

**Justification for classification of St Mary's Lands as a Centenary  
Park. Application to Fields in Trust charity  
Centenary First World War cessation.**

1. **Military and Recruitment.** Llamas Lands, parts of St Marys Lands (SML) (*ref o*) was purchased by the Chamberlains of St Marys Common and an area off Wedgenock Lane was used by the Earl of Warwick to train soldiers. (*ref i*) The Third Royal Warwickshire Regiment included a military band. The regiment camped on the land and the band played public performances on SML to aid the recruitment of soldiers. (*ref a*).  
Military Training on Warwick Common. (*ref b*) Image (*ref k*) (*ref e*)
2. **Food Rationing.** There were grazing rights for Warwickians prior to the 1948 Act of Parliament. During the Great War the lands were used extensively for food production to sustain the community. This included hay crop for grazing beasts, catching rabbits, for the rare commodity, meat, collecting blackberries to manufacture jam as well as edible cereal and root crops. (*ref i*)
3. **Transport.** Supplies and commandeered horses were gathered in Warwick Castle Park, the SML Common, as well as Margetts sale yard. The horses were valuable for transportation of military equipment over rough ground. The Royal Warwickshire Regiment used SML paths to walk from the Barracks at Budbrooke to Warwick town. Military training camps were frequently held and located on SML. The canal was used to transport goods into and out of the town. The canal junction at Warwick was important to the war effort. (*ref h*)
4. **Entertainment.** The SML hosted the Bronco Bill's Wild West Exhibition in March 1914. Army Pay Corps sports and races were held in August 1917. Warwick and Leamington Garrison sports days were held on SML in September 1917. (*ref b*) (*ref c*) (*ref d*) (*ref i*)
5. **Casualties.** Budbrooke Barracks was used as a recovery hospital but Hill House, (*ref m*) was used as a Red Cross hospital. (*ref n*) In 1915 there were 21 patients recorded. By 1917 there was an annex "open air" wards to accommodate the demand. The Hill house facility, supported the Great War by accommodating 1,717 patients. This in itself is a huge contribution and supports the request for the application. (*ref f*) (*ref g*)

## Bibliography and References.

### Books

*The History of the Royal Warwickshire Regiment* by Mark Smith.

*Warwick in the Great War* by Graham Sutherland. Acknowledge: image k

*Home Front 1914-1918: How Britain survived the Great War* by Ian Beckett.

*I think I have done my bit* by Mark C Smith ISBN: 9780244909017 (ref m).

- a) *Warwick & Warwickshire Advertiser* Saturday April 11<sup>th</sup>, 1914.
- b) *Warwick & Warwickshire Advertiser* Saturday May 23<sup>rd</sup>, 1914.
- c) *Warwick & Warwickshire Advertiser* Saturday July 21<sup>st</sup>, 1917.
- d) *Warwick & Warwickshire Advertiser* Saturday September 15<sup>th</sup>, 1917.
- e) *Coventry Telegraph* May 27<sup>th</sup> 1914.
- f) *Leamington Spa Courier* Friday September 18<sup>th</sup> 1914
- g) *Warwick & Warwickshire Advertiser* Saturday Dec 4<sup>th</sup>, 1915.
- h) *Warwick & Warwickshire Advertiser* Saturday July 12<sup>th</sup> 1919.
- i) <http://visitwarwick.co.uk/parkgarden/warwick-common/>
- j) [http:// British-history.ac.uk](http://British-history.ac.uk)
- k) image <https://goo.gl/images/MakzZn>
- l)



- m)
- n) Red Cross List of Auxiliary Hospitals in UK during the First World War. Page 29 of 54.
- o) Defined in Warwick District Council Act 1984. Preliminary Part 1 Page 3.