themselves and with us. Eventually I watched them struggle up the plank with their packages… I shook hands with a few, there were no tears, but some were a bit sorry to lose us and away they went…*  BBC WW2 People's War: Ken Bush's War P4 - Guarding German POW's - <https://www.bbc.co.uk/history/ww2peopleswar/stories/58/a6727458.shtml> . |

Known Camp Commandants:

1945 Major Toomey

1946 Major Jarvis from the Cheshire Regiment

1947 Lt Col G L Hughes

**After the camp:** 2024 a sewage works.

**Further Information:**

National Archives FO 939/335 – 96 Working Camp, Wolseley Road Camp, Rugeley, Staffordshire. Dated 1945-1947. Used above.

National Archives FO 1120/223 – ‘Re-educational survey visit reports for camps 93 to 99’. Just 2 reports, duplicates from above file.

The Imperial War Museum holds a copy of the camp newspaper from January 1947. Catalogue LBY E.J. 449. The German Federal Archives has a copy of the camp magazine, unknown date.

**Camp numbers:**

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|  | Open |  |  | With other camps |  |  | Unknown |  |  | Not listed / not open |

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|  | 1943 | 5/1944 | 4/1945 | 9/1945 | 7/1946 | 8/1946 | 2/1947 | 4/1947 | 6/1947 | 8/1947 |
| Wolseley |  |  | 703 |  | 675 |  | 647 | 586 |  |  |
| Lichfield C.S.D. |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Ridware Hall |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Uttoxeter C.S.D. |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Lynn |  |  |  |  | 34 |  |  |  |  |  |
| Armitage |  |  |  |  | 167 |  | 59 | 150 |  |  |
| Loxley Hall Sat. |  | Camp 134 | | | |  | 220 | 200 |  |  |
| Stallington |  |  |  |  |  |  | 110 | 122 |  |  |
| Billetees |  |  |  |  | 28 |  | ? | 111 |  |  |
| Total | ? | ? | 703 | ? | ? | ? | 1036 | 1169 | ? | ? |

**Satellite Camp - Loxley Hall** NGR SK 061 321

Previously independent camp 234.

**2/1947** – Leader; Erich Runau [Ruhnow] (B). German M.O. Unterarzt Brenner.(B)

**4/1947** – same leader, a regular soldier and ex-policeman. He requested to be upgraded to (A), but the visitor commented; *“he is politically nondescript and does not warrant upgrading*.”

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|  | 1943 | 5/1944 | 4/1945 | 9/1945 | 7/1946 | 8/1946 | 2/1947 | 4/1947 | 6/1947 | 8/1947 |
| Loxley Hall Sat. |  | Camp 134 | | | |  | 220 | 200 |  |  |

**Hostels**

**Armitage**

Local history places the hostel within The Towers, Armitage; NGR SK 079 157. *“The house and grounds were requisitioned by the government during the war for use by first the army, then the Americans and finally it became a prisoner of war camp for German soldiers. Even the downstairs rooms were used as sleeping areas with up to 30 in each of the large rooms.”* <https://armitageops.com/the-towers/>

**7/1946** – Hostel leader; Hwm Willi Beckmann (A). 1 education class for civil engineering.

**4/1947** – Same leader. An unusual complaint arose when 50 pows claimed they were promised early repatriation by a Norwegian Officer in Camp 183 back in November 1944 for volunteering to work. Their claim was to be investigated. No further reports on this matter.

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|  | 1943 | 5/1944 | 4/1945 | 9/1945 | 7/1946 | 8/1946 | 2/1947 | 4/1947 | 6/1947 | 8/1947 |
| Armitage |  |  |  |  | 167 |  | 59 | 150 |  |  |

**Lichfield C.S.D. (Central Supply Depot).**

**1943/44** – Italian pows.

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | 1943 | 5/1944 | 4/1945 | 9/1945 | 7/1946 | 8/1946 | 2/1947 | 4/1947 | 6/1947 | 8/1947 |
| Lichfield C.S.D. |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Lynn**, Shenstone, Staffordshire.  Believed to have been located opposite Lynn Nurseries, Lynn Lane; NGR SK 086 044 – previously a Women’s Land Army Hostel.  **7/1946** – Hostel leader; Obmaat Wunn (est B).   |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | |  | 1943 | 5/1944 | 4/1945 | 9/1945 | 7/1946 | 8/1946 | 2/1947 | 4/1947 | 6/1947 | 8/1947 | | Lynn |  |  |  |  | 34 |  |  |  |  |  | |  |
| Aerial photo 1950 |

**Ridware Hall**. NGR SK 079 177.

*“We understand that the hall was taken over by the army and initially housed contentious objectors and then Italian POWs. The Italians worked on local farms. They planted two walnut trees. These remain in the walled garden.”* <https://ridwarehall.co.uk/owners-throughout-the-years/>

Taken over by a different main camp – there are 1944 [Trent River Authority plans](https://mss-cat.nottingham.ac.uk/CalmView/Record.aspx?src=CalmView.Catalog&id=RE%2fDP%2f549) for a rain outfall from the pow camp

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | 1943 | 5/1944 | 4/1945 | 9/1945 | 7/1946 | 8/1946 | 2/1947 | 4/1947 | 6/1947 | 8/1947 |
| Ridware Hall |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |

**Stallington** (Blyth Bridge). Possibly at Stallington Hall – NOT confirmed.

Probably administered by a different main camp before these entries.

**2/1947** – Hostel leader; Kurt Rauch (B-)

**4/1947** - Stated that hostel due to close and pows to be transferred to Armitage hostel.

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | 1943 | 5/1944 | 4/1945 | 9/1945 | 7/1946 | 8/1946 | 2/1947 | 4/1947 | 6/1947 | 8/1947 |
| Stallington |  |  |  |  |  |  | 110 | 122 |  |  |

**Uttoxeter C.S.D. (Central Supply Depot).**

**1943** – Italian pows.

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | 1943 | 5/1944 | 4/1945 | 9/1945 | 7/1946 | 8/1946 | 2/1947 | 4/1947 | 6/1947 | 8/1947 |
| Uttoxeter C.S.D. |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |