

## **The Second Civil War 1648, the role of Winwick Pass and now Archaeology Analysis and Documentation regarding Winwick Pass 1648**

The Civil Wars between the King's Royalist Forces and Parliamentary Forces occurred between 1643 and 1651, where it could be loosely shown as 3 separate periods First Civil War 1642 to 1645; Second Civil War 1647 to 1648 and the Third Civil War 1650 to 1651.

It is to the Second Civil War 1648 to which this document relates in particular the precise date of 19<sup>th</sup> August 1648; more commonly known as the Battle, engagement, fight or skirmish of 'Red Bank' or 'Winwick Pass' or 'Wood near Winwick' or 'in a narrow lane', or 'between Newton and Winwick'; depending upon the source material which is read. I will hereafter refer to this event as "Winwick Pass".

### **Aim**

To preserve, the relatively untouched and hence now the only remaining Second Civil War location, called Winwick Pass, for this and future generations.

There is now a threat of the Winwick Pass location being destroyed, to a point the landscape will be totally changed, making any understanding of Winwick Pass being incomprehensible to appreciate. Similar to what has happened with the Second Civil War Location at Preston.

It is to determine whether the Winwick Pass engagement was in fact a battle, determined purely by records written at the time or shortly thereafter. These records can be in the form of letters, diaries, memoires, chronicles, later analysis by historians and the topography of the landscape at 1648.

To analyse these records in order:

- To show the importance of Winwick Pass in relation to the Second Civil War conclusion; and
- Whether Winwick Pass can be registered as a Battlefield under the Battlefield Trust and English Heritage guidelines.

I do not intend to analyse the evidence in order to show how Winwick Pass proceeded; this I leave in the capable hands for historians and experts to re-analysis the events of how the engagement at Winwick Pass took place.

### **Archaeology Analysis and Documentation regarding Winwick Pass 1648**

The previous chapters have shown the Topography; Memoires, Letters and Diaries either who took part or wrote at the time to 1700; compilations from historians circa 1700 to date: with regard to Winwick Pass. Several documents show unique evidence to which the English Heritage: Battlefield Registration Criteria requires.

This section is to concentrate on the physical archaeological evidence or '**finds**' that has been found in and around the Winwick Pass area. The other is more sad which is the archaeological evidence of the Scottish and Parliamentary Troops, reported to be 100 Parliamentarians and 1000 plus Scots killed in action at Winwick Pass and to the possible location to any 'burials' or burial sites.

## 1. 'finds'

The Battlefield Trust Website shows various conditions on how searching recording of 'finds' to which in the main has not been followed.

The reason for this has a multitude of explanations but mainly on the speculative treasure hunter. Especially upon the advent and development of the '**metal detector**', this is the main source of the destruction of Winwick Pass archaeological evidence base, the more of these unregistered 'detectorists' doing a survey of Winwick Pass, the lesser the chance for registration using physical evidence properly recorded.

Hence the recent publication on the Battlefields Trust website on how to survey a battlefield site.

It does not essentially stop these 'detectorists', the 'how to survey' just asks for the requirement of correct and proper recording in order for the correct analysis of a site with the appropriate Finds Liaison Officer for the area.

But, one point in favour of person(s) who have either found by either seeing 'finds' on the surface and taking them home or just speculative detectorists who make known 'finds' to the landowners: The various 'finds' show there was activity of a battle in the Winwick Pass area and only as long as these previously discovered 'finds' are available now for physical recording.

## Evidence

One such primer source are the 'finds' on display at Warrington Museum.

The finds on display are also confirmed in in the two volume book "A History of Newton-Le-Willows" by John Henry Lane Volume 1 first published in 1914. The information which follows are extracts from a facsimile edition first published in 1992 edited by Peter Riley (ISBN number 1 874712 01 8).

Where on pages 27 to 32 the Battle of Winwick Pass is described, to which on page 31 pertains to finds known at the time to John Henry Lane in 1914.

It is interesting to read on Page 31 not just the finds described in Warrington Museum of a large handsome spur (found in the 1800's at Red Bank), a few cannon balls and two coins. But also camp artefacts which in 1914 were located in Winwick but does not indicate exactly where in Winwick.



Picture taken by Peter Astles at Warrington Museum of the Handsome Spur. (October 2012)

Also John Henry Lane mentions a local person who found sadly years later the head of one killed in action not strictly a find but indicates (maybe) to the Archaeological Burial section and possible the location of the burials (see 2. 'burials'). To have a body part on the surface could mean that burials are not deeply covered and wind and rain slowly exposed the head. For to have not been buried in 1648 and found still on the surface in 1663-1665, raises questions to be discussed later.

*Page 31 A History of Newton-Le-Willows by John Henry Lane Volume 1 first published in 1914.*

NEWTON-IN-MAKERFIELD.

Poor Duke Hamilton, thou hast "a passing sigh" from us, for, after all, thou wast fighting for what thou believedst to be truth and justice! Better, perhaps, that thou hadst been endued with less "ability" in a world in which

"Bold sycophantic mediocrity  
Too often rudely ousts the better man."

Turn we now to another account, taken from "Heath's Chronicle," quoted by Carlyle: "At a place called Redbank," near Winwick Church, two miles from Warrington, "the Scots made a stand with a body of pikes, and lined the hedges with muskets: who so rudely entertained the pursuing Enemy, that they were compelled to stop until the coming up of Colonel Pride's regiment of foot, who after a sharp dispute put those same brave fellows to the run. They were commanded by a little spark in a blue bonnet, who performed the part of an excellent commander, and was killed on the spot." "Does any one know this little spark in the blue bonnet?" asks Carlyle. "No one. His very mother has long ceased to weep for him now. Let him have burial and a passing sigh from us!" "The question which Mr. Carlyle, in his moralizing, thus asks, but does not answer," Mr. Beamont, in his "History of Winwick," says he is able to answer for him, and gives the name of "the little spark in the blue bonnet" as Major John Cholmley, "who is recorded to have been buried in the chancel of Winwick Church, on the 3rd September, 1648, and who, of all who fell, is the only person mentioned to have been buried after the battle. The only relics of the battle are a large handsome spur, a few cannon balls, and two coins kept in the Warrington Museum, and some camp kettles which are preserved in Winwick. At a much later period (15th September, 1665), Roger Lowe, the diarist, says he found a sadder memorial of the battle, a head which had ever since remained unburied, and that he took and buried it."

From the spot opposite "Cromwell's Well," we continue our way past an old whitewashed cottage and a farmstead with an orchard. Here the lane dips, and we soon pass a road



Another source can be found on [www.newton-le-willows.com](http://www.newton-le-willows.com) website: Topic Battle of Winwick Pass/Red Bank (89 separate posts as at 04 May 2013).

Page 1:

<http://newton-le-willows.com/history/viewtopic.php?f=1&t=901>

Page 2:

<http://newton-le-willows.com/history/viewtopic.php?f=1&t=901&start=15>

Page 3:

<http://newton-le-willows.com/history/viewtopic.php?f=1&t=901&start=30>

Page 4:

<http://newton-le-willows.com/history/viewtopic.php?f=1&t=901&start=45>

Page 5:

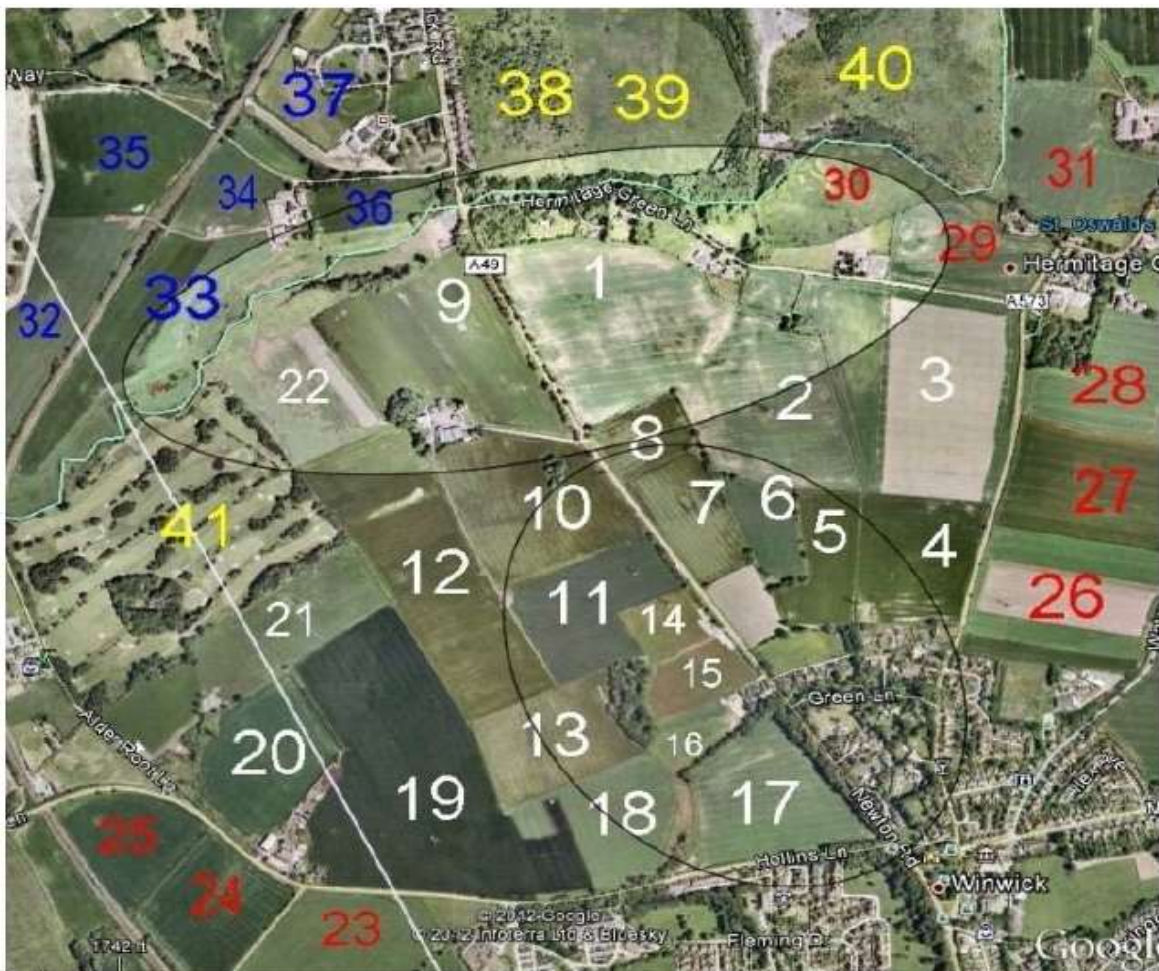
<http://newton-le-willows.com/history/viewtopic.php?f=1&t=901&start=60>

Page 6:

<http://newton-le-willows.com/history/viewtopic.php?f=1&t=901&start=75>

The information from contribution from members to the website indicate there are finds already found. I assume the recording of these finds have followed the advice on the Battlefields Trust website.

On Page 3 on the website shows location map of the area with plausible identifier areas of action where finds have been located together a few pictures of some finds.



## Re: Battle of Winwick Pass/Red Bank

by [bob](#) » Mon Aug 20, 2012 8:40 pm

Ok, i have done a map with field's numbered, white being more likely to be battle area, I have done this to hopefully make it easier for people to join in and have their say, What do we know??

The OS maps list 1 and 9 as the battle site. do you agree, what evidence do we have, Russ found Scottish evidence at 4.

40 years ago anyone who went in the Hermit pub would have seen lots of old guns and battle evidence on the walls.

I was told they are what farmers have found over the years, so that could be anywhere unless a farmer remembers and tells us,

Bodies? A distinct lack of them,

Some letters to or from soldiers that Steve has mentioned before,

Field 17, lots of musket balls, and evidence of a battle priest being there,

Musket ball marks in Winwick Church, fired from 17.

If you can add to this list, please add it to the thread, maybe we can piece it together, what i need to know is, has anything been found on 38 and 39.

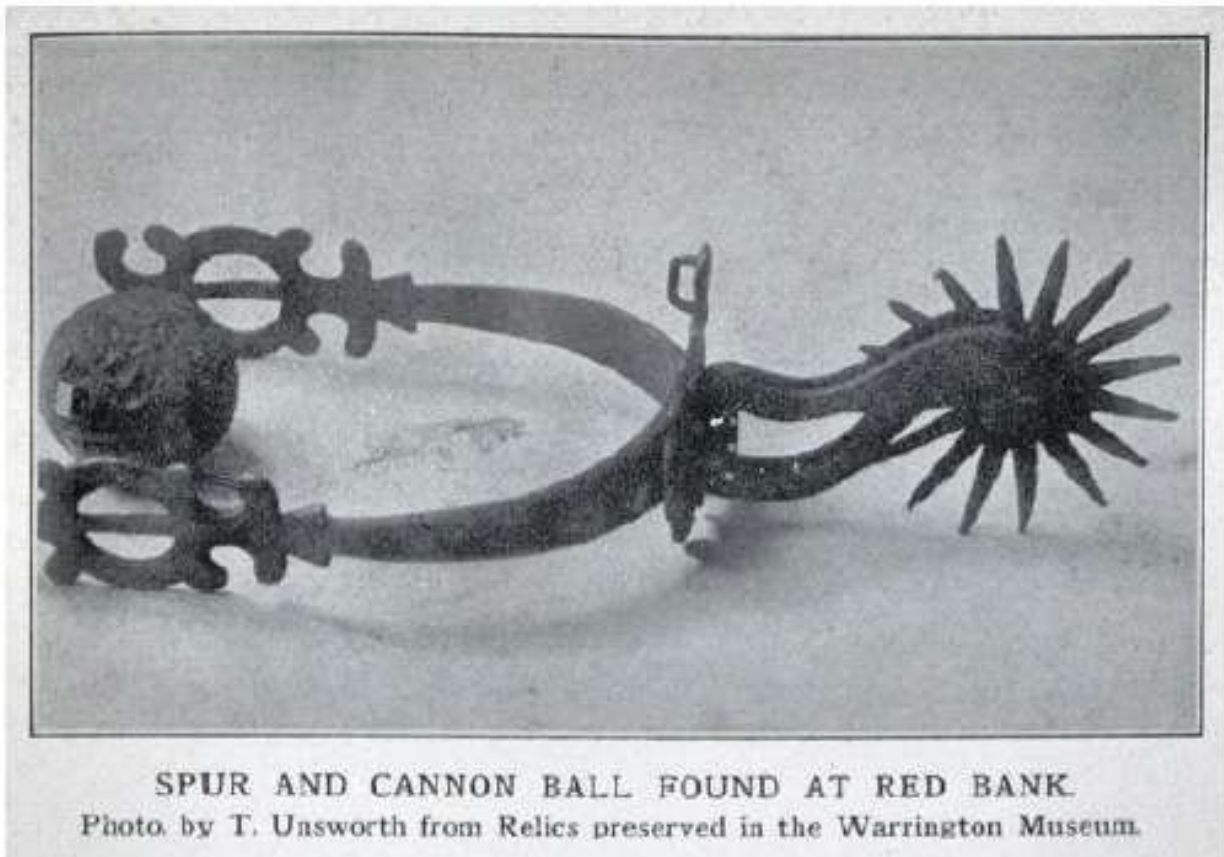
Bob

From the other pages from the Website there are several finds discussed and where the finds were found in relation to the above map.

A Cannon Ball Fragment found by a website member (from Page 3 weblink above)



Known finds on display at Warrington Museum



**Recent finds**

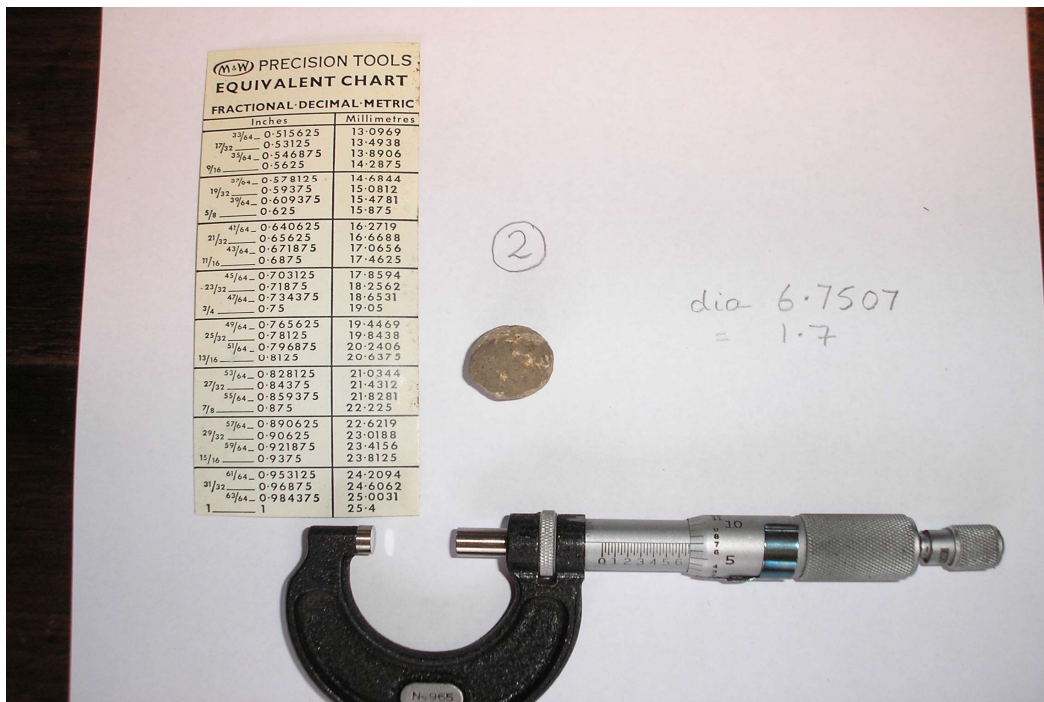
The following are finds found next to location 1 and near to Hermitage Green Lane and have being examined and recorded at Museum of Liverpool (6<sup>th</sup> June 2013).

The Location (GPS), weight and measurements have been recorded prior to submission to the Finds Liaison Officer (FLO) at the Museum of Liverpool.

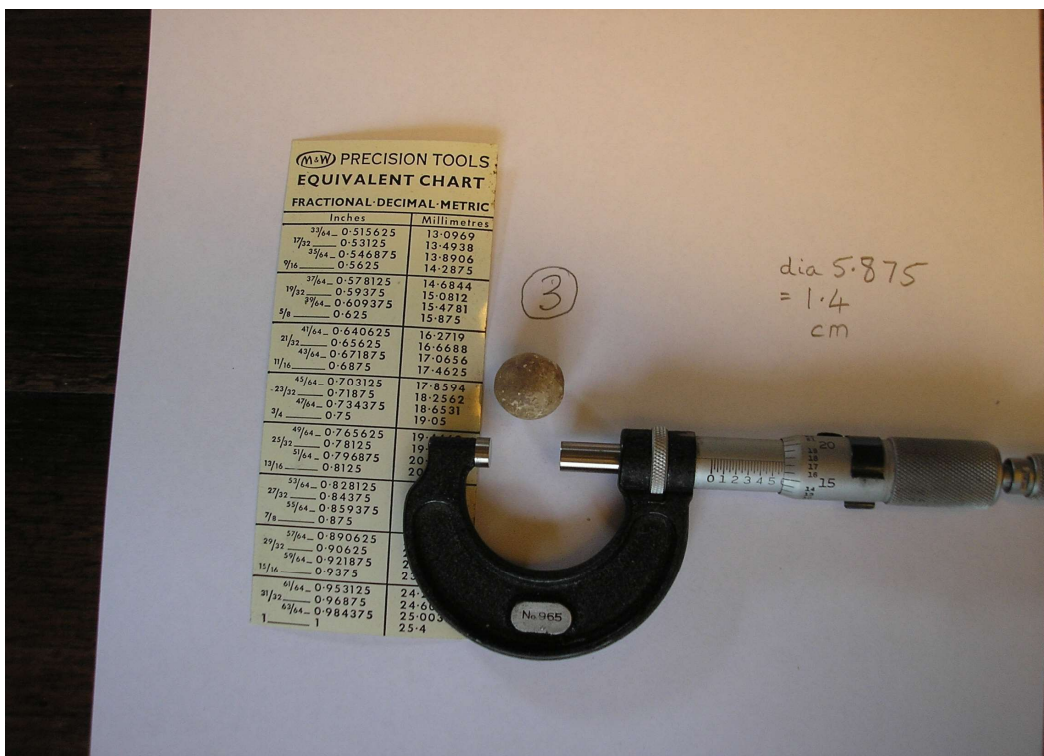
The following pictures show the respective finds as recorded prior to submission to FLO:



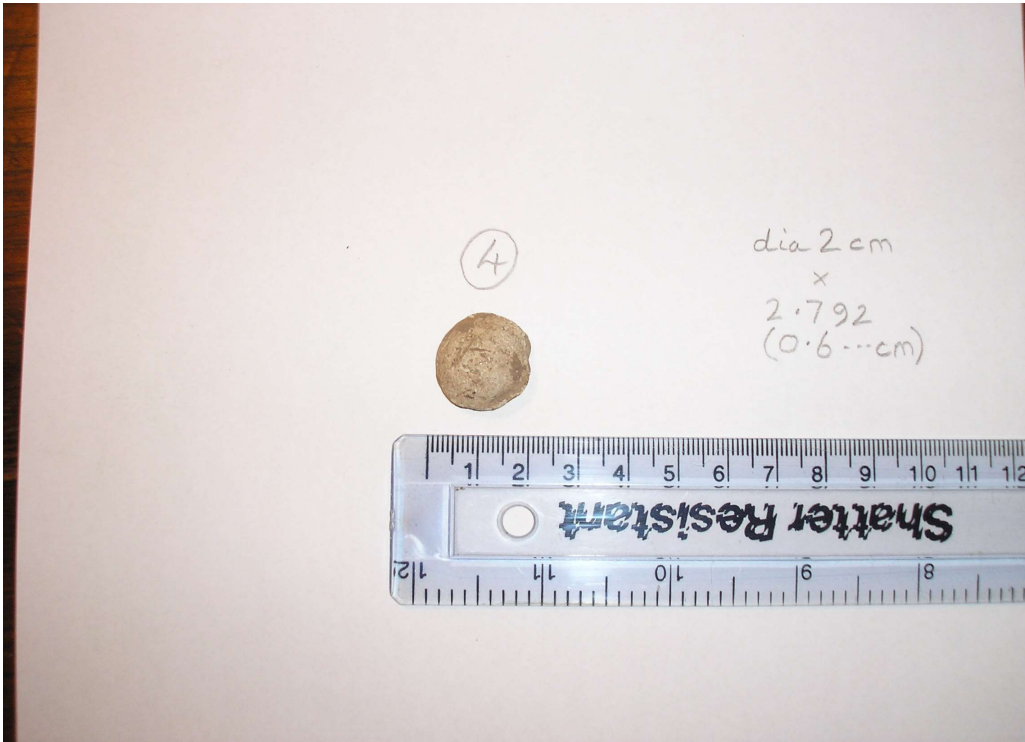
**1. Various Musket Balls**  
**Find Reference No 2**



**Find Reference No 3**



**Find Reference No 4 top profile**

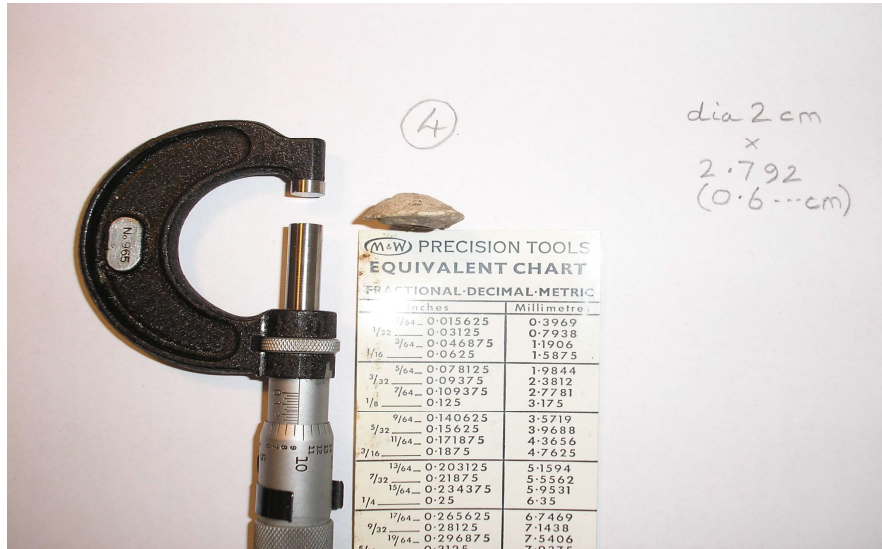


**Find Reference No 4 bottom profile**

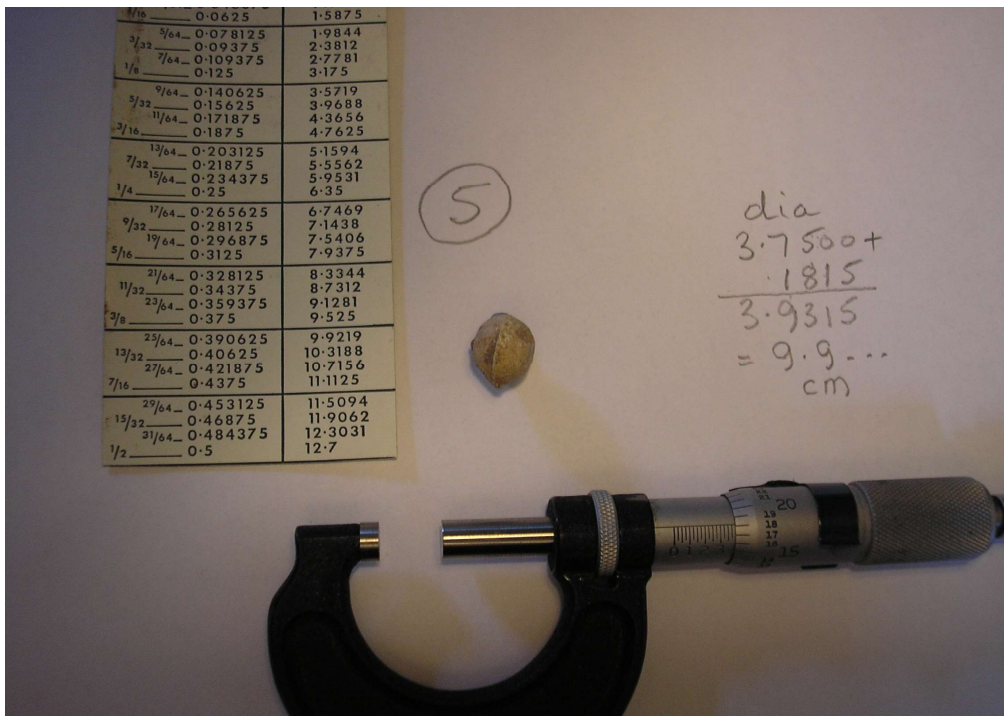




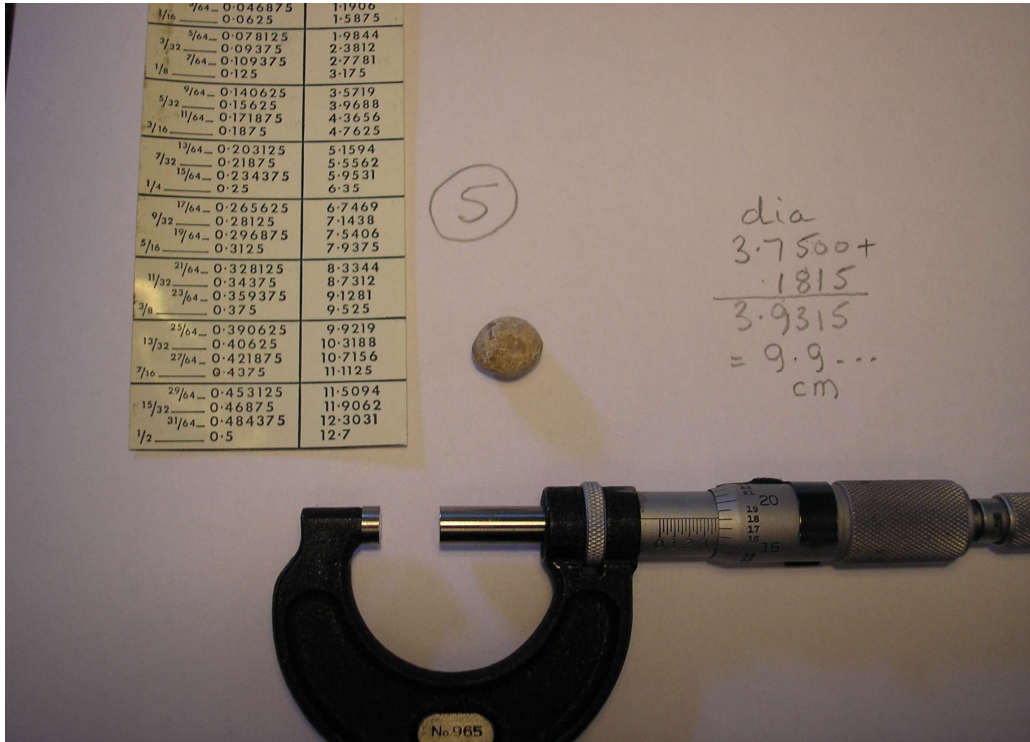
**Find Reference No 4 side profile**



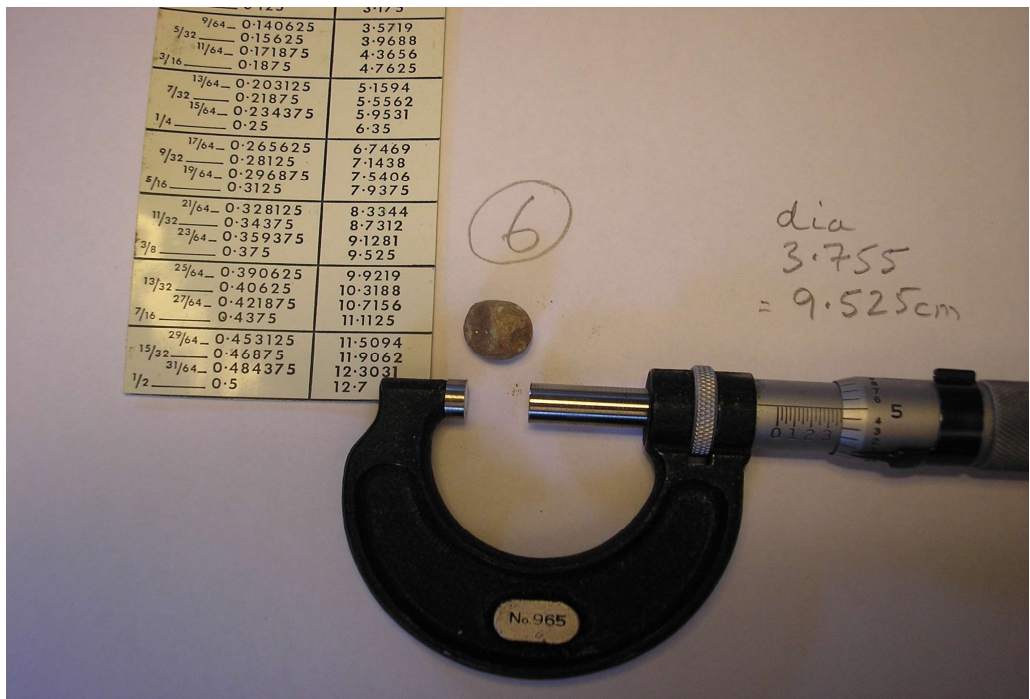
**Find Reference No 5 side profile**



**Find Reference No 5 top profile**

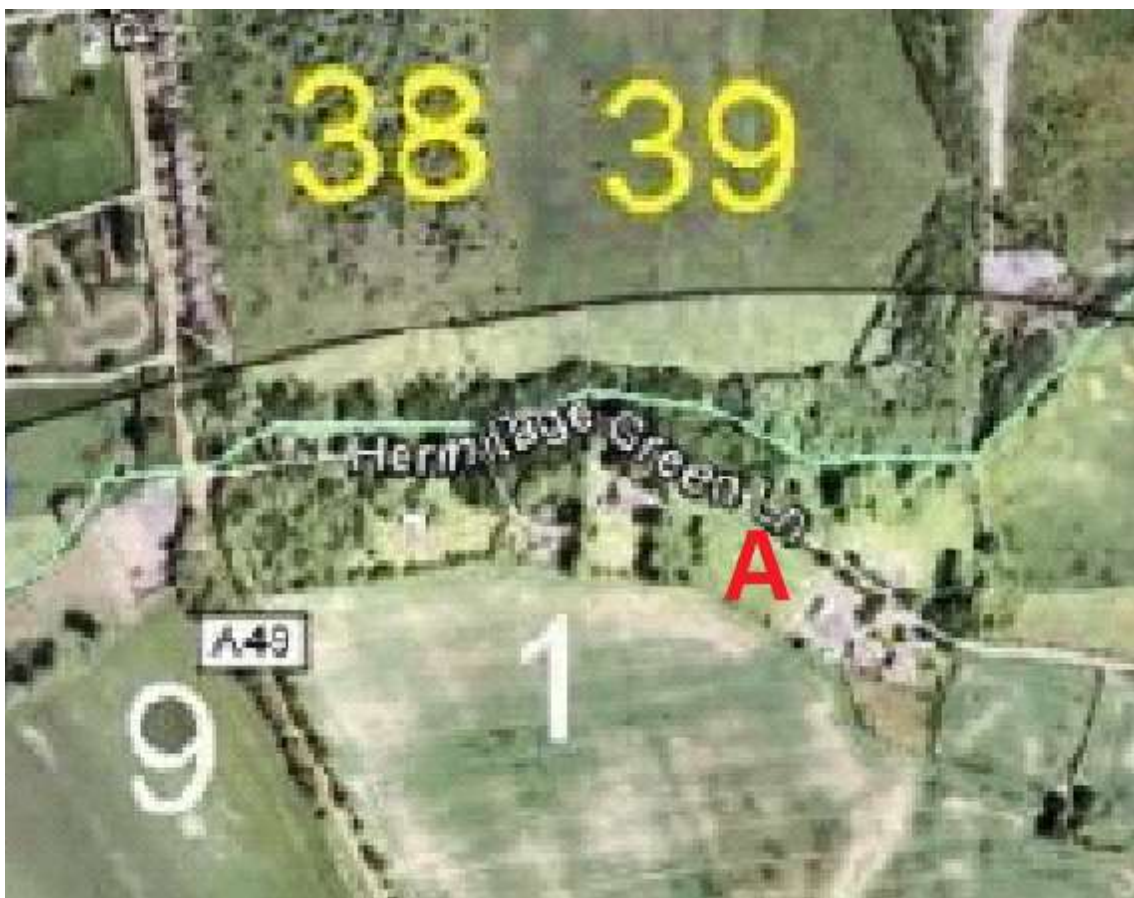


**Find Reference No 6**





These Musket Ball finds were found on the actual Battlefield as shown on an enlarged extract of the above picture shown as a red A



The above musket ball finds have been registered with the Find Office at the Museum of Liverpool and are recorded on the website <https://finds.org.uk> as follows:

**Submitted description**

- (2) musket ball
- (3) musket ball
- (4) ?impacted musket ball?
- (5) musket ball
- (6) musket ball

**Museum of Liverpool**

**PAS Recorded I.D.**

- LVPL-D2B554
- LVPL-D2E4F1
- LVPL-D2FD66
- LVPL-D2DAB2
- LVPL-D2EE64

**Unique ID:**

- LVPL-D2B554
- LVPL-D2E4F1
- LVPL-D2FD66
- LVPL-D2DAB2
- LVPL-D2EE64

**Find Reference**

- <https://finds.org.uk/database/artefacts/record/id/594052>
- <https://finds.org.uk/database/artefacts/record/id/594058>
- <https://finds.org.uk/database/artefacts/record/id/594064>
- <https://finds.org.uk/database/artefacts/record/id/594057>
- <https://finds.org.uk/database/artefacts/record/id/594062>



Also recorded finds in the Winwick area on the website <https://finds.org.uk> are:

**Unique ID:**

LVPL-7B9A54

LVPL-7B8782

LVPL- A49DF8

**Find Reference**

<https://finds.org.uk/database/artefacts/record/id/612702>

<https://finds.org.uk/database/artefacts/record/id/612699>

<https://finds.org.uk/database/artefacts/record/id/613341>

These three finds have been submitted and recorded by other people aware of the need to register finds

**Other finds under investigation currently being recorded**

The three Musket Ball finds were found in the same field location on the above map marked with a Red A



Museum of Liverpool Object Entry Receipt number 0469, date 21 October 2017

**GunMakers**

The book “For Commonwealth and Crown English Gunmakers of the seventeenth Century” by John S. Cooper, gives debenture/sale records of the type of Muskets (matchlock, snaphance), Dragon, Pistols sold or refurbished by the gunmakers to the various commanders.

The records shown: on 21 January 1645 Sir Thomas Fairfax was appointed General of the New Model Army ordered arms and equipment during 1645, for example 347 carbines were order between several gunmakers (page 23). These records give valuable information as to the weapons the armies used.

One interesting debenture (page 124) dated 27 November 1645, shows Fifty pairs of pistolls furnished with houlsters for ye horse regiment under the command of Colonell Thornhaugh at 23s per pair that amounteth to ye said sume of £57-10s.

Though Colonel Thornhaugh was killed on 17/18 August 1648 in pursuit of Middleton Scots Horse, Thornhaugh's Troops of Horse would have had these pistols or similar as shown in the debenture. This debenture gives a good clue as to the type of arms the Parliamentary Horse had during the Second Civil War and in particular musket balls found at Winwick Pass and especially to location found as to whether regiments of Horse or Foot. To give an interpretation in to the action at Winwick Pass in relation to the musket balls found shown above.

## **Conclusions**

The various finds from the various sources speak for themselves and the confirmation of the new finds from the Museum of Liverpool can only benefit the importance of the archaeology of the site of Winwick Pass. Where the known location of the finds can assist in the understanding of the location of the respective troops.

## **2. 'burials'**

Due to the number of persons killed in action at Winwick Pass between 1000+ Royalist and Parliamentary troops, the location of any burial is a mystery? Was it individual graves or mass burials in a specially prepared pit, the killed placed in the Winwick Pass valley (Hermitage Green Lane) and covered with soil from above or purely burned in mass funeral pyre(s) near to where they lay at or near to Winwick Pass. The evidence of recording is unknown apart from one person at Winwick Church.

If there were burned in mass funeral pyre then surely there would be fragmentary evidence of bones in these locations still around today in the fields in concentrated areas?

I have not heard of any collection evidence of this kind in relation to Winwick Pass or even if burning was legally allowed (apart from witches), but on the grounds of smell or rats maybe, only a field survey would confirm this, one way or the other.

If there had been bone fragments found recently, then the Local Coroner would have been informed and maybe recorded. Also if there were funeral pyres then the ground may show the scorched markings.

## **Evidence**

So what evidence is there near to where the Scottish and Parliamentarians fell at Winwick Pass 19<sup>th</sup> August 1648?

Two main areas at at Winwick Pass itself and at Winwick Village close to Winwick Church.

The prime source of a burial is recorded in Winwick Parish Register for 1648.

The other source can be found on [www.newton-le-willows.com](http://www.newton-le-willows.com) website: Topic; Battle of Winwick Pass/Red Bank (89 separate posts as at 04 May 2013) and Topic; battle of winwick pass bodies? (13 posts as at 04 May 2013).

The various sources to give clues as to plausible burial site follows:

## Source 1

The burial recorded in Winwick Parish Register for 1648 for Major John Chumley shouldier buried 5<sup>th</sup> September 1648 as recorded in the Winwick Parish Register Copy held at Warrington Museum

134	WINWICK PARISH REGISTER	1648-1649
May 12	Jane Addamson de Newton	
.. 15	Jhony Rolinson de Newton	
.. 27	Jane Parre de Crolene	
.. 29	Richard Crachley de Burtonwood	
June 4	ux. Richard Corleyes de Abreham	
.. 5	Raiph Johnson de Arbury	
.. 5	Elizebeth ux. Robert Broune de Loton	
.. 8	Anne ux. de Henery Marsh de Win :	
.. 9	ux. John Peeters de Goulbrun	
.. 10	Roger s. Raiph Lowe de Ashton	
.. 23	Ellin Parcinson de Loton	
Aug. 24	John Charnley de Newton	[21]
.. 28	Ginnet Hilton de Berielene	
.. 28	Mery d. Thomas Lyon de Goulbr :	
.. 31	Gefferie s. Tho: Baxter de Loton	
Sep. 3	William s. William Dason de Houghton	
.. 5	Major John Chumley shouldiar	
.. 11	John s. Thomas Lyon de Goulb :	
.. 13	Margret d. Anne Wyld de Congleton [?]	
.. 18	Caterin w. Joh: Foster de Winwick	
.. 19	Mary w. Tho: Couper de Croft	
.. 20	ux. Tho: Hay[?] de Ashton	
.. 24	John Spakman de Kenion	
Oct. 7	a child of Jams Bradshaw de Houghton	
.. 13	ux. John Berchshall de Ashton	
.. 16	Ellin Dannow de Haddock	
.. 27	Henery Morris de Kenion	
Nov. 2	Thomas Flitcroft of Kenion	
.. 13	James s. Richard Leigh de Loton	
.. 13	Elizebeth w. Henery Garrat de Newton	
.. 16	Thomas s. Tho: Twiss of Loton	
Dec. 15	Ann ux. Hamlet Talyor de Fernhed	
.. 20	Thomas s. John Mascie de Risley	
.. 28	Gilbert Dason de Houghton	
.. 29	Robert Knowles de Ashton	
Jan. 9	a child of Harie[?] Cawdoe de Houghton stilborne	[22]
.. 22	Mary Dorning de Risleye	
.. 22	Ellin Bate de Croft	
Feb. 1	Alexander s. Christopher Leigh from Stonley & Anne his wife	
.. 23	Ciseley w. Tho: Stirup de Newton	

## 1649

Mar. 25	Ligiet d. William Marsh de New:
.. 17	Margret Byram de Lot:

The burial of Major John Chumley shouldier is recorded in "A Discourse of the Warr in Lancashire" By Major Edward Robinson 1655, Edited by William Beamont. 1864 Pages 66, 67, 68, 145 and 146 referring to Notes 122, 123 and 124



It was observed  
yt in this pursuit  
that too Scots  
entering into a  
pore man's house  
took his Kettle  
to make them  
poorish in Crom-  
well's Army  
following them  
so hastily that  
they would not  
leave the Kettle  
but caried it  
betwixt them  
till both were  
slaine.

The Scots  
plunder within  
when their  
fealowes are  
killed without.

A great  
Slaughter made  
of the Scottish  
Army near  
Winwick.

Taken of the  
Scots in this  
Expedition  
1 General 1 Lord  
7 Colonells  
7 Lieutenant  
Colonells  
11 Majors  
31 Captaines  
41 Lieutenants  
21 Cornets  
20 Quartermas-  
ters 34 Corporals  
5 Trumpeters  
3000 common  
Souldiers, the  
Duke's Servants  
65. The Lord  
Bergem's  
Servants 7.  
Generall Crom-  
well fell upon the  
Scottish Army in  
the Flanke  
thereof.

returned to Preston and there quartered giving Order to our Lan-  
cashire forces there to abide. And when morning was come w<sup>th</sup>  
his Armie he followed the Duke who fled before him, Yet at some  
places made some stands as if they would fight it out, as upon  
Chorley More and Standish More; but did not stand to it. The  
Scots was said to be greedie of Plundering though they were fly-  
ing, for some of them were plundering the houses where Crom-  
well's men were killing some of their fellows without the doors.  
The greatest stand they made was between Newton and Winwick,  
in a strait passage in that Lane that they made very stronge and  
forcible, soe that Cromwell's men could not fight them. But by  
the information of the People thereabouts and by their direction  
they were soe guided into the fieldes that they came about so that  
they drove them up to that litle Greene place of ground short of  
Winwick Church and there they made a great slaughter of them  
and then pursued them to Warrington, there taking the most if  
not all of their Foot. The Duke with all the Horse being fled and  
gone for at one tyme was brought to the Generall 22 Coullers.  
The Duke was taken afterwards at Vttoxeter in . . . . by the Lord  
Grey and Collonel Wayte and with him 3000 Horse and Lieu-  
tenant Generall Baillie. There was slaine of the Scots 3000 and  
there was taken prisoners 9000.<sup>122</sup>

Providence soe ordered it that Generall Cromwell fell upon the  
Scottish Army in the very flank thereof, for (as was said before)  
the Duke, with the Infantrie traine of Artillery and Cariages, came  
all to Preston at once, with Langden's forces, and vpon these it  
was that the Generall fell and defeated them. Now the great  
bodie of the Duke's Cavalrie and Horse was a daies march behind  
him, and coming up when the Battell was at hand, the Generall  
when he had well beaten them vp gave Orders that a strong bodie  
of his Horse should fall down to the lower side of Fulwood More  
neare the way betwixt Garstang and Preston, to hindre, if possible  
the Reare of the Duke's Army for comming vp: vpon the sight of  
those Horse and hearing of the Musketts and Defeat given to the  
Duke his Reare durst not come out. Great numbers of them

turned not back by the same way.<sup>123</sup> They came but tooke other waies and fled downward into the Fyld Country and in great feare, as was thought, parted themselves into sundry roads or waies. For more expedition some took up a way by the Lund Chapell through Treales and up to Eswicke and soe homeward. Others of them went through Kirkham and were going through it all that night and soe to Thistleton whether over Wyre Watter or by St Michael's was not certain. In Kirkham they were hard in their March to be very dolefull and it was thought they carried some dead men with them yet, the night being dark, could not well be discerned. The Duke's Artillery and Cariages were all taken standing uppon Walton Coppe. What number there was of them I never hard.

The Duke's Reare durst not come out but turned by waies.

The Scots flee divers waies.

Within three daies after that Generall Cromwell had leaft Preston to pursue the Duke there came up to Preston to folow him a Regiment of Northern men out of the Bishopricke of Durham carying all Black Cullers: But were Ordered not to folowe the Generall any further, but to quarter in the cuntry until further order from him. Their quarters were assigned to be in Kirkham towne and every towne in the prish were assessed what they should pay them in money or victuall after the Rates expressed in their Order. These were the most theevish Companies that ever the Country was pestered with during the Warr. Notwithstanding they had extraordinary allowance out of the Parish soe that at the least they had 100<sup>li</sup> for three daies quarter, yet they went most of the Parish over plundering and stealing whatever they could conveniently carry away, and was going over the Parish for another Assessment and would have forced it, but that it pleased God unexpectedly and upon a soodon to call them away. ffor the Generall having pursued the Duke's Army as far as Warrington and wholly dissipated it, he returned back againe about the midle of the week, his purpose being to march againe into Yorkshire. He therefore sent Order to all his forces that with all haste they should follow him being then gone to the Stonyhurst where he quartered the first night he came into the County. Soe that very night

A Thievish Regiment of Black Cullers are quartered in Kirkham.

Cromwell returns north from pursuing the Duke.



when it was late the parish was freed of them and of a great many Troopes more who had not taken up their Quarters in it aboue twoo hours before they were called of, their Suppers being providing, which they could not stay to take.

Scots plunder  
sore as they  
march through  
the County.

The Cariag of Duke Hamilton's Army in their march was very evill, for they plundered extreamly, yea abundance of suttly vacabound women that folowed the Duke's camp vexed the pore eountry sore; yet in their Retreat without Doubt it was well paid home into their Bosomes many getting by them, though against their wills. The better sort of them were well stored with money and when they saw themselves defeated and that there was noe way for them to escape but to be taken prisoners, some hide their money in the feildes about Preston and have, since the times were more quiet, come and found their owne money and enoyed it. And it was thought that Preston and the townes about it lost not, but gained much by their flight. Many were taken prisoners by the Country and more by the Souldierie. And thus that great Army supposed to consist of 2200 strong<sup>124</sup> was brought to nothing through God's blessing and assistance with 9000, for Cromwell's Armie was not above that when at the most. No doubt it was the just hand of God against them for most of them had been in the Parliament Service at Yorke and elsewhere and Received pay for it, but now perfidiously had altered their Course to advantage themselves upon the Ruin of this Nation. Whereas they have bought it full deare and at a great Rate sins. That missery they would haue brought vpon vs is fallen vpon themselves.

Duke Hamilton  
Army 2200.  
Cromwell Armie  
9000.

Generall Cromwell's speedie Retreat out of the Shire was that he might march into Scotland to help the more honest ptie there who were overpowered by the malignants. And this Expedition of Duke Hamilton against the Nation was carried on and set forward contrary to their minds. But Cromwell set them in power and leaft them in a good posture. Thus this Nation and this Shire was freed of this much feared evill. Though this was not any of the Lancashire Warrs yet was it acted in this County and



NOTE 117. An account of Major Edward Robinson, the supposed author of the *Derby MS.*, will be found in the Introduction.

NOTE 118. This is alluded to in the account of Major Robinson, given in the introduction.

NOTE 119. Mrs. Stanley of Eccleston.

NOTE 120. Gillibrand House in Parbold. See the *Map of Lancashire.*

NOTE 121. Not Mr. Paul, but Mr. "Paul" Moreau is here meant.

NOTE 122. This battle is described in Cromwell's letter published by Mr. Baines (*H. Lancashire*, ii. 47), and other particulars of it may be seen in Burton's *Civil Wars*, Bankes's *Cromwell*, Godwin's *Commonwealth*, and Clarendon's *H. Rebellion*. Other notices of it of a more local nature are also met with: thus, in the Warrington register we have this memorandum: "Lieutenant Generall Cromwill's forces did route duke Hambilton's armie and Sir Marmaduke Langdal's force upon the 16, 17, 18, and 19 of August in the year 1648." And in the Winwick register we read thus: "1648 Sept. 3. Buried Major John Chumley shouldier;" which last may possibly explain this entry in Heath's *Chronicle* (323): "The Scots at Red bank fight (in Winwick) were commanded by a little spark in a blue bonnet who performed the part of an excellent commander and was killed on the spot." But of all the local notices the following letter, written by Cromwell from Warrington, and of which a *fac simile* is in the Warrington Museum, is the most remarkable:

The Hon<sup>ble</sup> the Committee at Yorke.

We have quite tyred our horses in pursuit of the enemy. We have kil'd, taken, and dispers'd all their foot, and left them only some horse, with whom the Duke is fled into Dallam's forest, having neither foot nor dragoones. They have taken 500 of them, I mean the country forces, as they send me word, this daye, they are so tyred and in such confusion that if my horse could but trot after them, I could take them all; but we are soe weary we can scarce be able to doe more than walk after them. I beseech you therefore lett Sir Hen. Cholmdley, Sir Edwd. Roades, Coll. Hatcher, and Coll. Whyte, and all the cuntries about you be sent too to ryse with you and

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follow them for they are the miserablest ptye that ever was: I durst engage myself with 500 fresh horse, and 500 nimble foot, to destroy them all: my horse are miserably beaten out, and I have 10,000 of them prisoners. Wee have kil'd wee know not what, but a very great number, having done execution upon them above 30 myles together, besides what wee kil'd in the two great feights, the one at Preston, the other at Warrington. The enimic was 24,000 horse, and foot, in the days of the feight, whereof 18,000 foot, and 6000 horse, and our number about 6000 foot, and 3000 horse, att the uttermost. This is a glorious daye, God helpe England to answer his mercies. I have noe more, but beseech you in all your p'tes to gather into bodies, and to pursew. I rest, yr most humble servant

O. CROMWELL.

Warrington, this 20<sup>th</sup> August 1648.

The greatest parte by far of the nobilitie of Scotland are with Duke Hambleton.

The titles of the regiments and the number of the prisoners taken at Warrington are thus given in the *Parliamentary History of England* (vol. xx.):

The Duke of Hamilton's, Lieutenant-General Bailey's, Colonel Esther's, Colonel Mackenzie's, Lord Dumfries's, the General of the artillery's, Colonel Frazier's, Sir John Gray's, Lord Tullibardine's, Lord Hume's, Colonel Henry Maule's, Lord Carnegie's, Lord Hay's, Lord Keith's, the Marquis of Argyle's, Lord Roxborough's, and Lord Athol's. The prisoners taken consisted of Lieutenant-General Bailey, 5 colonels, 8 majors, 20 captains, 48 lieutenants, 78 ensigns, 3 quarter-masters, 128 sergeants, and 2,256 private men.

If we are to take as true the statement made in the preface to the *Moore Rental* (viii. xxix. and xxxix.) the fate of these prisoners was very hard. Thousands of them it is said were sent as slaves to Virginia and Barbadoes, and some even to the galleys in Venice.

NOTE 123. The Winwick register records the fate of some men who were either amongst those who thus retired into Scotland or went there at a later period to join in the king's advance to Worcester:

March 1650. Henry Beach dyed the second of this month at Hambleton in Scotland. James Barton dyed the 16<sup>th</sup> of this month and was buried at Hambleton in Scotland.

NOTE 124. The true numbers of both armies are given in Cromwell's letter, *note 122 ante*.

NOTE 125. It has been generally supposed that Lord Derby entered the Wyre water on the 16th August, but it will be seen in a subse-



## Source 2

From the following website

<http://fyldeantiquarian.freeforums.org/casualties-battle-of-preston-1648-t554.html>

where it suggest the following:

*Question:*

*According to Cromwell (whose army had only 100 casualties):-  
"Cromwell estimated the Royalist losses at 2,000 killed and 9,000 captured"  
Anyone any idea what might have happened to the prisoners or where the dead were interred?*

*Answer:*

*I understood that the final rout of the Royalists took place just outside Warrington. Cromwells' army pursued them south down what is now the A49 and several thousand took refuge in St Oswald's Church at Winwick where the survivors eventually surrendered. Opposite the church at Winwick was later the site of a mental hospital built in the 19 C and there were stories of human and horse bones, canon & musket balls and other weapons being discovered when the hospital was being built. It's now a modern housing development. The M6 Warrington North slip road emerges onto the A49 at this location.*

*Answer:*

*St Oswald's web site only mentions that Cromwell's forces used the church causing much damage but also refers to the Battle of Red Bank which when googled leads to the Battle of Winwick Pass. From this account it appears that there was a series of engagements along the route and presumably casualties at each. At Winwick 1000 were killed and 2000 taken prisoner; another force of about 2,700 surrendered at Warrington and the last remnants (3000) at Uttoxeter. Many died of disease, ill treatment and some were shipped off to the West Indies as slaves. Full article: <http://newton-le-willows.com>*





This is the picture of Winwick hospital taken in the 1970s (owned by R. Ward). If the skirmish took place close to Winwick Church where after the commander in a little blue bonnet described in Cromwell's letters fought and died. Then the remaining Scottish ran into the Church and subsequently made prisoners. Then the most likely place for the burials of those killed at Winwick church would be opposite Winwick Church in the Hospital grounds along the A49 road in the trees near to the "Isolation Hospital" - the TB and Smallpox Wards. This building is clearly shown as a separate building opposite the Church. The burial site could be in the line of trees along the A49.

### **Source 3**

This is from newton-le-willows.com website where a thread was recently created titled "battle of winwick pass bodies" web address:

<http://www.newton-le-willows.com/history/viewtopic.php?f=1&t=2184>

This again like all these thread have very useful information. The circle of trees is an interesting viewpoint to consider along with the use of a quarry and scraping the above soil to cover the fallen. One point worth mention with regard to using the soil from above. If the burials were in and around the site of conflict say along Hermitage Green Lane as the fighting and killed in action would be:

1. Long range musket and cannon fire on both sides (in the respective fields) of the Hermitage Green Lane valley.
2. Parliamentary person shot (musket or cannon) actually in the valley attempting breach the Scottish defences.
3. Parliamentary person killed by Pike actually in the valley attempting breach the Scottish defences.
4. The main killed in action would be when the Parliamentary horse came round killing many Scottish on the fields on the South side of Hermitage Green Lane.
5. Then when Prides Regiment pushed forward in the centre and towards the west side of Mill Lane (A49) below Cop Holt Farm.

So what evidence of burials with these clues in mind?

Looking at the old quarry on the south side of Hermitage Green Lane next to Penwortham and Hermitage Green Lodge, clues could possibly indicate that this area was used as the burial site.

### **Pictures taken from Hermitage Green Lodge boundary above the quarry.**

**By R. Ward May 2013.**

These pictures of the old quarry highlight several curious mounds and raised levels which could be indicative of "burials" covered by soil. Possibly worthy of a scan to see if any fragments remain of any burials?



Possible indication of a circle of trees in the old quarry.





Back part of the quarry raises by about a metre. Possible circle of Trees. (The house in the background is 'Penwortham'.)





A clear indication of one side of a mound





two mounds visible







