

## A Little History Part 2 - World War 11



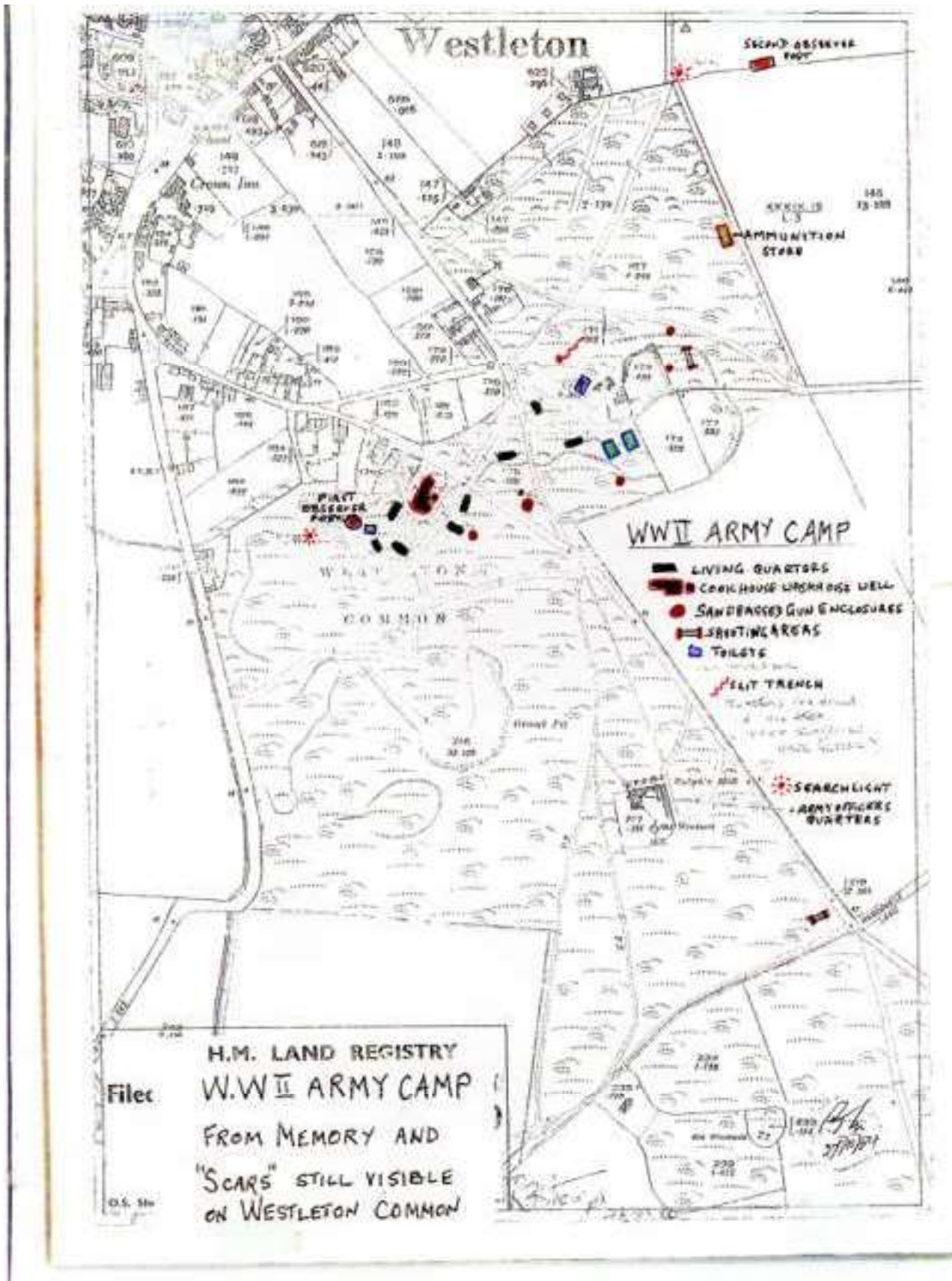
A wartime warning sign on the Common  
(*Sign Loaned by Ronnie Strowger*)

During World War II, the Common was used as a camp by the Army. Signs of their occupation can still be seen near The Pheasantry and The Cleeves. There were no trees then on these areas, the rabbits kept all seedlings down. Concrete and brick bases for army huts and remains of boots can still be found. The sealed top of the well they dug is just visible beside the present-day tools container. They had a search light on the Noddle, observer posts, various target practice ranges, gun enclosures and trenches. Local children found a great many bullets and other artefacts to play with, sometimes with tragic consequences. Ammunition was stored at the edge of the northern boundary of the Common. The Officers were quartered in the Mill House, and all around the village.



Nissen Hut, 1955, near Cleeves' Railway Carriage. *Alf Fisk*  
(The crane is trench digging, possibly for taking a water supply further into the pit.)

World War 11 Army Camp on Westleton Common



*Alison Paul and Frances Berry, with the help of Ronnie Strowger, Morgan Caines, Barbara Caines, Jill Houghton, Frank Rouse, Jean Rouse, Penny Rous and Ann Follows (Alf Fisk's photographs are reproduced courtesy of Cana Turner)*