

P.R. Newman, *Atlas of the English Civil War* (London, 1985) is a useful guide to military events, including a concise statement of Newman's reinterpretation of the Battle of Marston Moor. *Royal Commission on Historical Monuments, Newark on Trent; The Civil War Siegeworks* (London, 1964) is a superb account, giving a wealth of detail impossible to reproduce here, and remains essential reading for dedicated explorers.

Despite the research and preparation, a volume of this kind is bound to contain errors and to omit much which, on reflection, is worthy of inclusion. With the possibility of a revised edition in mind, we would be very grateful for having errors and omissions pointed out in as much detail as possible. These should be addressed to the publishers at 30, Brunswick Road, Gloucester GL1 1JJ.

ENGLAND

AVON

Secured for Parliament at the outbreak of war, Avon passed under Royalist control during the summer and autumn of 1643 and remained in the King's hands for two years. The siege and capture of Bristol in September 1645 effectively ended the Royalist cause in Avon. Cromwell was present throughout this operation, the only recorded occasion on which he was involved in military action within the area covered by the modern county.

Bath (ST7564) Initially held by Parliament, Bath served as a base for Waller in late June 1643 and it was in its defence that he marched out to meet Hopton at Lansdown on 5 July. Following his dismal showing there, Waller evacuated the town and Bath fell under Royalist control. Thus it remained for two years until, on 30 July 1645, Col. Okey launched an early morning raid on Bath, surprising and expelling the small garrison.

In the south transept of Bath Abbey is a monument to Waller's first wife (d1633) with reclining figures of Waller and his late wife. The Parliamentary General was not buried here, but lies in an unmarked grave in London.

Bristol (ST5872) In the seventeenth century Bristol was the second city of England, a rich trading centre and the main west coast port. In consequence, control of the town became one of the chief objectives of both armies. The large and sprawling town was defended by two lines of fortifications. A long circuit of dry ditches, stone walls or earth banks with five interval forts and numerous gates surrounded the suburbs north of the Avon and Redcliffe in the south-east. The inner city was protected by the rivers Frome and Avon on all sides except the north-east, where a huge medieval castle blocked the headland between the meandering rivers. The fortifications appeared very strong, but their great length – the outer circuit was over three miles long – meant that huge numbers of troops were needed to hold them. It was the fate of two governors to have insufficient men to defend Bristol and to be severely criticised for its fall.

Bristol was held by Parliament at the outbreak of war, but on 23 July 1643 Rupert arrived before the town with up to 20,000 men; to defend the town, Nathaniel Fiennes had just

1,800 troops. Rupert bombarded the defences for two days and then stormed the town in the early hours of the 26th. Although attacks on the north wall and Redcliffe were repulsed, Col. Wentworth eventually broke through around Brandon Hill and Fiennes surrendered as the Royalists were preparing to storm the inner city. For this action he was subsequently sentenced to death but reprieved.

Two years later, in summer 1645, the main Parliamentary army under Fairfax retook Bristol, besieging and bombarding the place for a fortnight and then storming the outer defences on 10 September. Prince Rupert surrendered once the outer circuit had been breached, earning the King's extreme displeasure. Cromwell was present throughout the siege, lodging first at Keynsham to the south-east and later at Fairfax's HQ in a farmhouse at Stapleton. On 10 September he supervised the action around Priors Hill fort, north-west of the town centre. Cromwell stayed in Bristol for several days after its fall; he returned in 1649 on his way to Ireland, lodging at Joseph Jackson's house for a fortnight from 14 July while he awaited the arrival of money for the campaign. He passed through the town again in May 1650 on his return from Ireland.

Despite its large and eventful role in the Civil War, there is little to be seen in Bristol today. The seventeenth-century defences have been overrun and obliterated in the later expansion of the city and even the mighty castle has gone, slighted in the 1650s and now surviving only in the name of a green and several streets on the north bank of the Avon (around ST593732). There is a modern plaque by Christmas Steps to Col. Henry Lunsford, a Royalist officer shot dead here on 26 July 1643 as he led an assault on the Frome Gate.

William Penn, one of Cromwell's Admirals

Avon and Berkshire

Right: Bath Abbey, Avon. Epiphanius Evesham's fine monument to Sir William Waller's first wife, Jane (d1633), was desecrated by Royalist troops during the Civil War and the features of Waller and his wife badly damaged.



Below: Donnington Castle, Berks. The huge gatehouse stands before the shattered remains of the medieval stronghold. To the left is part of the earthwork fort thrown up by Sir John Boys's Royalist garrison.



and a colleague of Blake, lies buried near a mural monument in St Mary's Redcliffe.

Lansdown (ST7268) Lansdown was the only significant battle of the Civil War in Avon, and although inconclusive, it contributed to the erosion of the Parliamentary hold on the area during summer 1643. Hopton's army was in Bradford on Avon by 2 July and then spent three days trying to march around the east side of Bath and sever Waller's communications with Wiltshire. By the 5th Hopton had pushed his way up the Avon valley, driving in Parliamentary outposts from Claverton, Batheaston and Monkton Farleigh (Wilts), and was preparing to attack Lansdown Hill.

Lansdown is a large hill with steep sides and a long flat top which runs north-west from Bath. Waller had occupied the hill on 4 July and by the morning of the 5th had drawn up his men behind hastily dug earthworks near the northern crest, facing north (around ST721703). Hopton advanced from Marshfield via Tog and Freezing Hills and a confused mêlée developed in the muddy valley between Lansdown and Freezing Hills. Hopton at first planned to withdraw, but when the Cornish Infantry threw back the Parliamentary Horse and began assaulting Lansdown Hill he ordered a general attack. Parties of musketeers set out on either flank to support Grenville's Cornishmen as they struggled up the hill straight towards Waller's line. The Royalist Horse were badly mauled, but at the third attempt the Cornish Foot took the ridge and Waller fell back to a stone wall 400 yards south of his original position. Darkness fell and the Parliamentarians slipped away during the night leaving the Royalists in control of the hill. It was an expensive semi-victory: the Royalists had all but exhausted their ammunition, their Horse

BEDFORDSHIRE

Secure for Parliament throughout the Civil War, the county saw little military action beyond brief and infrequent Royalist raids. Cromwell probably passed through the eastern fringe of the county from time to time during the 1640s when following the westerly of the two routes between Huntingdon and London. He was certainly in Bedford on several occasions.

Ampthill (TL0338) On 4 October 1643 400 Royalist Horse under Sir Lewis Dyve raided Ampthill, surprising and capturing the county's Parliamentary committee meeting there. During the 1650s the regicide and Major General, John

were in tatters, Sir Bevil Grenville and many other officers were dead and on the following day Hopton was badly injured and many more killed when a cartload of powder exploded on Tog Hill.

Lansdown Hill is still open ground above Bath, crossed by a minor road. The northern slopes, where the fighting was fiercest, are more heavily wooded now than they were during the seventeenth century. By the road at the crest of the hill is a monument to Sir Bevil Grenville, an obelisk erected by his son John, 1st Earl of Bath.

Thornbury Castle (ST633907) The castle, really a grand domestic residence with slight military pretensions, was begun by the 3rd Duke of Buckingham in 1511. Garrisoned by both sides during the war to cover the road from Bristol to Gloucester, it survived intact and was remodelled in the eighteenth and nineteenth centuries. The ornate mansion, with round and polygonal towers, heraldic decorations and impressive chimney stacks, stands in private grounds north of the church.

Yate Court (ST713860) Yate Court, the thirteenth-century fortified mansion of the Berkeley family, changed hands several times during the Civil War, serving alternately as an outpost of the Bristol garrison and as a base to disrupt communications with that town. By the end of the war the house had been reduced to ruins by repeated attacks. The surviving parts were incorporated in the modern farm buildings on the site. Yate Court Farm is private, but the exterior and the remains of the square moat and embankment which surrounded the medieval mansion can be viewed from the public footpath which runs by the farm.

Okey, acquired property in and around the town, including Ampthill Park House. The house which he owned has gone, and the present Park House dates from the very end of the seventeenth century.

Bedford (TL0549) Sir Lewis Dyve's Royalist raiding party briefly occupied the town in October 1643, skirmishing with a small Parliamentary unit around the bridge. Before moving on, the Royalists made a futile effort to refortify the very dilapidated Norman castle, which survives as a low motte to the west of Newnham Road. A Royalist force passed through the town again in August 1645, once more clashing with Parliamentary soldiers around the bridge.

Cromwell was certainly here on 11 June 1645 and in July 1647 and he probably passed through the town quite frequently on his way to and from Cambridgeshire and Lincolnshire. In March 1644 he directed that any letters and messages for him be addressed to the Swan in Bedford, where he would collect them. The present Swan Inn in the High Street dates from the late eighteenth century, but probably stands on the site of the earlier Swan known to Cromwell.

Brogborough (SP9638) The Round House, also known as Brogborough Park Farm, stands amid the brickfields near the village of Brogborough. The building is of three storeys – a flight of steps leads to the first floor entrance – under a steep-pitched roof. Several windows are false. The house is large and square, and is known as 'The Round House' not because of its external shape but because interconnecting rooms make it possible to walk around the inside of the building in a single circuit. Probably built by John Stone in the first half of the seventeenth century, there are rather dubious stories that the house was fortified for Parliament in the Civil War, that Cromwell stayed here on several occasions and that he fought off a Royalist attack here. John Okey bought the property in 1650 and lived here for most of the following decade. The Round House is still a private residence, though now much dilapidated and semi-derelict.

Bromham (TL017513) In the seventeenth century Bromham Hall was the home of the Dyve family, the most prominent supporters of the Royalist cause in Bedfordshire. Sir Lewis fortified the hall in summer 1642, but it was

quickly taken by Parliamentary forces at the outbreak of the war. The late Tudor brick hall survives as a private residence.

Clifton (TL165393) Cromwell's cousin Thomas, third son of Sir Philip Cromwell, lived at Clifton during the 1650s. While his brothers Oliver and Philip had both fought and died for Parliament in the previous decade, Thomas had served the King, become Major of a Horse Regiment and survived unscathed. He died in 1658 and lies buried in an unmarked grave in All Saints Church.

Dunstable (TL0121) A Royalist party raided the town in June 1644, plundering and looting, disrupting a church service and taking pot-shots at the minister in the pulpit – they missed. The landlord of the Red Lion, High Street North, was not so lucky, for he was shot dead when he refused to supply the Royalists with horses.

Pertenhall (TL095652) Hoo Manor or Farm, a modest Tudor building surrounded by a moat, was the home of the Rolt family during the seventeenth century. Cromwell's cousin Mary, youngest daughter of Sir Oliver Cromwell, married Edward Rolt in the 1620s and the couple spent the rest of their lives at Hoo Manor. Both lie buried in St Peter's Church (TL084654) and a monument to Edward (d1652) survives on the south wall of the nave.

Upper Dean (TL046677) Cromwell's cousin Anna, daughter of Henry Cromwell, lived at Dean with her husband John Neale, who represented the county in the first Protectorate Parliament. Anna (d1651) and John (d1680) both lie buried in All Saints Church, near a mural monument to them in the south chapel.

Woburn (SP965326) On 19 June 1647 Charles I, prisoner of the Parliamentary army, was lodged for the night at Woburn House. The Russells' early seventeenth-century house on the site of the demolished medieval abbey was itself largely demolished in the following century and the present grand mansion is almost entirely Georgian.

BERKSHIRE

The new, much reduced county has lost most of its Civil War sites to Oxfordshire, and surprisingly few important sites remain within Berkshire. The western half of the county fell under the control of Royalist Oxfordshire, whilst the Parliamentarians were usually dominant in the east and south. Not until the closing year of the war did Parliament gain the upper hand throughout the county. Cromwell frequently travelled through Berkshire in 1644–45 but, with the exception of the Second Battle of Newbury, he was involved in no serious fighting within the county.

The Blue Boar Inn (SU455742) According to an unconfirmed tradition, Oliver Cromwell lodged at the Blue Boar Inn before the Second Battle of Newbury. The inn still stands by the road, two miles west of Chieveley.

Donnington Castle (SU461692) Donnington was of great strategic importance, for it commanded the Great Bath Road from London to the West and the road from Oxford to Portsmouth and the south coast. It was secured by the Royalists in 1642 and held for the King by Col. John Boys throughout the Civil War, enduring repeated attacks and sieges. On 31 July 1644 Parliamentary forces under Middleton tried to storm the castle but they were fiercely repulsed and, lacking artillery, posed no further threat to the garrison. Two months later Col. Horton returned with a larger force and heavy cannon which eventually shattered three of the castle's towers. But on 18 October the Parliamentarians, by then commanded by Manchester, fell before the main Royalist army. Although Waller briefly renewed the siege after the Second Battle of Newbury, a second Royalist force relieved the castle on 9 November. Safe for another year, the castle was under siege again from November 1645 and on 1 April 1646 Boys finally surrendered the place to Col. John Dalbier. The castle was sacked and reduced to ruins.

The fourteenth-century castle was square, the outer walls linked by round corner towers, with additional square towers set in the north and south walls. Little more than the outline of this building survives above ground and only the eastern gatehouse remains intact. A huge three storey building flanked by twin drum towers rising a further two storeys, the gatehouse contains a collection of Civil War relics. In 1643 Boys strengthened the castle by adding an artillery fort beyond the walls, an irregularly shaped double banked earthwork with arrowhead bastions on the north, east and south sides. The fort is somewhat eroded but still clearly visible. The castle is open daily.

Eton (SU9677) Francis Rous – Puritan divine, veteran Parliamentarian, Speaker of the Nominated Assembly and Protectoral Councillor – died

in January 1659 and was buried beneath a monument in the Church of the Blessed Mary, the Chapel of Eton College. He had been Provost of Eton during the 1650s.

Horton (TQ013758) In the chancel of St Michael's is an inscribed floor slab to Sarah (d1637), mother of John Milton. The house in which the young Milton and his retired parents lived during the 1630s has long since disappeared.

Newbury (SU4767) Newbury shared with Lostwithiel the dubious distinction of having two major Civil War battles fought in the immediate vicinity. In consequence, Newbury Museum contains a fine collection of Civil War artefacts.

First Battle (around SU4565). In September 1643 the Parliamentary army under Essex relieved Gloucester and then marched east, heading back to London. Essex made curiously slow progress, and on the evening of the 19th the Royalists swept into Newbury ahead of him, blocking the road to London. The King's men spent the night south of the town, occupying the plateau of Wash Common. Essex responded by occupying the rising ground to the west and north-west of the common. Fighting began when Wentworth and Lisle tried unsuccessfully to clear this area, falling back under heavy fire; Lord Falkland, Charles's Secretary of State, was amongst those killed. A confused battle developed around the Parliamentary positions on the western edge of the common and continued until nightfall when the Royalists marched away, their ammunition exhausted.

The eastern side of the battlefield, the area occupied by the Royalists, now lies under a south-western suburb of Newbury. A monument to Lord Falkland stands by the main road at SU460650, near the Gun Inn, traditionally the King's HQ during the battle. The western edge of the common, where fighting was fiercest, is still open ground and has changed little since the seventeenth century. The so-called burial mounds on Wash Common are probably ancient earthworks of some kind and not Civil War graves.

Berkshire

Second Battle (around SU4668). The Second Battle of Newbury, of 27 October 1644, followed a much clearer pattern. The King offered battle to relieve the besieged Royalist bases of Banbury and Donnington Castles and Basing House. His steady advance eastwards persuaded the hesitant Manchester to gather his forces and give battle. By 26 October the two armies were facing each other on open ground to the north of Newbury. Charles occupied the land between the villages of Speen and Shaw, taking in Donnington Castle and Shaw House. The Parliamentary army to the east decided to divide and launch a co-ordinated attack from the front and rear. To this end Waller set off in a wide arc to the north of the Royalist position. By the afternoon of the 27th he was in place to the west of Speen and attacked immediately, quickly taking the village and breaking the west end of the Royalist line. But Cromwell and others were slow to follow up the attack and the Royalists were able to reorganise and counter-charge. A fierce but inconclusive fight developed around Speen. To the east, meanwhile, Manchester had failed to launch a major attack to coincide with Waller's and not until dusk did he attack Shaw and Shaw House, to no great effect. Charles's army was outnumbered and marched away to Oxford under cover of darkness. The losses were about equal – around 500 men apiece – but the Royalists had succeeded in relieving a number of key bases.

The area of the battle is now crossed by a number of roads, but it has not yet been engulfed by the expansion of Newbury. The villages of Speen and Shaw retain their separate identities, and Shaw House also survives, a magnificent Elizabethan mansion surrounded by an ancient earthwork.

Reading (SU7272) Straddling the main road to the west and the rivers Thames and Kennet, Reading was a key base between the opposing capitals of London and Oxford. The town was secured for the King by Sir Arthur Aston and a garrison of 2,000 in November 1642, and they spent the winter building or strengthening the wall and bank around Reading, using stone from Reading Abbey. On 15 April 1643 Essex laid siege to the town with 4,500 men, overrunning the outer trenches and bombarding the inner works. On the 25th a relieving force from

WINDSOR 7

Oxford was halted and repulsed at Caversham Bridge, the crossing of the Thames immediately to the north of seventeenth-century Reading. Two days later Col. Fielding, acting governor in place of the injured and supposedly dumb Aston, surrendered to Essex, an action for which he was later tried and sentenced to death but reprieved. The town changed hands twice more, but with little further fighting. In September 1643 Essex abandoned the place after the First Battle of Newbury, and Aston entered unopposed. At the end of March 1644 the Royalists in turn pulled out, slighting the defences as they went, and by May the Parliamentarians were back in Reading, hastily repairing the fortifications.

The Parliamentary army was based at Reading for three weeks in July 1647, and the King was lodged at Caversham Court. It was a period of intense negotiation, and Fairfax and Cromwell were frequently with the King.

The great nineteenth- and twentieth-century expansion of Reading has obliterated the medieval and Civil War defences of the town. Caversham has been absorbed into the main urban sprawl, and its thirteenth-century timber bridge over the Thames replaced by a modern concrete construction (SU712747). Caversham Court, where the King was held, has been demolished and Southcote House, the Elizabethan building used by Fairfax and Cromwell as their HQ, has fared little better – only the moat and gatehouse survive (SU692717). Earthworks in Forbury Gardens may be the remains of a Civil War redoubt, Forbury, built by Aston in 1642–3.

Windsor (SU960770) The Royal castle of Windsor comprises a mass of buildings of widely differing dates – the central strongpoint, the Round Tower in the middle of the three wards, was begun by Henry II in the twelfth century and strengthened by George IV over 600 years later. Windsor Castle was held by Parliament without serious challenge throughout the Civil War, a base for operations and often the HQ of the army's high command. Cromwell was frequently at Windsor during the mid and late 1640s, consulting with Lord General Fairfax and attending meetings of the General Council of the Army. The castle is open to the public when the royal family is not in residence.

BUCKINGHAMSHIRE

The county saw few major engagements during the Civil War and, with the exception of a handful of Royalist strongholds – particularly in the west under the influence of Oxfordshire – the area was Parliamentary throughout the period. The county is rich in Parliamentary connections because many senior politicians and soldiers lived and died here. There are a number of Cromwellian associations, though many are based on tradition rather than clear evidence.

Aylesbury (SP8113) Aylesbury was almost within the range of Royalist raids from Oxford and stood in something of a frontier zone. There was frequent minor skirmishing in the surrounding district, but Aylesbury itself seems to have escaped most of the bloodshed and was held by Parliament throughout the war. A Royalist detachment advancing on London from the north-west after Edgehill was halted and repulsed outside the town by Col. Balfour, and Prince Rupert was beaten off when he moved against the town in January and June 1644. In July 1646 Aylesbury was degarrisoned and the earthwork defences demolished. No trace of them survives.

Cromwell probably stayed in Aylesbury on many occasions during his campaigns in the area. He was certainly here on 29 May 1645 and again on 9 September 1651 when he halted in Aylesbury on his way back to London after the battle of Worcester to receive a delegation of MPs bearing congratulations and money. According to tradition he stayed at the King's Head off Market Square, a grand, late medieval coaching inn with a stable yard and gateway, now owned by the National Trust. On display is a chair supposedly used by Cromwell during his stay.

A modern bronze statue of John Hampden, the local Parliamentary hero, stands nearby in the Market Square. The Parliamentarian and regicide Thomas Scott also came from Aylesbury.

Boarstall (SP624142) Boarstall House or Castle was a late medieval fortified manor-house surrounded by a moat. In the very west of the county, barely ten miles from Oxford, it served as a Royalist outpost for most of the war. The King's men garrisoned Boarstall unopposed at the beginning of 1643 to protect Brill and the north-eastern approaches to Oxford. In April 1644 it was evacuated on the approach of Parliamentary forces and briefly held by them, but on 10 June Col. Gage led 1,000 men from Oxford against the place. The outbuildings and the nearby church, also held by Parliamentary soldiers, were taken and on the 24th the main garrison surrendered. It was held by Royalists for two more years, its deep moat thwarting

attempts by Skippon and Fairfax to storm it in June 1645. Not until 10 June 1646, following a long blockade, did the Royalist garrison surrender, the last stronghold in the county to hold out for the King. Only the gatehouse survives, a mighty fourteenth-century pile with turrets, battlements and seventeenth-century windows, now owned by the National Trust. Beyond, the remains of the moat encircle the site of the demolished medieval mansion.

Brill (SP6513) In the west of the county and on the frontier between Royalist Oxfordshire and Parliamentary Buckinghamshire, the area around Brill witnessed frequent skirmishing during the war. The village itself was held by the Royalists at the beginning of the war and their hastily erected earthwork bank and ditch enabled them to beat off an attack by Goodwin and Hampden from Aylesbury in January 1643. By the end of the year, however, the pressure on the weakly defended village was too great, and the Royalists pulled out. It was later occupied by Parliamentary troops who used the village as an operational and supply base. In open ground to the north of the church are the slight remains of earthworks, possibly part of the Civil War defences thrown up by the Royalists in 1642–3.

Buckingham (SP6933) Buckingham castle was very ruinous by the seventeenth century and the town was neither formally garrisoned nor of real importance in the war. There is no clear evidence that Cromwell ever lodged at Buckingham, but tradition has it that he stayed here at some point, either in Castle House or in an adjoining property, perhaps the Swan and Castle, formerly the White Swan or simply the Swan, in Castle Street.

Cromwell's cousin Elizabeth (d1666) and her husband Sir Richard Ingoldsby (d1656) were buried in St Peter and St Paul, but most of the medieval church and any monuments to them were destroyed in the fire which devastated the town in 1725.

Chalfont St Giles (SU9893) According to tradition, Cromwell stopped in Chalfont in October or November 1642 on his way back to London

Buckinghamshire

Right: Chalfont St Giles, Bucks. The brick and timber-framed cottage, where John Milton lived in 1665–6 to escape the London plague, is the only one of his many houses to survive.

Below left: Boarstall Gatehouse, Bucks. The medieval gateway was renovated in the seventeenth century, when the large arch, bay windows and balustrading were added. Very little remains of the great house or castle which it once defended.

Below right: Hillesden Church, Bucks. Civil War bullet holes riddle the fifteenth-century north door of All Saints', almost obliterating the earlier, astronomical decorations.



after the battle of Edgehill, lodging at The Stone, the home of the Ratcliffe family. The old hall was demolished long ago but a modern private residence which stands on the site, 400 yards north of the church, is still called The Stone. Cromwell's men supposedly quartered in the grounds of the Pheasant Inn.

In Vache Lane stands The Vache, an Elizabethan manor owned and occupied in the mid-seventeenth century by the regicide George Fleetwood. It passed to the Duke of York after the Restoration.

In 1665 Milton sought refuge from the London plague and took a cottage in Chalfont, finishing *Paradise Lost* and beginning *Paradise Regained* during his stay. The brick and timber cottage in Deanway is now a Milton museum, open Tuesday to Saturday from February to October.

Chalfont St Peter (TQ0090) Sir Isaac Pennington, City financier and sometime Lord Mayor of London, acquired The Grange in the 1650s and used it as his country seat for the remainder of the decade. Sir Isaac, a strong supporter of the Parliamentary cause, was prominent in ensuring that the City gave moral and financial backing to Parliament during the Civil War; he also served as Colonel of the City forces. He was imprisoned in the Tower at the Restoration and died there in December 1660. His son, Isaac junior, the Puritan and Quaker, also spent much time at The Grange. Pennington's old house was demolished in the nineteenth century and a modern school, also known as The Grange, stands on the site.

Chenies (TQ014984) Chenies Manor, the seat of the Earls of Bedford, was a meeting place for Hampden and other opponents of the Royalist government during the 1630s. In 1642–3 the house served as a garrison for Hampden's regiment, who quartered in the huge armoury, still known as 'The Barracks'. Chenies Manor is open to the public on certain summer weekends.

Dinton (SP765118) Dinton Hall, a late medieval red brick mansion, remodelled in the sixteenth century when the distinctive Tudor chimneys and gables were added, stands close to the village church. In the seventeenth century it was the seat of the Mayne family, including Simon Mayne, regicide and friend of Cromwell, who died in the Tower in 1661. Cromwell supposedly stayed at Dinton Hall after the battle of Edgehill or Naseby – accounts vary. His movements after Naseby are well-documented and he was certainly not in the area, but he may well

have passed through Buckinghamshire in October or November 1642 after Edgehill. In 1669 Richard Beke, widower of Cromwell's late niece Levina, and a distant relation of the Maynes, came to live at Dinton Hall and stayed here until his death.

Dinton Hall is private but the exterior can be viewed from the road and from the vicinity of the Church of St Peter and St Paul. The latter contains memorials to many members of the Mayne family, including the regicide's father and son. Richard Beke (d1707) and his second wife lie beneath an inscribed black marble slab in the south aisle.

Ellesborough (SP8406) Chequers Court was owned in the eighteenth century by the Russell family, descendants of Cromwell's youngest daughter Frances by her second husband John Russell. The house contains a fine collection of Cromwellian portraits, though for obvious reasons the Prime Ministerial home is not open to the public. The Church of St Peter and St Paul nearby (SP863068) contains the tombs of many eighteenth-century Russells, including Cromwell's great-great-grandson Sir John.

Fawley (SU765842) Fawley Court, 1¼ miles south-east of the village, was built in the 1680s and is now a private school. It stands on the site of an earlier Fawley Court, the home of Bulstrode Whitelock during the 1630s, which was sacked and destroyed by Rupert in the opening months of the war. Whitelock lived elsewhere after the Restoration, but in 1675 his body was brought back to Fawley and buried in the south transept of the church. Although the church contains several monuments to the Whitelock family, there is none to Bulstrode himself.

Great Hampden (SP848024) The Hampden family were not only Cromwell's relatives by marriage but also the most prominent Parliamentarians in the county. Cromwell's aunt Elizabeth married William Hampden of Hampden Hall, Great Hampden in the early 1590s. Before his early death, William produced two sons, the elder of whom, John, became one of the leading opponents of Charles I's government. A cousin and friend of Cromwell, Hampden was one of Pym's closest political allies during the early stages of the Long Parliament and was one of the five Members whom Charles attempted to arrest in January 1642. At the outbreak of war he took up arms for Parliament and embarked on a brief but distinguished military career which ended the following year with his fatal wounding on Chalgrove Field.

Hampden Hall, the family's late medieval home, remodelled in the eighteenth century, is not usually open to the public, but footpaths run by it to the adjoining Church of St Mary Magdalene. Many members of the family are buried here, including William (d1597) and Elizabeth (d1665) and their two sons John (d1643) and Richard (d1659). Another Cromwell, Anna, a granddaughter of Sir Oliver, was buried at Great Hampden in 1669. Amongst the many memorials to the family are an inscribed tablet to John's wife and an elaborate eighteenth-century monument to John himself, with cherubs, a sarcophagus and an oval relief featuring the Hampden family tree growing out of a representation of John's wounding at Chalgrove.

In Honorend Land, just outside the village (SP863020), is a nineteenth-century memorial to John Hampden, with an inscription commemorating his refusal to pay Ship Money in the 1630s.

Greenlands House (SU775856) A private nineteenth-century mansion now stands outside the village of Hambleton on the site of the medieval manor-house which was badly damaged in the Civil War and completely demolished thereafter. In May 1644 Sir John Doyley fortified Greenlands House for the King but within a month it was under siege. Although a relieving force from Oxford lifted the siege in early July, the Parliamentary forces soon returned. During the heavy bombardment which followed the Royalist magazine was hit and exploded, persuading the King's men to abandon the then ruined house and surrender to Col. Browne on 12 July.

Haddenham (SP7408) The late fourteenth-century Wealden type house next to the church and facing the village green was the home of the Beke family in the seventeenth century. In February 1656 Levina Whitestone, daughter of Cromwell's sister Catherine and the Protector's favourite niece, married Richard Beke at a ceremony at Whitehall Palace attended by the Protector and his wife. The couple lived at Beke's house in Haddenham, then known as Beke House or Place, but their time together was brief, for within two years Levina was dead. In the 1660s Richard Beke sold up and moved to Dinton. The house is private, but the exterior can be viewed from the road.

Hartwell (SP795125) The Church of St Mary the Virgin was built in the mid-eighteenth century on a Gothic octagonal plan, apparently modelled on the Chapter House of York Minster.

Several worthies were buried or reburied in vaults beneath the church, including Richard Ingoldsby (d1685), regicide turned servant of Charles II, Cromwell's first cousin once removed. Inscriptions commemorating Ingoldsby and others are to be seen above the north and south doors.

Hillesden House (SP685287) Nothing survives above ground of Hillesden House, the late medieval mansion which stood next to the church and was destroyed during the Civil War. In February 1644 Parliamentary forces fell back before a Royalist assault, and the King's men occupied and fortified Hillesden House, strengthening their position by digging a half-mile trench around the house and church. On 4 March Cromwell and Sir Samuel Luke led 2,000 men against Hillesden, overrunning the trenches and expelling a small Royalist outpost from the church. Capt. Smith surrendered the house as Cromwell was preparing to storm it. The search for treasure was stepped up when some plate and coin were found hidden within the house, and the ransacked building was then burnt to the ground. A new house built on the site in 1648 was itself demolished in the nineteenth century. Slight traces of the Civil War earthworks survive to the west of the church, and the north porch doors of All Saints bear bullet marks supposedly made during the storming of the church. The capture of Hillesden is the only clearly documented occasion on which Cromwell was engaged in military action within Buckinghamshire.

Lee (SP898044) Modern stained glass in the east windows of the restored Saxon church include representations of Cromwell, Hampden and Hobart.

Lenthenborough (SP698314) The present Manor Farm incorporates the remains of the former manor-house, partially demolished in the eighteenth century, which in the previous century had been the home of the Ingoldsby family. Cromwell's cousin Elizabeth and her husband Sir Richard Ingoldsby (d1656) lived here, and their children – including Richard, the regicide turned Royalist – were all born here. The farm is private, but a public footpath runs past the building.

Lilies (SP8118) On the outskirts of the village of Weedon stands Lilies House, a Victorian successor to the Tudor mansion on the site which was destroyed by fire in 1860. Amongst the relics on display within the house are deeds

and letters of Cromwell and John Hampden. According to a rather vague tradition, Cromwell quartered in the grounds of the old house during his Oxfordshire campaign.

Middle Claydon (SP719254) Claydon House, a sixteenth-century manor-house remodelled in the eighteenth, still remains the seat of the Verney family. In the seventeenth century Sir Edmund Verney, Knight Marshal of England, loyally supported the King, but his military career was brief: he was killed at Edgehill, clinging desperately to the Banner Royal. Various relics of the Civil War are on display, including a letter written by Cromwell. Claydon House is open to the public on certain summer weekends.

Nether Winchendon (SP7312) Nether Winchendon House, a quadrangular stone medieval mansion, extended and remodelled in the sixteenth and seventeenth centuries, contains a small selection of seventeenth-century furnishings and portraits. On display is a warrant summoning Joachim Mathews as a member of the Nominated Assembly; the document is dated 6 June 1653 and is signed by Cromwell. Nether Winchendon House is open on certain days during the summer.

Newport Pagnell (SP8743) Although small and quite weakly defended in 1642, Newport Pagnell's position on the main road between Oxford and East Anglia and the East Midlands made it of great importance to both sides in the war. In 1643 Sir Lewis Dyve secured the place for the King and began to throw up earthworks around the town. Because of a terrible mistake, probably the mis-reading of an order, Dyve evacuated the town in October 1643 and the grateful Parliamentarians promptly moved in. Sir Samuel Luke and his garrison strengthened the bank and ditch around the town and added a stone wall round Back Lane. Although Luke complained frequently and with some justice that his garrison was under-manned and under-supplied, he held the town for Parliament for the rest of the war, repelling several Royalist raids during 1644. None of the Civil War defences of the town survive.

Padbury (SP7230) On 2 July 1643 500 Par-

liamentary soldiers under Middleton clashed with Lucas's Royalists around Padbury. The Parliamentarians were outnumbered and suffered heavy casualties as they fell back on Aylesbury. The village served as Cromwell's base in early March 1644 during operations against Hillesden.

Quarrendon (SP806156) In open ground to the south-east of Church Farm are the remains of Civil War earthworks, comprising three lines of entrenchments with embrasures for guns and four gun platforms. There is no record of any fighting here.

Steeple Claydon (SP704267) According to tradition, Cromwell and his troops spent the night of 3-4 March 1644 in Steeple Claydon before launching their dawn raid on Hillesden House. Cromwell supposedly slept in Camp Barn, west of the church at the southern end of the village, where Camp House now stands. The remains of two lines of entrenchments, possibly dating from the Civil War, run south and west of Camp House.

Stoke Mandeville (SP827103) Moat Farm, an 'L'-shaped late Tudor brick and timber building partly surrounded by a moat, survives as a private farmhouse about ½ mile west of the modern church. It was owned by the Hampdens in the seventeenth century and garrisoned for Parliament throughout the war, but saw no significant fighting.

Wendover (SP8708) One of several unconfirmed traditions concerning Cromwell's journey through the county after Edgehill has it that he spent a night in Wendover, sleeping in an upstairs room of the Red Lion Inn, an early seventeenth-century brick and timber coaching inn on the south side of the High Street. The town itself was garrisoned for Parliament during the Civil War.

Woodrow High House (SU933966) This modern private residence, 1½ miles south-west of Amersham, stands on the site of an earlier mansion, traditionally linked with the Cromwells. It was supposedly occupied at one time by the Protector's wife and daughters, though the association is extremely dubious.

CAMBRIDGESHIRE

The new county of Cambridgeshire, incorporating all of former Huntingdonshire, was firmly Parliamentary throughout the war and suffered nothing more than isolated Royalist raids. More important, perhaps, it was Cromwell country, the area in which he and his family were born and brought up and in which he began his military career during the opening years of the Civil War.

Alconbury (TL1875) In the early seventeenth century Cromwell's uncle, Sir Oliver, acquired the wardenship of Weybridge Forest and other lands in and around the village. Weybridge Lodge was occupied at various times by several members of the family, including Sir Oliver's brother Sir Philip, before the wardenship was sold off in the late 1620s. The timber framed lodge, Tudor but with seventeenth- and eighteenth-century additions, still stands surrounded by a moat in the private grounds of Weybridge Farm, about two miles south of Alconbury. At least one of Sir Philip's children, Joan (d1606 aged 1 year), lies buried in an unmarked grave in the Church of St Peter and St Paul.

Burghley House (TF050060) Burghley House, one of the finest Elizabethan houses in England, was built for William Cecil, 1st Lord Burghley, in the late sixteenth century, incorporating the smaller hall which he and his father had erected earlier in the century. The house, which is open to the public, comprises four ranges around a central courtyard with four square corner towers topped by domes and two more domed towers flanking the gatehouse.

Burghley House was secured for the King without opposition in July 1643 and a small garrison installed to threaten the Parliamentary heartlands to the east. Cromwell returned from Lincolnshire to counter the threat and by 19 July he was before the house. A brief bombardment caused little damage and produced no response, but when Cromwell drew up his men to storm the place, the Royalists opened negotiations and surrendered Burghley later that day. Cromwell and his men probably spent the night in and around the house before hurrying back to Lincolnshire. A portrait of Cromwell, attributed to Walker, hangs in the Pagoda Room and a pair of boots, supposedly Cromwell's, are on display in the Great Hall.

Cambridge (TL4458) Although Cromwell never lived in Cambridge for any length of time, he had many close links with the town. He was an undergraduate here in 1616-17 and he returned 23 years later to be admitted a burgess, preliminary to representing the town in the two

Parliaments of 1640. Cambridge was one of the HQs of the Eastern Association during the war and Cromwell was often here, securing the university plate for Parliament in August 1642 and returning frequently over the following three years to supervise military operations. Three hundred years later his severed head was laid to rest in Cambridge.

During his year at Sidney Sussex, Cromwell is traditionally said to have occupied rooms on the north side of the first floor of Hall Court, overlooking Sidney Street. The College retains many Cromwellian links, including three portraits of the Protector, a document bearing his signature, a bible of 1658 supposedly owned by him and an oak chair inscribed 16 OC 58. On 25 March 1960 a semi-mummified human head, believed to be Cromwell's, was buried within the walls of the College; a plaque on the wall of the ante-chapel records the ceremony. One of the courts leading to the College has been named 'Cromwell Court'.

Queen's College, off Silver Street, contains a number of mid-seventeenth-century paintings, including portraits of Cromwell, Hugh Peter and George Monck. A bust of Cromwell is on display in King's College, off King's Parade.

By the seventeenth century most of the medieval castle had been demolished and only the south-west gatehouse and the Great Hall remained, used as a gaol and courthouse respectively. However, the site, on high ground at the north end of the town, was refortified in 1643: the Great Hall was partially rebuilt and converted to barracks, a bastioned earthwork fort was thrown up around the motte and 1,000 men were garrisoned here. They left in 1647 after an uneventful war and the defences were slighted. Of the circuit of ramparts and ditches constructed around the town in 1642-3, no trace survives. The castle barracks were demolished in the nineteenth century, but the remains of the Civil War fort survive, with the north and east bastions still visible around the edge of the Norman motte.

In 1640 Cromwell stayed at the White Bull Inn in Bridge Street while he was admitted a burgess and elected the town's MP; the inn no longer exists. From 1642 the Parliamentary committee were based at the Bear, and it is likely

that Cromwell would have stayed here during his many war-time visits to the town. The inn referred to is probably the Black Bear, long since demolished, which stood off an alleyway north-west of the junction of Market and Sidney Streets.

Childerley Hall (TL355616) Charles I was lodged at Childerley Hall on 5–7 June 1647 by the Parliamentary army, then stationed around Newmarket and Cambridge. On the 7th Cromwell, Fairfax and Ireton rode to Childerley to hold brief discussions with the King but by the evening all had left, the officers back to the army and Charles on to Newmarket. Childerley Hall is a fairly plain two-storey Tudor hall, remodelled in the nineteenth century, standing in private parkland between Great and Little Childerley. 'King Charles's Chamber' is the principal room on the upper floor, above the hall.

Chippenham (TL6669) Chippenham Park was the seat of the Russell family, who were doubly linked with the Cromwells. In May 1653 Cromwell's son Henry married Elizabeth Russell; five years later her brother John became the second husband of Cromwell's youngest daughter, Frances. When not in Ireland, Henry and Elizabeth lived at Chippenham until 1660, when they moved to Spinney Abbey nearby. John and Frances lived here until John's death in 1669, when the estate passed to the eldest of their surviving children, Sir William.

Frances continued to live here for a further thirty years, but she ended her life in London, living with her sister Mary at Chiswick. The early Stuart mansion at Chippenham was demolished in the following century, and the present great house is nineteenth-century.

In the Church of St Margaret (T663698) lie many members of the family, including John Russell (d1669), at least two of his children and his niece, Elizabeth Cromwell (d1659), daughter of Henry Cromwell.

Earith (TL393750) On low, flat ground between the Old and New Bedford Rivers, just north of the main A1123, stand the remains of a Civil War fort. The earthwork stronghold is square, with double ramparts and diamond shaped bastions enclosing an area of nearly five acres. There is no record of fighting here.

Elsworth (TL3163) In 1656 Samuel Disbrowe, brother of Major General John and himself a prominent Parliamentarian and member of the Scottish Council, bought lands at Elsworth and had a new house built here. His two storey

'U'-shaped manor house in whitewashed brick still stands to the north of the church. Samuel (d1690) is buried in Holy Trinity beneath an inscribed slab in the chancel.

Eltisley (TL2759) John Disbrowe, soldier, Protectoral Councillor and Major General of the south-west, was born and brought up in Eltisley. He lived as a child in the 'Old House', the 'L'-shaped two storey, half-timbered house built for his father James around 1611, which still stands at the west end of the village green near the church. It was in St Pandionia and St John that Disbrowe married Cromwell's sister Jane on 23 June 1636. Although Disbrowe acquired further property in the village during the 1650s, including the manor-house, he never returned to live at Eltisley and instead spent the rest of his life in London.

Ely (TL5380) During the sixteenth century several generations of the Stewart family, farmers of the cathedral tithes, acquired lands and property in and around Ely. When Sir Thomas Stewart died childless in January 1636 he left his estates to a nephew, his sister Elizabeth's only surviving son. Thus it was that Oliver Cromwell inherited lands at Ely. The Cromwells lived here for ten years up to 1646–7, when they moved permanently to London; although Parliamentary and military duties kept Oliver away from Ely for much of the time after 1640, he visited his wife and children as often as possible during the Civil War.

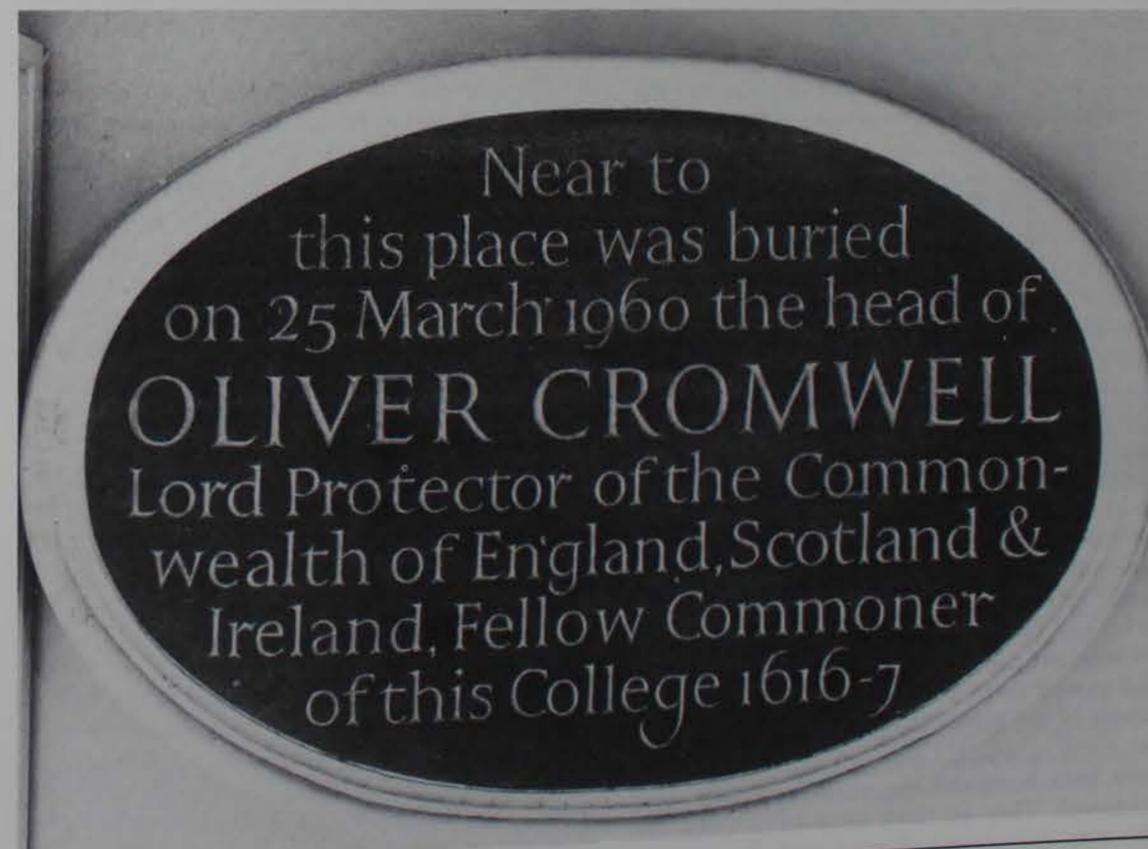
The Cromwells lived in a half-timbered house off St Mary's Street, 300 yards west of the cathedral, known at that time as The Sextry, today called variously Cromwell House, Rectory House or St Mary's Vicarage. The house survives almost unaltered since Cromwell's day, a two storey black and white building, mainly late medieval but with an early seventeenth-century extension at the west end. Traditionally the Cromwells' bedroom was the upper room in this western portion, overlooking the yard. The house is not open to the public but it fronts directly onto the street, allowing excellent views of the exterior.

In Cromwell's time the property also comprised an adjoining barn, Sextry Barn, but this was demolished in the nineteenth century and only a fragment of walling survives – including a thirteenth-century double lancet window – now incorporated in the vicarage garage.

Cromwell's maternal grandfather William Stewart (d1594) and his uncle Sir Thomas Stewart (d1636) lie buried in the Cathedral, and it was here in January 1646 that John Claypole



Sidney Sussex College, Cambridge. Cromwell's semi-mummified head (*above*), the cranium sliced open in the original embalming, was returned to his old college in 1960 and buried or immured near the chapel (*below*). A seventeenth-century chair (*left*) owned by the college is traditionally linked with Cromwell.



married Cromwell's daughter Elizabeth. Cromwell's youngest child, Frances, was baptised in St Mary's in December 1638.

Great Staughton (TL124647) In 1627 Cromwell's cousin Anna, daughter of Sir Oliver, married John Baldwin of Ramsey, and although the couple lived in Ramsey for many years, they moved to Great Staughton towards the end of their lives and both died here. Anna (d1663) and John (d1657) lie under inscribed floor slabs in the chancel of St Andrew's.

Horse Hill (TL223960) On the slopes of Horse Hill, one mile east-south-east of Stanground, stand the remains of a Civil War fort. The pentagonal earthwork fort with angle bastions comprises a single or double rampart and outer ditch, with traces of an outer parapet on the east side, and covers an area of 5½ acres; the entrance was in the southern curtain. The fort is situated on rising ground east of the old River Nene near the bridge carrying the main road to Peterborough. Modern buildings have encroached upon the site, but the earthworks themselves are well preserved. The fort never saw serious action.

Huntingdon (TL2472) Huntingdon abounds with Cromwellian connections. Cromwell was born, brought up and educated in Huntingdon, he lived over half his life here, and many of his family were baptised or buried in the town's churches. Huntingdon became one of the centres of the Eastern Association and Cromwell was frequently here during the first half of the war. The town was the scene of almost the only serious fighting within Cambridgeshire during the first Civil War. Here, too, can be seen the finest collection of Cromwellian relics in Britain.

In 1568 Sir Henry Cromwell, formerly Williams, bought a plot of land at the north end of Huntingdon and gave it to his second son, Robert. Robert largely demolished the ruined Augustinian friary which stood on the site, though parts of the western cloister range and of the church were incorporated in the new house he built here. Robert lived at Huntingdon for nearly fifty years, marrying and raising a family here. On his death in 1617 the property passed to his son Oliver who, in turn, lived here with his wife and young family. In 1631 he sold up and moved to St Ives. The house was largely rebuilt in the early eighteenth century, though the room in which Cromwell was supposed to have been born and the chamber below were preserved. They survived until 1810 when the site was completely cleared and the present

Cromwell House built. Above the front door, facing the High Street, are Cromwell's coat of arms and an inscribed plaque recording the Cromwellian connection.

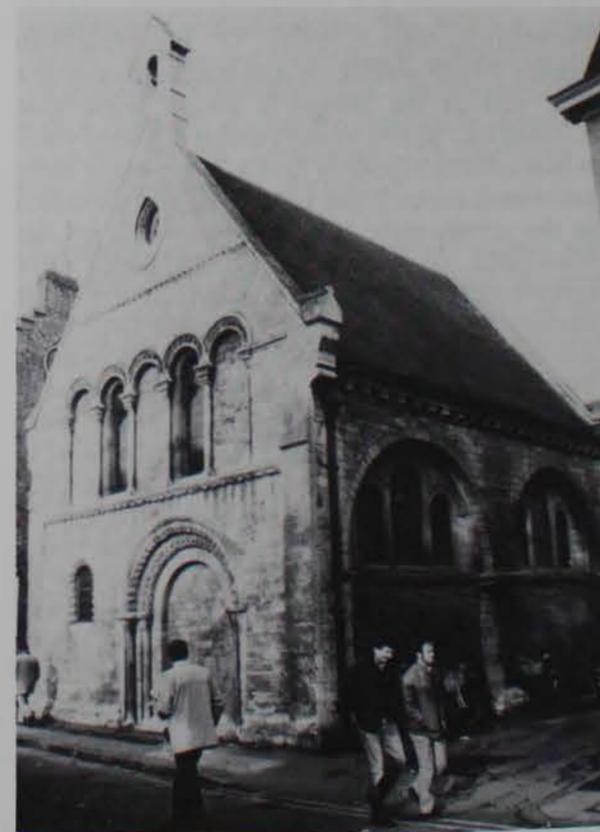
From 1610 to 1616 Cromwell attended the grammar school in the High Street, just off Market Square. The building was originally part of the twelfth-century infirmary hall of the Hospital of St John the Baptist, which extended to the north and east, laid out on the standard plan of four ranges grouped around a courtyard or cloister. In 1565 most of the building was converted into a grammar school. Only the two western bays of the infirmary hall survive, heightened in the nineteenth century and with a blocked ornamental west doorway. In 1961 the building was opened as the Cromwell Museum, and despite limited space, the museum displays an unrivalled collection of Cromwelliana, including portraits and prints of Cromwell, his family and many other senior Parliamentarians, a number of Cromwell's personal possessions, such as his walking-stick, ring, sword, seal and hat, and a selection of letters and documents. The museum is open daily except Mondays, admission free.

Cromwell and most of his children were baptised in St John's Church and his day-old son, James, was buried here in January 1632. St John's stood on the west side of the High Street, opposite Ambury Road. Badly damaged in the Royalist attack of August 1645, it was demolished in the 1650s and today nothing survives except fragments of the churchyard wall.

St Mary's Church, near the south end of the High Street, was extensively renovated in the early seventeenth century and the south aisle arcade was rebuilt. Inscribed stones, originally fixed to the new pillars, commemorated the local worthies who had contributed to the work, and a stone bearing the names of I. Turpin and R. Cromwell, Oliver's father, is now fixed to the east wall of the nave, north of the chancel arch.

St Benet's Church, which stood on the west side of the High Street opposite the present Chequers Court, was badly damaged by Royalists in 1645. The nave and chancel were destroyed and though the tower and spire survived for another 150 years, they too were demolished in 1800.

All Saints Church, immediately north of the Market Square, was also damaged in the Royalist attack, when cannon fire shattered the tower; it was later repaired in red brick. Inside is a medieval font found near St John's churchyard; it may have belonged to St John's, in which case it could be the font in which Cromwell was baptised in 1599. Cromwell's grandfather Sir



Left: Huntingdon, Cambs. The old grammar school in which Cromwell was educated in 1610-16 now houses a museum devoted to his life. Samuel Pepys was a pupil here in the early 1640s. Top: Ely, Cambs. For ten years from 1636 Cromwell lived in this substantial stone and timber-framed house, inherited from a wealthy uncle, which stands almost in the shadow of the cathedral. Above: Huntingdon, Cambs. Despite later extensions and modernizations, the Falcon Inn remains at heart the late Tudor building which probably served as Cromwell's base while on campaign in Huntingdon during the opening year of the war.

Henry (d1604) and Sir Henry's two wives, his father Robert (1617), uncle Ralph (d1581) and several of uncle Sir Oliver's children and grandchildren were buried in All Saints. Any monuments to them were probably damaged or destroyed by Royalists during the Civil War and certainly none survive today. Because of present-day vandalism, All Saints is often kept locked.

During the war Huntingdon became a base for the Eastern Association and Cromwell and Manchester were frequently here 1642–4. According to tradition, Cromwell usually lodged during the war at the Falcon Inn in Market Square, a late sixteenth-century brick and timber building with many later additions.

A ditch and bank were dug around the town to protect it – no traces survive – and gates were placed across the north and south entrances to the High Street. Half a mile north-east of the town centre stand the weathered remains of a Civil War fort, a rectangular earthwork with corner bastions surrounded by a ditch. Thrown up to command the main road to the north-east, the present Hartford Road, it now stands by Clayton's Way amid a modern housing estate.

On 24 August 1645 the King led an army of 2,400 Horse south from Stamford; 500 Parliamentarians marched out of Huntingdon to meet them. The two forces clashed at Stilton, where the outnumbered Parliamentarians were quickly broken, Col. Gibb and 60 colleagues falling prisoner and the remainder hurrying back to Huntingdon. The King attacked the north entrance to Huntingdon, pushing back Col. Bennet's force as it tried to hold the bridge over the Town Brook at the north end of the High Street – bridge and brook have both disappeared. The Parliamentarians made a series of stands in the churches down the High Street, but the Royalist bombardment forced them to abandon each in turn until the whole town was under Royalist control. Charles spent the night either in the George or in the Old Chequers Inn, the remains of which lie beneath a modern shopping precinct. The Royalists left on the following day, closely followed by Parliamentary troops.

Half a mile west of the town stands Hinchingsbrooke House, built by the Cromwell family in the sixteenth century on the site of a twelfth-century nunnery acquired by them at the Dissolution; parts of the medieval church and ranges were incorporated within the new house. Hinchingsbrooke was the principal summer residence of Sir Oliver Cromwell until mounting debts forced him to sell it in 1627. After the Restoration it was bought by Edward Montagu, 1st Earl of Sandwich, Parliamentary soldier, admiral and politician turned ardent Royalist,

who extended the western ranges. Now a school, Hinchingsbrooke is at heart an Elizabethan mansion of four ranges around a central courtyard, though it has since been extended and remodelled on many occasions. It is open to the public on summer Sundays.

Kimbolton (TL0967) Kimbolton Castle, a medieval fortress largely rebuilt in the sixteenth and early seventeenth centuries in the form of a quadrangular mansion, was the seat of the Earls of Manchester. It was the main country residence of the 2nd Earl, Parliamentary politician and General and the commander under whom Cromwell served in East Anglia and the East Midlands in 1643–4. The castle was remodelled and rebuilt by Vanbrugh in the eighteenth century, and is now a school, open to the public on summer Sundays.

The 2nd Earl was buried in 1671 in the Montagu vault beneath the north chapel of St Andrew's Church (TL099679). There are monuments to many members of the family within St Andrew's, particularly in the north and south chapels.

Linton (TL5646) In 1648 Sparrow's Troop of Horse dispersed a party of Royalist rebels under Reynolds and Appleyard gathering at Linton in preparation for a march to Colchester.

Northborough (TF1508) Northborough Manor House stands off the main street at the west end of the village, a small, stone-built fortified hall of two storeys under a gabled roof. It was built by Geoffrey De La Mare in the early fourteenth century and renovated and extended in the seventeenth. A gatehouse stands by the road and to the west is a large, early seventeenth-century barn into which a row of circular gun ports were cut during the Civil War. The house was owned in the seventeenth century by the Claypole family and John Claypole, Parliamentary soldier and politician and a friend of Cromwell, was born and brought up here. In 1646 he married Cromwell's daughter Elizabeth, but the couple seem to have spent most of their married life in London rather than Cambridgeshire. By the time John returned to Northborough at the Restoration his wife was dead, but he brought with him their three surviving children, together with the Protector's widow, Elizabeth, who lived here until her death in 1665. By 1676 John was heavily in debt and he sold Northborough and moved to London.

The south transept of St Andrew's Church, often known as the Claypole Chapel, contains the graves of many of the Claypole family. John

and Elizabeth both lie in London, but at least two of their children, Martha (d1664) and Cromwell (d1678?) rest here. The Protector's widow was also buried in the south transept and although no contemporary monument survives, a large broken (and repaired) floor slab is traditionally said to mark her grave. The Cromwell Association have set up an inscribed tablet in her memory on the east wall.

Peterborough (TL1999) Peterborough was one of Cromwell's bases during the early stages of the war and he was frequently here 1642–44. His usual lodgings appear to have been 'The Vineyard' which stood to the east of the cathedral. No such building survives.

To the west of the town centre in the suburb of Longthorpe stands Thorpe Hall (TL170986). The manor of Longthorpe was acquired after the Civil War by Oliver St John, Lord Chief Justice and husband of Cromwell's first cousin, Elizabeth. He demolished the old manor house and had a new mansion built on the site 1653–56. Thorpe Hall was one of the few great houses built during the Interregnum, and almost the only one to survive complete. The main block is rectangular, two rooms deep and 2½ storeys high, with a porticoed entrance reached by a flight of concentric, semi-circular steps. Ancillary ranges adjoin the main house. In the seventeenth century the place was surrounded by a magnificent walled garden. The hall has stood empty for several years and become rather dilapidated. Although it has recently been partially restored, its future remains a matter of uncertainty and controversy. Thorpe Hall is currently closed to the public.

Ramsey (TL2885) This Fenland village was dominated in the Middle Ages by Ramsey Abbey, one of the greatest and richest of the English monasteries. At the Dissolution much of its land and property around the village was acquired by the Cromwells and remained in their hands until the late seventeenth century. The Lord Protector and his descendants had no link with Ramsey for Cromwell's father had moved to Huntingdon in the sixteenth century, but several of his uncles and their children lived here in the seventeenth century.

The abbey buildings were used as a stone quarry after the Dissolution and by the end of the sixteenth century very little remained standing. Around 1600 Sir Henry Cromwell built Ramsey Abbey House on the site (TL292852), incorporating at its east end the thirteenth-century Lady Chapel, almost the only part of the

medieval abbey which was still standing. Sir Henry's house was small and simple, a single long block facing north with a central porch and projecting square towers at each end. In 1604 Abbey House passed to Sir Oliver, and it became his principal seat after the sale of Hinchingsbrooke in 1627. In May 1643 Oliver Cromwell and his troop paid his uncle a visit, removing plate and arms from Abbey House: Sir Oliver was a Royalist and had raised men and money for the King. The house stayed in the family for a further two generations, but when Sir Oliver's grandson died childless in 1673 Ramsey Abbey was sold off. The building was greatly extended in the eighteenth and nineteenth centuries and Sir Henry's early Stuart house is almost lost amid the later work. In recent years Abbey House has been used as a school, and there is no public access. The ornate medieval gatehouse nearby, once the abbey gatehouse, survives intact and is open to the public.

Bodsey House, 1½ miles north of the village (TL296873), was originally the site of the abbey hermitage and later an abbey grange. The northern half is a thirteenth-century two storey secular building, the lower storey in stone, the upper in wood, beneath a timber wagon roof. The southern part was originally a fourteenth-century chapel of three bays. The house passed to the Cromwells at the Dissolution and the chapel was divided into three floors, with fireplaces and chimneys added. In the seventeenth century the house was owned by Sir Oliver and used at various times by several of his children. By the 1660s it had become the main residence of his grandson Henry, on whose death the house was sold off. Bodsey House survives in good order as a private residence.

The Biggin, between Ramsey and Upwood, was originally a small leper house, converted in the mid-fourteenth century into an abbey grange. It was largely rebuilt in the sixteenth century when it was acquired by the Cromwells. Over the following century several members of the family lived here, including Oliver's uncle, Sir Philip. When the house was demolished in the eighteenth century a late Tudor door bearing the initials 'H.C.' was salvaged and taken to Abbey House. A ruinous range of outbuildings known as The Maltings survives north-west of the site of the former house. Biggin Lane runs close by.

In family vaults under the Church of St Thomas lie many members of the Cromwell family, including Oliver's uncles Sir Oliver and Sir Philip and several of their children and grandchildren. No monuments to them survive.

St Ives (TL3171) Oliver Cromwell and his family lived in St Ives from 1631 to 1636, renting a house and land from Henry Lawrence (who twenty years later served his former tenant as President of the Protectoral Council). There is, however, no clear evidence to indicate exactly which property Cromwell rented. Slepe Manor, a rather grand mansion demolished in the nineteenth century, was owned by the Lawrences at this time, and it is often asserted on no firm evidence that this was Cromwell's home; the building came to be known as Cromwell House or Place. Similarly, a sixteenth-century, brick walled, five bayed outbuilding on Green End Farm, north of the church, was traditionally linked with Oliver and became known as Cromwell's Barn, although once again no evidence firmly links him with the building, which was demolished in the 1960s. In the early 1630s the Cromwells were far from wealthy, and it is likely that Oliver would have rented a fairly small farm around St Ives, something far more modest than Slepe Manor.

In the Market Place stands an impressive statue of Oliver Cromwell, unveiled in 1901. It was originally designed for Huntingdon, but the town authorities refused the statue, and thus Cromwell stands in the middle of St Ives. Nearby, the Norris Museum in The Broadway contains several relics from the Civil War in the area.

In the Market Place, opposite the statue of Cromwell, stands the Golden Lion, a Tudor building which was once an important coaching inn. The coach yard has now been enclosed and the balconies serve as corridors linking the bedrooms of the hotel. According to tradition, Oliver Cromwell's ghost stalks the rooms and corridors, particularly room 13; a green lady also seen in the Golden Lion is reputed to be his mistress!

St Neots (TL1860) After a disastrous rising in Surrey in early July 1648, the 3-400-strong remnant of Buckingham's and Holland's Royalist force reached St Neots on the evening of 9 July and spent an uneasy night quartered in and around the town, aware that a Parliamentary force was on their tail. On the following morning Col. Adrian Scrope and 100 Horse swept into St Neots, brushing aside a small Royalist unit at Eaton Ford and attacking the main rebel force hastily drawn up on Market Hill. The brief clash left 40 Royalists dead, 100 captured and the rest fleeing in all directions. The Duke of Buckingham escaped, but Holland was found at an inn and taken.

Somersham (TL3677) Valentine Waulton, regicide and brother-in-law of Cromwell, acquired property in Somersham in 1654 and lived here until the Restoration, when he fled abroad. It is not clear whether his wife, Margaret Cromwell (b1601), was still alive when he moved to Somersham – she died sometime during the 1650s, but it is not known exactly where or when.

Stuntney (TL55785) After the Dissolution the Stewart family acquired property around Stuntney, including Stuntney Manor, also known as the Old Hall. William Stewart lived in the manor-house in the late sixteenth century, and his two children, Thomas and Elizabeth (Oliver Cromwell's uncle and mother respectively), were born and brought up here. In due course the house was inherited by Thomas, on whose death in 1636 it passed to his nephew. Cromwell never lived in the place. The Old Hall survives, an early seventeenth-century brick house with a long gabled front range and a second wing to the rear.

Thriplow (TL4346) In mid-June 1647 the Parliamentary army quartered on open land adjoining the Icknield Way around Thriplow village. Although lodging by night at Royston (Herts), Cromwell and the other senior officers paid frequent visits to the army quarters on Thriplow Heath.

Upwood (TL2582) Upwood Manor House, 150 yards west-north-west of the church, was bought by the Cromwell family in the sixteenth century. Oliver's uncle Henry lived here with his family until his death in 1630. The property was sold to Stephen Peasant or Pheasant in 1649, and he demolished the Cromwells' old home and built the present manor-house on the site after the Restoration.

Henry Cromwell, his wife Eluzai (d1620), their son Richard (d1626) and their grandchildren Henry (d1625) and Anna (b1623) were all buried in St Peter's Church, together with another of Oliver's uncles, Richard (d1628). No monuments to them survive.

Whittlesey (TL2797) Cromwell's sister Catherine (b1597) lived here with her first husband Roger Whitestone, a professional soldier who served in the Thirty Years War. He was dead by the early 1650s and Catherine remarried and moved away. Roger and at least one of his children, Henry (d1659), lie in unmarked graves in the parish church.



Above: Northborough, Cambs. The modest medieval and Jacobean manor-house was owned by John Claypole and his wife Elizabeth, the Protector's favourite daughter. The Protector's widow (left) spent her last years here and was buried in the village church in 1665. Below: Peterborough, Cambs. Thorpe Hall, one of the largest and grandest country houses of the Civil War and Interregnum, survives almost unaltered. Probably designed by Peter Mills, it was built for Oliver St John in 1653-6. Right: St Ives, Cambs. Pomeroy's bronze statue of Cromwell, originally intended for Huntingdon but refused by the town, was erected in the Market Place in 1901.



Wicken (TL5770) Cromwell's son Henry moved to Wicken after the Restoration, living in retirement at Spinney Abbey, one mile north-west of the village (TL554718). The building and surrounding land had once been part of a thirteenth-century Augustinian abbey. Henry lived here quietly for fourteen years with his wife, their surviving children, and his spinster aunt Elizabeth. The present Spinney Abbey, now a farmhouse, dates from the 1770s; many of the stones certainly came from the earlier house, and the eighteenth-century builders may have incorporated complete standing sections of the old Abbey House within the new.

Henry Cromwell (d1674) and his wife Elizabeth (d1687) lie beneath black marble slabs near the altar of St Laurence's Church. Nearby are the graves of their eldest son Oliver (d1685) and Henry's aunt Elizabeth (d1672). At least one of their grandchildren, Henry (d1692), also lies within the church. The modern oak chancel screen was erected in memory of the Lord Deputy and his wife, a small inscribed brass plate recording the dedication.

Wisbech (TF4609) John Thurloe acquired property around Wisbech in the 1650s and became Lord of the Manor. He demolished the fifteenth-century fortified palace which stood on the site of the Norman castle, and had a new mansion built in its stead. Resembling Thorpe Hall and probably designed by Peter Mills, Thurloe's mansion stood near the Museum Square. It was demolished in 1816 and the present Castle House

was built on the site. Of Thurloe's mansion, only the garden walls and the massive gate piers survive *in situ*, though the balcony of the old house was removed before its demolition and was later added to the new building. Wisbech Museum contains various relics of Thurloe's house.

Wistow (TL2881) The Tudor manor-house was bought by the Cromwells in the sixteenth century and although Oliver's uncle, Sir Oliver, sold the place in 1649, the family retained a connection with Wistow until the end of the century.

Oliver's sister Anna lived at Wistow with her husband John Sewster, and several of their children remained in the village throughout their lives. In unmarked graves in or around St John's Church lie John (d1680/1) and Anna (d1646) and five of their six children (d between 1642 and 1705).

Woodcroft Castle (TF140045) On the outskirts of Etton stand the remains of Woodcroft Castle, a small fortified manor-house begun in the late thirteenth century – the double towered gatehouse dates from this period; the internal domestic ranges were built or rebuilt 300 years later. According to a dubious tradition the castle was attacked by Parliamentary soldiers in the Civil War, the Royalist owner was killed and his chaplain was hurled from the battlements to his death. Woodcroft is haunted by this unfortunate, probably mythical, priest.

CHANNEL ISLANDS

The two main islands followed very different courses during the Civil War. The people of Guernsey were strongly Parliamentary and they controlled the island throughout the war, keeping the Royalist governor in Castle Cornet under perpetual siege. On Jersey Parliamentary sympathies were stifled by Sir George Carteret's Royalist invasion of 1643 which reduced the island for the King. Prince Charles visited Jersey on several occasions and was proclaimed King here in 1649. The island was invaded and conquered by Parliamentary troops in 1651.

Guernsey Castle Cornet, open daily, stands on a rocky outcrop off St Peter Port, linked to the mainland by a pier. It was built in the thirteenth century and became the principal stronghold of the island and the residence of the governor. The Royalist governor at the outbreak of the Civil War, Sir Peter Osborne, held out in the castle under a state of siege from 1643 until its surrender at the end of 1651. Thereafter

Castle Cornet became a prison for political undesirables, holding Lilburne and others during the Protectorate and then several regicides and former Parliamentarians after the Restoration. Although John Lambert was held on Guernsey throughout the 1660s, only his first two years here were spent in close confinement within the castle. In the late seventeenth century much of the castle was demolished when the

magazine exploded, and the present buildings within the curtain wall are mostly post-Civil War. The castle museum contains many relics from the Civil War, and the armoury has weapons and armour of the period.

Jersey In 1651 the Parliamentary invasion force was landed by Admiral Blake at Grand Etakerel at the north end of Ouen's Bay and quickly overran two of the three strongpoints on the island, St Aubin's Fort and Mont Orgueil. Elizabeth Castle offered greater resistance, and did not fall until the end of the year.

St Aubin's Fort stands on a rocky offshore island, cut off from the mainland at high tide. Constructed in the sixteenth century as a defence against French raids, it was largely rebuilt in the eighteenth century and saw action as recently as the Second World War. The small Royalist garrison here put up no serious resistance in 1651.

Mont Orgueil stands on a granite headland on the east coast of the island. Built in the thirteenth century, the development of gunpowder and cannon two hundred years later rendered it vulnerable to attack and Somerset Tower and the Grand Rampier were added in an attempt to hold the high ground above the fortress. The castle, which promptly surrendered in 1651 and survived the Civil War unscathed, was reno-

vated in the eighteenth century and refortified during the Second World War. Open during the summer, Mont Orgueil is a complex of buildings laid out on a concentric plan, with three separate wards blocking the approach to the north-eastern keep. Most of the work is medieval, albeit much renovated and remodelled. The Queen's Gate leading from the Lower Ward was built by Carteret in 1648.

In 1651 Sir George Carteret made his stand in Elizabeth Castle, another island fortress linked to the mainland by a causeway. The island, which stands off St Helier, was a monastic site in the Middle Ages, but was converted for military use in the sixteenth century when French raids threatened the developing port. The layout of the triple-warded castle, built 1594–1668, was dictated by the shape of the long, narrow island. In the mid-seventeenth century many of the old priory buildings survived in the lower ward and here Carteret established his HQ. The 50 day Parliamentary siege during autumn 1651 caused havoc within the castle, for on 9 November a mortar scored a direct hit on the Royalists' ammunition dump in the priory's crypt and the massive explosion destroyed most of the buildings in the lower ward. The Royalists held out for a further month before surrendering on generous terms. The castle is open daily in the summer, tides permitting.

CHESHIRE

During the opening months of the war the county was divided into two almost equal sections, the Royalists controlling the north and west, the Parliamentarians the south and east. From 1644 the Parliamentary forces gradually gained the upper hand, though not until 1645–46 did they secure the county town and the western fringes of the county along the Welsh border. Indeed Chester was a major Royalist base throughout the war, gradually surrounded and isolated by a circuit of Parliamentary outposts until by 1645–46 the north-west quarter of the county was dotted by a large number of bases and minor garrisons involved in the operation against Chester. Cromwell entered the county only once, in August 1648, when he pursued the remnant of the Scottish Royalist invasion force through Winwick to Warrington.

Adlington Hall (SJ905805) Adlington Hall, the late Tudor home of the Legh family, was garrisoned for the King in 1643. It was attacked by Fairfax in February 1644 and a heavy bombardment, which caused much damage to the building, induced the garrison to surrender on the sixteenth. The house was repaired by Thomas Legh after the war and it survives today in the form of a quadrangular mansion. The south and west ranges are eighteenth-century brick but

the north and east are mainly sixteenth-century black and white half-timbering, enclosing an early Tudor Great Hall with an open hammer-beam roof. The hall is open on summer Sundays and on other days in August.

Barthomley (SJ767524) Barthomley was the scene of a massacre at Christmas 1643 when the Royalists stormed the village. The pro-Parliamentary inhabitants sought refuge in the

tower of St Bartoline's Church, but the Royalists burst into the building and lit a bonfire under the tower to smoke them out. The villagers were killed as they emerged.

Beeston (SJ537592) Beeston Castle, the thirteenth-century stronghold of the Earls of Chester, stands on a hilltop dominating the extensive plain below. Garrisoned initially by Parliamentary forces under Capt. Steele, the castle was captured by a small Royalist raiding party under Col. Sandford on 13 December 1643. Steele was subsequently condemned and shot at Nantwich for surrendering the place. Thereafter the castle suffered frequent though brief Parliamentary sieges and held out until November 1645, when it was surrendered and slighted. The ruins, open daily, comprise the remains of the gatehouses, curtain walls and mural towers of the inner and outer wards.

Chester (SJ4066) Chester stood as a Royalist stronghold and key base for operations over a wide area throughout the Civil War, its garrison secure behind a circuit of Roman and medieval walls which were repaired and strengthened in 1642-3. From summer 1643 the city was often attacked or under siege, but lines of communication across the Dee into Royalist North Wales were not broken and the Parliamentary effort was in vain. Not until 1645 did Brereton attempt a more thorough blockade, establishing a number of bases around the city. Pressure gradually increased as more and more outposts fell to Parliament and in September Brereton overwhelmed most of the extra-mural suburbs. For a time the King and others were still able to slip into Chester but after the defeat of the relieving forces at Rowton Moor, the city's fate was sealed. Even then the King was able to get away and Lord John Byron was able to hold out for another winter of siege and bombardment, broken by occasional and futile attempts to storm the walls. He surrendered on 3 February 1646. Thirteen years later, in summer 1659, Chester became the centre of Sir George Booth's Royalist rising, but surrendered to Lambert without serious resistance on 20 August after the destruction of the Royalist force at Winnington.

The city walls are almost complete and although most of the mural towers and gates have gone, the north-east tower, from which the King watched the defeat of Langdale's Horse after Rowton, survives intact. Then known as the Phoenix Tower, now usually called King Charles's Tower, it serves as a museum of local history concentrating on Chester during the

Civil War. It contains a model of Rowton Moor and the siege, together with arms and armour of the era.

Cholmondeley Hall (SJ536514) The fortified Tudor mansion at Cholmondeley changed hands several times in the course of the war. The Parliamentarians held and garrisoned the place in 1642 but they pulled out towards the end of the following year and the Royalists took possession. The King's men endured repeated Parliamentary raids from Nantwich and occasionally abandoned the hall, only to return once the raiding party had left the area. Surprisingly, the Elizabethan brick and timber hall survived the war almost unscathed, but in the following century it was partly demolished and a new mansion built on the site. This, in turn, was demolished at the end of the eighteenth century to make way for the present hall and only three bays survive from the original Tudor house. Cholmondeley Hall is private but the grounds are open on summer Sundays.

Christleton (SJ4465) Christleton Old Hall served as a Royalist outpost for most of the war, guarding the eastern approaches to Chester. In 1645-46 it became a base for the Parliamentary army besieging the city. The village and its immediate vicinity witnessed frequent skirmishing throughout the war. The present manor-house, adjoining the churchyard, is post-seventeenth-century.

Crewe Hall (SJ732540) Built by Sir Randolph Crewe in the 1620s, Crewe Hall has had a stormy history. It was garrisoned for Parliament in spring 1643, taken by Royalists in December, but retaken by Fairfax in the following year after a bombardment which caused considerable damage to the building. Early nineteenth-century restorations and a fire in the 1850s completed the destruction of the old building, and although the east end of the present hall retains a Jacobean appearance, it is almost entirely late nineteenth-century work.

Doddington Hall (SJ708465) The fourteenth-century tower house at Doddington was ruinous by the seventeenth century and the building fortified and held during the Civil War was probably the Jacobean hall nearby. Garrisoned for Parliament in 1643, it fell to Royalist forces in January 1644 only to be retaken by Fairfax five months later following a brief siege and bombardment. The Jacobean hall was completely demolished in the eighteenth century and a Georgian mansion built on the site. The only



Above: Guernsey, Channel Islands. Beyond the church and rooftops of St Peter Port stands the island fortress of Castle Cornet. Sir Peter Osborne's isolated force survived here until the end of 1651 and was one of the last Royalist garrisons to fall. The castle, far removed from the mainland and beyond reach of habeas corpus, was used by both the Protector and Charles II to hold political undesirables.

Right: Chester, Cheshire. It was from the Phoenix or King Charles's Tower, at the north-east angle of the city walls, that Charles watched the destruction of one of the last Royalist armies in September 1645. The medieval tower has been repaired and refaced on several occasions and has lost most of its original defensive features.



parts of the earlier hall to survive are balustrading and statues from the porch; they now adorn the ruined medieval tower house in the grounds of the hall.

Dodleston (SJ3661) The village served as an outpost of Chester until autumn 1645, when the Royalist garrison was forced back into Chester. Thereafter Dodleston became an important centre of operations during the siege of Chester and was Brereton's HQ for much of the winter. The Royalist garrison and Parliamentary command were based in Dodleston Old Hall, a Tudor mansion of the Egerton family which stood next to the church within the bailey of an early medieval castle. The old hall has been demolished – the present Dodleston Hall is a modern building on a different site to the north of the village – but the medieval earthworks in which it stood remain.

Eaton Hall (SJ414608) A grand late Stuart house, recently demolished, stood on the site of an earlier hall which guarded the southern approaches to Chester. Eaton also commanded a ferry across the Dee a little to the north. The Royalist garrison of Sir Richard Grosvenor was ejected by Parliamentarians in 1645 and the old hall then became a Parliamentary base during the siege of Chester.

Farndon (SJ413545) In the seventeenth century only two bridges spanned the lower reaches of the Dee and one of them, the Chester crossing, was firmly under Royalist control until 1646. Thus the fourteenth-century bridge immediately west of Farndon became a vital and much disputed passage between England and North Wales. The Parliamentarians hoped not only to keep the North Wales Royalists out of England but also to cross the Dee themselves and attack Chester from the west. For their part, the Royalists were determined to hold the crossing and keep open their lines of communication. Although the strongest fortifications lay on and west of the bridge, the village of Farndon to the east also served as a base to cover the passage. Farndon Church changed hands several times as first one side then the other established a garrison here. The Royalists were usually in control 1642–44, the Parliamentarians from late 1644. Repeated attacks caused extensive damage to the church, and much of the present interior dates from the rebuilding of the 1650s and 1660s. The windows of the Barnston Chapel date from this period and depict in coloured glass the officers and men of Col. Sir Francis Gamul's Foot regiment, part of the

Royalist garrison at Chester during the Civil War. Gamul is shown standing by his tent, together with pikemen, musketeers, a standard-bearer, pipers and drummers and a number of weapons and trophies from the war.

Halton (SJ5381) The fragmentary remains of the medieval castle stand behind the present Castle Hotel. The castle was garrisoned by Royalists in 1643 and fell to Parliamentary forces during the following summer after a heavy bombardment. Badly damaged during the war, the fortress was subsequently slighted and now only small sections of the curtain wall and of one of the mural towers survive above ground.

Huxley (SJ497623) Lower Huxley Hall, one mile north-west of the village, was garrisoned for Parliament from late 1644 and served as one of many bases in the area for the siege of Chester. The Jacobean brick hall has been partly demolished, but part remains, remodelled and still a private residence, surrounded by the old moat.

Middlewich (SJ7066) The scene of frequent skirmishing throughout the Civil War, the un-walled and weakly defended town changed hands several times. The biggest engagement took place on 13 March 1643 when Brereton led a combined Cavalry and Infantry force against Aston's Royalist garrison. The inexperienced Royalist Cavalry fled at the approach of the Parliamentarians, leaving Col. Ellis and a small Infantry unit to hold the town. Ellis's men were pushed back into an ever-decreasing area around St Michael's Church and sought refuge within the church itself. Surrounded, outnumbered and enduring a heavy bombardment, the Royalists soon surrendered. Marks on the outside of St Michael's tower are attributed to Parliamentary cannon-fire during this action.

Nantwich (SJ6552) Nantwich stood on the main road south-east of Chester in something of a Civil War frontier zone; the Royalists, secure to the north-west, and the Parliamentary forces, dominant to the south and east, frequently clashed in and around the town. Nantwich was secured for the King by Lord Grandison in September 1642 but his tenure was brief, for in the following January Brereton took the town at the second attempt. It remained a Parliamentary base for the rest of the war, defended by a circuit of banks and ditches, but the garrison was often under threat and had to endure repeated Royalist sieges and assaults. The most serious fight

took place in January 1644 when Byron and the Royalist besieging force were routed by Fairfax's unit sent to relieve the town. On the 24th Fairfax approached Nantwich from the north-west, sweeping aside 200 Royalists attempting to block his passage around Delamere. That night melting snow turned the Weaver into a torrent, destroying the town bridge and cutting the Royalist force in two. Byron and his men on the east bank rode north to cross the river at Minshull and so rejoin their colleagues to the west of the Weaver, but they were still absent when Fairfax arrived before Nantwich around mid-day on the 25th. The west bank Royalists under Col. Gibson had lifted the siege and drawn up around Acton Church (SJ632530) to the north-west of the town to meet the Parliamentary force, but they were outnumbered and effectively surrounded, with Fairfax's men before them and the town garrison under Col. Booth approaching from behind. There was a fierce fight around the church, the Royalists making a last stand within St Mary's before surrendering; 1,500 prisoners were taken. Byron and most of the Royalist Horse never appeared, possibly turned back by units which Fairfax had posted to block the northern approaches to the town.

Northwich (SJ6573) On 19 August 1659 Parliamentary forces under Lambert intercepted and destroyed Booth's Royalist rebels at Winnington, now a north-western suburb of Northwich.

Thirty Royalists were killed and the remainder scattered in the one-sided fight around Winnington Bridge (SJ642749) which spanned the then unfordable river Weaver. Today a modern bridge crosses the rather depleted river, for much of the water is now taken by the adjoining canal.

Rowton Heath or Moor (SJ445645) The battle at Rowton Heath was in reality only one in a series of engagements – almost a running fight – which took place on 24 September 1645 in the area south-east of Chester. The city had been under siege for much of the year and by September the Royalist garrison was under great pressure. On the 23rd Charles slipped into Chester from the west, having sent Langdale's 3,000 Horse into England at Holt with orders to march east and then swing north to attack the rear of the Parliamentary force before Chester. Langdale's march towards Chester on the 24th was disrupted by a pursuing Parliamentary force

under Poyntz which had come north from the Worcester area. A series of clashes between the two armies as they picked their way towards Chester culminated in a major engagement on Rowton Moor, three miles south-east of the city. Langdale was caught between Poyntz's force to his rear and 800 men under Michael Jones who had left the siege to bar his approach to the city. Surrounded and outnumbered, the Royalist force soon broke and galloped in disorder towards Chester. A confused and bitter fight developed beneath the city walls as Langdale's Horse and some of the city garrison who had come to his aid were destroyed by the combined forces of Poyntz and the besieging army. The area of this final engagement is now built over, but the scene of the earlier battle around the village of Rowton is still open heathland.

Tarvin (SJ4867) Tarvin was the scene of numerous skirmishes during the Civil War, in one of which, during August 1644, Brereton and Middleton surprised a party of Royalist Horse stationed in the town, forcing them back into St Andrew's Church and capturing them all. The town was formally garrisoned by Parliament towards the end of 1644 and served as one of the bases during the siege of Chester.

Warrington (SJ6088) Warrington was held for the King at the outbreak of war and two attempts by Brereton to take the town early in 1643 were repulsed, the first in a skirmish on Stockton Heath, then open land, now a southern suburb (SJ6186), the second in a fight at Great Sankey (SJ5788) around the Black Horse, an impressive black and white timbered building which survives largely unaltered. At the third attempt, however, in June 1643, Brereton successfully expelled the Royalist garrison and the Parliamentarians held the town without serious challenge for the rest of the first Civil War.

On 19 August 1648 the Scottish Royalist army, broken at Preston and Winwick, struggled into Warrington. Making no attempt to stand and fight, Hamilton headed south with the Horse leaving Baillie and up to 4,000 Foot to hold the place or surrender on whatever terms they could obtain. Thus the grand invasion ended with a mass surrender and only minor skirmishes, including a fight at the bridge and action around St Elphin's Church, which a group of Royalists occupied and attempted to hold – the Parliamentary bombardment which persuaded them to surrender has left its mark on the outer chancel wall. The museum in Bold

Street contains a recently discovered cannon, together with boots, armour and other relics of the Civil War found in and around the town.

Cromwell and the army halted at Warrington for several days awaiting not only the arrival of fresh horses and men but also the completion of repairs to Warrington bridge, damaged by the fleeing Royalists. Cromwell stayed here 19–22 August before turning round and heading north. He lodged at a house or inn in Church Street, long since demolished, on the site of which the General Wolf inn now stands. A plaque on the adjoining, possibly seventeenth-century house, records Cromwell's stay.

A modern bronze statue of Cromwell with bible and sword in hand and mace and hat resting at his feet, stands near the restored Academy Building in the town centre. The Academy dates from the eighteenth century and claims that Cromwell lodged here are therefore incorrect. Similarly the tradition that he stayed at Bradleigh Old Hall, five miles north-west of

the town (SJ572939) seems unfounded. He may have paid a passing visit and it is possible that Parliamentary soldiers were quartered in the late medieval hall, of which only the ruined gatehouse remains – the rest was demolished in the eighteenth century and replaced by the present Georgian mansion. The tradition linking Cromwell with a cottage near Prescott, ten miles west-north-west, is also rather dubious.

Winwick (SJ6092) On 19 August 1648 the Scottish Royalist invasion force marched through Winwick, closely pursued by Cromwell and the Parliamentary army. Part of the Scottish Infantry made a stand in the sunken lane and adjoining enclosures just north of the town. They put up a fierce fight, but Cromwell eventually cleared the road and continued the pursuit south. Some of the Royalists tried to hold St Oswald's Church but were quickly overcome and captured as the main Parliamentary army swept through the town.

CLEVELAND

This small county escaped serious fighting during the Civil War. Although several of its ports and inland towns were expanding rapidly in the seventeenth century, they were overshadowed by established centres such as Newcastle and Durham to the north and York and Hull to the south, and none was of great significance in the war. Moreover the county lay to the east of the main road between Yorkshire and the North. There is no evidence that Cromwell ever set foot in the area now covered by Cleveland.

Guisborough (NZ6116) In January 1643 Sir Hugh Cholmley and a Parliamentary force from Scarborough surprised and scattered Col. Slingsby's Royalist detachment at Guisborough. The victory seems only to have increased Cholmley's doubts and within weeks he had gone over to the King.

Hartlepool (NZ5032) Hartlepool was held for the King in 1643–44, but when the Scottish army appeared before the town in summer 1644 the Royalists offered no resistance and surrendered the place on 24 July. The town walls were semi-ruinous by the time of the Civil War and were subsequently slighted. Only fragments now

survive, particularly around the harbour.

Stockton (NZ4418) Held for the King during the first half of the war, Stockton was promptly surrendered to the Scots in July 1644. The town's medieval castle, probably derelict by the seventeenth century, played no significant part in the war. Nevertheless, it was later slighted on Parliament's orders.

Yarm Bridge (NZ418132) On 1 February 1643 Cholmley's Parliamentary force was repulsed by Royalists guarding the bridge across the Tees into North Yorkshire.

CORNWALL

Cornwall was overwhelmingly Royalist in the 1640s: most of the county was secure for the King from the outbreak of war until 1646 and was one of the last regions of England to remain firmly Royalist. The eastern fringes of the county were contested by Devonshire Parliamentarians during the winter and spring of 1642–3 but thereafter Royalist control was complete and was not seriously disrupted by Essex's doomed march into Cornwall in the following year. Cromwell was here in February and March 1646 during a largely bloodless campaign which saw Cornwall rapidly fall to Parliament.

Beacon Hill (SX1259) The Battle of Beacon Hill, also known as the Second Battle of Lostwithiel, was in reality a series of disorganised skirmishes which took place over a fairly wide area on 21 August 1644. Earlier in the month Essex had established a number of outposts protecting the approaches to his army's base in Lostwithiel. At dawn on the 21st the King's men launched well-planned and co-ordinated attacks on these outposts, quickly driving the Parliamentarians from Druid's Hill, 1½ miles north-east of the town (SX1261) and from Beacon Hill itself. The Parliamentary forces regrouped on an unnamed hill immediately north-east of Lostwithiel on the north side of the Liskeard road (around SX1160) and only after further fierce fighting in the afternoon and evening did the Royalists end a very successful day by taking this hill too.

The hills to the east and north-east of Lostwithiel are still open and largely undeveloped, skirted or crossed by a number of main and minor roads. The slopes of Druid's Hill are now wooded much more thickly than they were in the seventeenth century.

Boconnoc (SX146605) The late medieval mansion served as Hopton's base on 18 January 1643 immediately before the Battle of Braddock Down. Eighteen months later, in August 1644, Boconnoc was the King's HQ throughout the operation to seal up and capture Essex's army on the west bank of the Fowey. The old house was largely demolished in the eighteenth century when the Pitt family built the present Georgian mansion, which stands in private parkland.

Bodmin (SX0767) Although Bodmin was secure in Royalist hands for most of the war, on two occasions it fell briefly under Parliamentary control. In mid-May 1643, with Hopton's army away in north-east Cornwall trying to intercept Stamford, Sir George Chudleigh led 1,200 Parliamentary Horse west and took the town after bitter street-fighting; he hurriedly departed on hearing of Hopton's victory at Stratton. In the

following summer the Parliamentarians returned, Essex and the main army taking the town almost unopposed on 28 July 1644. Bodmin was the most westerly point reached during the doomed Cornish venture and by early August the Parliamentarians had fallen back on Lostwithiel. Grenville retook Bodmin on the 11th, quickly expelling the small Cavalry unit which Essex had left in the town. Bodmin remained in the King's hands until Fairfax and the main Parliamentary army entered Cornwall in February 1646. Hopton evacuated the place on 1 March and fell back on Truro, and on the following day Fairfax entered unopposed. Cromwell stayed at Bodmin on 3–6 March and again on the 21st on his way back to Devon.

Braddock Down (SX160618) On 19 January 1643 the first serious fighting of the Civil War in Cornwall took place on open ground one mile north-east of Boconnoc House. A Parliamentary force under Ruthin had entered south-east Cornwall at the beginning of January and advanced as far as Lostwithiel before turning north-east to join Stamford's Parliamentary army around Launceston. Hopton's army, recently re-equipped from the contents of three Parliamentary warships driven by storm into Falmouth, set out to engage Ruthin before he could link up with Stamford. On 19 January Hopton's 8,000 Royalists advanced east to face Ruthin's men, who were drawn up at the eastern end of Braddock Down, then an open area of gently sloping high ground, dotted with trees and bushes and encircled by hedged enclosures. Hopton drew up on the western edge of the Down, his guns and possibly part of his army hidden from Ruthin by the contour of the land. The ensuing battle, known variously as the Battle of Braddock Down or the First Battle of Lostwithiel, opened with two hours of indecisive skirmishing. The Parliamentary forces may then have begun a general advance, only to be halted by a volley from Hopton's previously concealed guns. Certainly at this point the Royalist front line charged, quickly breaking Ruthin's force

and driving it back to Liskeard and beyond, taking up to 1,500 prisoners in the process.

The battlefield is now covered by thick woods, broken only by long avenues or ridings. The obelisk in a clearing ½ mile south-west of the battlefield has no connection with the Civil War.

Castle Dore (SX104548) By 31 August 1644 Essex's army was in a terrible position. Most of the Horse had escaped to Plymouth, but the Foot was trapped around Lostwithiel, hemmed in by Royalists to the west, north and east. On the last day of August Essex began a pointless retreat south towards Fowey closely pursued by the Royalists, and a running fight developed along the muddy road. In the early evening the Parliamentarians halted around Castle Dore and drew up in a line across the hilltop immediately north of the ancient earthwork. After fierce fighting they were driven back into the fort, but nightfall prevented further action and Essex's men were able to slip away. The area around the fort is still open common and farmland and Castle Dore itself, a circular double-ramparted earthwork fortress, is well-preserved and open to the public.

Cotehele House (SX423685) Cotehele is one of the best preserved late medieval manor houses in England, a fairly small stone house amid extensive grounds. Although the house played no significant part in the Civil War, the large collection of arms and armour on display in the Great Hall includes many items from the period. The richly furnished house is open daily during the summer.

Falmouth (SW8032) A Royalist port throughout the Civil War, Falmouth relied for defence upon twin castles guarding the entrance to Carrick Roads, and it was these castles rather than the town itself which offered resistance to the Parliamentary force in 1646. Pendennis on the western bank of the straits and St Mawes on the eastern were built by Henry VIII in the early 1540s to command the neck of Carrick Roads and thus control access to the port of Falmouth and to the mass of navigable waterways stretching as far as Truro. They were held for the King throughout the Civil War.

St Mawes (SW841327) comprises a central circular keep with three adjoining semicircular bastions providing additional gun positions. Designed to cover the straits below, the fort had only weak defences on the landward side. When Fairfax's troops appeared before the castle on 12 March 1646 the Royalist governor, Lt.

Bonython, immediately entered into negotiations and surrendered on terms later that day. St Mawes Castle, open daily, is a near perfect example of the Henrician coastal forts of the early sixteenth century.

Pendennis Castle (SX825319), with a three storey central keep, a semicircular bastion and a massive outer curtain wall, was much the stronger of the two forts. A Royalist base throughout the war, visited by the Queen in 1644 and by the Prince of Wales in February 1646, it offered serious resistance to the Parliamentarians in spring and summer 1646. Sir John Arundell refused to surrender when summoned by Fairfax on 18 March and his garrison held out for five months under siege by land and sea. Arundell was eventually starved into submission on 17 August, and his garrison marched out on the following day. Thus Pendennis was probably the last English base to have held out for the King in the first Civil War. The well-preserved castle, open daily, houses a small museum tracing the history of Pendennis during the Civil War and other eventful periods.

Dennis Fort, a small earthwork position adjoining Pendennis, surrendered to Fairfax without serious resistance in March 1646.

Fowey (SX1251) On 2 September 1644 the remains of the Earl of Essex's army surrendered to the King at Fowey. The 6,000 men were allowed to march away, and eventually reached Portsmouth, but large quantities of arms and ammunition fell to the Royalists.

Hexworthy (SX3681) Hexworthy was the country seat of Robert Bennet, a prominent Parliamentary soldier and politician and a colleague of Cromwell during the 1640s. According to unconfirmed but plausible stories, Cromwell lodged at Hexworthy in late February 1646 while based around Launceston. Bennet's house has long since disappeared and the present Hexworthy is a later property.

Ince Castle (SX402565) Ince Castle, the Tudor fortified mansion of the Killigrew family, stands on the banks of the Lynher. During the Civil War it was held by Royalist forces and served as a base guarding the southern road into Cornwall and as an outpost for operations against Plymouth. There is no record of fighting here, and the garrison probably withdrew before Fairfax's invasion force in 1646. The brick mansion, with pyramidal corner towers and an embattled gateway, survives intact as a private residence.

Lanhydrock House (SX085636) The Jaco-



Top: Falmouth, Cornwall. Pendennis Castle, guarding the entrance to Carrick Roads, was a Royalist stronghold throughout the war and the last English mainland base to fall to Parliament. Above: Restormel Castle, Cornwall. The Black Prince's castle, one of the best preserved shell keeps in Britain, was hastily refortified by Essex's army in summer 1644; it fell to the King with equal speed. Left: Lostwithiel Church, Cornwall. According to a contemporary report, it was around this finely decorated fourteenth-century font in St Bartholomew's that Essex's soldiers held a ceremony in August 1644: 'They brought a horse to the font . . . and there . . . did, as they called it, christen the horse and called him by the name of Charles in contempt of his Sacred Majesty.'

bean quadrangular house of the Robartes family became a shortlived Parliamentary base in August 1644. Lord Robartes, one of Essex's chief advisers on the Cornish venture, made his house available at the beginning of August as an outpost guarding the new Parliamentary base at Lostwithiel. Within a fortnight Grenville had retaken Lanhydrock without a fight, the small Parliamentary garrison falling back before the Royalist advance. The house survived the war intact, but partial demolition in the late eighteenth century and a fire in 1881 destroyed much of the old house. The north wing and part of the west are Jacobean, and the gatehouse dates from 1658, but the rest of the present building is Victorian. The richly furnished house and surrounding gardens are open to the public during the summer.

Launceston (SX3384) In the very east of the county, Launceston was almost the only Cornish town to be secured by Parliament at the outbreak of war. By the beginning of October, Hopton had assembled an army of 3,000 men around Bodmin and when they approached Launceston on the 4th Sir Richard Buller and his 700 strong garrison abandoned the place and fled east. However, while Devon remained Parliamentary, the town was always vulnerable to attack. Thus in January 1643 Stamford reoccupied Launceston but quickly fell back at the approach of Hopton's army. On 23 April James Chudleigh led 2,500 Devonshire Parliamentarians against the town, attacking Hopton's position on Windmill or Beacon Hill. Hopton had drawn up behind the ancient earthworks which crowned the hill and the hedges which then covered the lower slopes. Parliamentary losses during the day-long attack were moderate but steady, and by evening Hopton felt strong enough to launch a major counter-attack on Chudleigh's tired and depleted force. The Parliamentarians were thrown back, though nightfall saved them from complete destruction and the young Major General conducted an orderly retreat. With the Royalist conquest of Devon later in 1643 Launceston's position was secure, and it remained in Royalist hands until 1646. In February most of the garrison retreated westwards at the approach of the main Parliamentary army and on the 25th Fairfax and Cromwell entered the town, quickly expelling the small Royalist Infantry unit which had been left here. Cromwell stayed in or near Launceston until the 27th.

Windmill or Beacon Hill, the steep hill to the south of the town centre, is still crowned by open parkland, but its lower slopes have now

been built over. Launceston Castle, a dramatically-sited Norman fortress, was derelict and probably indefensible by the seventeenth century – it is noticeable that Hopton chose to hold the hill, not the castle – and played no significant part in the Civil War.

Lostwithiel (SX1059) The town became the HQ of Essex's army at the beginning of August 1644, the small Royalist garrison abandoning the place at the approach of the Parliamentary force. A band of Royalists took refuge in the tower of St Bartholomew's Church and in an effort to flush them out the Parliamentarians set off a barrel of gunpowder beneath the tower. The explosion lifted part of the roof, which was subsequently rebuilt at a different level and pitch; the line of the earlier roof can be traced on the east wall of the tower. According to Royalist allegations, the Parliamentarians then held mock services within the partly ruined church, christening a horse 'King Charles' in a ceremony around the font. Although the arc of Parliamentary outposts to the north fell on the 21st, the King's men made no real attempt to retake Lostwithiel until the end of August, and part, at least, of Essex's army remained in the town until driven out by the advancing Royalists on the 31st.

Mawgan in Meneage (SW710251) In May 1648 a number of pro-Royalist demonstrations took place in west Cornwall and although Parliamentary soldiers quickly restored order in Helston and Penzance, they failed to prevent a Royalist gathering around Mullion and Goonhilly. On 23 May the rebels, under Capt. Pike, advanced to Mawgan, where they were caught by a Parliamentary force under Col. Bennet. The Royalists were no match for the professional soldiers and after a clash around St Mauganus's Church, they fell back in disorder to the Gear, an ancient earthwork above Mawgan Creek (SW720249). At the approach of Colonel Bennet's men they scattered, many seeking refuge on the rocks and shore below.

In the chancel of St Mauganus's Church are the sword and armour of Sir Richard Vyvyan, a prominent local Royalist.

Mount Edgecumbe (SX4552) The Tudor mansion, seat of the Royalist Edgecumbe family, was garrisoned for the King for most of the war and served as one of the principal bases for operations against Plymouth. It was frequently raided by the Plymouth Parliamentarians and was finally surrendered to Fairfax by Col. Piers Edgecumbe on 3 March 1646. The old house

was largely destroyed during the Second World War and the present mansion is a modern restoration, though incorporating surviving sections of the Tudor and Stuart building. The house is open during the summer, the fine gardens and park which surround it all year.

Restormel Castle (SX104614) By the seventeenth century Restormel was semi-derelict, but the fortifications still afforded some protection and in August 1644 it was garrisoned as an outpost guarding the approach to the new Parliamentary base at Lostwithiel. On the 21st, however, Sir Richard Grenville took the castle for the King, Col. John Weare's garrison offering no resistance and abandoning the place at the approach of the Royalists. The castle played no further part in the war. Although the interior apartments are very ruinous, the curtain wall of the circular shell keep survives almost to its original height. The castle is open daily.

St Gennys (SX1597) The Church of St Gennys contains an inscribed slate memorial to Capt. Braddon, member of the Long Parliament and an officer in the Parliamentary army.

St Michael's Mount (SW5130) The military potentials of this rocky island have long been appreciated, and although a Benedictine priory stood here from the twelfth century, the Mount was frequently taken over by troops. In the fifteenth century the monks were permanently ejected and a castle built on the summit of the island; it incorporated large parts of the old priory buildings. The place was held for the King throughout the Civil War, the defences strengthened, and batteries added on the north side to cover the main approach path from the causeway. By March 1646 the Mount was isolated and blockaded by Parliamentary forces and on 16 April Sir Arthur Bassett was persuaded to abandon the hopeless struggle and surrender to Col. Hammond. The present castle buildings clustered on the 195 foot pinnacle owe much to post-Civil War renovation and remodelling, but large parts of the medieval priory and of the late medieval and early modern military works survive. The castle is open for guided tours on certain weekdays throughout the year.

St Tudy (SX0676) On 1 March 1646 Cromwell and his men occupied St Tudy to counter any attempt by Hopton to strike north-east from Bodmin and outflank the main Parliamentary army approaching from Launceston. In fact, Hopton made no such move, and St Tudy's distinguished visitor had a peaceful day. On the

2nd he moved on to rejoin Fairfax, who had just entered Bodmin unopposed, but Cromwell was still vigilant and travelled via Wadebridge, where he left a troop of Dragoons to guard the bridge (SW9972).

Saltash (SX4259) Clinging to the hillside above the river, Saltash's importance in the Civil War lay in its position on the Tamar at the lowest point at which it could be crossed safely and easily by fairly small boats. The town was taken by Parliament at the end of 1642 only to be retaken by Hopton in January 1643. It remained in Royalist hands for most of the war although it was captured and briefly occupied in September 1644 by Parliamentary Horse who had cut their way through from Fowey, and fell again in October to a raiding party from Plymouth. Saltash was finally surrendered to Fairfax in February 1646.

Stratton (SS227071) In May 1643 the Earl of Stamford gathered his Parliamentary army, over 5,500 strong, at Torrington and marched west to invade northern Cornwall. He entered the county on the 15th and by nightfall had reached Stratton. Meanwhile, Hopton was marching north-east from Bodmin to oppose him, and arrived before Stratton in the early hours of the 16th; he had just 3,000 men. Moreover Stamford had taken up a strong position behind ancient earthworks on the top of a long, narrow hill running north of the village, its eastern slopes steep and thickly wooded, its western gentler and fairly open. Despite his numerical disadvantage, Hopton decided to attack and at dawn on the 16th he launched a three-pronged assault up the south, west and north slopes of the hill. An inconclusive struggle ensued and continued into the afternoon, until Major General Chudleigh ill-advisedly left the hilltop and led a counter-attack down the slope. Initially successful, Chudleigh soon found himself cut off and surrounded. Even worse, the Parliamentary force on the hilltop had been significantly depleted, particularly at the southern end, and here the Royalists at last gained a foothold and pushed north into the Parliamentary flank. By 4 p.m. the hill was taken; 300 Parliamentarians were dead, 1,700 captured and the remainder fleeing back to Devon.

A minor road now runs north from Stratton, across the hilltop and on to Stibb, and along it modern housing has begun to encroach upon the battlefield. The north end of the hill and the eastern and western slopes are still open ground, however, and the prehistoric earthworks survive. The place is now known as Stamford Hill,

a curious honour for a defeated commander. Marks on the north-west corner of the tower of St Andrew's Church in Stratton are attributed to wayward shots from the Royalist cannon, intended for the southern end of the Parliamentary line. The dead of both sides were buried in unmarked communal graves in St Andrew's churchyard and relics found on the battlefield are now on show within the church. According to tradition, the Royalists established their HQ in the Tree Inn, Stratton.

Trematon Castle (SX410580) The medieval castle, held for the King throughout the Civil War, served as a base guarding the southern road into Cornwall and as an outpost for operations against Plymouth. There is no evidence of any fighting here and it was probably eighteenth-century neglect and nineteenth-century partial demolition rather than Parliamentary cannon which have reduced the castle to its present sorry state. The ruins of the

keep, gatehouse and bailey wall stand in the grounds of a private Regency mansion.

Tresillian (SW869465) On 10 March 1646, at the bridge over the river Tresillian, Hopton agreed in outline to a cessation of hostilities. After three days of negotiation at Tresillian and Truro the final terms of surrender were agreed and the remnant of Hopton's army dissolved. A plaque on the outer wall of the Sunday school by the village church facing the bridge records the events of March 1646 and commemorates 'all brave Cornishmen who died in the Great Civil War'.

Truro (SW8244) Truro served as a Royalist recruiting base at the outbreak of war and remained a stronghold for the King throughout the Civil War. In March 1646 Fairfax and the Parliamentary army entered the town unopposed and the final details of Hopton's surrender were arranged here. Cromwell was in Truro on 10–21 March.

CUMBRIA

The county was notionally Royalist at the outbreak of war and was conquered by the Scots in 1644–45, but in reality there was very little military action here during the first Civil War. Most of the fighting in the county occurred in 1648, when the Scottish Royalist invasion force marched through Cumbria taking and garrisoning key towns and castles on their way south. Even then fighting was rare; the major clashes took place in Lancashire and Cheshire to the south, and the Royalist bases within Cumbria then fell to Parliament without further bloodshed. Cromwell participated in no military actions within Cumbria and his one recorded visit to the county, to Carlisle in October 1648, took place after order had been restored to the area.

Appleby (NY686199) On his arrival in Cumbria in April 1648, Lambert established his HQ in Appleby Castle, a good centre from which to watch the Royalists at Carlisle and Penrith and to block possible lines of advance south into Lancashire or south-east into Yorkshire. In fact, his surveillance proved rather poor for his troops were surprised by the Scots on 17 July and only with difficulty did the Parliamentary Foot hold Hamilton off while the Horse regrouped. Lambert withdrew to Bowes and Barnard Castle leaving a small garrison in Appleby Castle, which in due course fell to the Scots. Town and castle were retaken without serious resistance at the end of the summer. The Norman castle, largely rebuilt by the Cliffords in the fifteenth century, was repaired by Lady Anne

Clifford, Dowager Countess of Pembroke, after the Civil War. The remains of the castle stand on high ground to the south of the town centre and are not open to the public.

Brougham Castle (NY537290) The Cliffords' medieval castle was occupied by Sir Marmaduke Langdale's Royalists in April 1648 but abandoned by them in the following month when Lambert's forces approached. The fortress was modernised and extended by Lady Anne Clifford in the 1650s but fell derelict in the eighteenth century. The extensive ruins, which include the remains of the keep, the inner and outer gatehouses and the domestic buildings within the inner ward, are open daily.

Carlisle (NY3955) Carlisle occupies a key position near the Scottish border and on the main western route between Scotland and England. The Romans established a fort here, and it remained a strong point throughout the Middle Ages, heavily fortified and suffering repeated Scottish raids. A Royalist base from the outbreak of the Civil War, Carlisle became important only after the fall of York in July 1644. Thereafter Carlisle served as the Royalists' northern HQ, its garrison was enlarged and Sir Thomas Glemham became governor. Under siege from October 1644 and encircled by Parliamentary forces stationed at Newtown, Stanwix, Wetheral, Dalston Hall and elsewhere, Glemham held out until 25 June 1645 when he surrendered on terms to Leslie. In the following October Digby and Langdale made a rather half-hearted attempt to recover the town, but were repulsed by the Scots in a skirmish on Carlisle sands.

In 1648 Carlisle became one of the centres of the second Civil War. Sir Philip Musgrave secured the town for the King in April, and in July it became the base from which the Scottish Royalist invasion force launched their grand operation. The small garrison left in Carlisle surrendered on 1 October and a fortnight later Cromwell paid a brief visit to the town on his way back from Scotland.

A substantial section of the medieval town wall survives on the west side of the town centre, running along West Walls Road; elsewhere, the wall has been destroyed and none of the three town gates survive. The outer ward of the medieval castle disappeared in the nineteenth century but the rectangular twelfth-century keep survives, extensively repaired in the eighteenth and nineteenth centuries and now housing a military museum, open daily; nearby stand the remains of the gatehouse, walls and towers of the inner ward. Carlisle Cathedral owes its present modest dimensions to the Civil War, for in 1645 the Scots demolished the chapter house, cloisters and part of the nave to provide stone for repairing the town's defences.

Cockermouth (NY125310) Above the river stand the remains of the double-warded castle begun by William de Fortibus in the thirteenth century but extended later in the Middle Ages and heavily restored in the eighteenth and nineteenth centuries. The castle was garrisoned for Parliament in 1648 and unsuccessfully besieged by the Scottish Royalists as they marched past in July.

Levens Hall (SD495851) Originally a twelfth-

century peel tower, Levens was converted into a grand Elizabethan mansion towards the end of the sixteenth century. The fine Tudor and Stuart interiors survive in good order and the Hall contains a fine collection of sixteenth- and seventeenth-century furniture, paintings and other fittings, including a small selection of Civil War arms and armour. Levens Hall is open most days during the summer; the exotic eighteenth-century gardens are open all year.

Lindale (SD4180) On 1 October 1643 Col. Rigby's Parliamentarians intercepted a force of local Royalists marching south to relieve Thurland Castle (Lancs) and scattered them in a skirmish outside Lindale.

Millom (SD172814) The late medieval fortified home of the Huddlestons served as a minor Royalist outpost during the first Civil War and again in 1648, when it was besieged and captured by Parliamentarians. The substantial remains of the quadrangular castle, with an eastern gatehouse, western great hall and a fifteenth-century peel tower, stand on private farmland.

Penrith (NY5130) The town and castle stand in a key position on the main road into England and changed hands several times in 1648. Taken by Langdale for the King in April, the Royalists fell back before Lambert in early July and the Parliamentarians established a base here to block the road south. But on 15 July Langdale returned with Hamilton and the main Scottish army, and Lambert, heavily outnumbered and under instruction not to engage the enemy until Cromwell had arrived, abandoned the town and retreated to Appleby. Penrith was retaken by Parliament without a fight in September, its defences were slighted and the stone sold. The remains of the castle stand in public parkland.

Rose Castle (NY371462) Partly restored as a Bishop's Palace in the nineteenth century, Rose Castle was begun in the thirteenth century and extended by Bishop Strickland 200 years later. A minor Royalist outpost in the Civil War, it fell to Parliament in 1645; three years later it was retaken and briefly held by the Scottish Royalists. By the end of the seventeenth century the building was in ruins. Although the south and east ranges were completely demolished, the north and west ranges of the present 'castle' incorporate much of the medieval fortress.

Scaleby (NY449624) The medieval double-moated castle served as a Royalist garrison in 1644–45, falling to Parliament in spring 1645

only to change hands twice more before the end of the year. In 1648 it was secured by Musgrave for the King in April, fell to Lambert after a brief siege in May, was abandoned by him in July and finally retaken by Parliament after the destruc-

tion of the Scottish Royalist army at Preston and Warrington. The substantial remains, part medieval, part nineteenth-century reconstruction, stand on private land.

DERBYSHIRE

Most of the county was secured for Parliament by Sir John Gell in autumn 1642 and remained largely Parliamentary throughout the Civil War. Despite the proximity of Royalist territory to the north, west and south-west in 1643–44, Derbyshire suffered nothing more than occasional raids launched from Royalist bases outside or around the fringes of the county. Cromwell marched through Derbyshire in August 1651, the only occasion on which he is known to have set foot within the county.

Ashbourne (SK1846) Ashbourne was the scene of two minor skirmishes during the Civil War. On 12 February 1644 a Royalist unit from Tissington Hall was ambushed outside the town by Major Saunders's forces. Surprised and outnumbered, the Royalists were quickly overwhelmed and 170 captured. During summer 1645 the main Royalist army marched through, brushing aside a small local force which vainly tried to block their path.

Barton Blount (SK2134) Barton Blount, a decayed medieval village, now comprises nothing more than a few scattered farms and an isolated hall. Barton Hall was garrisoned for Parliament during the Civil War to guard against incursions from Staffordshire Royalists. It was badly damaged by fire, presumably the result of one such raid, and the present hall is largely eighteenth- and nineteenth-century, though incorporating fragments of the earlier building which saw action in the Civil War.

Bolsover (SK470708) Bolsover stands in the north-east of the county, an area susceptible to Royalist influence during the first half of the war. Bolsover Castle was secured for the King by spring 1643 and the garrison held out until summer 1644, when the King's cause in the area collapsed after the disaster at Marston Moor. The castle fell to Major General Crawford's Parliamentarians on 12 August. The medieval castle had been demolished in the early seventeenth century, and the building which saw action in the Civil War was a mock castle, a square house with battlements and turreted angle towers, built by Sir Charles Cavendish during the reign of James I. The main house

probably stands on the site of the Norman keep, and the massive seventeenth-century walls to the south follow the line of the inner bailey wall. The terrace range running along the west edge of the site was probably erected just before the Civil War. Bolsover Castle is open daily.

Boyleston (SK182359) In July 1644 a detachment of 200 Royalists under Col. Eyre quartered for the night at Boyleston Church. Failing to set a proper watch, they received a rude awakening, surprised at dawn by local Parliamentary troops who had surrounded St John's. The Royalists had no choice but to surrender and emerged one at a time through the small south door in the chancel, whereupon each was searched and stripped of weapons and valuables.

Bretby (SK300225) Although the Earl of Chesterfield's Jacobean mansion was garrisoned for the King at the outbreak of war, it was almost immediately besieged by Gell's forces, reinforced in December by Major Molloner's troop of dragoons. Faced by such numbers, the Royalist garrison promptly abandoned the place and, after a brief exchange of fire, fled across the surrounding parkland in the direction of Lichfield. The house was then plundered by the Parliamentarians. Bretby Hall was largely demolished in the eighteenth century, though the present nineteenth-century castellated mansion on the site incorporates fragments of its Jacobean predecessor.

Carsington Chapel (SK2553) The fourteenth-century church was 're-edified' in 1648 by the Gell family of neighbouring Hopton Hall. There are several memorials to the Gells, including



Top: Brougham Castle, Cumb. The imposing fortress by the river Eamont, seized and briefly occupied by Scottish Royalists in spring 1648, was repaired by the indomitable Lady Ann Clifford after the war; she died here in 1676. Bottom: Bolsover Castle, Derbs. Sir Charles Cavendish's grand early Stuart mansion changed hands repeatedly during the opening years of the war. It was before the war, enjoying a Jonson masque – 'Love's Welcome to Bolsover' – and other entertainment costing over £15,000.

windows bearing their crest and family tree. The sundial of 1648 was almost certainly provided by the Gells.

Chapel en le Frith (SK0680) The fourteenth-century Church of St Thomas à Becket became both prison and grave for many Scottish Royalists in 1648. After the defeat and disintegration of the invasion force, large numbers of Scottish prisoners were herded into St Thomas's and held there for sixteen days in early September. Overcrowded and kept in very unsavoury conditions, at least 40 died during their captivity and many more were so weakened that they collapsed and expired on the subsequent march through Derbyshire.

Chatsworth (SK260702) In the sixteenth century Sir William Cavendish built a quadrangular fortified mansion here, a four storey house with square angle towers and a western gatehouse. Garrisoned for the King under Col. Eyre early in 1644, the house fell to Parliament at the end of the summer and was partially slighted – the gates were removed and certain defensive walls breached. The 1st Duke of Devonshire completed the destruction at the end of the seventeenth century, clearing the site in preparation for his new mansion, the present Chatsworth House.

Derby (SK3536) The town was occupied unopposed by Sir John Gell in October 1642 and became his HQ throughout the war. Derby had neither a castle nor stone walls and Gell set about constructing earthwork defences around the town. They were not put to the test, for the Royalist raids into south Derbyshire never penetrated as far as Derby. Gell's HQ, garrison and magazine were sited in the Tudor town hall, long since demolished.

Eastwood Hall (SK3463) One mile east-north-east of Ashover stand the remains of Eastwood Hall, the Tudor manor house owned by Immanuel Bourne during the Civil War and slighted by Royalists in 1646. The house could not be brought down by canon and the King's men eventually set off a barrel of gunpowder in the base of the tower. The ivy-covered ruins include sections of this tower and of adjoining apartments.

Egginton Heath (SK2628) In February 1644 Gell marched south-west from Derby to meet Royalist forces advancing on the town from Burton upon Trent. They clashed on Egginton Heath, just within the county boundary.

Although the two parties produced very different accounts of the skirmish and its aftermath – Gell claiming to have routed his opponents and forced them back over the river Dove, the Royalists talking of a drawn battle and an orderly retreat – it is clear that the Parliamentarians emerged victorious, if only because they had halted the Royalist advance on Derby.

Hardwick Hall (SK463637) The massive and richly decorated Elizabethan mansion played no significant part in the Civil War. Nonetheless, amongst the many items on display is a small but fine selection of Civil War arms and armour. The house is open most days during the summer.

Hopton Hall (SK256533) The Elizabethan Hall was the home of the Gell family in the seventeenth century, including Sir John Gell, bart., one of the leading lights of the Parliamentary cause in the North Midlands. Gell secured most of Derbyshire for Parliament during the opening months of the war and, whatever his moral weaknesses – accusations of adultery abounded – he proved a very active and successful military commander, not only keeping most of his native county clear of Royalists but also prominent in the struggle against Royalism in Staffordshire and west Nottinghamshire. He fell from favour with Parliament during the early 1650s and welcomed the restoration of Charles II. He continued to live at Hopton Hall and in London, where he died in 1671. Hopton Hall remains at heart an Elizabethan mansion, but the exterior was extensively remodelled in the eighteenth century and has been repeatedly renovated since. The hall is not open to the public.

Staveley (SK4374) Staveley House, a Jacobean hall standing next to the parish church, was owned during the early 1640s by John Frecheville. A staunch Royalist, he garrisoned the place for the King in spring 1644. Royalist occupation was brief, for in August the house was invested and captured by Major General Crawford's Parliamentarians. Staveley House survived the Civil War intact, was remodelled in the eighteenth century, and now serves as council offices.

Sutton Scarsdale (SK442688) The present Sutton House stands on a site occupied from the fifteenth century onwards by a succession of grand houses. The seventeenth-century hall was garrisoned for the King by Lord Deincourt early in 1643, but at the end of April it fell to a Parliamentary force under Thomas Gell, Sir John's brother, and played no further part in the Civil War. By the eighteenth century the house

was ruinous and a new mansion was built on the site, incorporating part of the old hall. Georgian Sutton House or Hall was one of the grandest mansions in the county, richly decorated inside and out, but sadly this building, too, is now a ruined shell. Although the weathered earthworks still discernible in the grounds have occasionally been described as Civil War defence works, there is no clear evidence to link them with the war.

Swarkestone (SK3628) For much of the Civil War southern Derbyshire was very vulnerable to Royalist raids launched from bases in north-west Leicestershire and north-east Staffordshire. In response, Gell established a series of defences at all the main crossing points over the Trent, including Wilne Ferry at Great Wilne and King's Mills, where 200 Royalists were captured in a skirmish in February 1644. But fighting was generally fiercest at the crossing at Swarkestone, just five miles south of Derby, where a bridge and a ¾ mile elevated causeway carried the road across the Trent and the low, marshy ground around it. In autumn 1642 the Parliamentarians garrisoned Swarkestone Hall, at the northern end of the causeway, to guard the passage, but in the opening days of 1643 bridge and hall both fell to Col. Hastings and a Royalist force from Ashby de la Zouch. Aware of the grave threat to his HQ in Derby, Gell immediately despatched Sir George Gresley to retake the crossing. The two forces clashed on 5 January and after a fierce fight the Royalists were driven off and the bridge secured. Despite frequent Royalist attacks, Swarkestone remained Parliamentary thereafter. The garrison in the hall dismantled the earthworks which the Royalists had hastily thrown up to the north and constructed their own bank and batteries on the southern side to cover the bridge and the river.

Swarkestone Hall, a Tudor and Jacobean mansion built by Sir John Harper, was partially demolished after the Civil War and is now very ruinous. The remains, including a barn, a gateway, and two domed towers joined by a three-bayed crenellated wall (possibly part of the banqueting house) stand by the river (SK375285) on land crossed by a public footpath. The medieval bridge and causeway survive, though the arches which span the river were heavily restored or rebuilt in the eighteenth century.

Tissington Hall (SK174524) The early Jaco-

bean hall was garrisoned for the King by Col. Fitzherbert in January 1644, the Royalists thus gaining a foothold in the very west of the county on the fringes of the Staffordshire peaks. In the following month, however, most of the garrison was ambushed and routed at Ashbourne, and the survivors hastily retreated. The hall saw no further action in the Civil War and emerged unscathed. Although the west front was remodelled in the eighteenth century, much of the hall, including the east front with its central porch, retains the appearance of a rather plain, two storey Jacobean house. The exterior can be viewed from the road and public footpath which run close by.

Wingfield House (SK374548) Begun in the mid-fifteenth century by Lord Cromwell and completed several decades later by the Earl of Shrewsbury, Wingfield House or Manor changed hands several times in the course of the Civil War. Garrisoned for Parliament for most of the war, it was vulnerable to Royalist raids from north Nottinghamshire. Thus in December 1643 it fell to Newcastle's men after the three day siege; within weeks the new Royalist garrison was itself under siege and surrendered on 20 March 1644. Wingfield was retaken by the Royalists in the late spring, but in mid-August it fell to Parliamentary forces returning from South Yorkshire. It remained Parliamentary for the rest of the war. Remodelled and partially demolished in the late seventeenth and early eighteenth centuries, the house is now an extensive and spectacular ruin, open daily. It is double quadrangular in plan, the two courts divided by a cross range with a central gateway and a western great tower. The remains of the state rooms and great hall lie in the north range of the northern or inner court.

Wirksworth (SK2854) In October 1642 Sir John Gell attacked and scattered a small band of local Royalists under Sir Francis Wortley who had gathered around Wirksworth. Sir John returned nearly thirty years later, his body brought from London in a slow and stately procession, the bearers distributing alms wherever the cortège spent a night on its six week journey. Gell was laid to rest in St Mary's Wirksworth, a large thirteenth-century church restored by Scott in the nineteenth, which contains tombs of many of the family, including an inscribed memorial to Sir John himself.