

Northampton (SP7560) Secure for Parliament throughout the Civil War, the county town frequently served as a rendezvous and rallying point. Essex gathered his army at Northampton in September 1642 and it was probably here that Cromwell and the Cambridgeshire contingent joined him. Cromwell certainly passed through the town on several occasions later in the war.

The only real fighting here took place in May 1649, when mutinous Leveller troops under William Thompson occupied the town. On 17 May Colonel Reynolds and a Parliamentary force burst into Northampton, pushing the Levellers into Holy Sepulchre Church in Sheep Street where they were captured after further fighting; the walls still bear bullet marks from the brief exchange. Thompson lies buried in an unmarked grave in All Saints Church, George Row.

The town was the centre for the manufacture of leather goods during the seventeenth century, and throughout the war the Parliamentary army marched in Northampton boots and rode in Northampton saddles. The Museum of Leathercraft in Bridge Street contains many examples of Civil War leatherwork.

Rockingham Castle (SP867914) Rockingham was one of the few fortresses in the county still defensible in the mid-seventeenth century, though by then most of the Norman motte and bailey stronghold had disappeared and the 'castle' which saw action in the Civil War was an Elizabethan fortified house, comprising the restored Great Hall and additional sixteenth-century ranges. Rockingham was secured for Parliament by Lord Grey in 1643 and garrisoned thereafter. The buildings were badly damaged at this time, though it is not clear whether by a Royalist attack during the war or by Parliamentary slighting after it. Parts of the castle were restored or rebuilt during the 1650s, including the three bay Walker's House to the north of the gatehouse. The building was remodelled and extended in the eighteenth and nineteenth century and the present castle is a confusing mixture of several ages, medieval – the gatehouse and parts of the Great Hall – early

modern – the restoration work to the Great Hall, the east and west ranges, Walker's House and the Laundry – and modern – the square south tower, the roof and most of the interior. The castle is open on Sundays and certain weekdays during the summer.

Titchmarsh (TL021800) Sir Gilbert Pickering, a close associate and distant relative of Oliver Cromwell, was born, brought up and lived at the late Tudor manor house in Titchmarsh. A man of adaptable religious and political views, he managed to survive most of the pitfalls of the period to remain at or near the centres of power. A member of every parliament 1640–60, he also served on numerous Protectorate Councils of Oliver and Richard Cromwell. Barred from office at the Restoration, he retired to his extensive estates in Northamptonshire. His principal seat, which had been built for his father John in 1591, was demolished at the end of the eighteenth century and today nothing remains except extensive if poorly preserved earthworks on the north-west outskirts of the village.

Weedon Bec (SP6258) On 26 February 1645 a Royalist force attacked 400 Parliamentary Horse as they were moving through Weedon on their way from Daventry to Northampton. The Parliamentarians retreated westwards, harried all the way from Weedon to Borough Hill, and lost over 150 killed or injured before they reached the relative safety of Daventry.

Wellingborough (SP8968) There is a tradition that Cromwell spent the night before the Battle of Naseby, 13 June 1645, at the Hind Inn, now the Hind Hotel, in the centre of the town. However, Cromwell's movements immediately before and after the battle are fairly well documented and at no point does a night halt in Wellingborough appear plausible.

Four years later, in May 1649, William Thompson, the leader of the Leveller-inspired army mutiny, was shot by pursuing Parliamentary troops in Wellingborough Woods. Thompson managed to hit two of his pursuers before being cut down by carbine.

NORTHUMBERLAND

The county was held for the King without challenge during 1642–43 and the first real fighting occurred in January and February 1644 as the Scottish Parliamentarians marched through, throwing back the Earl of Newcastle's army and capturing most of the strongholds en route. With their departure southwards in March the King's cause in Northumberland made a brief recovery, encouraged by the short-lived presence of Montrose's Scottish Royalists. Their Parliamentary compatriots reappeared after Marston Moor and Royalism in Northumberland was effectively ended. Cromwell passed through the county in 1648 and 1650–51 on his way to and from Scotland.

Alnwick Castle (NU187136) The medieval border castle was taken by the Scots as they marched through in January 1644 and served as a minor Parliamentary outpost thereafter. Cromwell probably lodged here when he halted at Alnwick on 12–15 September 1648 and again on 17 July 1650. By the eighteenth century the former Percy stronghold was derelict and much of the present building dates from the eighteenth and nineteenth century, when the castle was restored and modernised. The shell keep, bailey walls, some of the mural towers, and the outer gatehouse and barbican are largely medieval. Alnwick Castle is open daily except Saturdays during the summer.

Bamburgh Castle (NU183352) The stunning cliff-top castle occupies a site fortified since Roman times. The defences have been repeatedly strengthened and rebuilt and the present castle, though basically medieval, owes much to over-zealous restoration work of 1894–1905. The castle played no serious part in the Civil War, but the armoury contains a good selection of weapons and armour of the period. Bamburgh is open during the summer.

Berwick upon Tweed (NT9953) The most northerly town and stronghold of England, Berwick was in something of a military backwater in the seventeenth century and, despite its strong defences, saw no serious action during the first Civil War. In 1648, however, Berwick became one of the northern centres of the second Civil War, taken by Langdale's Royalists on 28 April and held by them throughout the summer. After the disintegration of the King's Scottish army around Preston, the Royalist elements in Berwick melted away and Cromwell entered the town unopposed in the latter half of September. He was in the area for nearly a fortnight before moving into Scotland on 3 October, and returned here in late July 1650 prior to his second Scottish campaign. On both occasions, however, he seems to have spent most of the time lodging outside Berwick, either at Norham to the west or Mordington just across the border to the north.

The town's rather unexciting Civil War history is one of the reasons why its defences survive in such good condition. The twelfth-century castle has gone, flattened by the Victorians to make way for the railway station, but the town walls remain almost complete. Begun by Edward I, they were remodelled and strengthened in the latter half of the sixteenth century, when several towers, bastions and gun platforms were added.

Holy Trinity Church, off the Parade, is of interest as one of only a handful of churches built during the Civil War and Interregnum. Designed by John Young of London and constructed 1648–52 under the supervision of Governor George Fenwick, Holy Trinity is a curious mixture of classical and gothic designs. It is rather heavy and squat, with no tower of any kind – according to tradition, plans for a tower were vetoed by Cromwell, who inspected the works on his visit to the town. The chancel and western turrets were added in the nineteenth century. Originally galleried on all four sides, only the west gallery now remains; the pulpit dates from 1652.

Chillingham Castle (NU062258) Cromwell's army quartered in the grounds of Chillingham Castle on 19 July 1650 and Cromwell himself probably lodged within the fortress. Built in the fourteenth century and extended over the following 200 years, Chillingham had been converted into a more comfortable, domestic residence during the second quarter of the seventeenth century. It was modernised again in the mid-eighteenth century, when the surrounding park was laid out. The quadrangular castle, with four three-storey ranges linked by square angle towers, is not usually open to the public.

Coquet Island (NU2904) The tiny North Sea island off the mouth of the river Coquet was held for the King during the opening year of the war, one of several off-shore strongholds secured as potential naval bases. It was overrun by Scottish forces on their way south in January 1644. No Civil War military works survive, and

it is possible that the Royalists occupied and fortified the medieval monastic buildings on the island.

Corbridge (NY9864) At the beginning of 1644 Newcastle led 8,000 men north from Yorkshire in an attempt to halt the 20,000 Scottish Parliamentarians advancing through Northumberland. On 19 February the two forces approached each other at Corbridge, where Newcastle hoped to hold the bridge over the Tyne. After a brief skirmish, possibly involving only part of the two armies, the outnumbered Royalists fell back and the road south was open. Much of the Scottish army, however, halted here for six weeks while their colleagues tried unsuccessfully to capture the town of Newcastle, and the Earl of Newcastle and Sir Marmaduke Langdale were able to mount many destructive raids on the Scottish quarters in and around Corbridge.

Eglingham Hall (NU104194) The present hall, still a private residence, is largely eighteenth century but incorporates at the west end a section of the earlier Tudor house which stood on the site. Owned during the 1640s by the local Parliamentary leader Henry Ogle, Cromwell lodged here on 9 August 1651.

Ford Castle (NT945374) Odinel de Forde's medieval quadrangular castle at Ford was rebuilt in the sixteenth century in the form of an 'E'-shaped fortified manor; the original north-east and north-west corner towers were incorporated within the Tudor mansion, though the former was all but lost under Elizabethan reworking. Ford Castle was held by the Royalists from the outbreak of the Civil War until early 1644, when it fell to the Scots. It played no further part in the conflict. The Tudor house survives intact and nearby stands the now ruined and isolated south-west tower of the medieval castle.

Lindisfarne (NU137417) Much of the medieval monastery on Lindisfarne was demolished after the Dissolution and the stone carted off to build a Tudor artillery fort high above the sea at the southern point of the island. The fort was secured for the King at the outbreak of the Civil War and served as a base for land and sea operations along the north-east coast until besieged and taken by Parliamentary forces in 1645. The fortress remained in military use until the early nineteenth century, when it rapidly fell into disrepair. It was rebuilt as a grand and romantic house by Sir Edward Lutyens at the

beginning of this century. The house is open daily except Tuesdays during the summer, tides permitting.

Morpeth Castle (NZ197856) The Norman motte and bailey castle, extended and strengthened during the fifteenth century, changed hands no less than five times in 1644. Captured by the Scots on their way south in January, it was retaken by Newcastle's forces in the following month. The Scots returned to Morpeth in March, recaptured the castle, and installed a 500-strong garrison under Lt.-Col. Somerville. The departure of the main Scottish army into Yorkshire left the castle vulnerable to attack and in May Montrose swooped on Morpeth and besieged and bombarded his compatriots into surrender on the 30th. Within weeks the Battle of Marston Moor and the departure of Montrose had altered the balance of power once more, this time permanently, and Morpeth was reoccupied by Parliamentary troops without opposition later in the summer. Cromwell stayed here on 11 September 1648 and on 16 July 1650. Morpeth Castle is now ruinous.

Norham (NT8947) Despite its mighty castle and its position at a crossing of the Tweed, Norham apparently played little part in the Civil War. The medieval castle had been repaired and modernised in the sixteenth century but may have fallen ruinous once more by the mid-seventeenth century, for neither side seems to have garrisoned the place. Cromwell stayed at Norham on 19–21 September 1648, possibly lodging in the Tudor domestic range within the castle, possibly in a humbler building in the village.

Prudhoe Castle (NZ092635) The medieval Percy stronghold housed a small Royalist garrison 1642–44 and became an important base for harrasing the Scottish Parliamentarians as they attempted to cross the Tyne here in February and March 1644. When the Scots pushed south, Prudhoe was evacuated and played no further part in the war. The castle, which stands on high ground south of the Tyne, comprises a free-standing keep and an inner and outer bailey, both protected by well preserved walls, mural towers and gatehouses. The remains, part of which have been incorporated within a late Georgian house, have recently been opened to the public.

Rock (NU2020) On 18 July 1650 Cromwell reviewed his troops on Rock Moor, to the west of the village, before marching to Chillingham



Top: Alnwick Castle, Northumberland. The medieval stronghold, restored in the eighteenth and nineteenth centuries, contains a large display of arms and armour, including a few items from the Civil War. Above: Berwick upon Tweed, Northumberland. The extensive Elizabethan defences, an elaborate system of ditches and bastions, artillery points and earth and masonry ramparts, were designed to sweep every approach with heavy gunfire.

and on to Scotland. It is not clear whether Cromwell stayed somewhere in Rock overnight – Rock Tower, the remains of which have been incorporated within the Youth Hostel seems a possible venue – or whether he pressed on to Chillingham on the 18th.

Warkworth Castle (NU247058) The impressive remains of Warkworth Castle stand above the town in a loop of the river Coquet. Warkworth was one of the strongest and most important English bases in the North, a simple

twelfth-century motte and bailey castle later converted by the Percies into a complex and formidable stronghold. The castle played a surprisingly small part in the Civil War – possibly it was already semi-ruinous by the mid-seventeenth century – garrisoned by the Royalists at the beginning of the war but surrendered to the Scots with little or no resistance in January 1644. Parts of the keep are still habitable, but for the most part Warkworth is now a dramatic ruin, open daily.

NORTH YORKSHIRE

Most of North Yorkshire was secured for the King at the outbreak of the Civil War and remained firmly Royalist until the latter half of 1644. York quickly became a major Royalist stronghold, the King's northern capital in all but name. Only the very south of the county saw action in 1642–44, when the area around and to the south of York was repeatedly raided from Parliamentary bases in West Yorkshire and Humberside. The arrival of the Scots, the crushing defeat at Marston Moor and the fall of York in summer 1644 dramatically altered the situation and the whole region rapidly fell to Parliament with little opposition. Nothing more than a scattering of isolated bases remained in the King's hands by the end of 1644. Cromwell campaigned in the area in summer 1644: he fought at Marston Moor, was present during the siege and capture of York and then probably saw action nearby during the rest of July. He passed through the area again in 1648 and 1650–51 on his way to and from Scotland.

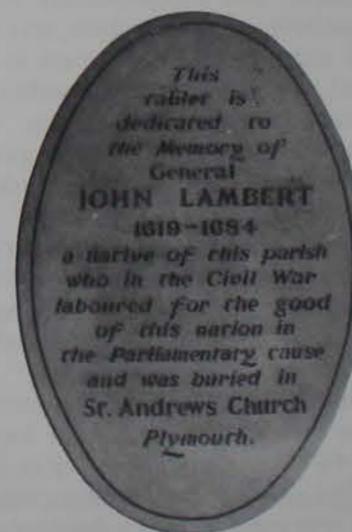
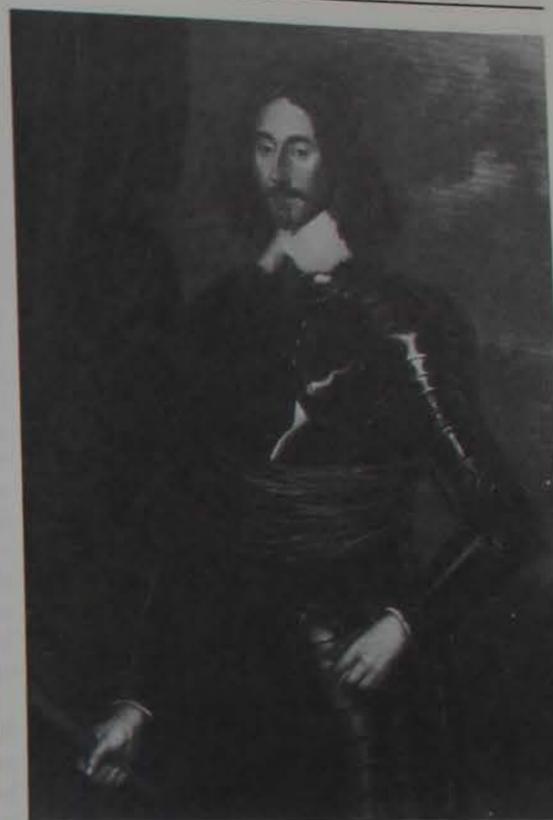
Bilbrough (SE530465) The Parliamentary Lord General Sir Thomas Fairfax, later the 3rd Lord Fairfax (d1671), lies buried in St James's Church, a nineteenth-century neo-Norman building incorporating parts of its medieval predecessor. Fairfax lies beneath a black marble tomb chest, richly decorated with foliage, shields and trophies. There is no effigy.

Bolton Percy (SE532413) Ferdinando, 2nd Lord Fairfax (d1648), the father of the Lord General and himself one of the leaders of the Parliamentary war effort in the north during the first half of the Civil War, was buried in All Saints Church. He lies near a large railed mural monument with a sarcophagus and pediment.

Buttercrambe Castle (SE7358) The remains of the medieval castle served as a minor outpost of York, guarding the bridge across the Derwent. The small Royalist garrison was overpowered by the Scottish Parliamentarians as they pushed south in May 1644. No trace remains of the motte and bailey stronghold, which stood west of the bridge in what is now Aldby Park.

Byram House (SE4926) Cromwell halted in Yorkshire during November 1648 to oversee the siege of Pontefract Castle. Although he spent most of the month at Knottingley, he lodged during the first week of November at Byram House, 1½ miles north of the town. The Tudor manor-house has since been demolished and the ruins of a later, eighteenth-century great house now stand in the private park.

Calton (SD9059) Major General John Lambert was born and brought up at Calton Hall. The late medieval house was gutted by fire at the end of the seventeenth century and, although restored in the eighteenth century, it was then abandoned and fell to ruin and little or nothing of Lambert's home survives; what may be the west end of the original hall is now incorporated in a much later private house. Cromwell and Lambert passed within a few miles of Calton in August 1648 and it is possible that the two made a slight detour to visit the hall. If so, it was one of the last times Lambert saw his old home – he lived in London and Wimbledon during the 1650s and then spent the rest of his life a prisoner.



Top: Bilbrough, North Yorks. Sir Thomas Fairfax (right), Lord General of the army from 1645, effectively retired five years later. He lived quietly in Yorkshire after the Restoration and lies beneath a decorated and recently restored tomb (left).

Above: Calton, North Yorks. John Lambert (right), soldier, politician, and Cromwell's principal backer until he broke from him over the question of kingship, was brought up at Calton Hall. He was imprisoned after the Restoration and buried in Devon, but a modern plaque in Kirkby Malham church (left) commemorates his association with St Michael's.

Castle Bolton (SE033918) Bolton Castle was built by the Scrope family in the fourteenth and fifteenth century, a quadrangular stronghold with corner towers and a large south-eastern gatehouse. It was garrisoned for the King throughout the Civil War and held out until 5 November 1645, when Col. John Scrope and his garrison were finally starved into surrender. The castle is open daily.

Cawood Castle (SE574376) The medieval fortified palace of the Archbishops of York was secured for the King by Capt. Grey at the outbreak of the Civil War. On 4 October 1642 Hotham junior and 600 Parliamentary Foot from Hull stormed the castle and established a garrison of their own. Cawood changed hands at least twice more during 1643 as fortunes ebbed and flowed in the area south of York. The Parliamentarians recaptured the castle for the final time in May 1644 and with the collapse of the King's cause in the region two months later, peace returned to Cawood. Little now survives except the mid-fifteenth-century gatehouse built by Archbishop Kempe, an embattled block with corner turrets and a courtroom above the arched entrance.

Coxwold (SE533772) Within the fifteenth-century Church of St Michael lie many members of the Bellasys family, including Thomas, Viscount or Earl of Falconberg (d1700), who married Cromwell's third daughter Mary in 1657. The elaborate white marble monument features an effigy of Falconberg dressed in Roman garb.

Crayke Castle (SE560707) In the fifteenth century the Bishops of Durham built a small fortified palace here on the site of a Norman motte and bailey castle. Briefly garrisoned by both sides in 1643–44, Crayke played only a minor role in the war. It was, nonetheless, slighted by Parliament in 1647. One of the ruined ranges was rebuilt in the nineteenth century and remains a private residence; nearby is a very ruinous fifteenth-century tower house.

Denton Hall (SE147487) Nothing remains of the late medieval hall owned by the Fairfax family in the sixteenth and seventeenth century in which the Parliamentary Lord General Sir Thomas Fairfax was born and brought up. The present Denton Hall dates from the 1770s.

Fort Airmyn (SE7225) The Royalists established an earthwork strongpoint here, at the junction of the Aire and the Ouse, to guard the waterborne approaches to York and Selby. The outpost fell to the Scots in May 1644. No trace

remains of the earthwork defences but the name 'Fort Hill' may commemorate the Civil War or earlier stronghold.

Helmsley Castle (SE612836) The medieval castle above the river was begun by Robert de Rood, Lord of Helmsley and by the fifteenth century comprised a keep, great hall, chapel and domestic ranges standing within an enclosure defended by a curtain wall, mural towers and a gatehouse and southern barbican. The castle was held without challenge for the King by Sir Jordan Crossland in 1642–44. Sir Thomas Fairfax laid siege to Helmsley in August 1644 and although the King's men held out for over three months, they were eventually starved into submission and surrendered on 22 November. Fairfax was shot and badly wounded in the course of the long siege. Parliament ordered the castle slighted after the war and one side of the keep and several sections of the curtain wall were brought down by mines. The extensive ruins are open daily.

Kirkby Malham (SD893610) Many members of the Lambert family of nearby Calton Hall are buried within St Michael's Church; most lie beneath the south chapel, otherwise known as the Calton Chapel. The Parliamentary Major General and politician, John Lambert, was baptised here and although he was buried in Plymouth (Devon), a modern plaque within the church commemorates his association with Kirkby Malham. There are contemporary monuments to many of his relatives, including a large tablet in memory of his son John.

Cromwell's signature in the parish records witnessing a marriage here in the mid-1650s is undoubtedly a forgery for at no time during the Protectorate was he anywhere near Yorkshire.

Knaresborough (SE348570) The fourteenth-century double bailey castle was held for the King in 1642–44 but fell to Parliament in 1644 following a brief siege. Some accounts suggest that Cromwell was present during the operation in July 1644 and lodged in a house in the High Street, demolished in the eighteenth century, which stood near the Crown Inn. He was certainly here on 1 September 1648 *en route* to Scotland. The extensive remains of the castle are open daily during the summer.

Marston Moor (SE4952) The Battle of Marston Moor was one of the largest and most decisive engagements of the Civil War and the Royalist defeat effectively ended the King's cause in northern England.



Marston Moor, North Yorks. According to tradition, Cromwell spent the night before battle in Long Marston Hall or Manor (top), a Tudor mansion, extended and refaced in the eighteenth century. To the west lies Marston Moor itself, the open ground where the Royalists' northern army was destroyed in July 1644. An inscribed memorial to the battle (left), erected by the Cromwell Association, stands by the Long Marston to Tockwith road near the probable centre of the conflict. In the late 1950s a commemorative service was held around the memorial (above), attended by the Rt. Hon. Isaac Foot, the founder of the Cromwell Association, and other historians and members of the Association.

Throughout June 1644 a 28,000-strong Parliamentary army had besieged York, creating increasing distress within the city. At the end of the month Rupert led 18,000 Royalists to relieve York and the Parliamentarians drew off and deployed to the west of the city, intending to engage the Prince head-on as he approached York. Rupert, however, swung north, avoided the main Parliamentary army and entered York unopposed on 1 July. Despite Newcastle's objections, the Prince determined to give battle, looking for justification to an ambiguously-worded letter from the King.

The two armies approached each other on 2 July on open moorland to the west of Long Marston. The Parliamentarians deployed in an east-west line south of and parallel to the Long Marston to Tockwith road, with the Foot in the centre and the Horse on the wings; Fairfax led the right wing, Cromwell the left. The Parliamentary command point was established on Cromwell's Plump, a small, tree-covered hillock to the rear of the Foot. The Royalists drew up between Kendal and Atterwith Lane in a line parallel to and north of the Parliamentarians. Their precise position is unclear: according to some historians they deployed on the far side of a broad and deep ditch well north of the Long Marston to Tockwith road, whilst other accounts suggest that they lined a hedge and small ditch which ran beside the road itself.

Both sides deployed very slowly during the afternoon and Rupert probably planned to stay in the field overnight and give battle on the 3rd. But the Parliamentary commander noticed that the Royalists appeared both outnumbered and unprepared and decided to attack at once. At 7 p.m. amid a heavy shower, the Parliamentary front line charged forward. The right, under Fairfax, crossed the Tockwith to Long Marston road and then began moving down Atterwith Lane, but here they met heavy fire and were thrown back. Elsewhere, however, everything went Parliament's way. The left, under Cromwell, smashed the Royalist right and then tore into the flank of the King's Foot, which began retreating and swinging round to meet the Cavalry attack. Repeated Parliamentary Cavalry and Infantry charges broke the Royalist Foot, which gave way and fled. The exception was Newcastle's troop of Whitecoats, who resisted to the end and were cut down almost to a man either in White Syke Close or in a hedged enclosure to the south-east. By 9 p.m. the battle was over; 4,500 Royalists had been killed or captured and the rest were fleeing eastwards.

Marston Moor is still open ground, covered with scrub and gorse and dotted with farm-

houses and enclosures. The Tockwith to Long Marston road crosses the centre of the battlefield and several tracks still run off to the north, including Kendal, Moor and Atterwith Lane; the latter now kinks east before joining the road but in the seventeenth century it ran straight and thus met the road west of the present junction. The remains of the large ditch behind which the Royalists may have deployed can still be traced to the north of the road. The dead were buried in mass graves in White Syke Close and Wilstrop Wood. A Cromwell Association memorial stands by the junction of Moor Lane and the Long Marston to Tockwith road at SE490521; the obelisk bears inscriptions describing the battle and the parts played by Cromwell and Fairfax. Cromwell's Plump survives to the south of the road and is a good vantage-point for viewing the battlefield.

Cromwell supposedly spent the night before the battle at Marston Hall in Long Marston; the hall, which still stands, is reputedly haunted by his ghost. Cromwell was wounded during the initial charge and temporarily left the field; the house in Tockwith where, according to tradition, he had his injuries tended was destroyed during the Second World War.

On 8 March 1655 around 100 Royalists gathered on Marston Moor as part of the planned nationwide rising, but they panicked and dispersed without incident, leaving four cartloads of arms on the moor.

Middleham Castle (SE127875) The extensive and spectacular remains of the former Neville fortress dwarf the surrounding village at the head of Wensleydale. The massive square keep, chapel and domestic ranges stand in an enclosure defended by a curtain wall, mural towers and a gatehouse. Despite its size, Middleham had a quiet Civil War, held without challenge for the King in 1642-44 and then abandoned without a fight after Marston Moor. It was slighted by Parliament in 1646. The ruins are open daily.

Mulgrave Castle (NZ839117) Mulgrave Castle, the principal seat of the Sheffield family in the seventeenth century, was garrisoned for the King at the outbreak of the Civil War and held without challenge for three years. Capt. Steward and his garrison surrendered after a brief siege in 1645 and the castle was slighted two years later. Edmund Sheffield, 2nd Earl of Mulgrave, was one of the few members of the old nobility actively to support Cromwell in the 1650s and was nominated to the Protectoral Council. Mulgrave petitioned for and was

awarded £1,000 compensation for the demolition of his castle. The remains of the fourteenth-century fortress – a rectangular keep with corner towers and a double-towered gatehouse – stand ¾ mile south-west of the new 'castle', built in the eighteenth century.

Newburgh Priory (SE543765) The twelfth-century Augustinian Priory was largely demolished by the Bellasys family after the Dissolution and a large sixteenth- and seventeenth-century house, called Newburgh Priory, was built on the site. Thomas Bellasys, Lord Falconberg, was born and brought up here and he lived at Newburgh with his wife Mary Cromwell, the Protector's third daughter, during the latter half of the seventeenth century. The present house is largely eighteenth century, but parts of the earlier building survive, including a fine Jacobean porch. According to a rather implausible tradition, Oliver Cromwell lies buried here in a stone vault near the main staircase, his body secretly carried from London to Newburgh by his daughter in September 1658. Newburgh Priory is open on certain days during the summer.

Nun Appleton (SE556400) During the 1650s Sir Thomas Fairfax lived in quiet retirement at Nun Appleton Hall, one of several properties in the area owned by the family. The old building has completely disappeared and the present hall dates from the late seventeenth and eighteenth century. A modern plaque records Nun Appleton's association with Fairfax and Marvell, poet, politician and Milton's assistant as Latin Secretary to the Protectoral Council, who was at one time employed and patronised by the family.

Old Malton (SE7972) In winter 1642-43 a Parliamentary force from Scarborough led by Sir Hugh Cholmley raided Old Malton, capturing the town and expelling the Earl of Newport's Royalist garrison.

Poppleton (SE5655) There was no stone bridge over the Ouse here in the seventeenth century and instead the Parliamentary forces besieging York in summer 1644 constructed a bridge of boats at Poppleton to facilitate movement around the beleaguered city. On 1 July a detachment of Parliamentary Dragoons guarding the bridge was surprised by Prince Rupert and the main Royalist army, who had unexpectedly swung north as they neared York. The small guard was quickly overcome and the crossing captured intact.

Ripley Castle (SE283606) The present 'castle', really an eighteenth-century mansion, incorporates a fifteenth-century gatehouse tower and other parts of the late medieval fortified home of the Ingilby family. According to tradition, Cromwell stayed in the old house on the night after the Battle of Marston Moor, the unwelcome guest of a gun-toting Lady Ingilby. Despite the implausible frills, the story may have a basis in truth for Cromwell was certainly in the general area after the battle and a visit to Ripley would tie in with accounts of him being present at the siege of Knaresborough around the same time. Ripley Castle now houses a fine collection of furnishings, arms and armour and is open to the public at weekends and on certain weekdays during the summer.

Bullet marks in the east wall of All Saints Church are believed to be a grim relic of the execution of Royalists here during the Civil War.

Scarborough Castle (TA050890) The high headland dominating the town has been the site of defensive works since the Roman period, if not earlier. The present medieval castle has seen a great deal of action, from the capture of Piers Gaveston to an attack by two German cruisers in 1914. Scarborough was secured for Parliament at the outbreak of the Civil War and a 1,700 man garrison installed. In March 1643, however, governor Sir Hugh Cholmley defected and betrayed town and castle to the King. The Parliamentarians raided the place several times over the following year but not until summer 1644 did they mount a prolonged campaign to retake Scarborough. The town was quickly overrun but the castle held out for almost a year of close siege and heavy bombardment from Parliamentary batteries at Peasholm, on North Cliff and in St Mary's Church. The Parliamentarians launched several unsuccessful attacks, during one of which their commander, Sir John Meldrum, was fatally wounded. Starvation and disease eventually forced Cholmley to surrender on 22 July 1645.

Three years later history repeated itself, for Governor Matthew Boynton declared for the King and Scarborough became one of the Royalist centres of the 2nd Civil War. Besieged by early August, the garrison surrendered to Col. Bethel on 19 December 1648.

The impressive ruins include the remains of the massive Norman keep (the west wall was largely destroyed during the bombardment of 1645), the thirteenth-century curtain walls and mural towers of the two baileys, and a narrow barbican. The castle is open daily.

St Mary's Church in Castle Road served as a Parliamentary battery in 1644–45 and in consequence sustained considerable damage during the Royalist counter-bombardment. The two west towers and the north transept were destroyed and it was probably Civil War damage which caused the main crossing tower to collapse in the 1650s.

Selby (SE6132) Seventeenth-century Selby was a small town, possessing neither stone walls nor a castle, but it occupied an important position on the southern road and river approaches to York. The town was held for Parliament in 1642 and became the Fairfaxes' HQ from December 1642, when they fell back from Tadcaster, until March 1643, when the loss of Scarborough and the uncertain loyalty of Hull forced them to retreat into West Yorkshire. In May 1643 Sir Thomas clashed with a small Royalist force at Selby but successfully cut his way through and reached Hull. On 11 April 1644, as a preliminary to the siege of York, the Fairfaxes swooped down on Selby with the main Parliamentary army and captured the town and its large Royalist garrison.

Sherburn in Elmet (SE4933) Sherburn lay in the very south of the county, near the Parliamentary strongholds of West Yorkshire and in an area which was fiercely contested during the opening year of the war. The town had no walls or castle and could not be defended against determined attack and thus it usually changed hands with little or no bloodshed. On 14 December 1642, however, Sir Thomas Fairfax attacked a Royalist unit temporarily quartered here and inflicted heavy losses. Three years later, on 15 October 1645, Digby and 1,500 Royalist Horse heading north, contrived to win and then lose a skirmish here. On entering Sherburn, Digby's advanced guard surprised and captured a small Parliamentary unit, but confusion and panic then spread amongst the main Royalist force who somehow believed that it was their colleagues who had been captured by a much larger force; the Royalists turned and fled in disorder.

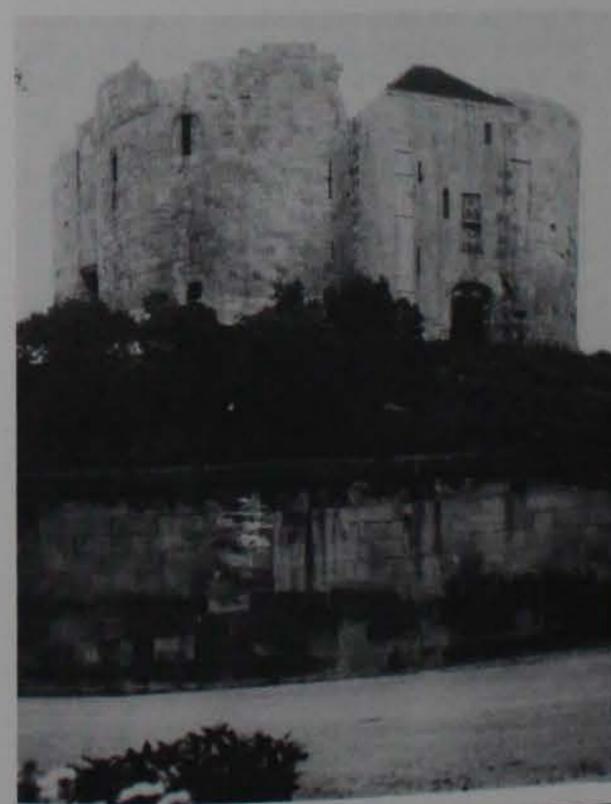
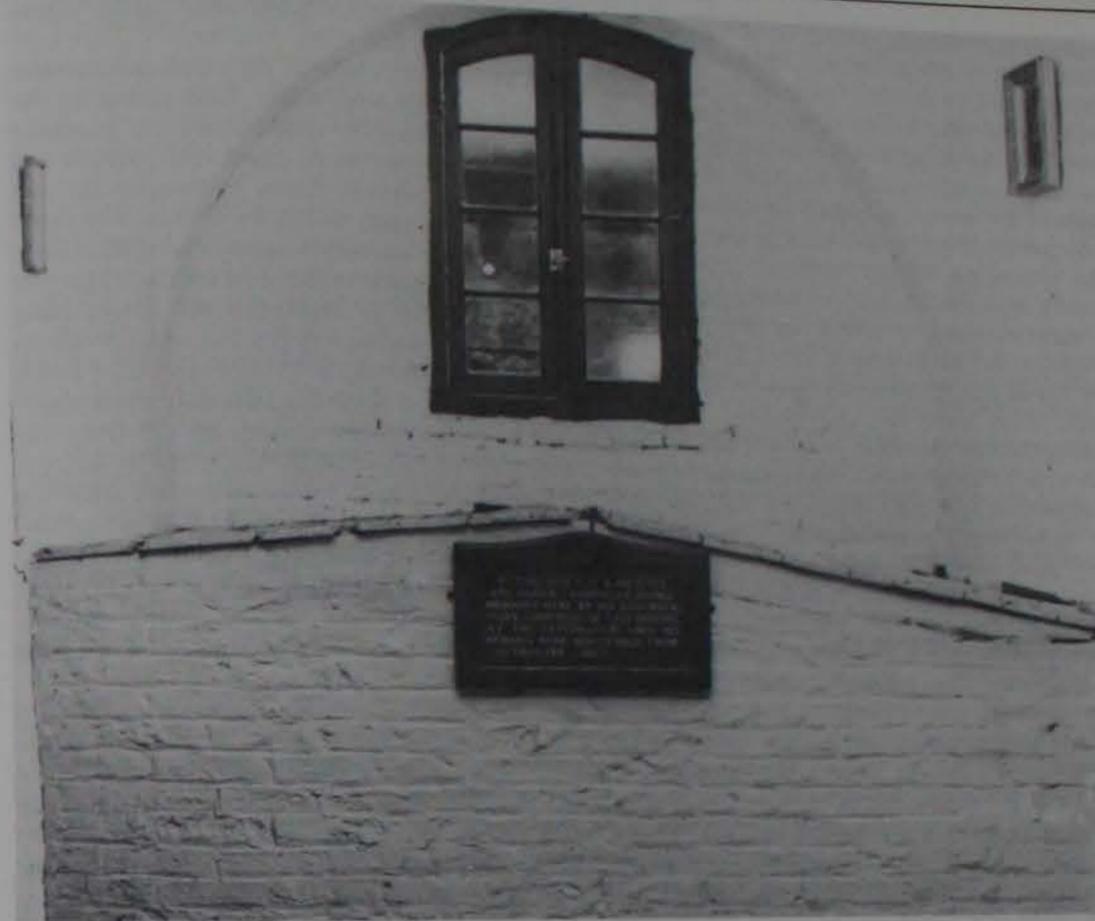
Skipton Castle (SD994519) The thirteenth- and fourteenth-century Clifford stronghold was garrisoned for the King throughout the Civil War. It was held without challenge until 1644, but after Marston Moor it was subject to repeated Parliamentary attacks. In 1645 Lambert arrived to take charge of the siege and brought with him heavy guns, which he placed on top of Cockhill to bombard the south side of the castle.

One of the last bases in the area to hold out for the King, Skipton was finally surrendered by Sir John Mallory on 21 December 1645. Cromwell may have lodged in the castle when he stayed at Skipton on 14 and 27–28 August 1648 on his way to and from meeting the Scottish Royalists in Lancashire. The fortress was slighted by Parliament at the end of the 1640s but was restored by Lady Ann Clifford in the following decade and has been remodelled several times since. The castle, which is still in good condition, comprises a fourteenth-century double-towered gateway, sixteenth- and seventeenth-century ranges of domestic buildings, a long banqueting hall and a Tudor octagonal tower. The extent of the damage caused by the Civil War bombardment and post-war slighting is still clear in the Watch Tower and Muniment Tower, where the lower levels of walling are much darker than Lady Clifford's repair work above. Parts of the castle are open daily.

Tadcaster (SE4843) In late November 1642 Lord Fairfax occupied Tadcaster as part of his campaign to threaten York and set about defending the town with earthworks and barricades. These were put to the test on 6 December when Newcastle's 4,000 Foot attacked the town, but the 1,500 Parliamentarians within held off their opponents throughout the day and then slipped away to Selby under cover of darkness. On 29 March 1643 the small Royalist garrison fell back at the approach of Sir Thomas Fairfax but on the following day the Parliamentarians, in turn, were compelled to evacuate the place when a large force from York marched on Tadcaster. No trace of the Civil War defences survives.

York (SE6051) The ancient stronghold on the Ouse became the Royalists' capital in the north of England from the outbreak of war until the city's fall in July 1644. York was defended by a near continuous circuit of Roman and medieval walls and two medieval castles. They had become rather dilapidated during the first half of the seventeenth century but were repaired and strengthened by the garrison during 1643. A number of earthworks and fortified churches and manor-houses outside the walls gave further protection.

In spring 1644 the northern Parliamentarians felt sufficiently strong to mount a sustained campaign against York. On 22 April Fairfax and Leven arrived at the head of 22,000 men and surrounded the city in an arc around the east, south and west sides. Manchester and Cromwell appeared on 3 June and their 6,000



Top: Newburgh Priory, North Yorks. An improbable tradition has it that Cromwell lies buried in this stone vault, his remains carried to Yorkshire in 1658 or 1661 by his daughter Mary (above), wife of Lord Falconberg of Newburgh Priory. Left: Clifford's Tower, York. A Royalist artillery point during the siege of the city, the thirteenth-century tower was badly damaged by the Parliamentary counter-bombardment.

men were stationed to the north of the city, completing the encirclement. Manchester had his HQ at Clifton, then a village to the north-west of the city, now a suburb of York itself. Governor Sir Thomas Glemham had prepared for the expected siege by blocking the postern gates of the city walls, setting up cannon on the four principal gates and on Clifford's Tower, and occupying further outlying strongholds. During May Fairfax and Leven captured many of these outposts, including the churches of St Nicholas and St Lawrence beyond Walmgate. On 5 June Fairfax erected a five gun battery on Lamel Hill, south-east of the city, to cover Walmgate and established a second battery in St Lawrence's churchyard. Royalist fortlets on Holgate and Nun Mill Hills were captured, but the Scots failed to take the main Royalist fort, a huge four-bastioned earthwork called 'The Mount', which lay on the Tadcaster road south-west of Micklegate Bar. The bombardment of the city continued throughout June but to no great effect and an attempt to mine Walmgate was thwarted. On 16 June, however, St Mary's Tower was successfully brought down and a Parliamentary raiding party entered the city, only to be halted around King's Manor and expelled with heavy losses. The besieging forces marched away at the end of June to face Rupert's army but promptly returned after Marston Moor and resumed operations. Glemham's position was now hopeless and he surrendered on 16 July. Thereafter the city was held without serious challenge for Parliament. The walls and gates were repaired and the earthworks beyond largely demolished. Cromwell passed through the city in July 1650 and was greeted with volleys from Clifford's Tower. In 1655 York became the HQ of Deputy Major General Robert Lilburne, who established his offices in King's Manor.

Despite the subsequent urban development, much of Civil War York survives. The circuit of walls and gates is almost complete and shows many signs of the Parliamentary bombardment; Bootham Bar was repaired and refaced in the late 1640s; Walmgate Bar sustained very heavy damage in 1644 and was extensively rebuilt in 1646-48 (the barbican bears the date 1648) but still carries many scars where hit by cannon-balls; the outer half of St Mary's Tower was destroyed by a mine in 1644 and was subsequently rebuilt with noticeably thinner walls; and Toff's Tower at the north-west angle of the walls near Micklegate Bar was almost totally rebuilt in 1645 after the original tower had been demolished by cannon-fire. Several other parts of the wall, including sections near Micklegate

and Abbey Precinct Wall, bear marks where struck by cannon-balls.

The Norman castle in the south-west corner of the old city had largely disappeared by the seventeenth century and Glemham mounted guns on the bare motte, Baile Hill, which still stands off Cromwell Road. Its twin on the east bank of the Ouse, Clifford's Tower, had fared better and the thirteenth-century quatrefoil keep was still defensible in the seventeenth century. It was garrisoned in 1642 and the forebuilding was repaired and new floors and a gun platform added. Bombarded and badly damaged in 1644, it was repaired after the war. It is open daily.

King's Manor, off St Leonard's Street, was originally the home of the Abbot of St Mary's, but was converted for secular use after the Dissolution; the residence of the Earl of Stafford and the meeting place for the Council of the North in the decades before the Civil War, it survived the conflict with only minor damage and now belongs to the University of York. It is open daily.

The fourteenth-century Merchant Taylor's Hall in Aldwork served as a hospital during the siege. Although the Guildhall in Lendal Street was badly damaged in the Second World War and extensively rebuilt since, parts of the original fifteenth-century mansion survive, including the Inner Chamber in which part of the money owed to the Scots for their help in the first Civil War was counted before being handed over. Modern stained glass in the east window of the main hall includes a representation of Sir Thomas Fairfax and the siege of York. The City Art Gallery contains a fine lead bust of Fairfax.

Within the city walls, the churches of St Denys, St Sampson and St Olave sustained slight damage during the war, either from the Parliamentary bombardment or from the explosion of Royalist cannon mounted in or on them; all were subsequently repaired. Churches beyond the city walls were not so fortunate and St Maurice's, St Lawrence's and St Nicholas's were all wrecked during the siege and, with the exception of the tower of St Lawrence's, none now survive. The Minster was not damaged during the siege and was saved from sacking after the capture of the city by Sir Thomas Fairfax; there is a modern tablet in the Chapter House in memory of the Lord General.

The earthworks beyond the city walls have disappeared. Holgate Hill Fort (SE58955133) was destroyed by a housing estate in the 1930s; Nun Mill Hill Fort (SE60135074) lies under Southlands Methodist Church; Lamel Hill (SE61455095) is now a flat-topped mound in the grounds of The Friends' Retreat; The Mount

(SE59385107) stood on the Tadcaster road and gradually disappeared under successive widenings of the road and now survives only in the street name 'Mount Road'.

The York Heritage Centre, housed in the

former Church of St Mary in Castlegate, traces the history of the city, including its role during the Civil War. The Yorkshire Museum in Museum Gardens has other items of the period, notably a model of the Battle of Marston Moor.

NOTTINGHAMSHIRE

The Civil War in Nottinghamshire was dominated by two towns, Nottingham and Newark. From his base in the county town, Col. John Hutchinson secured most of the region for Parliament in 1642 and oversaw military operations throughout the war. Newark, in contrast, became a major Royalist stronghold surrounded by an arc of lesser garrisons, a centre for frequent raids in the area; it survived until May 1646. Despite repeated scares during 1643-44, the expected Royalist invasion from Yorkshire never materialised and most of the county remained in Parliament's hands throughout the war and suffered nothing more than occasional raids. The eastern fringes, however, were controlled by the Newark Royalists until 1645-46. Cromwell's Lincolnshire campaign of 1643 frequently brought him into Nottinghamshire and he passed through the area on several occasions later in the war and in 1648 and 1650-51 on his way to and from Scotland.

Attenborough (SK5134) The farmhouse next to the village church incorporates parts of the earlier seventeenth-century farmbuildings on the site, once owned by the Ireton family. The brothers John and Henry Ireton were born and brought up here. John left to pursue a commercial and political career in London and in time became Lord Mayor of London and a leading City politician during the Civil War and Interregnum. Henry, on the other hand, stayed at Attenborough until the outbreak of the Civil War, when he enlisted in the Parliamentary army and rose rapidly through the ranks to become not only a senior officer but also, by the latter half of the 1640s, the army's foremost political theorist. He married Cromwell's eldest daughter Bridget in 1646 and served under Cromwell in Ireland in 1649. He stayed there as Lord Deputy but the appointment soon killed him and he died of Irish swamp fever in 1651. A Cromwell Association plaque on the outer wall of the present house records its connection with the Ireton family.

East Retford (SK7080) On Castle Hill, two miles south-east of the village, stand the remains of a prehistoric earthwork fort (SK7380). It was reoccupied and restored during the Civil War by Parliamentary troops who heightened the banks and dug or redug the outer ditch. The garrison was probably intended to oversee the main London to York road and to watch for movements from Newark and other Royalist bases in east Lincolnshire.

Felley Priory (SK4851) The present, modern building known as Felley Priory incorporates fragments of the elaborate brick and stone mansion built by the Millingtons during the sixteenth century; this house, in turn, incorporated parts of the twelfth-century Augustinian friary which stood here until the Dissolution. The Tudor house served as a minor Royalist outpost during 1643 but there is no record of fighting here and the garrison was probably evacuated sometime in 1643-44.

Newark (SK7953) The small town of Newark lay on the Fosse Way and the Great North Road at the point where the latter crossed the Trent, and was thus a vital centre of road and river communications during the Civil War. Newark was secured for the King in December 1642 and became one of the most important and strongly defended Royalist bases in the country and a centre for operations over a very large area of the East Midlands. The garrison resisted repeated attacks and prolonged sieges and held out until May 1646, finally surrendering on the orders of the King.

Newark's medieval defences - a twelfth-century castle immediately south of the Trent Bridge and stone walls enclosing the town centre - were dilapidated and outdated by the mid-seventeenth century and the Royalist garrison set about rebuilding them. The castle was repaired and in 1643-44 a new defensive circuit of ditches and banks with interval bastions was constructed around the town, beyond the out-

grown medieval walls. Further earthworks defended the three main gates, North Gate, Balderston Gate and Mill Gate. In 1644 still more earthworks were erected, this time well outside Newark, including two large, square forts with angle bastions – the Queen's and King's Sconce – on the south bank of the Trent covering the south-west and north-east approaches respectively. Royalist earthworks also protected the bridge across the northern loop of the Trent onto the 'Island', a roughly rectangular island of flat land to the north of Newark created by the dividing and rejoining of the Trent.

These defences were repeatedly put to the test. In February 1643 Major General Ballard led 6,000 men to Newark, drove in the Royalist outpost on Beacon Hill but was then repulsed when he launched a conspicuously feeble attack on Newark itself – collusion was suspected. Several Parliamentary forces approached the town later in 1643 – Cromwell was here around 12 June and again in early November – but no serious assault was launched until the following year.

Meldrum and Willoughby approached Newark at the end of February and by 6 March they had driven in the Royalist outposts, swept into the Island via Muskham Bridge and laid siege to the town. A direct assault on the 8th was repulsed but the siege continued. Early on the 21st a relieving force under Prince Rupert appeared on Beacon Hill. His 6,400 men charged down onto the 7,000 Parliamentarians hastily drawn up below, forcing most of Meldrum's men back into the Spittal, an area of flat land north-west of the town and south of the Trent. The Royalists in Newark sallied out and retook Muskham Bridge, cutting Meldrum's line of retreat into the Island and away north. The Parliamentarians were surrounded and short of supplies and surrendered on terms on the following day. Rupert had won a tremendous victory.

Not until the end of 1645 was Newark again under serious threat. A combined Scottish and English force under Leven and Poyntz appeared in November and laid siege to the town. The operation proceeded very slowly, the Parliamentarians first establishing bases in and fortifying a ring of villages around Newark, included Winthorpe, Coddington, Balderton, Hawton and Farndon. In March and April 1646 they built lines of banks and ditches with interval forts in an arc around the south and east of Newark; to the north, the Scots pushed into the Island and threw up their own earthworks. In the end, however, it was the King's command rather than the Parliamentary siege which induced the garrison to surrender on 6 May.

The expansion and redevelopment of Newark and the repeated ploughing and flooding of the surrounding land has destroyed many of the military works but the surviving earthworks are still by far the most extensive in the country and Newark remains the mecca for Civil War enthusiasts.

(I) *Royal defences.* The twelfth–fifteenth-century castle, a rectangular stronghold with square or hexagonal corner towers and a northern gatehouse, was garrisoned throughout the war, suffered repeated bombardments – the outer walls bear innumerable scars where struck by cannon-balls – and was slighted after the war; the ruins are open daily. The successive governors of Newark lived in the Governor's House, by the Market Place, a late medieval timber-framed building with projecting upper storeys. The museum in Appletongate Street contains many relics of the Civil War, including arms, armour, siege money and contemporary maps of the defences and siege works. The circuit of earth banks thrown up around the town in 1643 has almost totally disappeared; a single short stretch of bank at the north-east angle survives in gardens along Friary Road and by the junction of Sleaford Road with Appletongate (around SK80285412).

Several of the outlying Royalist defences also survive. The King's Sconce was destroyed in the nineteenth century but the Queen's Sconce survives in good order in open land to the south-west (SK79055305). A battery in the form of a pear-shaped mound surrounded by a ditch stands by Crankley Lane on the Island, just west of the present A6065 (SK78965585). The main entry to the Island in the seventeenth century was over Muskham Bridge, which stood around 100 yards west of the present modern span carrying the A6065; despite flood damage, traces remain of the polygonal three-bastioned earthwork fort which stood at the southern end of the long-destroyed bridge (SK78655622).

(II) *Parliamentary earthworks.* Although the line of ditches and banks dug in 1646 has completely perished, traces of two earthwork forts which stood near the end of the line remain – the northern rampart and bastions of Col. Grey's Sconce, originally a square fort by the Trent, largely destroyed by modern sewage works (SK80255605), and parts of the ditches and banks of the flood-damaged square redoubt by the river Devon, west of Hawton (SK78545130), adapted from the earthworks of a long-demolished medieval hall.

Several earthworks built in 1646 by the Scottish forces on the Island survive, including the south bastion of 'Edinburgh', a huge enclosed



Newark, Notts. Despite the impressive riverside frontage (top), the medieval castle is a gutted shell, its internal apartments and landward ranges demolished after the war and the surviving walls pitted with cannon scars. The Queen's Sconce (bottom), landward ranges demolished after the war and the surviving walls pitted with cannon scars. The Queen's Sconce (bottom), landward ranges demolished after the war and the surviving walls pitted with cannon scars. Covering more than three acres, the sconce comprises a square embankment with large angle bastions, each designed to carry two guns.

camp north-east of the A617 (SK78325500), Sandhills Sconce, a four-bastioned fort north-west of Tolney Lane (SK78655382), a small square enclosure in a field east of the A6065 and near a sports ground (SK79505477) and a square enclosure with two bastions at Stoke Lodge (SK78705445) and marked 'redoubt' on Ordnance Survey maps. (The 'earthwork' immediately to the north-west is the square platform of the now demolished Red or Stoke Lodge and is not part of the Civil War defences.)

Although the villages occupied by the besieging army in autumn 1645 were all protected by earthworks, little of the defences now survives. Short stretches of decayed banks can be seen around Balderton and Coddington, and at Farn-don the eastern angle bastion and adjoining banks stand in a field to the east of the village (around SK77075166).

St Mary Magdalene's Church, off Market Place, was badly damaged during the siege and was extensively repaired and refurbished in the 1650s and 1660s. The font bowl dates from 1660; an inscription on an adjoining pillar records that it was given to replace that 'demolish[ed] by ye rebels May 9th 1646'.

Newstead Abbey (SK5453) The Augustinian priory was acquired by Sir John Byron at the Dissolution and converted into a secular house. It was garrisoned for the King during 1643 but was soon abandoned and evacuated without a fight. The house is now open to the public as a museum in honour of a later Byron, the nineteenth-century poet. The west front of the demolished priory church stands nearby amongst the fine, landscaped grounds.

Norwell (SK776617) Gervase Lee's moated mansion at Norwell was hastily garrisoned for the King at the beginning of 1645 to protect the northern approaches to Newark. The 60-strong garrison was almost immediately besieged and quickly fell to Parliament. The Tudor and Jacobean mansion has been demolished but the moat which once defended it survives almost complete by St Lawrence's Church.

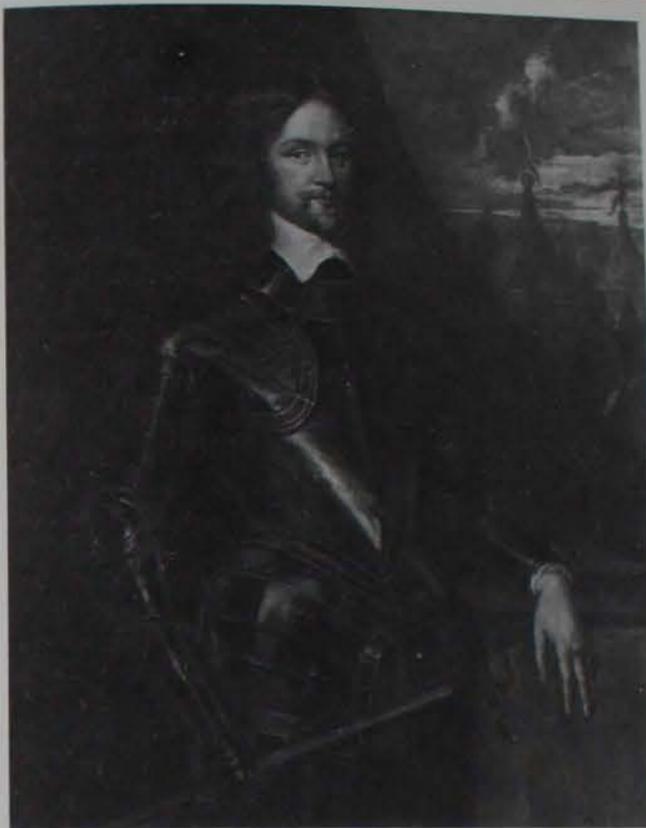
Nottingham (SK5740) The Civil War formally began here on 22 August 1642 when Charles I raised his Standard on the spot in Standard Hill now marked by a small tablet in the road. On 13 September he marched away and by the end of the year the town was in Parliament's hands, secured by Col. John Hutchinson, who served as Governor of Nottingham for the rest of the war. Under him, the town became the main Parliamentary base and magazine in the county. In

September 1643 Sir John Byron attacked Nottingham, overcame the decayed medieval town walls and captured the town. He established his base in old St Nicholas's Church, mounted guns in the tower, and bombarded the castle, in which Hutchinson and his garrison had taken refuge. The fortress proved impregnable and Byron retreated four days later. In July 1644 Newark Royalists again captured the town in a dawn raid but once more the castle held out and the King's men fell back under heavy fire.

Cromwell entered Nottingham sometime around the middle of May 1643 and remained here for 2-3 weeks. He stayed here again on 3 August 1648 and early July 1650.

Little survives of Civil War Nottingham. The thirteenth- and fourteenth-century town walls, semi-ruinous by the seventeenth, have completely disappeared. The Norman castle was demolished after the war and the post-Restoration mansion built on the site was itself gutted by fire in 1831. Old St Nicholas's Church, east of the castle, was badly damaged by Hutchinson's counter-bombardment during the Royalist attack of September 1643 and the ruined building was then demolished to prevent it being used again as a base to attack the castle; the present St Nicholas's dates from the 1670s. In the seventeenth century the vital bridge across the Trent stood outside the town. There were frequent skirmishes here and both sides built earthwork defences at or near both ends of the bridge. All trace of these Civil War earthworks has been destroyed by the southward expansion of the city.

Owthorpe (SK6733) During the 1650s Col. Hutchinson and his wife lived in semi-retirement at Owthorpe Hall, a Tudor manor-house completely demolished in the nineteenth century. John Hutchinson had secured most of Nottinghamshire for Parliament in 1642, served as Governor of Nottingham during the first Civil War, and throughout the 1640s was the most prominent and active Parliamentarian in the area. He became an MP and a regicide but withdrew from public life in 1653 and escaped with his head, though not his freedom, at the Restoration. He was imprisoned in the Tower and then Sandown Castle (Kent), where he died in September 1664. His body was brought back to Nottinghamshire for burial and rests beneath a monument in St Margaret's Church, Owthorpe; it incorrectly gives the year of death as 1663. In the fields around the church can be seen traces of canals, terraces and plantations, remnants of the extensive and elaborate gardens which Hutchinson laid out around the hall.



Left: Henry Ireton was born and brought up at Attenborough, Notts. A rather grave and stiff character, he fought with distinction during the first Civil War, but really came to the fore after 1646 as the army's leading political and constitutional theorist, prominent in debate and frequently in print. On campaign in Ireland from 1649, he died of fever or plague, and perhaps over-work too, in November 1651.

Below: Southwell, Notts. The Saracen's Head, a medieval hostelry rebuilt in the seventeenth century, has had a string of royal visitors, including Charles I at the beginning and the end of the first Civil War. An archway gives access from the road to a long coaching yard.



Rufford Abbey (SK646647) After the Dissolution, the twelfth-century Cistercian abbey at Rufford was bought by the Earl of Shrewsbury, who had most of the monastic buildings demolished and an Elizabethan mansion, Rufford Abbey House, erected on the site. Cromwell lodged here on 22 August 1651 on his way to Worcester. The house was remodelled and extended in the eighteenth century, fell ruinous in the nineteenth and was partly demolished in the twentieth. Parts of the sixteenth- and early seventeenth-century house survive, together with fragments of earlier monastic buildings.

On 8 March 1655 Rufford Abbey was the Nottinghamshire rendezvous for the projected nationwide Royalist rising. Up to 3,000 Royalists gathered here overnight but dispersed without incident on the following day.

Screveton (SK7343) Kirketon Hall was the home of the Whalley family of Nottinghamshire and the birthplace of Edmund Whalley. Edmund served in the Parliamentary army during the 1640s, signed Charles I's death warrant and became a senior officer, a Major General and a close colleague of Cromwell – his cousin – during the Protectorate. He fled the country at the Restoration and died in America. His old home, a late medieval manor-house, was extensively redesigned in the eighteenth century and completely demolished in the nineteenth. Ancient trees and slight earthworks west of the church mark the site of Kirketon Hall. Many of the family lie beneath monuments in St Wilfrid's Church.

Shelford House (SK673434) The medieval priory at Shelford was acquired by the Stanhope family after the Dissolution and partly converted into a Tudor mansion, Shelford House or Manor. The house was secured for the King in December 1642 and held throughout the war by Sir Philip Stanhope's 200-strong garrison. An existing ditch and rampart protected the house but the Royalists strengthened the defences by throwing up half-moon earthworks to guard the main approaches; a further wet ditch, probably part of the medieval drainage system, ran in a long circuit around house and gardens. Shelford House survived until November 1645. On the 1st Col. Poyntz and his 2,000 men occupied the village, expelling a small party of Royalists from the church. Two days later the house itself was stormed and captured, though not without a fierce fight in the course of which Stanhope and 140 of his men were killed. The house was then plundered and burnt to the ground. The present private house was built on the site in 1676;

slight traces of the medieval and Civil War earthworks survive in the grounds.

Southwell (SK7053) Although the itinerary of the King during 1642–46 lies beyond the scope of this work, an exception may perhaps be made for the Saracen's Head in Southwell. This early seventeenth-century coaching inn, which survives in good condition, saw the beginning and the end of the first Civil War: Charles I stayed here in August 1642 shortly before marching to Nottingham to raise the Royal Standard, and he returned nearly four years later to pass his last night of freedom before surrendering to the Scots around Newark.

Staunton Hall (SK805433) The Tudor house by the church was owned by the Royalist, William Staunton, and was raided and looted by Parliamentary troops in 1645. The bullet marks in the door are thought to date from the Civil War. Staunton Hall was extended during the eighteenth century and remains a private residence.

Thurgarton Priory (SK692492) Although much of the medieval priory at Thurgarton was demolished at or soon after the Dissolution, some parts, chiefly the priory church and outbuildings, were retained and converted for secular use. The church and stables were occupied for the King in December 1642 as an outpost of Newark and were held by a 40-man garrison under Sir Roger Cooper. Thurgarton remained in Royalist hands until December 1644, when a raiding party from Nottingham led by Col. Thornhaugh stormed and captured the building. The stables and other surviving sections of the medieval monastery were demolished in the eighteenth century when the present Priory Manor House was built. All that remains today is a section of the thirteenth-century monastic church, incorporated within the largely nineteenth-century Priory Church of St Peter.

Welbeck Abbey (SK5674) Welbeck Abbey was a fortified Tudor and Jacobean mansion built on the site of a medieval abbey and incorporating sections of the monastic cloister. It was owned in the seventeenth century by the Earl of Newcastle, the Royalist commander in the north, and was garrisoned for the King in December 1642. Welbeck was attacked and taken by Manchester in August 1644 after Marston Moor and then garrisoned for Parliament as a check on Newark. However, the 200-strong garrison was repeatedly raided by the Newark Royalists over the following year and the house was finally captured by them in July 1645.

Welbeck seems to have remained under Royalist control until early 1646, when the soldiers were withdrawn to defend Newark. Although sections of medieval and Jacobean work remain, the present rambling mansion largely dates from the eighteenth and nineteenth century.

Willoughby in the Wolds (SK6325) In summer 1648 a detachment of Royalist rebels marched south from Yorkshire, plundered their way through Lincolnshire and entered Nottinghamshire via Newark. They hurried south, pursued by a Parliamentary force under Col. Rossiter, but were first caught as they marched through Widmerpool. After moving a little further south, Sir Philip Monckton and his fellow Royalists turned and faced Rossiter outside Willoughby. According to tradition, the fight took place in a beanfield near the church; most of the villagers watched the spectacle from the church tower. The exhausted and inexperienced Royalists were routed by the professional soldiers and the second Civil War in Nottinghamshire was over.

Wiverton Hall (SK713364) Secured for the King in December 1642, Sir Thomas Chaworth's moated manor-house served as an outpost of Newark throughout the Civil War. The Parliamentarians made no serious attempt to take the hall until November 1645, when Col. Poyntz and his 2,000-strong force marched on Wiverton. Sir Robert Thervill surrendered without a fight and the Parliamentarians sacked and then completely destroyed the old hall. The medieval gatehouse alone survived and is now incorporated within the present Wiverton Hall, a private mansion built in the nineteenth century a little to the south of the site of the old hall. Seventeenth-century Wiverton was approached from the south, along a now disused road; the Royalist garrison threw up two half-moon batteries to flank this road as it neared the hall. The western earthwork has been ploughed out but the eastern survives in good condition, and stands in the grounds about 60 yards south-east of the present hall (SK71383634).

OXFORDSHIRE

After his failure to capture London in autumn 1642, the King withdrew to Oxford and the city became his capital and military HQ for the rest of the Civil War. The city was protected by a circle of garrisons guarding the approach roads, and the county was firmly Royalist during the opening years of the war. The Parliamentarians began attacking the fringes of Oxfordshire in late 1644 and slowly pushed the King's men back into an ever decreasing area around Oxford. The city itself held out until June 1646. Cromwell was frequently in the area between September 1644 and June 1646; he campaigned here during spring 1645 and was present throughout the siege of Oxford in the following year.

Abingdon (SU5097) Abingdon was held for the King from December 1642 until 25 May 1644, when the garrison was withdrawn as part of the operation to find troops for the summer campaign. Essex and Waller promptly occupied the town unopposed and Abingdon remained in Parliamentary hands thereafter and served as a base for the campaign against Oxford in 1645–46. The Royalists launched several unsuccessful attacks on their old base – on 11 January 1645 1,800 men under Rupert were halted and driven off just outside the town and in March 1646 a surprise attack reached the Abbey Gate before a Parliamentary counter-charge and the general congestion of men and carts around the gate halted the Royalist advance.

The commanders of the Parliamentary and Royalist garrisons probably established their HQ in the King's Head and Bell in East St Helen's Street. St Helen's Church, nearby, is the resting place of Thomas Trapham, Cromwell's military surgeon and the man who embalmed Charles I's body and sewed back the head after execution.

Banbury (SP4540) Banbury was held by Parliamentary forces during the first weeks of the Civil War, but fell to the Earl of Northampton on 29 October 1642; town and castle served as a Royalist base for the rest of the war. Parliamentary troops under John Fiennes overran the town in August 1644 but, despite a three month

siege, were unable to take the castle – the Parliamentarians established their HQ in St Mary's Church and their battery in the churchyard – and were driven off by the Earl of Northampton on 26 October. Col. Whalley captured the town without difficulty in January 1646 but his initial assault on the castle was fiercely repulsed and the 3,000 Parliamentarians settled down for a long siege. Sir William Compton and his 400-strong garrison surrendered five months later on 8 May. The large, double bailey castle was slighted after the war and today nothing survives except a section of the moat and fragments of curtain wall. Medieval St Mary's Church has also disappeared and the present building dates from 1800. Banbury museum contains many relics from the Civil War in the area.

Besselsleigh (SP4501) William Lenthall, Speaker of the Long Parliament and of the 1st Protectorate Parliament, owned the manor-house adjoining the church here. It was seized and fortified by Oxford Royalists at the end of 1644 but quickly retaken. The Parliamentarians, however, made no attempt to hold Besselsleigh and immediately withdrew, slighting the manor-house as they left. Nothing now remains of Lenthall's house except the seventeenth-century gatepier near the churchyard. In happier days during the 1630s Lenthall had financed the restoration of the medieval church, including the addition of the twin bellcote. St Lawrence's contains the tombs of many of the family, including Col. John Lenthall, the Speaker's son, himself a Parliamentary officer and politician, sometime Governor of Windsor. An inscription in the chancel records Speaker Lenthall's association with the church.

Bletchington House (SP5018) The old manor-house, of which no trace now remains, served as a minor Royalist outpost throughout the war. It was surrounded by Cromwell's troops on 24 April 1645 and surrendered without a fight in the early hours of the 25th. Col. Windebank later protested that he had surrendered the house in this fashion because his young wife and her female friends were there, but the officers in Oxford were not impressed; Windebank was condemned to death by court martial and shot outside Oxford castle on 3 May.

Broughton Castle (SP419382) The fourteenth–sixteenth-century fortified mansion was owned by Lord Saye and Sele during the 1630s and became a meeting place for leading op-

ponents of the King's government in the pre-war years. Hampden, Pym, Brooke and others held secret conferences in the Council Chamber. During the war, Broughton was garrisoned for Parliament by Saye and Sele and his sons, John and Nathaniel Fiennes. It suffered frequent Royalist raids and was briefly taken by the King's men in December 1642.

The building survived the war intact and remains one of the finest and most complete medieval houses in England. Open to the public on Sundays and certain weekdays in the summer, Broughton Castle contains many relics of the Civil War, including arms and armour and portraits of Oliver and Richard Cromwell and John Hampden.

Burford (SP2512) In May 1649 Burford became the centre of a Leveller-inspired mutiny in the Parliamentary army. The military leaders in London moved quickly to quell the outbreak and on 14 May Fairfax and Cromwell swept into Burford, surprising the soldiers, overcoming brief resistance around the Crown in Sheep Street and promptly crushing the mutiny. Three hundred and fifty rebellious troops were captured and spent an uncomfortable night locked in the church. On the following day they were all sentenced to death by court martial. In fact, only three ringleaders – Thompson, Church and Perkins – were executed, shot by the churchyard wall. Their colleagues were forced to watch the executions from the church roof and were then taken down to suffer a lecture on loyalty and Godliness from Cromwell. The Church of St John the Baptist (SP253124) has been little altered since the mid-seventeenth century. The font still bears faint traces of an inscription – 'Anthony Sedley 1649 Prisner' – carved by one of the Leveller soldiers on the night of 14 May. In 1979 a memorial to the three executed Leveller soldiers was placed on the outer wall of the Lady Chapel. The three lie in unmarked graves somewhere in the churchyard.

In 1637 William Lenthall acquired Priory House, a late Tudor building which stood on the site of a medieval Augustinian hospital. By the twentieth century the old house had been largely demolished and the remaining sections were in decay; it was restored and returned to the church. Lenthall retired to Burford after the Restoration and died in Priory House in September 1662. He was buried in the north transept of St John's Church, but no contemporary monument survives; a much later tablet on the north wall of the Tanfield Chapel commemorates Speaker Lenthall and his descendants.



Burford Church, Oxon. St John's (top) became a prison in May 1649, when Cromwell and Fairfax quelled a half-hearted mutiny and held the 350 rebellious troops in the church. Three ringleaders were subsequently shot in the churchyard and their colleagues forced to watch from the roof of the Lady Chapel (far left); a modern plaque on the outside wall of the Lady Chapel commemorates the three (above).



Right: Swinbrooke Church, Oxon. In the chancel stands a three tier monument to the Fettiplace family erected by Sir Edmund Fettiplace in 1686; it carries effigies of Sir Edmund at the top, his father beneath him and, at the bottom with straight hair, his Parliamentarian uncle who had served at Cirencester and elsewhere during the Civil War.

Chalgrove (SU6396) In the early hours of 18 June 1643 a party of Oxford Royalists under Prince Rupert raided Sir Samuel Luke's quarters at Chinnor, killing 50 Parliamentary soldiers and capturing 120. The Royalists pressed on in search of a Parliamentary convoy, which they knew to be travelling through the area, carrying £21,000 cash to pay Essex's troops. Rupert failed to locate the convoy – forewarned of the Prince's approach, it had taken cover – and turned back towards Oxford, pursued by a force of local Parliamentarians under John Hampden. After being harried for several miles, Rupert halted on Chalgrove Field and charged his pursuers, quickly routing and scattering them. The otherwise minor skirmish is memorable for the death of the Parliamentary commander. At some stage Hampden was badly injured – whether he was shot in the shoulder by a Royalist or lost a hand and arm when his own pistol burst is not clear – and died soon afterwards of his wounds. A large obelisk, erected in 1843 by the Old Watlington Road (SU645972), commemorates John Hampden and the Battle of Chalgrove Field.

Clanfield (SP285020) According to tradition, Cromwell stayed in Clanfield in spring 1645 while campaigning around Radcot, and lodged at the Plough Hotel, a seventeenth-century inn which stands at the centre of the village.

Coleshill (SU2393) One of the greatest houses of Interregnum England stood at Coleshill, a grand 2½ storey mansion built in 1650–52 and designed by Roger Pratt, possibly in consultation with Inigo Jones. Sadly the house was gutted by fire in 1952 and has been completely demolished. Today nothing remains but four pairs of gatepiers dating from the mid-seventeenth century.

Cornbury (SP357183) Although Cornbury House played no known part in the conflict, the remains of a Civil War earthwork stand ½ mile east of the house, near the river Evenlode. A double bank and ditch running around 2½ sides of a square enclosure, the earthwork was probably a gun emplacement thrown up by the Royalist Danvers family to protect their home against possible attack.

Cropredy (SP4646) On 29 June 1644 the King and his 8,500-strong army were travelling north through Oxfordshire, marching along the Daventry road on the east bank of the Cherwell. Waller's 9,000 Parliamentarians were shadowing the King, following a parallel road to the

west of the river. The two roads were linked by a short lane running from Great Bourton to Williamscoote and crossing the Cherwell by a bridge at Cropredy. Fearing attack, the King posted Dragoons to guard the bridge and attempted to hurry his men north and away across Hay's bridge. He succeeded only in dangerously stretching his line and so encouraging the Parliamentarians to attack. Waller led one party towards the ford at Slat Mill, one mile south of Cropredy, while Middleton and the rest of the army set out to capture Cropredy bridge. Both attacks were initially successful – Waller forded the river and threw part of the Royalist line into confusion and Middleton swept across the bridge and pursued the surprised Royalists north. However, the King's men regrouped and counter-charged and both the Parliamentary units were pushed back across the river with heavy losses. The armies stayed in position overnight but drew away on the 30th.

The area around the village is still open farmland, little changed since 1644. The present bridge at Cropredy (SP469465) was built in 1937 but an inscribed plaque on the south side commemorates the earlier bridge and the battle and prays 'From Civil War Good Lord Deliver Us'. The nearby Oxford Canal takes water from the Cherwell and thus the river today is not the obstacle that it must have been in the 1640s. Several pieces of Civil War arms and armour found on the battlefield are displayed within St Mary's Church.

Cuddesdon (SP6003) Cuddesdon Palace, an early Stuart bishop's palace, housed a small Royalist garrison for most of the war. The King's men were withdrawn in 1645, destroying the building as they left to deny it to Parliament. The palace was rebuilt after the Restoration but this building, in turn, was destroyed by fire in the 1960s.

Deddington (SP4631) The minor Royalist garrison here saw little action and was evacuated in 1645. The medieval castle, south-east of the village, was very ruinous by the seventeenth century and the King's men were probably based in Castle House, north of the church, a sixteenth- and seventeenth-century mansion in two-tone stone, incorporating part of a medieval manor-house which stood on the site.

Faringdon (SU2895) A Royalist base throughout the latter half of the war, the garrison survived a siege by Cromwell in late April and early May 1645 and held out for another year. On 24 June 1646 George Lisle and his men

finally surrendered to Robert Pye and the besieging Parliamentarians. The Norman castle at Faringdon was very ruinous by the seventeenth century and the Royalist garrison was based in Faringdon House, the late medieval and Tudor seat of the Pye family. The house, which has been completely demolished, stood near the present Faringdon House, the late Georgian mansion north of the church. The mid-seventeenth-century gatepiers of the old house survive near the church.

The tower of All Saints Church was destroyed at some point during the war and was rebuilt in 1646. The earthworks on Faringdon Hill are sometimes described as Civil War siege works and may have been thrown up by Cromwell in spring 1645 or by Pye the following year.

Gaunt House (SP408033) The late medieval house, ½ mile east of Standlake, served as a minor Royalist outpost during the Civil War. Besieged and bombarded by Col. Rainsborough's troops during May 1645, the garrison surrendered on the last day of the month. Gaunt House survives as a private residence, but the present building appears to date from the 1660s; presumably the medieval house was largely destroyed during or after the Civil War.

Godstow House (SP477093) Most of the twelfth-century Benedictine nunnery of Godstow, near Wolvercote, was demolished soon after the Dissolution, but some of the cloisteral buildings were retained and converted into a secular residence, Godstow House. The house was held for the King from the outbreak of war until May 1645, when the garrison was withdrawn and the house slighted to prevent its reoccupation. Today little remains except a walled enclosure and scattered fragments of masonry. Parts of the medieval hospice may also have survived and been incorporated in a later inn, the Trout.

Great Milton (SP6302) Secretary of State John Thurloe leased the Priory at Great Milton for many years and lived here from time to time, particularly after the Restoration when he had lost much of his other property. There are colourful but unlikely stories of Cromwell and Milton visiting Thurloe here. The Priory survives in good order, a Tudor hall with projecting seventeenth-century wings, and stands north of the church near the village green. It is not open to the public.

Henley on Thames (SU7682) The town was frequently raided by Royalists during the Civil

War but remained a Parliamentary base throughout the conflict. Bulstrode Whitelock was governor of Henley for a time and established his HQ at Phillis Court, the late medieval hall which he owned just outside the town (SU765830); Whitelock's house was later demolished to make way for the present nineteenth-century Phillis Court.

William Lenthall was born and brought up in Henley, in the sixteenth-century gabled house in Hart Street now known as The Speaker's House.

Hinton Waldrist (SU3799) Hinton Manor, an early seventeenth-century manor-house on the site of an earlier castle, was owned during the 1630s and 1640s by Henry Marten, a member of the Long Parliament, one of the most outspoken opponents of Charles I and, later, a regicide. According to tradition, Cromwell and his troops quartered in and around Hinton Manor during their Oxfordshire campaign. Marten's old house survives in good order, an early eighteenth-century five bay front now concealing the early Stuart house behind; nearby are the remains of the moat and motte of the thirteenth-century castle.

Holton (SP6006) Cromwell probably lodged at Lady Whorewood's house at Holton during May and June 1646 while attending the siege of Oxford. On 15 June Henry Ireton married Cromwell's eldest daughter, Bridget, in St Bartholomew's Church. The Tudor and early Stuart mansion was completely demolished in the nineteenth century, but its moat survives within the former park. According to tradition, Cromwell himself planted the cherry tree which stood in the park.

Little Wittenham (SU567935) Cromwell's aunt Mary (d1617) and her husband Sir William Dunch (d1612) spent their married lives at the long-demolished manor-house at Little Wittenham. Both lie buried in the village church beneath an elaborate tomb in the tower. Mary is portrayed in alabaster, wearing a ruff and a stiff dress and her husband appears in rich armour; their nine children kneel around the base of the tomb. Several descendants lie nearby, including Ann Dunch (d1683), whose tomb is covered by a monumental brass.

Mapledurham House (SU671766) The fine Tudor house served as a minor Royalist outpost during the early stages of the war to guard the south-east of the county and the road north from Reading. As part of the operation to isolate and surround Reading, Parliamentary troops

quickly overran the base in April 1643 and proceeded to loot the house. Mapledurham survived the war intact and remains one of the finest Elizabethan houses in the country. The richly decorated and furnished house is open on summer weekends.

Marston (SP5309) Marston was one of the Parliamentary bases in May and June 1646 during the siege of Oxford. Fairfax and Cromwell established their HQ in Unton Croke's manor-house. A slightly later building, known as Cromwell's House, stands on the site in Pond's Lane. Cromwell and Fairfax probably viewed the city from the tower of St Nicholas's Church.

Oxford (SP5305) For 3½ years Oxford served as the King's capital, the seat of the Royal Court, the Privy Council, Parliament and Courts of Justice, and as a military base and stronghold. It was not seriously threatened until 1645 and held out until 24 June 1646, when it surrendered on the King's orders.

The defence of Oxford lay primarily in a circle of outlying garrisons, designed to halt aggressors and prevent a direct attack on the city. Nonetheless, the Royalists quickly set about fortifying Oxford itself, building a circuit of banks, ditches and interval towers around the city to replace the outdated medieval defences – by the seventeenth century the castle was semi-ruinous and the town walls had been outgrown. The new earthworks were particularly strong to the north of Oxford, across the area of high ground between the Thames and the Cherwell; on the other sides, the rivers and adjoining low ground, which could be flooded, provided additional defence.

Oxford had a fairly peaceful Civil War and for much of the time the only Parliamentarians to be seen were the prisoners-of-war held in the castle. In spring 1643 Whitelock and other Parliamentary commissioners arrived in Oxford for abortive peace negotiations; they were lodged at the Katherine Wheel Inn, long demolished, which stood near St John's College. Waller and Essex were around Oxford in May 1644 and skirmished with Rupert in Headington, but not until 1645 did the Parliamentarians mount a serious attack on the city. In May 1645 Fairfax laid siege to Oxford, but vigorous Royalist raiding persuaded him to abandon the hopeless attempt in early June. In May 1646 Parliamentary troops returned in force, established an HQ and battery on Headington Hill, and closely invested the city. The garrison surrendered seven weeks later at the King's command.

The subsequent expansion of Oxford has destroyed almost all the Civil War defences. A section of the earthwork bank survives to the east of Mansfield Road, running between Merton's and Balliol's sportsgrounds, and with its north-west end near a Victorian house in Mansfield Road known as King's Mount House; a further fragment of the bank stands in the Warden's garden at Wadham College. The Norman castle in New Road, derelict by the seventeenth century and used during the Civil War as nothing more than a prison, was subsequently destroyed and little remains today except the motte and a single mural tower, the twelfth-century St George's Tower.

Most of the college buildings requisitioned by the Court during the war still exist. The King and Court were based at Christ Church, where the Privy Council met and the Oxford Parliament assembled for formal ceremonies; the Great Hall was struck by cannon in 1645 and in the following year articles of surrender were signed in the Audit Room. The Queen lived at Merton College, and New Inn Hall, on the site of the present St Peter's College, became the Royal Mint. The Commons and courts of law usually met in Convocation House by the Divinity School. New College Cloister and Quadrangle became the principal Royalist magazine and the troops mustered and exercised all around the town, particularly in Merton Park and Christ Church Meadows.

Cromwell was present throughout the siege of Oxford in May and June 1646 and returned with Fairfax and other senior officers in May 1649. They entered the city to an official welcome on 17 May and stayed for three days, lodging in the warden's rooms of All Souls College – the present Warden's Lodgings are later. They dined at Magdalen on the 19th and were awarded honorary degrees.

Oxford Museum in Aldgates Street contains many relics of the Civil War, including arms, armour and plans and paintings of the siege of Oxford. The Ashmolean, off St Giles's, possesses Cromwell's death mask, watch and Great Seal, a later bust of the Lord Protector, and many other items from the period.

Radcot (SU285994) Radcot was important during the Civil War because of the bridge over the Thames here. The crossing was held by Royalist troops for most of the war, but the village was frequently raided by Parliamentarians and there were repeated skirmishes in open land near the bridge, still known as Garrison Fields. Cromwell supposedly clashed with Royalists here sometime during spring 1645.

The Royalist garrison here finally surrendered to Fairfax on 24 May 1646. The fourteenth-century three-arched bridge at Radcot is probably the oldest surviving span over the Thames.

Rousham House (SP479242) Sir Robert Dormer's early seventeenth-century house was garrisoned for the King during the latter half of the Civil War, at which time the shooting holes, still to be seen, were made in the oak doorway of the Great Hall. There is, in fact, no record of fighting here and the house survived intact. Remodelled by Kent in the eighteenth century, the richly-decorated building is now owned by the National Trust and is open on Sundays and Wednesdays during the summer.

Shirburn House or Castle (SU696960) In the late fourteenth century the Lisle family built a fortified manor-house at Shirburn, a quadrangular mansion in brick and stone with round corner towers, a moat and a western gatehouse. The house was held for the King throughout the war but the garrison was small and inactive and there is no record of any fighting here. The house was surrendered to Fairfax in May 1646 after a brief siege and survived the war intact. In the following century, however, much of the medieval building was demolished and the remainder, including the south-west and south-east towers, the gatehouse and part of two ranges, incorporated within a Georgian mansion. The latter survives as a private residence.

Shrivenham (SU241891) In St Andrew's Church is the tomb of John Wildman (d1693), whose long and colourful career included periods serving in the Parliamentary army in England and Ireland, gathering intelligence for Cromwell and plotting against him during the Protectorate. He lies beneath an inscribed slab in the chancel, alongside the altar.

Stanford (SU3493) Cromwell supposedly lodged at Penstone or Penistone Farm, Stanford, during his Oxfordshire campaign of spring 1645. The early seventeenth-century building, restored and extended in the eighteenth century, is one of many in the area traditionally linked with Cromwell.

Swinbrooke (SP2812) St Mary's Church contains many monuments to the Fettiplace family. The north wall of the chancel is covered by a series of ornate effigies, including the reclining figure of Col. Fettiplace, the Parliamentary officer and governor of Cirencester in February 1643 when the town fell to Rupert.

Thame (SP7005) Despite frequent raids from Oxford Royalists, Thame was held by Parliament throughout the Civil War. In June 1643 John Hampden died in the Greyhound Inn of wounds received on Chalgrove Field. An eighteenth-century building, known as Hampden House, stands on the site of the demolished inn on the north side of Market Square; a plaque on the outer wall tells the story of Hampden's death.

Wallingford (SU609898) Town and castle were held for the King throughout the Civil War to guard the south-east approaches to Oxford. Parliamentary raids occasionally progressed as far as Wallingford, but not until 1646 did the Parliamentarians mount a sustained operation against the stronghold. Fairfax invested Wallingford on 11 May and six weeks later, on 27 June, Col. Blagge surrendered the castle, one of the last bases in the county to fall to Parliament. The mighty Norman castle was demolished in 1652 and the stone carted off, and little now remains except fragments of masonry on and around the motte.

Woodstock (SP4416) Woodstock was a Royalist base for most of the Civil War, one of the many strongholds protecting the approaches to Oxford. The town was captured and briefly held by Fairfax in summer 1644, but was quickly retaken by the King's men and held out until April 1646, when the garrison surrendered after a three week siege and bombardment. The King's forces had occupied the magnificent royal palace at Woodstock, begun by Henry I and enlarged by Henry II, a massive complex including the great hall, chapel, cloistered courts and extensive gardens. Semi-derelict by the seventeenth century, the buildings were badly damaged during the Parliamentary bombardment of 1646. In the early eighteenth century the 1st Duke of Marlborough acquired and demolished the ruins and nothing now survives above ground. The site of the medieval palace is marked by a stone and inscribed plaque in the grounds of Blenheim Palace, on the north-east side of the Great or Grand Bridge.

Wytham Abbey (SP4708) The sixteenth-century house in which Cromwell lodged on 23–25 May 1645 no longer exists. The present house by the church is a mock-Tudor edifice built in the nineteenth century, possibly incorporating part of the earlier mansion known to Cromwell.

SHROPSHIRE

The Civil War in Shropshire quickly developed into a conflict of garrisons and raiding. There were no major battles and few significant skirmishes in the region; instead each side set about securing and manning towns and villages, medieval castles and Tudor manor-houses. There were a very large number of garrisons within Shropshire – the Royalists alone had at least 31 bases here. The King's men held almost the whole county in 1642 but they were slowly driven out by Parliamentary forces advancing from the north and east, though not until 1645–46 did the last Royalist bases fall. There is no evidence that Cromwell ever visited Shropshire.

Albright Hussey (SJ502176) The isolated house served as a Royalist garrison, established by Rupert to cover Wem, but later withdrawn as the area fell under Parliamentary control. The Tudor half-timbered hall, extended in brick in 1601, survives as a private residence. A public footpath runs past the building.

Apley House (SO7198) The Elizabethan house of Sir William Whitmore, garrisoned for the King for most of the war, was destroyed during or soon after the conflict. A succession of houses have stood on the site, and the present grand mansion dates from the nineteenth century, though it incorporates part of a Georgian predecessor. No trace survives of the building which saw action in the Civil War.

Atcham (SJ541093) St Eata's Church housed a small Royalist garrison from 1643 until 1645, when it was hastily withdrawn after the fall of Shrewsbury. At some stage there was fighting here, for the church bears marks of gun- and cannon-fire inside and out. The garrison had been placed at Atcham to cover the bridge across the Severn; the present span is eighteenth-century.

Benthall (SJ656026) Benthall Hall was garrisoned for the King from the outbreak of war until summer 1645, when it fell to Parliamentary forces pushing south-west from Staffordshire. The Parliamentarians then garrisoned the place to cover the Severn and the south-east approaches to Shrewsbury. The building survived the war intact and has been little altered since. The finely decorated hall is now owned by the National Trust and is open on Saturdays and certain weekdays during the summer. St Bartholomew's Church served as an outpost of the main garrison; the building was badly damaged during the war and was rebuilt after the Restoration.

Bridgnorth (SO7193) The hilltop town above the Severn was held for the King without serious challenge throughout the war and became an

important base for operations in the West Midlands and southern Staffordshire. On 31 March 1646 the town was stormed by Parliamentary troops who forced an entry through the north gate via St Leonard's churchyard. The Royalists hastily retreated into the castle, setting fire to the town behind them; the flames reached their powder, stored in St Leonard's, and the resulting explosion demolished the medieval church and wrecked many other buildings in the area. The King's men held out in the castle for almost a month, but heavy bombardment and mining persuaded them to surrender on 26 April. The Norman fortress, badly damaged during the bombardment, was slighted after the war. The ruins of the leaning keep, its crazy angle caused by Parliamentary mines and later subsidence, stand in a public park at the south end of High Town. St Leonard's was rebuilt soon after the war, but the present church is almost entirely Victorian.

Broncroft Castle (SO545867) The picturesque red brick building, with several towers and a decorated hall, owes much to nineteenth-century restoration, but the great tower near the entrance is mostly fourteenth-century work, one of the few sections of the late medieval stronghold to survive. The fortress was garrisoned by Royalists for much of the war but was evacuated in spring 1645. The King's men slighted the defences as they left. It was occupied and restored by Parliamentary troops in June and a Royalist counter-attack on 4 July was fiercely repulsed.

Caus Castle (SJ337078) The twelfth-century border castle at Caus was held for the King from the outbreak of war until summer 1645, when it was besieged and bombarded by Col. Mackworth's Parliamentarians; the small garrison surrendered on 23 June. The castle originally comprised a large shell keep, surrounded by curtain walls and mural towers protecting a double bailey, but is now very ruinous.

Clun Castle (SO299809) Bicton Ditches, two

Shropshire

parallel ditches running across the isthmus between the river junction, $\frac{3}{4}$ mile north-west of Clun, have frequently been described as Civil War earthworks, constructed or reused by the Parliamentary troops besieging the castle in 1644. The fortress itself had been held for the King since the outbreak of war but the small garrison saw little action and surrendered in 1644 on the threat of bombardment. Much of the Norman castle has been demolished but the banks and ditches which surrounded the two baileys still survive, together with fragments of the curtain wall and two semicircular mural towers.

High Ercall (SJ595174) In the seventeenth century High Ercall Hall comprised four ranges around a central courtyard protected by a gatehouse, drawbridge and moat. It was garrisoned for the King in 1644–45 and survived several Parliamentary attacks, including brief sieges in February, March and July 1645. The garrison finally surrendered on 28 March 1646 after a prolonged siege and heavy bombardment which badly damaged the hall – two of the four ranges were subsequently demolished. The now 'L'-shaped Jacobean hall, with an impressive brick and red sandstone north front, stands by the road near the village church. St Michael's and All Angels' was itself badly damaged during the Parliamentary bombardment and was largely rebuilt in the 1670s using the original stone.

Holgate Castle (SO562897) Holgate housed a minor Parliamentary garrison, designed to cover Corve Dale and any northern movement from the Ludlow Royalists. Of the thirteenth- and fourteenth-century castle, little now survives except a semicircular tower in fine ashlar north of the church and behind a modern farmhouse.

Hopton Castle (SO367780) Hopton Castle was the scene of one of the most notorious massacres of the English Civil War. In mid-February 1644 the medieval castle was fortified and garrisoned for Parliament but was almost immediately besieged by Royalist forces. On 13 March Sir Michael Woodhouse stormed the castle and then cold-bloodedly killed the 31 captured Parliamentarians. Their bodies were dumped in a pool, possibly the remains of a moat. The fragmentary ruins of the Norman castle stand in a field on the outskirts of the village of Hopton Castle.

Lea Hall or Castle (SJ333036) The late medieval and Tudor fortified hall was garrisoned for the King during the Civil War but the

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garrison was evacuated in February 1646; they slighted and burnt the place as they left. The old house has completely gone but the moat which defended it survives around the modern, private building.

Lea Castle (SO3589) The medieval castle and its small Royalist garrison fell to Middleton in October 1645. A single tall fragment of the fourteenth-century keep survives, adjoining a nineteenth-century house.

Lilleshall Abbey (SJ738142) Much of the abbey, particularly the church, was converted into a secular residence after the Dissolution and was still in good order in the mid-seventeenth century. It housed a Royalist garrison for much of the Civil War. In March 1644 a Parliamentary force sent to capture the place was intercepted and repulsed *en route* (see 'Longford') and Col. Leveson's garrison survived for another 17 months. Not until 23 August 1645 did Lilleshall fall, bombarded and then stormed by a large Parliamentary force under Col. Braine. The Parliamentary cannon had brought down much of the central tower, north transept and Lady Chapel. The impressive ruins of the twelfth- and thirteenth-century Augustinian abbey are open daily.

Longford (SJ7218) On 25 March 1644 a unit of 500 Parliamentary Foot led by Col. Mytton bound for Lilleshall was caught and routed at Longford by Royalist forces under Vaughan and Ellis. The King's men went on to besiege the small Parliamentary garrison in Longford House, which surrendered on 2 April. The present hall dates from the late eighteenth century.

Longnor Hall (SJ4800) The present hall, a Stuart red brick and stone edifice, was built after the Civil War. The Royalist garrison of 1643–45 was based in the medieval hall, completely demolished in the eighteenth century, the position of which is indicated by decayed earthworks and broken ground.

Loppington (SJ472293) In autumn 1643 a troop of Parliamentarians under Capt. Bromhall was surprised at Loppington and hastily retreated into St Michael's. The King's men fired the church, forcing the Parliamentarians out. A fight developed, but the arrival of reinforcements from Wem compelled the Royalists to fall back. The timber south porch was destroyed in the course of the action and was rebuilt in the 1650s.

Ludlow (S05174) Town and castle served as an important Royalist base throughout the war and a centre for operations in the south of the county. Occasional Parliamentary raids during 1644–45 were turned back outside the town and Ludlow held out until spring 1646, one of the last important bases in the county to remain in the King's hands. Col. Birch and a large force of Hereford Parliamentarians attacked and quickly overran the town on 24 April 1646, but their initial assault on the castle failed and Birch was compelled to lay siege to the fortress. The garrison finally surrendered on 29 May. The massive red sandstone castle was slighted in 1652, but large parts of the eleventh- to sixteenth-century fortress remain, including the outer walls, gatehouse and mural towers, the Great Hall and a separate twelfth-century round chapel; the ruins are open daily. The town's defences have fared less well and of the circuit of medieval walls and gates, little but the fourteenth-century Broadgate survives.

Madeley Court (SJ6905) Madeley Court, a Tudor mansion incorporating parts of an earlier priory grange, was garrisoned for the King until the fall of Shrewsbury led to its hasty evacuation. The gatehouse survives intact, a striking ashlar pile with two large polygonal towers topped by pyramidal roofs. Of the main house, however, only part remains, including the Elizabethan hall range with a projecting side wing.

Montford Bridge (SJ432152) The important bridge over the Severn to the west of Shrewsbury was protected by a Royalist garrison from early 1643 until June 1644, when the crossing fell to Denbigh's Parliamentarians. Although the present span is eighteenth-century, slight earthworks on the north-west side may be the remains of Civil War defence works.

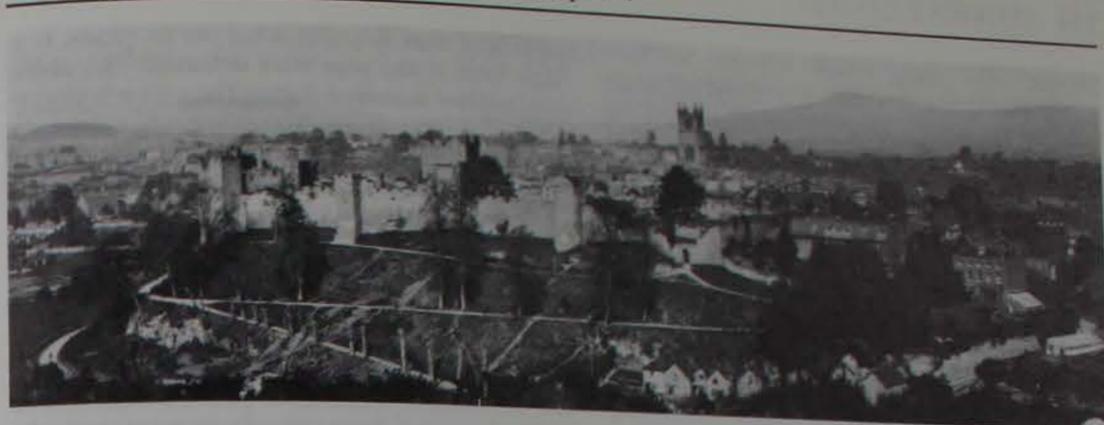
Moreton Corbet Castle (SJ560231) The early thirteenth-century castle, modified and extended by the Corbet family in the sixteenth century, was garrisoned for the King in 1643–44. It fell to a surprise night attack on 8 September 1644, but the Parliamentary garrison soon retreated in the face of Royalist pressure. The King's men, in turn, evacuated the place in 1645 following the fall of Shrewsbury, and they probably slighted the castle as they left to prevent its reoccupation by Parliamentary troops. The ruins, which are open daily, include an early thirteenth-century keep standing amid the ruins of Sir Andrew Corbet's Elizabethan domestic buildings and a northern gateway, originally medieval but heavily remodelled in 1579.

Oswestry (SJ2929) In June 1644 a large Parliamentary force attacked Oswestry, which had been garrisoned for the King by Lord Capel in the previous year. St Oswald's Church was taken and used as a battery from which cannon bombarded the Royalist defences in and around the castle. In the end, however, it was a petard which blew the castle gates and compelled the garrison to surrender. A Royalist attempt to retake the town in July ended when their forces were intercepted and scattered at Whittington, three miles east of the town. The medieval castle was badly damaged during the bombardment of June 1644 and was slighted after the war; today only fragments of the shell keep survive on a mound behind Bailey Head. St Oswald's Church, damaged by the Royalist counter-bombardment, was repaired after the war and survives intact.

Rowton Castle (SJ3712) The medieval castle, slighted in the late fourteenth century and very dilapidated by the seventeenth, housed a small Royalist garrison in 1643–45. Parliament ordered the castle demolished after the war and nothing survives. A red brick Queen Anne house, with a Victorian round tower, stands on or near the site.

Shrawardine Castle (SJ401153) The medieval castle was garrisoned for the King by Sir William Vaughan in spring 1644 and became a base for attacks on the many Parliamentary outposts in the area; Vaughan soon became known amongst the Shropshire Parliamentarians as 'the Devil of Shrawardine'. In October 1644 Mytton moved to eliminate the troublesome base and he surprised and captured Vaughan and other officers in St Mary's Church. Nonetheless, the garrison resisted fiercely, and Mytton was compelled to fall back. The fortress finally surrendered on 29 June 1645 after a long siege. Little survives of Shrawardine Castle except three crags of masonry, the remains of the keep, on a low mound, north-east of the towerless church.

Shrewsbury (SJ4912) Charles I entered the town in September 1642 and thereafter Shrewsbury was a major Royalist base and the centre for operations over the surrounding region. It was also Prince Rupert's HQ for much of the war. The medieval castle and town walls were repaired and strengthened and the four town gates put in order. Occasional Parliamentary attacks during 1644 were strongly repulsed by the large garrison, but on 22 February 1645 town and castle fell with surprising ease to Col.

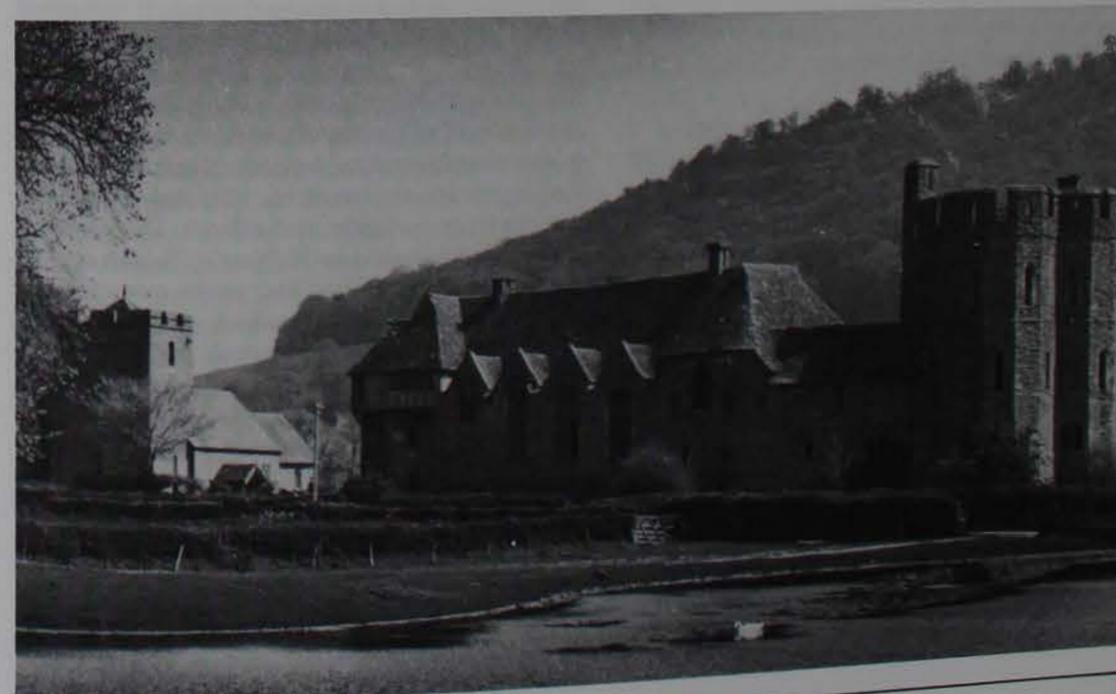


Above: Ludlow, Salop. Two buildings dominate the town's skyline. In the foreground stands the massive border castle which served as a major Royalist base throughout the Civil War. Beyond rises the mighty tower of St Laurence's.

Right: Hopton Castle, Salop. The peaceful rural setting of the ruined Norman keep belies its bloody past. In one of the most notorious incidents of the Civil War, the 31 members of Col. More's Parliamentary garrison were put to death after the castle fell to Woodhouse's Royalists.



Below: Stokesay Church and Castle, Salop. The fortified manor-house with its adjoining church offers a view of medieval England almost without equal. The castle was a Royalist base until captured by Parliament in 1645, but it survived unscathed and remains perfectly preserved. The church was not so lucky – it took the brunt of the parliamentary bombardment and was extensively damaged.



Mytton. The night attack appears to have caught the King's men unprepared and although they put up some resistance in and around the castle, the Parliamentarians swept all before them.

A thirteenth-century mural tower and adjoining sections of the wall survive along the south side of Town Walls Street, but the rest of the town's defences, including the four gates, have completely disappeared. The castle, built in the eleventh and twelfth centuries but heavily restored and remodelled by Telford and others in the late eighteenth and nineteenth centuries, comprises a medieval keep and later domestic ranges encircled by curtain walls and a gatehouse; it is open daily during the summer. An early seventeenth-century two-storey timber-framed building off Church Street, now the Prince Rupert Hotel, was reputedly Rupert's HQ during the war.

Sir Thomas Mytton (d1656) was buried in Old St Chad's Church. Mytton was the leading Parliamentarian in Shropshire and worked with Sir Thomas Middleton, a relation by marriage, to clear the county of Royalists. He was appointed governor of Wem, the first important Parliamentary base in the county, and went on to become governor of Oswestry and captor of Shrewsbury. In 1645 he was appointed Commander-in-Chief of North Wales and captured the surviving royal bases in the area during 1646–47. In 1648 he led operations to contain and crush the renewed Royalist rebellion in North Wales. Sir Thomas lies somewhere beneath the present rather sad and decayed church, a shadow of its former glory – large parts of the medieval building collapsed in 1788.

Stokesay Castle (SO435817) The beautiful thirteenth-century fortified manor-house was garrisoned for the King at the outbreak of war and remained in Royalist hands until 1645. Contemporary and later sources give conflicting accounts of the precise dates and sequence of events in 1645, but it is clear that the castle was taken by Parliament in the early summer after a

siege and that Royalist attempts to retake it a little later in the year were defeated. The castle was neither damaged during the war nor slighted after it and survives intact, a perfect example of a late medieval fortified manor-house, with a thirteenth-century great tower and adjoining chambers ranged around a courtyard protected by a curtain wall, an Elizabethan timber gatehouse and a moat. Stokesay Castle is open daily except Tuesdays.

The adjoining Church of St John the Baptist, originally the castle chapel, was also garrisoned for the King as an outpost of the castle. It was badly damaged during the Parliamentary bombardment of 1645 and the north wall of the nave was completely destroyed. St John's was extensively rebuilt in 1654 and remains a largely Interregnum church.

Tong (SJ7907) The castle and church to the south changed hands several times in the course of the Civil War until finally secured for Parliament in spring 1645. The medieval castle or fortified house has long since disappeared; the eighteenth-century mansion which stood on the site was itself demolished in 1954. St Bartholomew's, however, still bears evidence of Civil War conflicts – the north wall of the church is pitted with musket shot and the scar of a cannon is visible near the blocked doorway.

Wem (SJ5128) The town was occupied by Parliamentarians in September 1643, one of their first bases within the area, and despite repeated Royalist raids and occasional sieges, it remained in Parliamentary hands for the rest of the war.

Wrockwardine (SJ6212) The village was garrisoned for Parliament in 1644–45 and served as a base for operations against High Ercall. The Parliamentarians resisted several counter-attacks from Vaughan and others. The garrison was probably based in St Peter's Church and in Wrockwardine Hall to the north-east, a two-storey Jacobean building, which was remodelled and extended in the eighteenth century.

SOMERSET

The county was initially controlled by Parliament but in June 1643 Hertford and Hopton invaded from the west and quickly carried all before them. By the end of July Waller had departed and for a year Somerset was secure for the King. Fighting began again in summer 1644 as Parliamentary forces began the gradual reconquest of Somerset, but not until 1645 were the Royalists dislodged from most of the county. Cromwell was frequently here during his southern campaigns of 1645 and he played an active part in the reconquest of the county.

Babylon Hill (ST588158) Babylon Hill, east of Yeovil, was the scene of a brief but fierce skirmish on 7 September 1642. The Marquis of Hertford, marching west from Sherborne, sent Hopton and 350 men ahead to secure the road for the main army. They halted on Babylon Hill to keep watch over the surrounding area, particularly the Parliamentary units in Yeovil below. There was minor skirmishing throughout the day, but the Parliamentarians appeared few in number and unwilling to risk a major engagement. However, at the end of the day, as Hopton was preparing to march east and rejoin Hertford, the Parliamentary forces launched a surprise attack which created confusion and near-panic in the unprepared Royalist ranks. Hopton hurried away into the gathering darkness, but he lost over 20 dead. Babylon Hill is now crossed by the main A30.

Bridgwater (ST2937) A Parliamentary stronghold during the first year of the war, the town was evacuated in June 1643 at the approach of Hopton's 6,000 Royalists, who occupied Bridgwater unopposed on the 6th. It remained a Royalist base for two uneventful years. The Parliamentarians returned in July 1645 and for ten days the main army under Cromwell and Fairfax laid siege to the town. Bridgwater was defended by a medieval tidal ditch, newly renovated and deepened by the Royalists, stretches of stone walls and earth banks and a medieval castle. The Royalist garrison under Col. Sir Hugh Wyndham had been bolstered by the arrival of that part of Goring's army which had survived Langport. The Parliamentary high command established a base at Chedzoy, three miles east of the town, and Cromwell probably lodged here during the early part of the operation. Royalist outposts were attacked and driven in, including a unit at Sydenham House, one mile north-east of the town. Massey led a detachment over the Hamp to threaten Bridgwater from the south-west. By the 20th, the Parliamentary deployment was complete and Fairfax and Cromwell formally summoned the town; according to tradition the reply was issued by Lady Wyndham who took a pot-shot at Cromwell. The assault began that night and the

Parliamentary troops soon breached the East Gate and took Eastover, the area east of the Parrett. The Royalists, however, withdrew into the western half of the town, either destroying the bridge or lifting the drawbridge spanning the already demolished arches as they went. They held out for a further three days, during which much of the town was wrecked by a heavy bombardment, before surrendering on 23 July.

Little survives of the Civil War defences. The ditch, bank and walls have all long gone and the present town bridge is Victorian. The medieval castle, which occupied the area between Fore Street, Kings Square and Chandos Street, was slighted after the war and the site was redeveloped in the following century; the only part to survive is the Water Gate, a simple arched postern in West Quay.

Bridgwater has close links with Robert Blake, the Parliamentary soldier and admiral. Blake was born here in 1599, spent much of his early life at Knowle, three miles to the north-east (ST3340) and was elected MP for Bridgwater in 1640. He had a distinguished Civil War, conspicuous in operations at Bristol, Lyme Regis and Taunton, and then as a General-at-Sea he embarked upon a very successful naval career during the 1650s. He died on campaign in 1657 and was buried in Westminster Abbey. He was probably born in the Tudor house in Blake Street, now the Admiral Blake Museum, which includes a permanent Blake exhibition. A fine bronze statue of the Admiral stands in Cornhill.

Burrow Mount or Mump (ST358305) The curious hill rises abruptly above Burrow Bridge, the last passage over the Parrett before Bridgwater. A ruined fifteenth-century church on top of the mound served from time to time during the Civil War as a lookout and base for troops guarding the bridge. In July 1645 150 Royalists took refuge here after the Battle of Langport but surrendered on the 13th at the approach of a Parliamentary detachment. The present hilltop church, begun in 1793 but never completed, stands above the scattered village which has grown up around the bridge. Hill and church are now owned by the National Trust.

Cannington (ST2539) John Pym – leader of the Parliamentary party in the Long Parliament until his death in December 1643 and one of the five Members whom Charles I had tried to arrest in January 1642 – was born and brought up at Brymore House, near Cannington.

Chewton Mendip (ST5953) The first serious engagement in summer 1643 between the Royalist invasion force and the Somerset Parliamentarians took place on the evening of 10 June, when Waller clashed with the Royalist Cavalry around Chewton Mendip. Waller's Horse drew up on Nedge Hill (around ST585512), 1½ miles south-west of the village. The Royalists charged and pushed their opponents into Chewton Mendip and beyond, but here they ran into the main Parliamentary army and were repulsed. It was probably at this point that Prince Maurice was wounded and temporarily captured. A more general skirmish developed around Chewton but evening mist and then nightfall soon brought proceedings to a close and the two forces disengaged.

Dunster Castle (SS992434) Dunster Castle was secured for Parliament at the outbreak of war but was evacuated in May 1643 at the approach of Hopton's forces. It remained in Royalist hands for the rest of the war, finally surrendering in summer 1646 after a five month siege, the last stronghold in Somerset to fall to Parliament. Much of the medieval and Tudor fortress was demolished in the eighteenth century, when the castle was extensively remodelled and rebuilt. One of the Norman towers and sections of Tudor work were incorporated in the new castle and nearby stands the thirteenth-century gateway and flanking towers guarding the entry to the former bailey, now the terrace; a Civil War bullet is embedded in one of the gateway's medieval, iron-bound doors. Dunster Castle is open from Saturday to Wednesday during the summer.

Farleigh Hungerford (ST801576) Farleigh Hungerford Castle was begun by Sir Thomas Hungerford in the 1370s and extended by his son Walter, who moved the village away from the castle walls to a new position further up the hill. The former village church, St Leonard's, became the castle chapel. Hungerfords fought on both sides during the Civil War and their castle changed hands several times, finally falling to Parliamentary troops in September 1645. Derelict by the eighteenth century and now very ruinous, the castle comprises a square central block with corner towers and a southern gate-

house, and an inner and outer bailey defended by curtain walls, mural towers and gatehouses. The ruins are open daily. Parts of St Leonard's Church now serve as a museum and contain armour and other relics from the Civil War. St Ann's Chapel contains fine white marble effigies of Sir Edward Hungerford (d1648) and his wife. Sir Edward was one of the leading Parliamentary officers in west Wiltshire and east Somerset during the first Civil War and it was he who retook the castle from his Royalist half-brother in September 1645.

Isle Moor (ST3722) In early July 1645 George Porter and a detachment of Royalist Horse were sent west from Langport in the hope of deceiving Fairfax and Cromwell into thinking that the Royalists were about to attack Taunton and thus distracting them while the main army retreated into Bridgwater. The plan worked all too well, for Fairfax sent Massey and 4,000 men to oppose the Royalist force. Failing to set a proper watch, Porter was caught by surprise on 8 July as he and his men were relaxing on Isle Moor. The unprepared Royalists were quickly routed by Massey, 500 falling prisoner and the remainder fleeing in confusion.

Langport (ST4226) At the approach of Fairfax, Cromwell, and a 14,000-strong army in late June 1645, Goring hastily abandoned the siege of Taunton and marched east to meet the threat. Failing to hold the area around Yeovil, the Royalists turned north-west and began marching along the Yeo valley toward Bridgwater. On 10 July Goring took up a strong defensive position to the east of Langport in the hope of holding off his pursuers while his guns and baggage were taken to Bridgwater. His men drew up along the west bank of the Wagg Rhyne, a large stream which ran south through a distinct valley and into the Yeo. His position, about one mile east of Langport near the village of Huish Episcopi, was well chosen, with the Yeo to the south, the steep and difficult valley of the Wagg to the north and an area of marshy ground to the east. Advancing from Long Sutton, Fairfax had little choice but attempt a direct frontal assault along the lane which ran west into Huish and which forded the Wagg near the centre of the Royalist line. After Rainsborough dislodged Royalist Musketeers lining the hedges, the Parliamentary front line under Bethel charged across the stream, throwing the Royalists back towards Langport. When Goring's reserve halted the initial attack, Disbrowe led the second wave across the ford, swinging round across the now cleared ground west of the Wagg



Above: Bridgwater, Somerset, Robert Blake, Parliamentary soldier during the Civil War turned Cromwell's most successful Admiral at Sea during the Interregnum, towers over his native town. Pomeroy's statue was completed at the very end of the nineteenth century.

Top right: Farleigh Hungerford Castle, Somerset. Sir Edward Hungerford and his wife, Margaret, lie beneath a fine marble monument in St Ann's Chapel. Sir Edward, an energetic and forthright character, given to quarrelling with his Parliamentary allies just as fiercely as with his Royalist foes, is portrayed in full armour.

Right: Nunney Castle, Somerset. The huge corner towers, high walls and deep moat which made de la Mare's castle so formidable in the fourteenth century proved less of an obstacle in the seventeenth and the deployment of heavy artillery soon opened the walls and brought Royalist opposition to an end. The far wall of the castle was then brought down by mines, so rendering the place indefensible.



and falling on the Royalist flank. Goring's line soon broke and the Royalists fled in confusion towards Bridgwater, pursued by Cromwell for several miles. Three hundred Royalists died in battle and many more fell along the Bridgwater road.

The area of the battle has changed little since the seventeenth century. The main A372 now skirts the southern edge of the battlefield, crossing the Wagg at ST433265, and a certain amount of modern ribbon development has taken place along the road, but the area to the north is still open land.

Marshall's Elm (ST4834) The first blood of the Civil War in Somerset was spilt near this tiny scattered village on 4 August 1642. A newly raised body of 80 Royalist Horse under Sir John Stawell and Lt.-Col. Lunsford, drawn up on Walton Hill, saw 600 Parliamentary troops marching through the cornfields below. Lunsford decided to attack and sent his Dragoons to take up positions in quarry pits on the lower slopes of the hill. Their fire halted the inexperienced Parliamentarians and Stawell then charged down into the stationary and bewildered force. Sixty Parliamentarians were captured, seven were killed on the spot and 20 died later of their wounds. Thus did the Civil War begin in Somerset.

Norton St Philip (ST7755) The George Inn is a fine early fifteenth-century stone house with a Tudor half-timbered upper storey. According to tradition, Cromwell lodged here at some point during his Somerset campaign of 1645.

Nunney (ST736458) The ruined shell of Sir John de la Mare's fourteenth-century castle stands in the village, a small rectangular keep dwarfed by massive cylindrical corner towers, surrounded by a moat and an outer bank. Held for the King by Col. Richard Prater in 1643-45, the castle was attacked by Parliamentarians in summer 1645 but endured a prolonged siege and surrendered on 20 August only when heavy artillery, brought to Nunney two days before, had opened several breaches in the walls. According to tradition, during the siege the starving Royalists had daily tortured their one and only pig in the hope that its squealing would convince the Parliamentarians that the garrison was well-supplied and encourage them to abandon the siege. The castle was slighted by Parliament after the war, when mines brought down a large section of the north wall; more walling on the north side collapsed early this century. The otherwise extensive ruins are open daily.

Taunton (ST2324) Despite the general Parliamentary sympathies of its inhabitants, Taunton changed hands several times during the Civil War as the two sides fought for control of southern Somerset. The town was garrisoned for Parliament at the outbreak of the war, but surrendered to Hopton's 6,000-strong Royalist army on 5 June 1643. The Royalist garrison enjoyed a year of peace until July 1644, when a Parliamentary force under Blake and Pye pushed west, overran the outer earthwork defences and laid siege to the 80-man garrison which had sought refuge in the castle. Reeve surrendered a week later on 10 July. Taunton was the first stronghold in Somerset to be recaptured by Parliament in 1644 and for many months stood in peril in a largely Royalist area. Three times the King's men tried to recapture the town and only heroic efforts by Robert Blake and his garrison preserved the town for Parliament. In autumn 1644 Col. Wyndham besieged Taunton but was driven off on 14 December by a relieving force under Cols Holborne and Ashley Cooper. A larger force under Grenville and Berkeley returned in April 1645, surrounding the town with their own earthworks and overrunning the outer suburbs in early May. In fierce street fighting on 8 and 9 May Blake and his men were pushed back into the town centre, an area between the castle and St Mary's Church protected by earthworks. This, too, fell on the 10th and Blake took refuge in the castle, but on the following day the approach of a large relieving force under Col. Weldon compelled Berkeley to withdraw. The Royalists tried again in June, but Goring's forces marched off at the end of the month to meet the main Parliamentary army.

The Civil War earthworks around the town and in the town centre have long disappeared and much of Henry of Blois's medieval castle has also perished, replaced by the Castle Hotel and its gardens. The thirteenth-century gateway survives, but the rest of the present castle is eighteenth-century or later. The castle houses a library and local museum, open daily.

Wells (ST5445) In August 1642 the Marquis of Hertford secured Wells for the King and established his HQ in the Bishop's Palace. The expected Royalist support in the area did not materialise and instead several thousand local Parliamentarians gathered on Prior's Hill, 1½ miles to the north. Negotiations and occasional exchanges of cannon-fire ended when Hertford and his small force broke out of Wells and fled to Dorset. The town was retaken by Royalist forces without opposition in July 1643 and was

held by them for two uneventful years. They evacuated the place in 1645 and Wells changed

hands for the third and final time, again without bloodshed.

SOUTH YORKSHIRE

The area covered by the small modern county contained few important strongholds in the seventeenth century and saw very little action during the Civil War. Sir John Gell secured much of the county in autumn 1642, but the Parliamentarians pulled back at the approach of Newcastle's army in the following spring and the region fell to the King with little or no fighting. It returned to Parliament in summer 1644 in an equally unspectacular fashion after the Royalist troops were withdrawn to defend York. Cromwell was here in July and early August 1644 during his brief Yorkshire campaign and passed through the area again in 1648 and 1650-51.

Bramhope (SE2543) The chapel in the grounds of Bramhope Hall was built in 1649 and retains much of its mid-seventeenth-century appearance inside and out. It is a fairly plain and simple rectangular building; inside, a three-decker pulpit stands in the middle of the north side, with box pews arranged to focus upon it.

Doncaster (SE5703) On 29 October 1648 a party of Royalist rebels from Pontefract burst into Doncaster and attempted to seize Col. Rainsborough who was lodging at an inn. They probably intended to take him prisoner, but in the ensuing struggle Rainsborough was killed and the Royalists returned to Pontefract empty-handed.

Cromwell stayed at Doncaster on 25 July-5 August 1644 at the end of his Yorkshire campaign and again on 9 August 1648 and 21 August 1651 on his way to intercept Scottish Royalist armies.

Great Houghton (SE4306) The chapel of the former Old Hall was built in 1650 and survives almost unaltered, a rare example of an Interregnum church. It comprises a single, undivided nave and chancel, with box pews and a pulpit opposite the entrance. The Elizabethan mansion to which it was originally attached has recently been demolished.

Houndshill (SE3304) Houndshill manor-house, an early seventeenth-century 'H'-plan mansion in stone and timber, stands ½ mile south-south-west of Barnsley. It was built for the Elmhirst family and garrisoned for the King by Col. Richard Elmhirst at the outbreak of the Civil War. Sir Thomas Fairfax besieged and bombarded Houndshill in the following summer and the 40-man garrison within surrendered when

the Parliamentarians threatened to storm the place.

Rotherham (SK4292) Rotherham was secured for Parliament by Sir John Gell during the opening months of the Civil War but was evacuated in March 1643 at the approach of Newcastle's Royalists. The town was retaken without opposition in the latter half of 1644. Cromwell stayed in Rotherham on 8 August 1648 on his way to intercept the Scottish invasion force.

Sheffield (SK3587) Sheffield was taken unopposed by Sir John Gell in November 1642 and a small Parliamentary garrison installed in the medieval castle. The town was evacuated in the following March as Newcastle approached, and town and castle were then held for the King for over a year. In late July 1644 the town quickly fell to Crawford's Parliamentarians but the Royalist garrison in the castle put up greater resistance. Attempts to drain the moat and bring down the walls by tunnelling were unsuccessful and not until heavy artillery arrived and pounded the fortress did the Royalists abandon the struggle; Major Thomas Beaumont surrendered on 11 August. The castle was slighted in 1648 and today nothing survives except odd fragments of masonry around the Cattle Market, which covers the site of the former bailey.

Skellow Hall (SE5310) According to tradition Cromwell once lodged at Skellow Hall, Old Skellow, while on his way through the area travelling to or from Scotland. The building no longer exists.

Tickhill Castle (SK593928) The Norman motte and bailey castle, repaired and modernised in the sixteenth century, was held for the

King throughout 1643–44. Col. Monckton's mutinous garrison surrendered to Col. John Lilburne on or around 26 July 1644 after a brief siege. Cromwell had travelled over from Doncaster to supervise the surrender and evacuation of the castle. In fact, all was not well in the Parliamentary army, for Manchester had slipped into characteristic inactivity and was far from

happy to learn that his subordinates had resumed hostilities without his approval.

Tickhill Castle was slighted after the war and today the fragmentary remains stand on private land by the road. The twelfth-century gatehouse, reconstructed in the sixteenth, survives in fairly good order but the shell keep and curtain walls have largely disappeared.

STAFFORDSHIRE

The Civil War in Staffordshire was a conflict of garrisons and raiding, not of field armies and set battles. In the opening year of the war the two sides garrisoned a large number of towns and villages, castles and manor-houses, so many that only a selection can be mentioned below. In the main, the Royalists initially held the south and west of the county, the Parliamentarians the north and east, though from the start of the war each side had outposts in territory largely controlled by the other. In an unspectacular manner the Parliamentarians slowly extended their control, though not until 1645–46 did the last Royalist strongholds fall. Cromwell played no part in the Civil War in Staffordshire and seems never to have set foot in the county during the 1640s. He may have visited the area in August 1651, travelling through Burton and Tamworth on his way to Worcester, but even that is in doubt, for other sources suggest that he followed a more easterly route through Leicestershire.

Alton Castle (SK073425) The fragmentary remains of Alton Castle stand in the forecourt of a Victorian great house, now a school. Built in the twelfth century, the small fortress lay in an area of Staffordshire fiercely disputed during the first half of the Civil War and it changed hands several times. Its eventful Civil War history is probably one of the causes of its present, very ruinous condition and little remains above ground except a single corner tower. (Alton Towers, nearby, is an entirely separate post-Civil War building.)

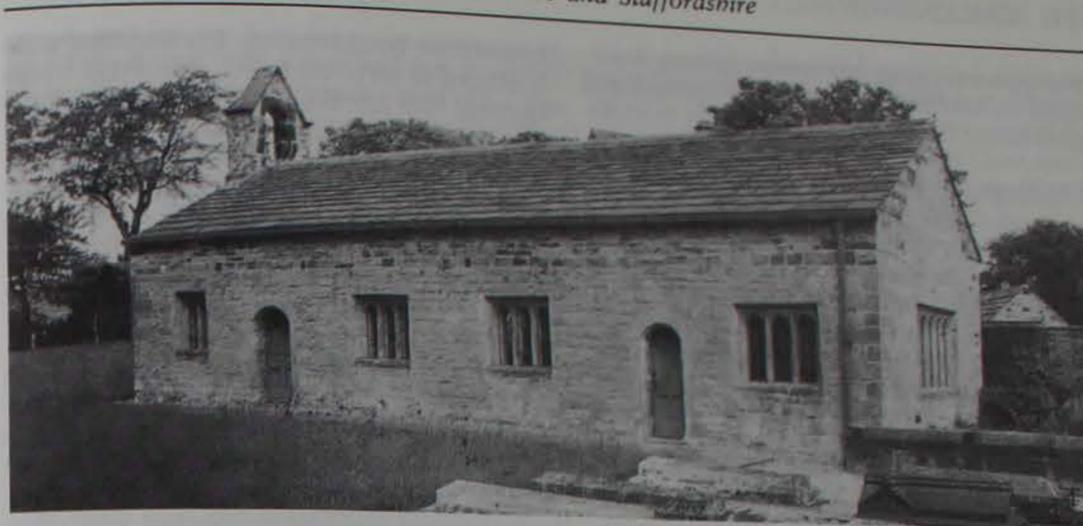
Barton under Needlewood (SK1818) Barton House, a late medieval and Tudor mansion, served as a Royalist outpost of Burton for much of the Civil War. In June 1645 the garrison was evacuated and the hall burnt to the ground to prevent it being used by the Parliamentarians. The present Barton Hall was built in the eighteenth century on or close to the site of the old house.

Biddulph (SJ8856) Biddulph Old Hall, an Elizabethan mansion of four ranges round a central courtyard, was garrisoned for the King by Lord Brereton throughout the opening year of the Civil War. In February 1644 a Parliamentary unit led by the governor's own uncle, Sir William Brereton, arrived before the hall. Three days of close siege and the arrival of heavy

artillery, particularly 'Roaring Meg', persuaded Lord Brereton that further resistance would be both futile and costly and the Royalists surrendered on 22 February. The ruins of the Tudor Old Hall or of a later seventeenth-century rebuilding stand in the grounds of a farm.

Burton upon Trent (SK2423) A combination of factors conspired to ensure Burton an eventful and unhappy Civil War. The town stood at a major crossroads and controlled an important crossing over the Trent, it lay in a hotly contested frontier zone between Parliamentarians to the north and Royalists to the south and west, and it possessed very weak defences, probably nothing more than a circuit of earth banks and barricades. Burton could not be held against a serious attack and the town changed hands at least eight times during the war as fortunes ebbed and flowed in the surrounding area. No trace of the Civil War defences survives.

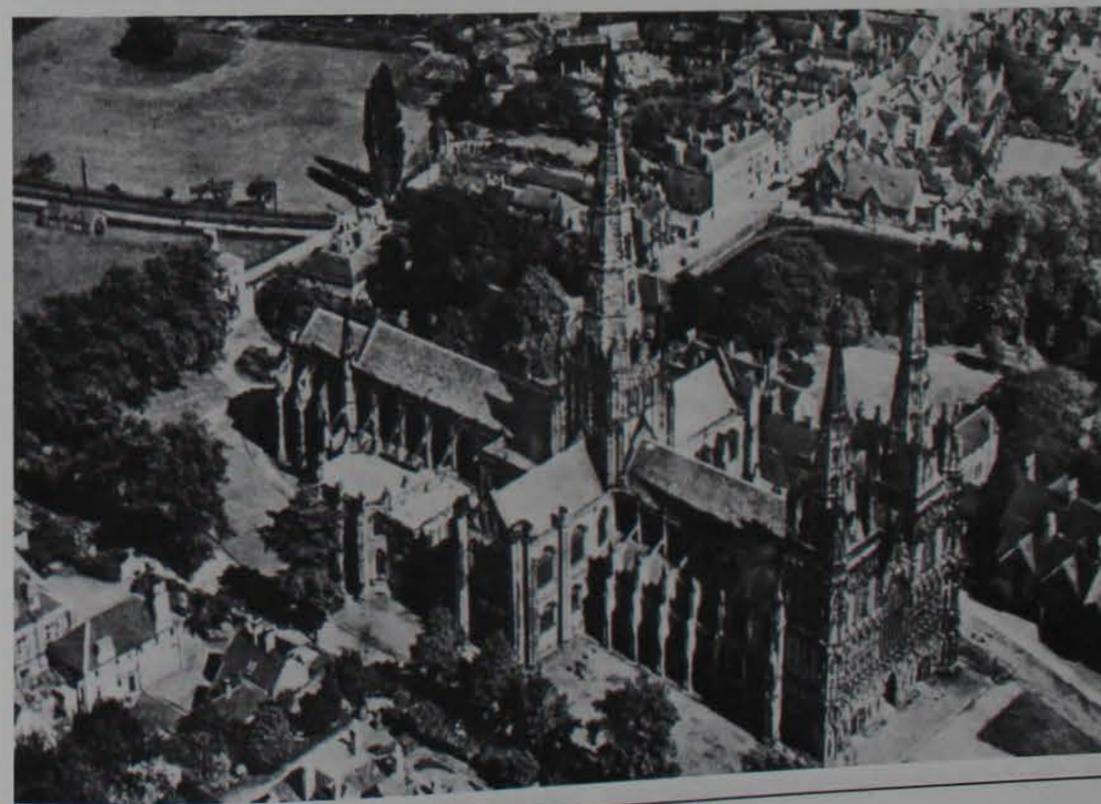
Caverswall Hall or Castle (SJ950429) Walter de Caverswall built a castle here in the thirteenth century, a quadrangular fortress with polygonal corner towers. In 1615 Matthew Craddock demolished parts of the medieval castle and converted the rest into a more comfortable domestic dwelling, with a three-storey embattled hall and a mock-medieval tower. The hall was garrisoned for Parliament for most of the Civil War



Above: Bramhope, South Yorks. A simple, plain rectangular hall, Bramhope is the only surviving example of the handful of new chapels built in the area during the Interregnum.



Left: Tamworth Castle, Staffs. The Norman and Jacobean castle, which was garrisoned by both sides during the Civil War, stands on a site fortified since the Saxon period.



Below: Lichfield Cathedral, Staffs. The cathedral was the focus of action in 1643 and 1646 as troops fought their way into the Close and sustained heavy damage. Parts of the central and western spires were brought down and had to be rebuilt after the Restoration.

but apparently never saw serious fighting. It survived the war intact and is now a convent and guesthouse.

Chillington Hall or Castle (SJ862069) Although Chillington has been the seat of the Gifford family for over 800 years, the present building on the site is no earlier than the sixteenth century, and most of it is later still. John Gifford's Tudor fortified hall, occasionally referred to as Chillington Castle in deference to the earlier fortress which it replaced, was garrisoned for the King at the outbreak of the Civil War. It was captured by Brereton in August 1643 and seems to have played no further part in the war. The Tudor hall was extensively rebuilt and remodelled in the eighteenth and nineteenth centuries and the house which saw action in the Civil War is all but lost amid the present Georgian mansion. Chillington Hall is open to the public on Sundays and certain weekdays during the summer.

Colwich (SK011211) Many members of the local Wolseley family lie within the medieval village Church of St Michael. Most of the family sided with the King during the Civil War, but young Sir Charles Wolseley became a strong supporter and close friend of Cromwell during the 1650s. He was named a Protectoral Councillor in December 1653 and thus at just 23 or 24 became one of the most powerful politicians in the country. He served as a Councillor and MP throughout the Protectorate and then spent over fifty years in semi-retirement in Staffordshire. At the death of his former master, Richard Cromwell, in 1712, Wolseley became the last senior Protectoral politician left alive and survived to see a Hanoverian on the throne. He was buried in St Michael's, Colwich, in November 1714. Wolseley Hall, the family seat and still a private residence, lies south-east of the village by the main road to Rugeley (SK025203).

Eccleshall Castle (SJ828295) The early fourteenth-century castle originally comprised four corner towers linked by blank walling or domestic ranges and surrounded by a moat. It was garrisoned for the King by Lord Capel at the beginning of the war to protect the eastern approaches to Shropshire. Eccleshall was besieged by Brereton and Middleton at the beginning of August 1643 and the Parliamentarians established their HQ in nearby Holy Trinity Church, mounting guns on the tower and in the churchyard to bombard the recalcitrant garrison. Hastings temporarily relieved the garrison, but the Parliamentarians soon returned and

resumed the bombardment. The Royalists within refused to serve the Dutch mercenary whom Hastings had left behind as governor and the unhappy garrison surrendered the badly damaged castle on 29 August. The remains of the castle were incorporated within later farm buildings on the site. One of the nine-sided corner towers survives in fairly good order, together with a fourteenth-century bridge across the remains of the moat.

Hopton Heath (SJ953263) The minor battle fought on open land to the north-east of Stafford was the only serious field engagement in Staffordshire during the Civil War. On 19 March 1643 a combined Parliamentary force under Brereton and Gell approached Stafford in the hope of surprising and capturing the Royalist base. The attack was expected, however, and the Parliamentary advance was halted three miles north-east of the town by a Royalist force under Northampton and Hastings which had been stationed in the area to protect Stafford. The Parliamentarians deployed across a slight moorland ridge immediately east of the village of Hopton; Gell's men, approaching from Weston, formed the centre and left of the Parliamentary line while Brereton's forces, who had marched south from Salt, made up the right wing. Although the area was largely open land, the extended Parliamentary line was protected in places by stone walls or hedges. The Royalist army, advancing from Stafford, threw back an advanced party of Parliamentary Dragoons and then halted while their cannon bombarded the enemy line. Northampton charged forward, broke the Parliamentary Horse and pushed them from the field. Gell's Foot proved more robust and, in failing light, the battle degenerated into a series of increasingly confused Royalist attacks on the Parliamentary Infantry. Brereton and Gell retreated under cover of darkness, having lost 500 men and most of their artillery. The Royalist victory was an expensive one for they, too, had suffered heavy casualties – the Earl of Northampton and many officers were dead and Byron and Hastings were among the wounded.

Hopton Heath is still open ground beyond the village and can have changed little since 1643. The track across the top of the ridge around which the Parliamentarians deployed survives as a minor road and runs down into the village. Many of the dead lie in mass graves somewhere on the field; others were carried to Sandon and Weston for church burial.

Keele Hall (SJ8145) The Tudor hall, built for the Sneyd family around 1580, was fortified and

garrisoned for the King from the beginning of the war. It saw little action and was probably evacuated sometime during 1644–45. The building which was garrisoned in the Civil War has gone and the present hall, a large 'L'-shaped building in red sandstone, was built in the early nineteenth century. It is now owned by the university.

Lapley (SJ8712) Lapley House or Hall, a sixteenth-century fortified mansion, changed hands several times during the opening 18 months of the war. Initially secured for Parliament, it fell in spring 1643 to a daring night raid launched from Chillington: a handful of volunteers scaled the outer wall and, undetected by the garrison, opened the main gates to admit their colleagues, who quickly overpowered the 70 Parliamentarians. Lapley was recaptured by Parliament at the end of 1643 and garrisoned for a further two years. In 1645 the troops were withdrawn and the outer wall and gatehouse demolished to render Lapley indefensible. The Elizabethan house itself escaped slighting and survived intact; it was enlarged and remodelled in the nineteenth century and remains a private residence.

All Saints Church nearby was frequently held as an outpost by the garrison and in consequence suffered repeated bombardments. Civil War cannon-fire may have been responsible for the demolition of the medieval transepts – they both disappeared in the mid-seventeenth century – and for damage to the north-west corner of the nave.

Lichfield (SK1109) The Royalists entered the town unopposed at the beginning of 1643 and hastily set about securing Lichfield against possible attack. Seventeenth-century Lichfield possessed neither town walls nor a castle and instead the King's men established their base in the Cathedral Close, the area immediately around the cathedral, encircled by a high wall; Minster Pool afforded additional protection on the southern side. The Royalists stored their ammunition within the cathedral and mounted cannon at strategic points on, in and around the building.

The expected onslaught began at the end of February 1643 with the arrival of a Parliamentary force under Lord Brooke. The Parliamentarians besieged the Close and bombarded the Royalist positions, badly damaging the towers and spires of the cathedral. Although Lord Brooke was killed by a Royalist sniper – a modern plaque in Dam Street marks the spot

where he fell – the attack continued under Sir John Gell and the small Royalist force surrendered in March. The Parliamentary troops sacked the cathedral and garrisoned the Close themselves, thus blocking the main north-south road through the county.

Prince Rupert moved quickly to recover the town and arrived on 10 April at the head of 4,000 men. He overran the town without difficulty but the Close again proved a greater obstacle and a ten day siege, enlivened by repeated attempts to scale the walls, achieved little. On 20 April, however, the Royalists used mines to open up a huge breach in the wall and the Parliamentarians inside promptly surrendered.

Lichfield remained in Royalist hands for nearly three years and served as a centre for operations throughout the south of the county. It held out long after the collapse of the King's cause in the surrounding area and not until 6 March 1646 did Brereton finally recapture the Close.

The cathedral towers and spires and St Chad's Chapel were very badly damaged during the Civil War and had to be almost completely rebuilt after the Restoration. The defensive wall around the Close has disappeared, but many medieval and early modern buildings remain within the area it once enclosed. Minster Pool lies in a small public park south of the cathedral.

Patshull (SJ800006) The late medieval and Tudor manor-house was garrisoned for the King by Walter Astley from 1642 until its capture by Parliamentarians in summer 1645. Ruinous by the end of the seventeenth century, the old hall has been completely demolished; it stood on low ground below the present eighteenth- and nineteenth-century hall. The archway into the forecourt of the hall contains the figures of two civil war soldiers in military dress. St Mary's church nearby contains an elaborate monument to a Royalist officer, Captain Richard Astley (d1688), who is depicted riding at the head of his troop of Cavalry.

Paynsley Hall (SJ897380) The isolated late medieval and Tudor manor-house served as a minor Royalist outpost for much of the war; it was stormed and taken by Parliamentary troops in 1645. The hall has been demolished and the present Paynsley is modern. However, remains of the old moat and associated earthworks which defended the Civil War stronghold are still visible around the house. A track and several footpaths run past the site.

Stafford (SJ9223) Civil War Stafford was protected by a rather dilapidated system of medieval defences, including a circuit of walls and two castles, one within the town and the other near Castle Bank, on a hill to the west. The county town was secured for the King at the end of 1642 but immediately became the target of repeated Parliamentary raids. Although the garrison turned back several attacks in February and March 1643, the town fell on 15 May to a surprise dawn raid led by Brereton. It remained in Parliament's hands for the rest of the war.

Most of the Civil War defences have disappeared. The town walls and castle have long gone and the town gates are nothing more than a memory preserved in the street names. The castle to the west of the town was slighted by Parliament after the war and the remains were later incorporated within a nineteenth-century Gothic pile, which has itself been largely demolished; recent excavations have investigated the remains of the Norman-cum-Victorian fortress. The only building with clear Civil War associations which still stands intact is High House, a very large four storey timber-framed building on the west side of Greengate Street; Charles I and Prince Rupert stayed in the late Tudor house in 1642 and from 1643 it served as a gaol for captured Royalists.

Stourton Castle (SO8685) This small medieval castle, two miles west-north-west of Stourbridge, was occupied by Col. Fox at the beginning of 1644 to disrupt Royalist lines of communication between Shropshire and the West Midlands. On 24 March a large body of Royalists under Gerrard marched towards Stourton, defeated a 300-strong Parliamentary force drawn up on Stourbridge Heath and went on to expel the small garrison remaining in the castle. Stourton fell derelict in the late seventeenth and eighteenth century and the fragmentary ruins were incorporated within the private mansion, still known as the castle, which was built on the site in the nineteenth century.

Swynnerton Hall (SJ8535) The Tudor seat of the Fitzherberts was garrisoned for the King during 1643–44. The old hall was demolished in the early eighteenth century and the present hall, a severe 2½-storey mansion which dominates the village, was built in 1725.

Tamworth Castle (SK2004) Tamworth Castle was secured for the King at the outbreak of the Civil War, but it lay too close to the Parliamentary strongholds in the West Midlands to survive for long. It was captured and garrisoned

by Parliament early in 1643 and although it stood in an area which continued to be disputed until 1644–45, Tamworth apparently remained under Parliament's control for the rest of the war. The Norman shell keep stood on a motte originally raised and fortified by the Saxons; a number of early modern buildings were added within the walls, including a sixteenth-century banqueting hall, now a museum. The castle ruins are open daily except Fridays.

Trentham (SJ8641) The twelfth-century Augustinian priory at Trentham was acquired by the Leveson family at the Dissolution. Much was demolished, but the remainder was converted into a grand secular house, remodelled and extended in the 1630s. It was garrisoned for the King for much of the war. The house survived the Civil War intact, but was completely demolished in the early eighteenth century and replaced with a much grander edifice, itself repeatedly extended and remodelled over the succeeding century. The house was demolished in 1910; its extensive grounds are now a public park.

Tutbury Castle (SK209291) Tutbury Castle was held for the King throughout the Civil War, its small garrison frequently reinforced by troops from the nearby bases of Lichfield and Ashby to help repel the repeated Parliamentary attacks and sieges. Not until early 1646 did the then isolated stronghold surrender to the besieging forces. The castle was slighted after the war and little now survives of the eleventh–fifteenth-century fortress. The medieval keep has completely disappeared – a much later building stands on the site – but fragments of the outer bailey wall survive, together with the remains of a gatehouse, a mural tower and late medieval domestic ranges. The ruins are open daily.

Uttoxeter (SK0933) Although armies frequently passed through the area during the Civil War, Uttoxeter was not fortified or garrisoned until 1645, when the Parliamentarians threw up earthworks and erected street barricades and turned the town into a military base for operations against Tutbury and Lichfield.

In late August 1648 the remnant of the Scottish Royalist Horse which had survived Preston and fled from Warrington was trapped here by Lambert and Grey. Hamilton surrendered without a fight and large numbers of prisoners were temporarily held in churches at Uttoxeter, Bramshall and other villages in the area.

Wootton Lodge (SK098438) Sir Richard Fleet-

wood's early seventeenth-century house was garrisoned for the King in 1642 but fell to local Parliamentarians in the following summer after a two day bombardment. The Parliamentary guns were sited on rising ground nearby, still known as 'Cromwell's Battery', though Cromwell himself was over 100 miles away at the time. The lodge was repaired after the war and has been repeatedly renovated since, but it still retains much of its original Jacobean appearance.

Wrotesley Hall (SJ8501) Wrotesley Hall was garrisoned for the King during the opening

years of the war, but by 1645 the Royalists had been expelled and Wrotesley became a base for Parliamentary operations in the area. The building which saw action in the Civil War was probably Tudor in origin, extended and strengthened in the early seventeenth century; it comprised a two storey central block with cross wings defended by a moat and gatehouse. The old hall was demolished in 1690 and a new house built a little to the south-west. This house, in turn, was gutted by fire and the present hall largely dates from the 1920s.

SUFFOLK

Suffolk was secure for Parliament throughout the period and saw no significant fighting during the Civil War. Cromwell payed a brief visit to the county in March 1643 to secure Lowestoft and he returned in spring 1647 when the discontented Parliamentary army was temporarily based in north-west Suffolk.

Bury St Edmunds (TL8564) Part of the Parliamentary army was stationed around Bury during spring and summer 1647. Although Cromwell was ill in London for much of March, some contemporary reports suggest that he travelled to Bury on or around the 20th to meet the disaffected troops. He was, however, almost certainly absent when the Council of the Army met in Bury St Edmunds on 29 May 1647 to discuss military and political grievances and the army's response to them.

Kentford (TL7066) The Parliamentary army held a general rendezvous on the open heathland around Kentford on 4–5 June 1647 before moving closer to London to pursue their grievances with Parliament. Cromwell had spent most of the previous months in London attending Parliament, but he was also a senior officer and had – and was known to have – considerable sympathy for the army in its growing rift with Parliament and was accordingly viewed with increasing suspicion by many MPs. Cromwell hurriedly left London early on 4 June and travelled north to join the army here.

Lowestoft (TM5593) Cromwell arrived in Lowestoft on 14 March 1643, surprising and overpowering a party of local Royalists who had hoped to deliver the town to the King. The King's men were in the process of securing the town with barricades and chains stretched across the streets, but they put up no resistance to Cromwell and his troops. Cromwell spent

two days here and established his HQ in the Sun Inn, long since demolished, which stood on the east side of the High Street.

Newmarket (TL6463) Charles I was lodged at Newmarket on 7–24 June 1647 as a prisoner of the Parliamentary army, quartered nearby in Cambridgeshire and Hertfordshire. The King stayed in the royal palace which stood on the south side of the High Street. The late fifteenth-century buildings, redesigned and extended by Inigo Jones in the seventeenth century, were acquired by Col. Okey after the King's death and he demolished much of the complex. Charles II completed the destruction, using the brick and stone to build a new palace slightly to the east. This, too, has largely perished and the only section still visible is part of the eastern block, preserved in the lower storeys of the later Palace House Mansion by Palace Street.

Somerleyton Hall (TM493978) Cromwell lodged in the Tudor brick mansion on 14–16 March 1643 while securing Lowestoft from Royalist plots. The surviving estate accounts indicate that Cromwell's troops also took advantage of Somerleyton's hospitality and advantage in the hall or its grounds. The present quartered in the hall or its grounds. The present hall, open on Sundays and on certain weekdays during the summer, dates very largely from the extensive rebuilding of the nineteenth century but fragments of the Tudor and Jacobean mansion survive.

SURREY

Surrey was secure for Parliament throughout the Civil War and saw very little fighting. The Royalists occasionally pushed as far as Farnham during the first Civil War and in 1648 the Earl of Holland's Royalists marched through the county, though the major engagement which ended the rebellion was fought just over the border in Greater London. Cromwell paid only one recorded visit to Surrey, to Farnham in March 1648, but in fact he probably passed through the north-west of the county on several occasions during the first Civil War while travelling between London and Hampshire.

Banstead Down (TQ2355) On the downland to the east of Walton on the Hill stand the remains of four earthworks (TQ231552 and TQ236554), each comprising a rampart and ditch enclosing a roughly rectangular area with an entrance on one of the shorter sides. They have sometimes been described as Civil War earthworks, thrown up as defensive positions in preparation for a Royalist attack on London planned for spring 1643 but never executed. However, the account connecting these earthworks with a planned attack on London seems unconvincing and there is no satisfactory evidence to link them with the Civil War at all.

Cranleigh (TQ0639) Near the altar of St Nicholas's Church is an inscribed plate marking the resting places of Sir Richard Onslow (d1664) and his wife Elizabeth (d1679). Sir Richard was a prominent Parliamentarian and colleague of Cromwell during the 1640s, but he became increasingly disillusioned with the Interregnum regimes and was an outspoken critic of the Protectorate. The family seat was at Knowle, $\frac{3}{4}$ mile south-west of Cranleigh; the Tudor mansion was demolished during the eighteenth century and only fragments survive within the modern buildings on the site. Despite a strong tradition that Cromwell once stayed here, there is no surviving evidence to show that he ever visited Knowle.

Ewell (TQ2263) On 7 July 1648 the Earl of Holland's Royalists marched from Reigate back towards their original base at Kingston upon Thames, harried all the way by pursuing Parliamentary forces under Livesey and Audley. A fierce skirmish took place 'in a pass' between Ewell and Nonsuch – possibly the track now known as Ox Lane – before both forces continued their troubled march north out of Surrey.

Farnham (SU8446) Farnham Castle (SU837473) occupied a strategic position roughly half way between Winchester and London and as such was in something of a frontier zone: the castle was the most westerly of an arc of Parliamentary bases protecting the approaches to

London, whilst Royalist campaigns in central southern England occasionally progressed as far east as the Farnham area. At the outbreak of war the castle was garrisoned for Parliament by George Wither, but he soon fell back before the approaching Royalists and Sir John Denham entered town and castle unopposed in early November. His 100-strong garrison did not survive for long, however, for on 30 November a large Parliamentary force under Waller arrived before the castle. Waller had no artillery but he managed to blow the main gates with a petard on 1 December. His men rushed in, demolishing the hastily erected barricades in the courtyard and overwhelming the garrison. Thereafter Farnham Castle served as a Parliamentary stronghold, suffering occasional raids from Rupert, Hopton and Goring, but rarely under serious threat. The now ruinous medieval castle, open daily, comprises a shell keep with mural towers and a gatehouse enclosing a circular ward which contains the remains of an earlier great tower. The adjoining Bishop's Palace, which was used by the garrison as an additional storeroom and living quarters, survives intact but is not open to the public.

Farnham had two distinguished visitors in 1648. On 19 December Charles I stayed here overnight on his way from the Isle of Wight to London; he was lodged in Vernon House, West Street, now a public library. Cromwell visited the town earlier in the year, on 27–28 March, to discuss with Richard Maijor the terms of the planned marriage between Cromwell's son Richard and Maijor's daughter Dorothy; Cromwell may have lodged at the Goat's Head Inn on the corner of Borough and Castle Street.

Nonsuch (TQ2363) Although the outline of Henry VIII's favourite palace was recovered by excavations in the late 1950s, almost nothing now survives above ground. The double quadrangular palace was demolished in the 1680s and only a section of the garden wall and a rectangular platform – probably the base of the Banqueting House – remain in the south-west corner of the park. The palace was acquired after the Civil War by Thomas Pride, the Par-

Tyne and Wear

liamentary soldier and later an MP and a Major General, best known for his prominent role in purging the Long Parliament in December 1648. He lived here until his death in October 1658, after which the palace was briefly owned by John Lambert before returning to the Crown at the Restoration.

Pride was buried in 1658 in the palace church, which stood within the inner courtyard. Although he was attainted two years later and his body ordered exhumed, hung, drawn and quartered, his remains escaped the indignity, presumably because they could not then be located. Pride still lies undisturbed somewhere beneath the parkland.

NEWCASTLE UPON TYNE 157

Redhill (TQ2850) On 6 July 1648 Holland's Royalists marched from Kingston upon Thames, though north Surrey via Ewell, Leatherhead and Dorking to Reigate, where they halted for the night.

Cavalry units posted on Redhill Common to guard against an attack from Kent were soon put to the test, for Audley's Parliamentarians fell upon them in the evening, driving the Royalists from the common and back into Reigate. Holland avoided a major engagement by hastily evacuating Reigate in the early hours of the 7th and retracing his steps towards Dorking and Kingston.

TYNE AND WEAR

Firmly Royalist at the outbreak of the Civil War, the county remained in the King's hands until 1644 and saw no serious fighting until the Scottish Parliamentarians arrived in February and March of that year. The Scots halted here for several weeks and overran many of the smaller towns and garrisons but they failed in their main objective, the capture of Newcastle. They moved on in early April and the King's cause survived for a few months longer, but the disaster at Marston Moor and the reappearance of the Parliamentarians at the end of July soon marked the end of Royalism in Tyne and Wear. Cromwell passed through the county in 1648 and 1650–51 on his way to and from Scotland.

Gateshead (NZ2563) Seventeenth-century Gateshead was a small ribbon development strung out along the road south of the Tyne Bridge. With neither a castle nor stone walls the town could not withstand determined assault and the Scots had little difficulty in expelling the heavily outnumbered Royalist garrison on 27 July 1644.

Newcastle upon Tyne (NZ2464) Seventeenth-century Newcastle was one of the principal centres of trade and commerce in the north-east and was an important Royalist asset during the first half of the war. The King's hold on Newcastle was first challenged in February 1644, when the Scottish Parliamentarians approached the town and quickly overran the outlying Royalist bases. Newcastle itself proved a far more difficult obstacle and after a fruitless month-long siege the Scots abandoned the operation and moved on south. Governor Sir John Morley took the opportunity to strengthen the walls and ditches which surrounded the town. His work was soon put to the test, for the Scots reappeared in early autumn and attacked the town with renewed vigour. On 19 October mines were sprung under several sections of the town

wall and opened large breaches around Westgate and White Friars Tower. The Scots poured in and by the following day the town had fallen. The King's men sought refuge in the castle but their position was hopeless and they surrendered a week later.

Civil War Newcastle was defended by a hastily repaired circuit of fourteenth-century town walls, originally containing 7 gates and 19 mural towers. Only fragments of the medieval defences remain, including lengths of ruined walling around Forth Street, Bath Lane and Stowell Street on the west side of the town and the Plummer and Sallyport Towers on the east side. The Normans' motte and bailey 'new' castle, which stood at the south entrance to the town guarding the bridge across the Tyne, was replaced in the twelfth–thirteenth century by a great square keep and adjoining defensive and domestic buildings. The keep was repaired in the nineteenth century and is open daily.

Cromwell may have lodged within the domestic ranges of the castle during his visits to Newcastle. He was here on 9–10 September and 17–19 October 1648 and again on 10–15 July 1650.

South Shields (NZ3667) South Shields was garrisoned for the King in 1643 but fell to the Scots at the second attempt on 20 March 1644. The town was retaken by Montrose's Scottish Royalists in May but evacuated after Marston Moor.

Stella Hall (NZ1763) The Elizabethan and Georgian hall in which Cromwell lodged on 12 August 1651, *en route* from Scotland to Worcester, has recently been demolished. Only the roofless summer-house remains, an octagonal brick structure on Summerhouse Hill.

Sunderland (NZ3956) The small and generally pro-Parliamentary port of Sunderland was secured by the Scots in early March 1644 and served as a base during their operations against Newcastle over the following weeks. Although heavily outnumbered, the Earl of Newcastle decided to offer battle in an effort to halt the Scottish advance and relieve the pressure on Newcastle, and during March he repeatedly approached Sunderland, harrying outposts. A series of limited and rather confused engagements took place on 23 March around Hylton (NZ3557), then a separate village, now a western suburb of Sunderland. The armies clashed on the lower slopes of Bedwich Hill on the north bank of the Wear. The enclosed nature of the ground precluded the use of Horse, but the two

Infantries engaged in a series of running fights which began in the afternoon and continued well into the night. Neither side emerged victorious: the Scots sustained heavy losses and drew back into Sunderland but the Earl had insufficient men to attack the town and instead returned to Durham, leaving the Parliamentarians free to continue the siege of Newcastle and resume their march south.

Tynemouth (NZ372693) The remains of the medieval priory and castle occupy the same clifftop promontory above the North Sea. The dual nature of the site ended at the Dissolution, when the outer defences were strengthened and many of the former monastic buildings taken over by the military. Tynemouth Castle was garrisoned for the King in 1643; it resisted a brief siege in March 1644 but fell to the Scots upon their return to the area in October. Four years later, in October 1648, the Parliamentary garrison within the castle declared for the King but Hesilrige acted quickly to stifle the rebellion. He arrived before Tynemouth with a large force and promptly stormed town and castle. Most of the rebellious garrison, including the governor, Col. Henry Lilburne, were killed during the attack. The ruins of the priory and castle, including the remains of the fourteenth-century curtain wall, gatehouse and barbican, are open daily.

WARWICKSHIRE

With the exception of the southern fringes of the county, which lay within the orbit of Royalist Oxfordshire, Warwickshire was held for Parliament throughout the war. The Battle of Edgehill, the first major engagement of the war, was fought in Warwickshire but thereafter the county saw nothing more than isolated raids and minor skirmishes. Cromwell was with the Parliamentary army on the Edgehill campaign but he rarely returned to Warwickshire and was involved in no further fighting within the county.

Astley House or Castle (SP312895) The medieval castle at Astley was derelict by the mid-seventeenth century and it was the Tudor house standing within the ruins and also known as the 'castle' which was garrisoned by Parliament in 1642 and held throughout the war. The house was raided by Lord Loughborough's Royalists in January 1646. The Elizabethan house survives in good order, a long, embattled, rectangular block; beyond are the fragmentary remains of the gatehouse and the curtain walls of the medieval fortress. The castle is private.

Bascot Heath (SP4063) On 23 August 1642 the first serious confrontation of the Civil War in Warwickshire took place on Bascot Heath. A Parliamentary troop from Warwick Castle under Lord Brooke clashed with a party of Royalists, killing up to 50 of the King's men and putting the rest to flight.

Caldecote Hall (SP3595) The Tudor hall was the seat of the Purefoy family, including the prominent Parliamentarians William and George. The hall was attacked by Rupert on 28



Above: Farnham Castle, Surrey. The original castle gatehouse survives beneath the nineteenth-century roof and clock tower and modern plaster rendering which completely conceal the medieval work. It was this gatehouse, comprising two rectangular towers with semi-octagonal outer projections, which Waller's men blew and overwhelmed as they retook the castle at the end of November or 1 December 1642.

Right: Newcastle Castle, Tyne and Wear. The great square keep, which replaced the Norman's 'new' castle by the bridge, was held by the King's men until 1644. Cromwell may have lodged in the keep or in adjoining domestic buildings (which do not survive) when he visited Newcastle in 1648 and 1650.



August 1642 but the motley band within, Mrs Purefoy, her son-in-law George Abbot and a small group of servants, managed to repulse the first assault. Rupert returned in the evening, firing the outbuildings and then overpowering the defenders. The old hall was completely demolished in the eighteenth century and the present Caldecote Hall on the site dates from the nineteenth century.

The bullet-marked oak door of the old hall was rescued prior to demolition and now stands in the porch of St Theobald and St Chad. Within the church is an alabaster mural monument to George Abbot (d1649) which mentions his defence of the hall.

Compton Wynyates (SP330419) A perfect Tudor mansion in a hillside setting, Compton Wynyates was built by Sir William Compton in the early sixteenth century and incorporated sections of an earlier moated hall which stood on the site. The Comptons were staunch Royalists during the Civil War and their house was garrisoned for the King; the soldiers were quartered in a seventeenth-century barrack-room which still survives. A Parliamentary force under Col. Purefoy captured the house in June 1644 after a brief siege and Compton served as a Parliamentary base thereafter. At the end of the war the moat was drained and the outer fortifications demolished but otherwise the hall was undamaged and survives in good order. The richly furnished and decorated quadrangular house in pink brick, with embattled towers and numerous ornate chimneys, has recently been closed to the public.

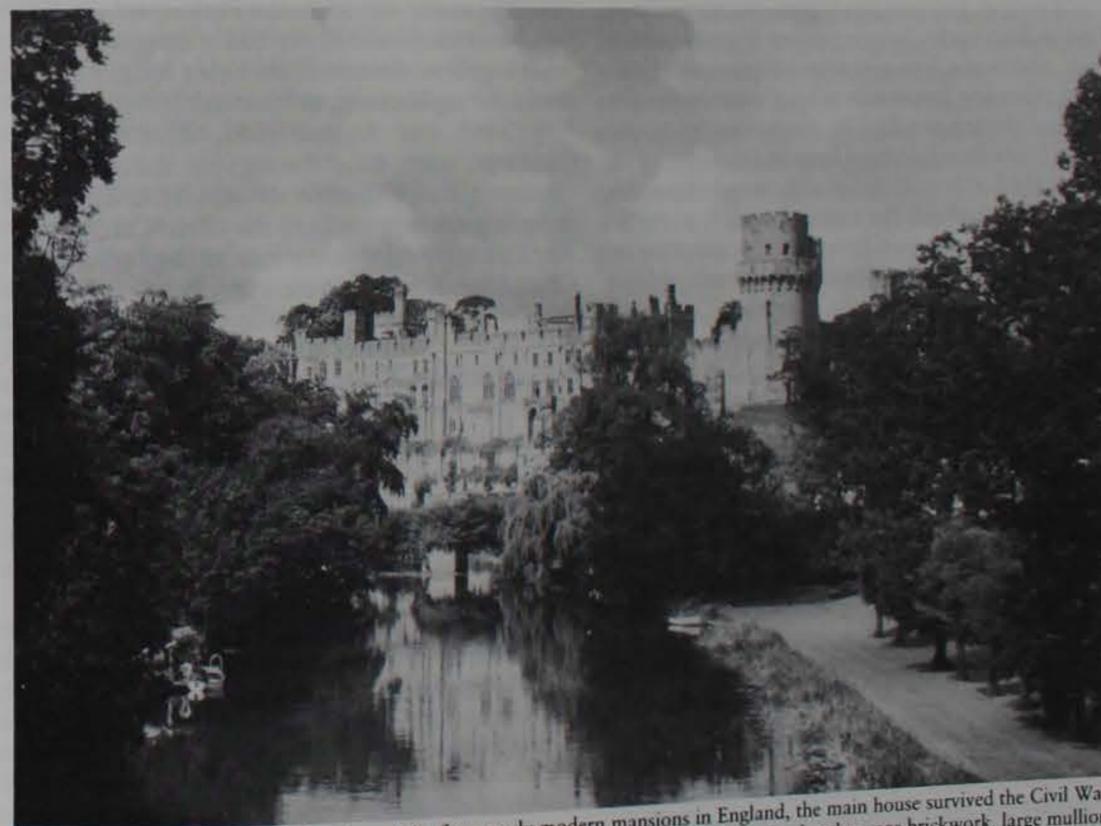
Coughton Court or Castle (SP083605) The fortified house of the Royalist and Catholic Throckmorton family, Coughton Court was seized by Parliamentary troops in 1643 and held by them for the rest of the war, resisting occasional raids launched from Royalist bases in Hereford and Worcester. Much of the building which saw action in the Civil War survives in good order, including the imposing sixteenth-century gatehouse – now incorporated within the Georgian west front – and two Tudor ranges at the rear with timber-framed upper storeys resting on brick and stone ground floors. Coughton Court is open from Wednesday to Sunday during the summer.

Edgehill (SP3747) The first major battle of the Civil War was fought on 23 October 1642 on what was then an open plain between Edgehill and Kineton. On the morning of the 23rd the King's army gathered on Edgehill itself before

descending and drawing up at the foot of the hill. The Royalist line faced north-west and had its centre just north of the village of Radway. Essex, meanwhile, had deployed his army 1½ miles south-east of Kineton in a line stretching from the present B4086 to Oak's Wood. Battle commenced with the Royalist Cavalry on both wings charging the Parliamentary flanks, breaking Essex's Horse and chasing them from the field. There followed a long, fierce and ultimately indecisive Infantry engagement in the centre of the plain. The two forces disengaged at nightfall, slept in the field and then drew off and marched away on the 24th. Both sides had lost around 700 men apiece and the battle was effectively a draw. Cromwell had marched with Essex's army and was certainly in the vicinity of Edgehill on 23 October, but what part, if any, he played in the battle itself is not clear.

If contemporary accounts leave many points uncertain, the present state of the battlefield only adds to the confusion. Although some parts of the plain were hedged by the seventeenth century, the battle was fought over largely open ground. Today, however, the area is dotted with woods – The Oaks stand where Essex's right would have been stationed and Battleton Holt where the Royalist guns were deployed. Moreover, large parts of the battlefield are now covered by an army ordnance depot and are strictly private. The ruins of King's Leys Barn, in which Charles I supposedly spent the night after the battle, lie ½ mile north of Radway. A modern monument to the battle stands by the B4086 at SP373473. The Ordnance Survey battle symbol at SP353492 indicates a position near the centre of the plain around which the Infantry clashed. An eighteenth-century tower at Ratley Grange on Edgehill (SP373473), now the Castle Inn, serves as a good vantage-point for viewing the battlefield on the plain below.

Kenilworth Castle (SP278723) The extensive medieval castle, begun in the twelfth century and greatly enlarged 200 years later, had been restored and modernised in the late sixteenth century and was in good order at the outbreak of the Civil War. It was occupied without opposition by Parliamentary forces in September 1642 and was garrisoned for a little over a year. With Coventry to the north and Warwick so close to the south, Kenilworth was found to be an unnecessary drain on money and manpower and the garrison was withdrawn at the end of 1643. The castle was then slighted – the north wall of the keep and parts of the north curtain wall were brought down and the Norman dam was breached to drain the sur-



Top: Compton Wynyates, Warks. One of the finest early modern mansions in England, the main house survived the Civil War undamaged and remains a perfect example of Tudor domestic architecture. A mass of red and orange brickwork, large mullion windows and ornate chimney stacks serving the numerous fireplaces, the whole house reflects the greater peace and prosperity of the sixteenth century. Bottom: Warwick Castle, Warks. A Parliamentary stronghold throughout the Civil War, the mighty castle overlooking the Avon stands on a site occupied since the Conquest. The present building is a mixture of severe medieval military work and rich domestic apartments.

rounding moat-cum-lake. The impressive ruins are open daily.

Maxstoke Castle (SP2386) The medieval castle housed a small Parliamentary garrison throughout the war but saw little or no action and survived undamaged. Restored and extended in the nineteenth century, the castle is a spectacular combination of medieval and modern, comprising four ranges linked by polygonal corner towers and surrounded by a moat. Sadly, both the castle and surrounding land are private.

Milcote on Stour (SP1952) The Grenville mansion at Milcote was sacked and burnt down by Purefoy's Parliamentarians in 1644. The remains of the old manor-house, including part of a Tudor chimney, stand in open land near the present modern Milcote Hall.

Offchurch (SP3666) Pittings on the south face of the tower of St Gregory's Church are often attributed to Civil War bullets. There is, in fact, no record of fighting here.

Packwood House (SP173722) Packwood is a Tudor and early Stuart timber-framed house with additional late seventeenth-century brickwork, standing in gardens which were originally laid out during the 1650s. According to tradition, Henry Ireton lodged here in October 1642 before the Battle of Edgehill. The whole house is richly furnished but the Ireton Room is particularly fine, with original seventeenth-century oak panelling and a decorated overmantle. Packwood is now owned by the National Trust and is open on Wednesdays and Saturdays during the summer.

Stratford upon Avon (SP2054) Stratford was important during the Civil War because of its bridge across the Avon and its position at the crossing of the Oxford to Shrewsbury and Coventry to Gloucester roads. Thus when Col. Wagstaffe and his Oxfordshire Royalists attempted to establish a garrison in the town in 1643, Parliamentary forces under Lord Brooke were quick to meet the threat. Brooke marched to Stratford on 25 February and routed the Royalists in an engagement on Welcombe Hill, one mile north of the town. He then took Stratford itself, though in the process a stray

spark ignited the Royalist magazine and the resulting explosion killed many Parliamentary troops and demolished the old town hall. Although the Oxfordshire Royalists remained active in the area until 1645, they never again established a formal garrison in Stratford.

Cromwell stopped overnight in Stratford in June 1645 and again in August 1651 when on his way to Worcester. There is no clear evidence to indicate where he lodged.

Warwick Castle (SP2865) The massive castle above the river was a centre of royal and baronial government during the Middle Ages and of Parliamentary dominance during the Civil War. The fortress was secured for Parliament by Lord Brooke in August 1642 and was held for the rest of the war. The Earl of Northampton briefly besieged the castle during the opening fortnight of the war, but thereafter the only Royalist soldiers seen here were prisoners – Warwick Castle became one of the main prisons for the West Midlands and inscriptions on the walls of the dungeons below Caesar's Tower are thought to have been carved by captive Royalists. The castle served as the Parliamentary HQ for Warwickshire and housed a large garrison and magazine. Cromwell probably lodged in the castle during his visits to Warwick in June 1645, July 1648 and August 1651. The extensive buildings, open daily throughout the summer, contain a fine collection of arms and armour, including many items from the Civil War period. The Protector's death mask is on display, as is a Civil War helmet claimed to be Cromwell's own.

Wormleighton (SP448538) John Spence's early Tudor manor-house at Wormleighton was probably similar in design to nearby Compton Wynyates. It stood in the south east of the county and fell under the control of Royalist Oxfordshire for much of the Civil War. Garrisoned for the King from early 1643, the outpost survived for 18 months until Warwick Parliamentarians moved against it in summer 1644. The manor-house was besieged and bombarded and the garrison within quickly surrendered. Only one range of the once quadrangular house now survives, a ruinous brick wing dating from the early sixteenth century; nearby are the remains of the stone gatehouse added in 1613.

WEST MIDLANDS

Now dominated by the Birmingham conurbation, this small modern county, comprising parts of former Warwickshire, Worcestershire and Staffordshire, covers an area which was strongly Parliamentary in sympathy during the 1640s. Although most of the main centres were held for Parliament throughout the war, they suffered frequent raids from the King's Worcestershire bases. Cromwell was probably in the area during the first month of the war, marching with the Earl of Essex's army, and he returned nine years later, passing through Coventry in August 1651 en route for Worcester.

Aston Hall (SP079899) Aston Hall is a fine red brick Jacobean mansion with a central hall and domed towers flanked by projecting wings. It was built in then open countryside to the north of Birmingham by Sir Thomas Holte, an ardent Royalist who entertained the King here in autumn 1642 and installed a Royalist garrison in December. The Birmingham Parliamentarians moved quickly to eliminate the threat; 1,200 troops arrived before the hall on 26 December and proceeded to bombard the place into submission. The hall, which had sustained only minor damage, remained in Parliamentary hands without serious challenge for the rest of the war. Now surrounded by the urban sprawl of Birmingham, Aston Hall stands in a small park 2½ miles north of the city centre. It is open to the public daily during the summer and on certain weekdays in winter.

Birmingham (SP0686) A small but growing manufacturing centre in the seventeenth century, Birmingham was overwhelmingly Parliamentary in sympathy throughout the war and supplied the army with arms and equipment. There was no formal garrison here – with no stone walls or natural defences, Birmingham would have been a very insecure base – but troops were often quartered in the town, afforded some protection by a circuit of earth banks and ditches around the town. The later massive expansion of the town has obliterated all trace of the Civil War defences.

In early April 1643 Rupert marched through the area and decided to punish the town for its disloyalty. Advancing from the south at the head of 1,200 Horse and 700 Foot, Rupert approached the town along the Stratford Road on 3 April. He found the road blocked beyond Springfield around Camp Hill, then an open track outside the town, now a main suburban road about one mile east-south-east of the city centre. Here a force of 200 Parliamentarians under Capt. Greaves had drawn up behind hastily erected barricades and earthworks. Rupert attacked the heavily outnumbered Parliamentary force, but his men were twice thrown

back under heavy fire. Not until he sent out flanking parties through the adjoining fields did Greaves and his men abandon the struggle and fall back into Birmingham. The so-called Battle of Camp Hill was not one of Rupert's more illustrious victories. Even then, the fighting was not over, for as the Royalists advanced up High Street, Deritend, they came under renewed fire and as they entered the town itself they were surprised by a Parliamentary counter-charge which temporarily halted their advance and inflicted heavy casualties, including Lord Denbigh, who was severely wounded and died within a week. Rupert took a fearful revenge, expelling Greaves' force and then sacking Birmingham, plundering, killing and burning almost indiscriminately before marching on. Royalist armies under Rupert and Maurice passed through Birmingham again in 1644 and 1645, on these occasions meeting no serious resistance and confining their activities to minor looting.

The City Museum and Art Gallery contains a fine portrait of Oliver Cromwell, probably by Walker.

Coventry (SP3379) Secure behind their well-maintained fourteenth-century walls and gates, the pro-Parliamentary citizens refused to admit Charles I's troops in August 1642. The Royalists bombarded the town and broke down New Gate but marched off at the approach of Lord Brooke and his troops. The town saw little serious action thereafter and was held for Parliament throughout the war. Coventry was one of the centres for holding Royalists captured in the Midlands – they were lodged within St John's Church and elsewhere – and the phrase 'sent to Coventry' may spring from this, though there are several alternative explanations. Retribution followed in 1660, for Charles II ordered the town's defences demolished. Today all that remain are parts of two medieval gates, the Swanswell and Cook Street Gates, and a fragment of the wall in Lady Herbert Garden off White Street.

Dudley Castle (SO945907) The medieval hill-

top castle was almost the only defensible fortress within the county during the seventeenth century. Secured for the King in the closing months of 1642, it remained a Royalist stronghold throughout the Civil War, an outpost and centre of operations in an otherwise Parliamentary region. Local Parliamentarians attempted several times to remove this thorn in their side. In May 1644 Lord Denbigh, Parliamentarian heir of the Royalist Lord Denbigh fatally wounded at Camp Hill, laid siege to the castle with a large force drawn from several garrisons in the region. Although he managed to repel Lord Wilmot's relieving force in a confused and bitter action around Tipton Green (SO9592) on 11 or 12 June, lack of ammunition and Waller's demands for reinforcements compelled Denbigh to abandon the operation soon after. The garrison held out until 14 May 1646 when its governor, Thomas Leveson, surrendered on terms to Brereton's besieging army. The fortifications were slighted on Parliament's orders and a fire in the eighteenth century reduced the domestic buildings within the bailey to a similarly ruinous state. The remains, including parts of the gatehouse, barbican and tower-house, now stand in the grounds of Dudley Zoo, which is open daily. Leveson supposedly still haunts the remains of his former stronghold.

Edgbaston (SP0584) Edgbaston Hall, an early Georgian mansion standing in parkland southwest of Birmingham city centre, was built on the site of an earlier medieval hall. The original hall, longtime home of the Gough family, was seized by Col. Fox in March 1644 and garrisoned for Parliament thereafter, a base for raids throughout northern Worcestershire. The hall survived the Civil War intact, but was completely destroyed by Birmingham rioters in 1688.

Hawkesley Hall (SP0478) In 1644 Col. Fox seized Hawkesley Hall, the home of the Catholic Royalist Middlemore family, and garrisoned the late medieval mansion for Parliament under Capt. Gouge. The hall and adjoining village of Kings Norton accordingly became targets of Royalist raids launched from Dudley, but the garrison held out until May 1645. On 13 May the main Royalist army under Rupert, Maurice and Astley appeared before Hawkesley and summoned the garrison to surrender. The 100 Parliamentarians refused and endured a three-day bombardment – the deep moat around the hall hindered Royalist operations and prevented a direct assault – before Gouge abandoned the struggle and surrendered on 16 May. The Royalists quickly sacked and burnt the hall

before marching on. Nothing remains of the old hall beyond slight traces of the moat, preserved amid a modern housing estate.

Rushall (SK0201) The fifteenth-century Rushall Hall and the adjoining medieval parish church changed hands several times during the Civil War. Held initially for Parliament by Col. Edward Leigh, the hall was attacked and taken by Prince Rupert in April 1643 and a Royalist garrison was installed. Col. Lane's garrison survived for a year and was a serious threat to Parliamentary communications in the area north of Birmingham. In late May 1644 Denbigh arrived before Rushall with a large force and heavy artillery and proceeded to bombard both the hall and adjoining Church of St Michael, held as an outpost and store. On the 29th the King's men abandoned the by then badly damaged buildings and surrendered. Old St Michael's has completely disappeared and the present church in Leigh Road is Victorian. Next to it stand the fragmentary remains of Rushall Hall, a ruined fifteenth-century gatehouse and parts of the once extensive curtain wall, the latter bearing numerous scars where struck by Civil War cannon-balls.

Willenhall (SO9899) Bentley Hall, which stood by the main road between Willenhall and Walsall, was garrisoned for the King by Col. John Lane. The outpost was in a strongly Parliamentary area and the garrison was quickly expelled by troops from Birmingham. The hall is better known as one of the places where Prince Charles stopped and was given aid after the Battle of Worcester. The main building perished long ago and the last surviving parts, the stables and other outbuildings, were demolished in 1927. Its site is marked by a cross, just off the main road, and commemorated in the name of a local pub, the Lane Arms. The suburb of Bentley now covers the area.

Wolverhampton (SO9198) Wolverhampton was a small and unimportant town during the Middle Ages and never acquired stone walls. With nothing more than earthworks and street barricades for protection, the town could not be held against determined assault during the Civil War, was never formally garrisoned and changed hands frequently with the minimum of bloodshed. The Royalist army was based here briefly in October 1642 and the soldiers spent the night in St Peter's Church. In May 1643 Brereton launched an early morning raid on the town and surprised and captured a party of Royalists who were in Wolverhampton gather-



Left: Aston Hall, West Midlands. The Jacobean mansion, garrisoned for the King on the outbreak of war, quickly fell to a force of local Parliamentarians. Their siege and bombardment apparently did little damage, though scarring on the great wooden staircase was reputedly caused by a Civil War cannon.

Below: Arundel Castle, West Sussex. The massive castle, dramatically sited on the wooded slopes above the Arun, appears almost too perfect. Indeed, the medieval fortress which guarded the pass through the downs has largely disappeared, wrecked by Waller's guns in 1643–4 and left derelict thereafter; most of the present castle was built in the eighteenth and nineteenth centuries.



ing supplies. In May 1645 the King's army again passed through unopposed, but Capt. Stone's Parliamentarians then fell upon and scattered

the Royalist rear, which had carelessly become detached from the main force.

WEST SUSSEX

West Sussex was held by Parliament for most of the Civil War and saw very little fighting. On two occasions – in December 1642 and November and December 1643 – Royalist forces invaded from southern Hampshire, pushing east in the hope of securing the whole south-east coast; on both occasions, however, they progressed no further than West Sussex and were quickly halted and expelled. It seems that Cromwell never visited the area.

Arundel Castle (TQ018074) The castle changed hands three times during the opening months of the Civil War but at the beginning of 1643 the Parliamentarians established control and the fortress served as a Parliamentary stronghold and garrison for the rest of the year. In December 1643 town and castle fell to Hopton's forces, the high-point of the Royalist invasion of the region. Waller retook the town on 20 December and settled down to besiege and bombard the castle and its 1,000-strong garrison. Heavy guns were hauled up the tower of St Nicholas's Church to pound the north and west sides of the castle. By early January the walls had been shattered and the Royalists opened negotiations which led to the castle's surrender on the 6th. The returning Parliamentary garrison carried out makeshift repairs but the castle fell derelict and ruinous after the war and much of the present fabric dates from the eighteenth and nineteenth century when the building was restored and largely rebuilt. Arundel Castle is open daily except Saturdays during the summer.

Bramber (TQ193106) Bramber was the furthest point reached by the Royalists during the invasion of December 1643. Hopton and Ford were making for Lewes Castle but found the bridge over the Adur at Bramber held by a Parliamentary force under Capt. Temple. A fierce engagement left 100 Royalists dead, many more injured and the remainder hurrying back westwards.

Chichester (SU8604) The walled town was seized by Sir Edward Ford's Royalists in November 1642 and garrisoned for the King. On 20 December Waller appeared before Chichester with 6,000 men and established his HQ on the Broyle, high ground to the north. The town was besieged and the extra-mural suburbs quickly overrun. Guns were mounted

on the almshouses in Broyle Road to attack the north gate of the town, and on the tower of St Pancras's Church to bombard the east gate. The Royalists surrendered early on 27 December when the Parliamentarians threatened to storm the town. Chichester saw no further action during the Civil War and was by-passed by the Royalists in December 1643. Although the town gates have disappeared, the circuit of Roman and medieval walls around the town is almost complete and survives in good order.

Cowdray House (SU9021) The quadrangular fortified mansion was begun at the very end of the fifteenth century and completed by the Earl of Southampton in the 1530s. Hopton captured Cowdray House in late November 1643 and left a small garrison here when his main force moved east. It was retaken without serious resistance on 18 December. The house was gutted by fire in 1793 and although the three storey Tudor gatehouse in the west range survives in fairly good order, the rest is now very ruinous. The remains are open daily.

Haywards Heath (TQ3323) The efforts of Sir Edward Ford, the Royalist High Sheriff, to secure Sussex for the King in December 1642 came to an abrupt halt on Haywards Heath. Advancing east and making for Lewes, he and his forces were intercepted by local Parliamentarians on what was then heathland just outside the town; a church now stands on the site (TQ331239). The Royalists were outnumbered and routed and lost 200 dead or wounded.

Petworth House (SU976219) The medieval manor-house was captured by Hopton's Royalists in early December 1643, but the small garrison left here surrendered to Waller without a fight a fortnight later. The old manor-house was demolished in the late seventeenth century

and the present Petworth House was built on the site. The thirteenth-century chapel is the only part of the medieval mansion to survive. House and gardens are now owned by the National Trust and are open at weekends and on certain weekdays during the summer.

Stansted House (SU760102) The late medieval and early Tudor royal hunting lodge in the very west of the county was captured by Hopton and Ford in late November 1643 and garrisoned for the King. A month later, after the main

invasion force had been halted and expelled, Waller arrived before Stansted. Unlike most of the Royalist garrisons established in the area, Stansted resisted the initial summons and only when Waller bombarded the defences and threatened to storm the house did the Royalists emerge. The lodge was largely destroyed in the eighteenth century, though fragments of Tudor masonry survive in the west front and south porch of the largely nineteenth-century chapel, which stands to the south-west of the present modern house on the site.

WEST YORKSHIRE

The prosperous and vulnerable West Yorkshire woollen towns were an inviting target and changed hands several times during the opening nine months of the Civil War as both sides fought for control of the area. The townspeople were generally Parliamentary in sympathy and the two Fairfaxes were active on behalf of Parliament, but the troops and civilians were heavily outnumbered by Newcastle's huge Royalist army. When the Earl left the region in March 1643 – he was under instructions to escort the Queen to Staffordshire – the Fairfaxes were able to take or retake several strongholds, but Newcastle's return in June and the ensuing Battle of Adwalton quickly extinguished the Parliamentarians and West Yorkshire was firmly Royalist throughout the latter half of 1643. The departure of Royalist troops to reinforce York in spring 1644 and their destruction at Marston Moor in July saw the region return to Parliament. There was little further fighting in the area until 1648, when Pontefract became one of the Royalist bases during the second Civil War. Cromwell oversaw operations here en route to and from Scotland in 1648; he marched through West Yorkshire again in 1650–51, before and after his second Scottish campaign.

Adwalton Moor (SE2228) On 30 June 1643 Newcastle's 10,000 Royalists met and defeated the Fairfaxes' 4,000 Parliamentarians on open moorland outside Bradford. Lord Fairfax had judged that his men stood no chance of holding Bradford itself against such numbers and had marched out east to engage the Royalists in the open, in the hope that a surprise attack might halt Newcastle's advance. However, the element of surprise was lost when the Parliamentarians stumbled into the Royalist advanced guard on Westgate Hill and as the Fairfaxes reached Adwalton Moor they found Newcastle's army already deployed. The Royalists had drawn up in a line running north-south across the top of the moorland ridge about ½ mile west of Adwalton. The Parliamentarians drew up a few hundred yards further west; the main force under Lord Fairfax deployed across the top of the ridge but Sir Thomas Fairfax and a small detachment were stationed to the south, below the ridge, around the point where Warren Lane branches off to the south. After a series of charge and counter-charges in which Lord Fairfax generally had the best of the fighting, a

ferocious Royalist attack led by Col. Skirton broke the Parliamentary Infantry on the left wing and the line gave way. Lord Fairfax was compelled to fall back on Bradford but his son at the foot of the ridge did not see the general retreat and fought on against great odds. By the time he had realized the situation, his direct line of retreat to Bradford had been cut and instead he had to flee south and then swing round in a large arc back to the town. The battle had left 500 Parliamentarians dead and 1,500 captured and it effectively ended the Parliamentary cause in West Yorkshire for the rest of the year.

Much of the area of the battle, including the ridge on which Lord Fairfax drew up, has been built over and is covered by the suburbs of Adwalton, Drighlington and Moorside. Part of the battlefield, however, is still open common crossed by public footpaths, and Warren Lane, around which Sir Thomas Fairfax was stationed, still exists. The Ordnance Survey battle symbol is at SE22283.

Bradford (SE1633) Described by Fairfax as a 'very untenable place', Bradford had neither

stone walls nor a castle and was very vulnerable to attack. The defending force usually made St Peter's Church – now the cathedral – their strongpoint, but cannon placed on and around the church could achieve little against a determined assault. Bradford changed hands at least four times during the opening year of the war as the Fairfaxes repeatedly captured but then evacuated the town. Newcastle attacked Bradford on 1 July 1643 after the Battle of Adwalton Moor and captured a large part of Fairfax's Infantry. Thereafter Bradford remained in Royalist hands until the general collapse of the King's cause in the region in summer 1644.

Howley House or Hall (SE253255) Howley House or Hall, the Tudor seat of the Saville family, became a Parliamentary garrison under Sir John Saville at the end of 1642. Over the following months it served as a base for operations throughout the south of the county – Parliamentary forces rendezvoused here on 21 May 1643 before the attack on Wakefield. Despite strong resistance, Howley fell to Newcastle's Royalists on 22 June 1643 and thereafter played no part in the war. The ruins of the hall stand by a golf course in an area crossed by several public footpaths.

Kirkheaton (SE1818) In St John's Church is a monumental brass to Adam Beaumont (d1655) and his wife. Beaumont was the son-in-law of Sir Ralph Assheton, the leading Lancashire Parliamentarian, and was himself active for Parliament in the north. He is portrayed wearing half armour of the period.

Leeds (SE2933) Like Bradford to the west, Leeds changed hands repeatedly during the opening months of the war as the two armies vied for control of the region. By the end of 1642 the town was in the King's hands, but when Newcastle went into winter quarters, Fairfax took advantage of an unusually fine January to resume operations, storming Leeds on the 23rd and capturing the town and its 500-strong garrison after a two hour fight. The town was lost in June in the wake of Adwalton Moor and was not retaken until the Royalist evacuation of summer 1644.

Pontefract (SE461224) Secured for the King by Sir Richard Lowther in 1642, Pontefract Castle became a major Royalist stronghold and survived long after the collapse of the King's cause elsewhere in the region. A base for attacks on Leeds and Bradford during 1643, the castle was itself under attack from the following sum-

mer and was almost continually besieged from August 1644 to July 1645 by Parliamentary forces under Fairfax, Lambert and Meldrum. By summer 1645 all hopes of relief had vanished, the castle had been badly damaged – Fairfax had brought down the Piper Tower at the north-west angle and had opened up several breaches in the outer walls – and the garrison within were short of food and ammunition; the Royalists surrendered to Col. Poyntz on 21 July.

In 1648 Pontefract became the scene of renewed fighting, for it was seized for the King by Cols Morris and Paulden on 8 June and served as one of the centres of the second Civil War. Over 500 Royalists joined the garrison before Parliamentary troops surrounded and besieged town and castle. Pontefract again proved a difficult obstacle and endured a nine month siege. Cromwell was here on 10 August and led an attack which overran the town and forced the Royalists to take refuge in the castle. He returned in early November and spent three weeks overseeing the rather uneventful siege of the castle from his base at Knottingley (SE5023). The castle finally surrendered on 22 March 1649, long after Cromwell's departure and the King's execution.

Pontefract Castle was slighted after the war and its outer bailey and defences have now completely disappeared. The ruins of the thirteenth-century shell keep, with a chapel, dungeons and adjoining towers, are open daily. The museum within the castle grounds contains several relics from the Civil War, including a collection of the siege money coined by the beleaguered Royalists.

Sandal Castle (SE337182) Only the moat, motte and a few sections of ruined masonry remain of this early fourteenth-century shell keep castle. It was probably already semi-ruinous by the mid-seventeenth century and was not occupied until the later stages of the Civil War. Sandal was garrisoned for the King in 1645 as an outpost of Pontefract, but fell to Sir John Saville in early October following a brief siege.

Seacroft Moor (SE3635) The engagement between Fairfax and Goring on Seacroft Moor on 30 March 1643 was merely the final stage in a running fight which had begun over five miles away. The defection of Scarborough and the uncertain loyalty of the Hothams in Hull compelled Fairfax to fall back from his position near York. As Sir Thomas pulled out of Tadcaster on the morning of 30 March and began moving south-westwards he was approached by 500

Royalist Horse under Goring. A running battle developed along the road to Leeds as Goring harried the increasingly disorganized Parliamentary rear. Fairfax made a stand on Bramham Moor, where his Horse held Goring off while his Foot made for Leeds. A more serious clash took place on Seacroft Moor as Fairfax was nearing the town, when Goring fell upon the now tired and careless Parliamentarians. Many of Fairfax's troops panicked, tried to flee from the moor and were cut down, and although Fairfax managed to get his main force into Leeds, he lost up to 1,000 men killed or captured in the process. Goring had insufficient men or artillery to assault or besiege Leeds itself and turned back once Fairfax entered the town. Seacroft Moor has been completely built over and is now an eastern suburb of Leeds.

Wakefield (SE3320) In common with most towns in the area, Wakefield changed hands repeatedly during the opening year of the war. A small Royalist force had secured the town by the end of 1642 but the King's men hastily evacuated the place and fell back to York following the fall of Leeds on 23 January 1643. Wakefield was reoccupied in April after Fairfax's reverse at Seacroft Moor but the Parliamentarians, anxious for a victory to raise flagging morale and to obtain prisoners to exchange for captured colleagues, mounted a daring raid on Wakefield on 21 May. The town was held by Goring and his 3,000-strong garrison, but seventeenth-

century Wakefield had no walls or castle and the Royalists relied on street barricades and rather feeble earthworks. The King's men may have been forewarned of Fairfax's plans and they certainly outnumbered the 1,200-strong Parliamentary force, but after fierce fighting around the barricades at Warrengate and Norgate, Fairfax's men overcame the resistance and entered the town. They then battled their way up the main street and into the Market Place; when they took the Royalist guns in the churchyard of All Saints, Goring's men lost heart and fled in disorder. Fairfax had achieved a tremendous victory and returned to Leeds with 400 prisoners, including Goring himself, plus captured guns and ammunition.

Wetherby (SE4048) The town was occupied by Fairfax at the end of 1642 as part of the Parliamentary operation to isolate York. Possession of Wetherby not only threatened York directly but also secured the bridge across the Wharfe, thus preventing a Royalist flanking attack on the main Parliamentary force at Tadcaster (North Yorks). Sir John Glemham led 800 Royalists out of York to clear these Parliamentary bases but Fairfax was forewarned of his plans and the Royalists were fiercely repulsed when they launched a night attack on Wetherby. Nonetheless, the general Royalist pressure compelled Fairfax to fall back from Wetherby and his other bases around York in February and March 1643.

WILTSHIRE

Although Wiltshire was largely Parliamentary during the opening months of the Civil War, the Royalists quickly established several bases within the area and the north-eastern fringes of the county soon came under the control of Royalist Oxfordshire. During 1643–44 most of the county fell to the King's men, and it was now the Parliamentarians who were isolated in scattered outposts, particularly in the north-west of the county. Wiltshire was retaken by Parliament during 1645. Cromwell was frequently here during his southern campaigns of 1645 and saw action at Highworth, Devizes and Longford House. He travelled through Wiltshire in 1649 and 1650 on his way to and from Ireland.

Aldbourne (SU2675) On 18 September 1643 Prince Rupert fought a delaying action on the rolling downland of Aldbourne Chase. Having relieved Gloucester, the main Parliamentary army under Essex marched back towards London, pursued by the King, who hoped to block the road and force battle on favourable ground. On 18 September, with both armies making for Newbury, Prince Rupert launched a surprise

attack on the Parliamentarians outside Aldbourne, inflicting heavy losses before being driven off. But his main purpose was to slow and divert Essex's advance and his action at Aldbourne, coupled with the Lord General's curiously dilatory movements, enabled the King to enter Newbury ahead of his opponents.

Amesbury (SU1541) The George Inn was

ginally part of the medieval abbey, converted to secular use at the Dissolution and remodelled in the eighteenth century. In 1645 it became the temporary HQ of Fairfax and the high command as the Parliamentary army campaigned in the area.

Bishopstrow (ST8943) Tradition has it that Cromwell breakfasted beneath a yew in Salisbury Road after the Battle of Newbury.

Broad Hinton (SU105763) In the Church of St Peter ad Vincula is a monument to Col. Glanville, a Royalist officer killed at Bridgwater in 1645; his armour, worn throughout the Civil War, is displayed above. Nearby is a memorial tablet to his kinsman, Sir John Glanville (d1661), Speaker of the Short Parliament.

Devizes (SU0061) Garrisoned by Sir Edward Hungerford for Parliament at the outbreak of war, Devizes was abandoned in February 1643 as the King's men advanced through Wiltshire and from then until September 1645 it served as a Royalist base. In July 1643 Waller tried to retake the town; advancing from the west, he brushed aside the Royalist outpost guarding the ford just north of Rowde and laid siege to the town on 9 July with his army of 4,500 men. The Royalist forces inside the town, including Goring's army, manned the barricades, ditches and earth banks which surrounded Devizes, enduring a heavy bombardment from Waller's batteries in Coatefield and the Jump to the east. The approach of Wilmot's relieving force and the destruction of Waller's army at Roundway Down saved the town, which was not seriously threatened again until September 1645.

On 15 September Cromwell arrived before Devizes and quickly overran the town, forcing Charles Lloyd's garrison to seek refuge in the castle gatehouse. This was bombarded from all sides – Cromwell's main cannon were sited in the Market Place – and on 22 or 23 September the garrison surrendered. The castle was subsequently slighted.

By the seventeenth century most of the medieval castle had been destroyed – the outer bailey had been built over and the twelfth-century shell keep was derelict and ruinous – and only the gatehouse remained intact. Whatever survived the Parliamentary slighting was removed in the nineteenth century when the present castellated mansion was built on the site. The medieval churches of St John and St Mary both suffered during the Civil War; in July 1643 Goring stripped the lead from the roofs to make bullets and Waller directed his cannon at the

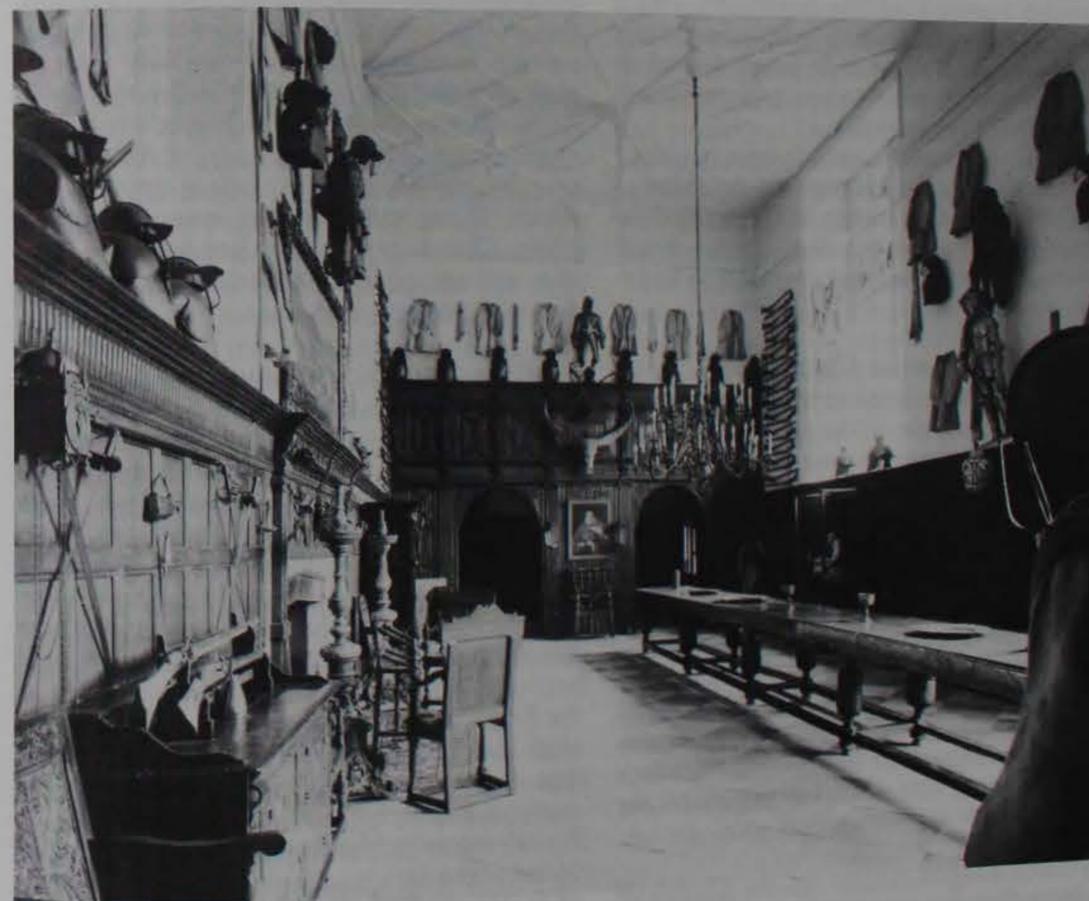
Royalist look-out posts in the towers. St John's tower still bears the scars where it was struck by Parliamentary cannon-balls. No trace of the Civil War earthworks which encircled the town now survives.

Great Chalfield (ST860630) Great Chalfield Manor changed hands several times during the closing two years of the war. It was fortified and garrisoned for Parliament in spring 1644 but evacuated in September before the advancing Royalists. The King's men themselves withdrew shortly afterwards at the approach of Massey, who restored a Parliamentary garrison. Built by Thomas Tropenell in the late fifteenth century, the house survived both the Civil War and nineteenth-century restoration and remains one of the best preserved late medieval mansions in the region. Although the inner moat survives, an outer wall and moat which once surrounded both the manor-house and the adjoining church have disappeared. Great Chalfield Manor is open to the public on certain summer weekdays.

Highworth (SU202924) The Church of St Michael was fortified and garrisoned for the King in 1644. On 27 June 1645 Cromwell supervised the bombardment and storming of the place by a detachment from Fairfax's main Parliamentary army. Scars on the outside of the tower near the doorway are usually ascribed to Parliamentary cannon.

Lacock Abbey (ST919684) Sir William Sharlington acquired the medieval Augustinian nunnery at Lacock after the Dissolution and converted it into a secular mansion, retaining much of the former cloister and cloisteral buildings and adding a polygonal tower in the south-east corner. Lacock Abbey was garrisoned for the King in 1644–45 but surrendered on 24 September 1645 following a brief Parliamentary siege. The house was neither damaged during the war nor slighted after it and survives intact. Famous for its association with Fox Talbot and the development of photography in the nineteenth century, Lacock Abbey is now owned by the National Trust and houses a permanent Fox Talbot display. It is open daily except Tuesdays during the summer.

Littlecote (SU3070) Littlecote House is a splendid brick and flint manor-house, largely Tudor but incorporating fragments of medieval masonry from an earlier house which stood on the site. It was owned by the Popham family in the seventeenth century, two members of which, Cols Edward and Alexander, fought for Parlia-



Top: Great Chalfield Manor, Wilts. Thomas Tropenell's manor-house, which survived the Civil War almost unscathed, was built on an 'E'-shaped plan, with a central range and projecting porch flanked by large gabled wings. Bottom: Littlecote House, Wilts. The arms and armour of Sir Alexander Popham's troops have recently been acquired by the Royal Armouries, but they remain on display in the Great Hall at Popham's country seat. The outstanding collection includes firearms, buff coats, swords, helmets and breastplates, several of which have been dented by bullets fired either in battle or to test the armour's strength.

ment during the Civil War and were active in north Wiltshire, Somerset and Avon. The house was garrisoned for Parliament – the soldiers were quartered in the long attic on the north side of the house – but there was no serious fighting here and the house survived intact. Open to the public on summer weekends and also on weekdays during August, Littlecote contains a superb collection of Civil War relics. A large equestrian portrait of Col. Alexander Popham hangs at the west end of the Great Hall, around which is displayed a large selection of Civil War arms and armour, including pistols, muskets, bandoliers, helmets, swords, Popham's own armour and the distinctive suits worn by Hesilrige's 'lobsters'. The chapel in the north-west range is also of interest, for it is one of the very few in the country to preserve its mid-seventeenth-century furnishings and arrangement, with an elevated wooden pulpit and reader's desk at the east end in place of an altar and a gallery around the other three sides. By the main entrance to the house is a small Civil War guardroom, with a flagstone floor, seventeenth-century furnishings and a standing effigy of a guard dressed in armour. Parliamentary troops supposedly still haunt their old garrison.

Littlecote House has recently been in serious financial trouble and although the collection of Civil War arms and armour has been saved for the country, it is not yet clear whether it will continue to be housed and displayed at Littlecote.

Longford House or Castle (SU172267) Sir Thomas Gorges built the fortified house, sometimes called a castle, in the 1590s, a fantastic triangular mansion with three richly decorated and elaborately faced ranges linked by low, round corner towers; additional towers stand in the middle of two of the ranges. Longford was garrisoned for the King from 1643 until Lord Coleraine's Royalists surrendered on 17 or 18 October 1645. Cromwell was present to oversee the brief siege and surrender. The house was not slighted after the war but fell derelict and ruinous during the eighteenth century. It was restored and extensively rebuilt in the nineteenth century, though care was taken to preserve the original Tudor appearance.

Lydiard Tregoz (SU1084) In the Church of St Mary there is a grand and gaudy monument to Capt. Edward St John, a Royalist officer killed in 1645. St John is portrayed in life-size effigy dressed in full military uniform of the Civil War – the armour is now in gilded gold – with pictures of his soldiers on either side. His

armour and pennants are also on display within the church.

Maiden Bradley (ST8038) New Mead Farm, on the eastern outskirts of the village, was the birthplace of Edmund Ludlow, the Parliamentary officer and radical politician who fought with distinction in England and Ireland during the 1640s. A regicide and republican, he opposed the Protectorate and fled the country at the Restoration.

Malmesbury (ST9387) The circuit of twelfth-century town walls was very dilapidated by the seventeenth century and, despite the additional earthworks and barricades, Malmesbury remained vulnerable, unable to resist determined assault. In consequence the town changed hands at least six times during the war, as control of north-west Wiltshire passed from one side to the other. At different times Hopton took the town for the King, Waller and Massey for Parliament. No trace of the Civil War earthworks remains, though fragments of the medieval stone defences survive, including parts of the East Gate at Holloway and a section of wall by the Town Bridge. During the course of Waller's recapture of the town in March 1643, part of Abbey Row was demolished in an explosion and was not rebuilt. Bullet marks in the west wall of the Abbey Church supposedly date from the Civil War and are often described as the grim evidence of military executions.

Marlborough (SU1869) Marlborough changed hands several times during the Civil War, usually with little or no fighting, the garrison evacuating the weakly held town at the approach of a larger force. On only one occasion was there serious bloodshed here, on 5 December 1642, when a Royalist force under Wilmot and Digby attacked the town in the early morning. The defenders were caught by surprise and the Royalists soon overcame the lightly defended barricades. However a fierce fight developed as the King's men slowly pushed their way up the High Street, clearing the side streets and buildings as they went. The town was eventually captured and sacked and many members of the Parliamentary garrison were taken prisoner and carted off to Oxford. Marks on the outer walls of St Mary's Church are usually attributed to Civil War gunfire.

Ramsbury Manor (SU256710) Cromwell passed through the area in July 1649 *en route* to Ireland; according to tradition, he lodged on the 12th not in Marlborough itself but at Ramsbury

Manor, the Earl of Pembroke's seat three miles east of the town. The Pembroke acquired the medieval palace of the Bishops of Salisbury in the sixteenth century and converted it into a grand Tudor mansion. The building in which Cromwell was reputedly entertained was completely demolished in 1680, when the present brick manor-house was built on the site. The house and its park are private.

Roundway Down (SU0165) On 13 July 1643 Waller lifted the siege of Devizes and marched his 4,500 men north-east to meet a 1,800-strong relieving force under Wilmot which had been despatched from Oxford. Goring's 3,000 Royalists in Devizes possibly believed that Waller's departure was a ruse to draw them out of the town and they did not march out to assist Wilmot until the very end of the battle. Thus Wilmot was heavily outnumbered when the two armies clashed in the wide shallow valley between Roundway and Morgan's Hills, roughly one mile north-north-east of the village of Roundway. There was little coordinated strategy and the battle soon developed into a confused mêlée at close quarters. Despite their numerical disadvantage, the Royalists gained the upper hand and broke Waller's Horse, which then bolted west, where many of the horses and their riders fell to their deaths down the precipitous western slopes of Roundway Hill; the hollow at the bottom of the slope gained the nickname 'Bloody Ditch'. Without Cavalry cover, the Parliamentary Foot came under great pressure and was routed. Waller himself escaped but his army had been destroyed: 600 Parliamentarians were killed, over 800 captured and the remainder put to flight.

The area is still open farmland, encircled by a number of roads. The Ordnance Survey battle symbol is at SU016655 in the flat open valley, little changed since the seventeenth century. Despite its name, 'Oliver's Camp', an Iron Age hill-fort a little to the west (SU001647) has no connection with Oliver Cromwell or the Civil War.

Salisbury (SU1429) With neither town walls nor a castle, Salisbury could offer little resistance to determined attack and the town changed hands several times during the Civil War, usually with little or no fighting. In December 1644, however, Salisbury witnessed considerable bloodshed as Ludlow first captured and then lost the town. At the beginning of the month his forces surprised and routed a party of Royalist Horse stationed in the Close, the fourteenth-century walled enclosure around the cathedral

and the only easily defensible place within the town. Ludlow proceeded to garrison the Close for Parliament, establishing his HQ in the Belfry, a massive thirteenth-century tower, 200 feet high and with walls eight feet thick, which stood 70 yards north of the cathedral nave. Within a fortnight the Parliamentarians had gone, surprised and expelled by Langdale's Royalist Horse. There was fierce fighting as the Royalists burst into the town and the Parliamentarians lost at least 80 men as they tried to halt the attack in Endless Street and around the Market Place. The King's men held Salisbury for three months but then evacuated the place in March 1645. Cromwell stopped in Salisbury on several occasions later in the year during his Wiltshire campaign.

Two later rebellions started in Salisbury. At the beginning of May 1649 it was one of several rendezvous points for Leveller Parliamentary troops whose mutiny ended at Burford later in the month. On 12 March 1655 John Penruddock and his Royalist colleagues sieged the town and captured the High Sheriff, Chief Justice Rolle and Baron Nicholas, who were here on assize circuit; the rebels opened Fisherton Gaol and proclaimed Charles II in the Market Place before marching away westwards.

Much of the medieval Close survives, with well preserved lengths of fourteenth-century walling to the south and east along St Nicholas Road and St John and Exeter Street; the north wall is more fragmentary and is obscured by later houses and the west wall has largely disappeared. Several medieval town gates into the Close also survive, including the North Gate, St Ann's Gate, Bishop's Gate and Harnham Gate. The Belfry was completely demolished in the eighteenth century and in the following century Fisherton Gaol, which stood on the south side of Fisherton Street near the river, was destroyed during the general redevelopment of the area.

According to tradition, Cromwell lodged on 17 October 1645 at the George in the High Street, a late medieval inn. The building was gutted and partly demolished in the 1960s. The front survives, now the entrance façade of the Old George Shopping Mall, and the great hall was also preserved as The Old George Room of the adjoining restaurant.

Stockton (ST9838) Stockton House, on the outskirts of the village, is a fine Elizabethan gabled hall decorated with bands of flint and stone. The adjoining chapel dates from the 1650s and is one of the few Interregnum churches to survive. House and chapel are private and should be viewed from the road.

Wardour Castle (ST938263) Old Wardour Castle, the principal seat of the Arundell family, was held for the King at the outbreak of the Civil War. The garrison was a small one – probably less than 30 men – but the mighty outer walls of the castle made Wardour a formidable stronghold. In late April 1643 Sir Edmund Hungerford laid siege to the place with his 1,300-strong force but neither a week-long bombardment nor the Parliamentarians' vast superiority in numbers had any impact on the Royalist defences. Tunnelling operations brought better results and when sections of the outer wall were breached on 8 May the Royalists surrendered on terms. The damage was quickly repaired and the castle garrisoned for Parliament by Edmund Ludlow. In the following December the Royalists returned to retake the fortress but Wardour again proved a formidable obstacle. The King's men besieged the castle for three months, throwing up earthworks and an earth and turf fort on the hillside above the outer gate, but not until March 1644 were the Royalists able to get close enough to the walls to lay mines and thus break the stalemate. The mines were sprung in mid-March and brought down two of the six angle turrets and opened large breaches in the walls. Although Ludlow repulsed one Royalist assault, the ruined castle was all but indefensible and the 75-man garrison surrendered to Sir Francis Doddington. Wardour had been damaged beyond repair and played no further part in the war. Indeed, the damage was never made good and when the

Arundells returned to the area in the eighteenth century they lived not in the medieval castle but in New Wardour Castle, a Georgian mansion built for them nearby.

The fourteenth-century castle was built to a curious and probably unique plan. Within the walled bailey stood a large hexagonal keep, the six ranges enclosing a central courtyard. The exterior was not a perfect hexagon, for a very large rectangular gatehouse, extended in the sixteenth century, projected to the east. The extensive ruins are open daily.

Warminster (ST8745) By the churchyard path of the Minster Church is the weathered gravestone of Capt. Gourden, an officer fatally wounded at Edgehill.

Wilton House (SU099310) Wilton House, the Earl of Pembroke's Tudor mansion, stood on the site of a medieval nunnery. It was garrisoned for the King in 1643–44 but evacuated without a fight towards the end of 1644. Cromwell stayed here on 10 April 1645. The house was accidentally gutted by fire in 1647 and subsequently restored; it was again restored and extensively remodelled in the nineteenth century. With the exception of the Tudor Holbein Gate, which is detached from the main house and stands in the grounds, very little of the original sixteenth-century work is now visible. House and gardens are open from Tuesday to Saturday throughout the summer.

WALES