**Camp 16** **- Prees Heath, Whitchurch, Shropshire**

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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 |
| SU\* 55 37 | 126 | 16 | Prees Heath, Whitchurch | Shropshire | 4 |  | Capacity 2,000 men, closed 4th Oct 1941 |

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| **Location:** (\*SU incorrect)SJ 55 37 (probably nearer the airfield to the west).**Previous use:** Large army camp in the area from 1915.Early in WW2 the site was used as an internment camp mainly for Austrian and Germans. Conditions were reported to be ‘*primitive*’ with tented accommodation, including the camp hospital. (Raised in House of Commons, 22 August 1940, Vol 364). The internment camp closed October/November 1940.**POW Camp:** Not certain if pow camp opened late 1940 or early 1941. Tented accommodation for Italian pows.Used for a short time as one of 2 transit camps for the first bulk arrival of Italian pows from Africa in Autumn 1941. (Lodge Moor Camp 17 being the other).Closed 4 October 1941 for the construction of an airfield.**After the camp:** RAF airfield Whitchurch Heath, later called Tilstock, for bomber training.The site as it is now - <https://repatriatedlandscape.org/england/pow-sites-in-the-west-midlands/pow-camp-16-press-heath/> |  |
| **Ordnance Survey 1954** |