

West Lancashire Area

Regular Depots in the Area

The South Lancashire Regiment (The Prince of Wales's Volunteers)	– Warrington
The King's Regiment (Liverpool)	– Seaforth, Liverpool
The Cheshire Regiment	– Chester
The South Staffordshire Regiment	– Lichfield
The North Staffordshire Regiment (The Prince of Wales's)	– Lichfield

Regular Troops in the Area

Militia in the Area

12 th Anti-Aircraft Depot	– Saughton
18 th Searchlight Depot	– Saughton

Territorial Army Troops in the Area

6th Cavalry Brigade (1)

The Cheshire Yeomanry (The Earl of Chester's)
The Staffordshire Yeomanry (Queen's Own Royal Regiment)

23rd Army Tank Brigade (2)

40th Royal Tank Regiment
46th Royal Tank Regiment

Other Unbrigaded Units

4th Bn. The Cheshire Regiment (3)
5th (Earl of Chester's) Bn. The Cheshire Regiment (4)
6th Bn. The Cheshire Regiment (5)
7th Bn. The Cheshire Regiment (6)

106th Regiment (Lancashire Yeomanry), Royal Horse Artillery (7)
(H.Q., 423rd (Lancashire Yeomanry) & 424th (Lancashire Yeomanry) Batteries, Royal Horse Artillery)

149th Regiment (Lancashire Yeomanry), Royal Horse Artillery (8)
(H.Q., 432nd & 433rd Batteries, Royal Horse Artillery)

- 88th (2nd West Lancashire) Field Regiment, Royal Artillery (9)
(H.Q., 351st (11th West Lancashire) & 352nd (26th West Lancashire) Field Batteries, Royal Artillery)
- 137th Field Regiment, Royal Artillery (10)
(H.Q., 349th (9th West Lancashire) & 350th (10th West Lancashire) Field Batteries, Royal Artillery)
- 51st (Midland) Medium Regiment, Royal Artillery (11)
(H.Q., 215th (Staffordshire) & 240th (Shropshire Horse Artillery) Medium Batteries, Royal Artillery)
- 59th (4th West Lancashire) Medium Regiment, Royal Artillery (12)
(H.Q., 235th (West Lancashire) & 236th (West Lancashire) Medium Batteries, Royal Artillery)
- 63rd Medium Regiment, Royal Artillery (13)
(H.Q., 214th (2nd West Riding) & 216th (Staffordshire) Medium Batteries, Royal Artillery)
- 68th Medium Regiment, Royal Artillery (14)
(H.Q., 233rd (West Lancashire) & 234th (West Lancashire) Medium Batteries, Royal Artillery)
- Headquarters, Mobile Division Engineers, Royal Engineers (15)
- 2nd (Cheshire) Field Squadron, Royal Engineers (16)
- 3rd (Cheshire) Field Squadron, Royal Engineers (17)
- 141st Field Park Troop, Royal Engineers (18)
- 142nd Field Park Troop, Royal Engineers (18)
- 213th (North Midland) Field Company, Royal Engineers (19)
- 214th (North Midland) Field Company, Royal Engineers (20)
- 252nd (West Lancashire) Field Company, Royal Engineers (21)
- 253rd (West Lancashire) Field Company, Royal Engineers (22)
- 254th (West Lancashire) Field Park Company, Royal Engineers (23)
- 290th Field Company, Royal Engineers (24)
- 291st Field Company, Royal Engineers (25)
- 292nd Field Company, Royal Engineers (26)
- 293rd Field Park Company, Royal Engineers (27)

NOTES:

1. This brigade was a Territorial Army formation with its headquarters based at The Magazine, 19, Magazine Square, Leicester. Both the county yeomanry regiments were based at their respective county towns, namely Chester and Stafford. The third regiment in the brigade was the Warwickshire Yeomanry (see South Midland Area). The brigade mobilized at the outbreak of war, joining the 1st Cavalry Division when it was formed on 31 October 1939. The brigade left the United Kingdom on 18 December 1939 to travel across France to Marseilles, where it embarked for Palestine. It arrived on 9 January 1940. The brigade served in Palestine until 31 July 1941 when it was redesignated as the 8th Armoured Brigade and reorganised. The Cheshire Yeomanry became a Signals Unit, with the Staffordshire Yeomanry converted to armour.
2. This brigade comprised two Territorial units of the Royal Tank Regiment. The brigade headquarters was based at the Drill Hall, Score Lane, Liverpool. The 40th R.T.R. was formed by the conversion in November 1938 of the 7th Bn. The King's Regiment (Liverpool). This regiment was based in the City of Liverpool and in Bootle. The 46th R.T.R. was formed by the conversion on the same date of the Liverpool Welsh. This regiment was also based in Liverpool.
3. A first-line Territorial Army battalion, based at Chester. Pre-war, it was titled the 4th/5th Battalion, but it duplicated in April 1939 to again form two separate battalions. The Battalion was deployed to France in 1940, where it was allocated to the 44th (South Midland) Infantry Division. It later joined the 1st Infantry Division and then the 61st Infantry Division in the U.K.
4. The unit was a second-line Territorial Army battalion, based in Knutsford, Cheshire, formed in 1939 by the duplication of the 4th/5th Battalion.
5. This was a second-line battalion, formed by the duplication of the 7th Battalion. It was based in Stockport. The battalion remained in the U.K. joining the 56th (London) Infantry Division on 12 January 1943. It then served with that Division throughout the rest of the war.
6. This battalion was based at Macclesfield and was the second pre-war Territorial Army battalion of the regiment. It was allocated to the 42nd Infantry Division in France in 1940.
7. This regiment was based at 76, Shaw Street, Liverpool. It was formed in November 1938 by the conversion of the Lancashire Yeomanry. The regiment came under the command of the 1st Cavalry Division in November 1939 and served with the division in Palestine. In August 1940, it came under the command of British Troops Egypt. In March 1941, it was converted into a light anti-aircraft regiment, and in the following month it was sent to Greece. Following evacuation at the end of April 1941, the regiment returned to Egypt, being placed in suspended animation in July 1941.
8. In May 1939, the 106th Regiment formed a duplicate regiment, the 149th Regiment. The regiment and all three batteries were based at Hoylake. It remained under the command of Home Forces until June 1940, when it was redesignated as the 149th Field Regiment, Royal Artillery. The regiment left the United Kingdom in February 1941, transferring to Egypt. In July 1941, the regiment was again redesignated, this time as the 149th Anti-Tank Regiment. By this time, the regiment was entitled as (Lancashire Yeomanry). It then came under the command of the 5th Indian Infantry Division in July 1942, transferring to the 4th Indian Infantry Division in September 1942. It remained with this division until the end of the war.
9. This regiment was formed in 1916 as the 2nd West Lancashire Brigade, R.F.A.. The Headquarters and 352nd Batteries were based in Preston, with the 351st Field Battery being based in Blackpool. The regiment was deployed in France in 1940 under the command of II Corps. In September 1941, it was sent to the Far East, landing in Malaya in November 1941. The regiment was captured with the fall of Singapore on 15 February 1942.

10. Formed as the duplicate of the 88th Field Regiment, this regiment was to suffer a similar fate to its parent regiment. Formed in June 1939, initially it came under the command of Home Forces. It was also sent to Malaya, arriving in November 1941. It too was captured with the fall of Singapore on 15 February 1942.
11. In October 1932, the 51st Medium Regiment was formed. The 215th Battery was based at Stoke on Trent, and the 240th Battery at Shrewsbury. The regiment was sent to France as part of the B.E.F., being evacuated from Le Havre with Ark Force. It left the U.K. in September 1942 to move to the Middle East. It served in Italy before transferring to North West Europe in February 1945.
12. This regiment was formed as the 4th West Lancashire Medium Brigade. The Headquarters and both batteries were based in Liverpool. The regiment was sent to France in October 1939 as part of the British Expeditionary Force. Following evacuation, it remained in the U.K. until June 1944 when it landed back in France under command of the 3rd Army Group Royal Artillery, with which it fought throughout the campaign in North West Europe.
13. In 1939, the 51st Medium Regiment formed a duplicate regiment, entitled the 63rd Medium Regiment. The Headquarters of the regiment was based in Stoke on Trent, where the 216th Battery was also located. The 214th Battery was based in Huddersfield. The regiment was sent to France in October 1939, joining G.H.Q. Troops. After the fall of France, the regiment served in the U.K. until joining the 8th Army Group Royal Artillery in North West Europe in June 1944.
14. Formed in 1939 as a duplicate of the 59th Medium Regiment, this regiment was also based in Liverpool as were both batteries. The regiment was sent to the Middle East in November 1940, fighting in The Sudan, Egypt and Libya. It was captured in September 1942 but reformed in the U.K. in February 1943, later serving in North West Europe as part of the 4th Army Group Royal Artillery.
15. The Headquarters Mobile Division Engineers was based in Liverpool. The unit was designated to join the 1st Cavalry Division when it was formed in October 1939. It is presumed it served in Palestine with the division.
16. This field squadron was based in Birkenhead. It joined the 1st Cavalry Division when it was formed.
17. This field squadron was based in Wallasey and also designated to be part of the 1st Cavalry Division.
18. These two field troops were second line units formed in 1939, both being based in Liverpool.
19. This field company was originally part of the 46th (North Midland) Infantry Division, which was disbanded in 1936. It was based at Cannock in Staffordshire. The Company was sent to France with the B.E.F. and later came under command of the 51st (Highland) Infantry Division. It is believed the company was evacuated from Le Havre and was not captured with the bulk of the division at St. Valery.
20. Another Territorial Army company, which had been part of the 46th (North Midland) Infantry Division until it was disbanded. This company was based in Tunstall, Stoke on Trent. It was deployed to France where it came under command of III Corps.
21. Based in St. Helens, this field company had been part of the 55th (West Lancashire) Infantry Division. In October 1939, it joined the 3rd Infantry Division in France, serving with that formation for the rest of the war.
22. Also based in St. Helens, this unit was also part of the 55th Infantry Division. It came under command of the 5th Infantry Division in France in October 1939, remaining with that division for the rest of the war.
23. The field park company was based in Liverpool, and again had been part of the 55th Infantry Division. It also came under command of the 5th Infantry Division in 1939.

24. This was a second-line Territorial Army company, formed in 1939 as a duplicate of the 212th Field Company and was based in Rowley Regis, Staffordshire.
25. This field company was based in Walsall, and again was formed in 1939. It was a duplicate of the 213th Field Company
26. Another second-line field company formed in 1939, this unit was based in the Potteries, in the towns which now form Stoke on Trent. It was formed as a duplicate of the 214th Field Company.
27. The field park company was based in Stafford.

SOURCES:**Orders of Battle Second World War 1939-1945**

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