

DEVON

Although the county was secured for Parliament at the outbreak of the Civil War, the Royalists successfully invaded Devon during the summer of 1643 and by the end of the year all the major towns and strongholds, with the exception of Plymouth, had fallen to the King. From autumn 1644 the county was slowly retaken by Parliament, but not until the arrival of the main army under Fairfax in winter 1645-46 was the Royalist hold over large areas of Devon finally broken. Cromwell campaigned with the Parliamentary army and was based in Devon from October 1645 to April 1646.

Ashburton (SX7569) According to a plaque on the former Mermaid Inn in North Street, Fairfax lodged here on 10 January 1646 after driving a small Royalist force from the town.

Barnstaple (SS5533) The northern ports of Appledore, Bideford and Barnstaple were secured for Parliament in 1642 and taken by Royalists in 1643, but of the three only Barnstaple saw serious fighting during the Civil War. Barnstaple was by far the largest town in north Devon in the seventeenth century, a prosperous and growing port and a convenient base for sea-borne routes to South Wales and southern Ireland. The medieval castle and the town wall, which ran from the Yeo to the Taw, were both rather dilapidated by the mid-seventeenth century but still quite defensible. Garrisoned for Parliament in 1642, the town surrendered to Prince Maurice on 2 September 1643 after a brief siege. It remained Royalist for the rest of the war, with a brief interruption in summer 1644 when the pro-Parliamentary townspeople rose up and expelled the small Royalist garrison, repelling an attack by Digby on 1 July before abandoning the hopeless venture and surrendering to the besieging Royalists on 18 September. Despite the sympathies of many of the townspeople, Barnstaple was the last important centre in Devon to hold out for the King, finally surrendering to Fairfax's men on 19 April 1646, ten days after Exeter had fallen. Of its medieval and Civil War defences almost no trace survives: the town wall has been completely destroyed, and de Totnes's Norman castle is now nothing more than a scattering of masonry fragments on and around a small mound in public gardens behind the cattle market. Bullet holes in the woodwork of Penrose Almshouses in Litchdon Street were supposedly made during the Civil War in action around the southern entrance to the town.

Bickleigh Castle (SS936068) The Norman castle, long-time seat of the Courtenay family, was garrisoned for the King by the Carews in

1643 and held by the Royalists for 2½ years before being bombarded into submission by Fairfax in autumn 1645. By the end of the Civil War much of the old fortress was ruinous and was demolished. The massive Norman gatehouse in red sandstone stands before a medieval chapel and a number of seventeenth-century domestic buildings. The armoury contains a collection of weapons and armour from the Civil War. Bickleigh Castle is open on certain summer weekdays.

Bovey Tracey (SX8178) On 9 January 1646 Cromwell led his men south from Crediton and routed Lord Wentworth's Horse just south of Bovey Tracey. Wentworth had quartered for the winter on Bovey Heath, then known as 'Heathfield', 1¼ miles south-south-east of the town centre, and had built or strengthened embankments across the heath to protect camp and town from attacks from the south-east. But on the 9th Cromwell advanced from the north along the Moretonhampstead road, entering Bovey Tracey without opposition in the afternoon and capturing many of the Royalists relaxing in town, including a party of officers in the Tudor manor-house, which still stands in East Street. The Parliamentarians swept on and at dusk they attacked the surprised and unprepared Royalists camping on the heath. Over 100 prisoners were taken and the remainder fled in all directions. Some took refuge in Ilsington Church (SX785762), but rode off when Cromwell's men approached. An impression in the shape of a horseshoe on a slate tombstone at Ilsington was supposedly made by a fleeing Royalist, one of many traditions and supernatural tales in the area which stem from the battle.

Today Bovey Heath is something of a mess, hemmed in between two main roads and a railway, with industrial premises encroaching at the north and south ends and the open land in between often churned up by motorcycles. The area around which fighting was fiercest, at the town end of the heath, is still open ground; the battle symbol at SX822768 on the O.S. map is

Devon

probably accurate. In the 1970s a simple wooden cross bearing the date 1645 (presumably the Old Style date of the battle) was erected on the remains of one of the embankments on the heath, probably built or renovated by Wentworth. To the south-west of the town, by the public footpath to Challabrook Farm, stands a damaged stone cross, an ancient relic said to have been reused in 1646 to mark the grave of a Royalist officer killed in battle. In common with many towns which Cromwell visited, a number of features and buildings in Bovey Tracey with no known Cromwellian link now bear his name. Thus the stone archway over the main street is often known as 'Cromwell's Arch' and the Oliver Cromwell public house stands at the junction with the Moretonhampstead road.

Buckland Abbey (SX487668) The thirteenth-century Cistercian Abbey was converted for secular use at the Dissolution and was remodelled by Sir Francis Drake in the latter half of the sixteenth century. It became a Royalist base during the siege of Plymouth in 1643 and remained in Royalist hands until spring 1646, when it was stormed and captured by Fairfax's troops. The buildings, which survived the Civil War intact, are open to the public.

Chagford (SX7087) On 8 February 1643 a Royalist party of Horse and Dragoons under Berkeley and Ashburnham attacked Northcote's Parliamentarians quartered in Chagford. An inconclusive street fight developed in the early morning, memorable only for the death of the Royalist poet Sidney Godolphin, who was shot in the leg and bled to death in the porch of the Three Crowns. His body was carried to Okehampton for burial.

Colcombe Castle (SY248947) The medieval castle of the Earls of Devon was garrisoned for the King 1643-44 but evacuated in autumn 1644 at the approach of Parliamentary forces. The fortress was probably semi-derelict by the time of the Civil War and today only fragmentary ruins survive around, and incorporated within, post-seventeenth-century farm buildings.

Crediton (SS8300) During winter 1645-46 Fairfax's Parliamentary army quartered in a number of towns and villages in a wide arc around Exeter, including Ottery St Mary to the east, Tiverton to the north and Crediton to the north-west. Cromwell probably visited all the bases during the winter and he certainly lodged in Crediton in October 1645 and January and

EXETER 41

February 1646; he passed through the town again in March on his way back from Cornwall to Exeter. Fairfax and Cromwell attended services in the Church of the Holy Cross in the High Street, Crediton. A small museum and governors' room above the church vestry contains a number of relics recalling the Parliamentarians' stay in Crediton, including armour, a buff coat, a saddle and military boots.

Dartmouth (SX8751) The flourishing port of Dartmouth was secured for Parliament without opposition at the outbreak of war. Twelve months later Prince Maurice laid siege to the place, taking the castle on 4 October and the town on the following day. Dartmouth was garrisoned for the King in 1643-46, its defences strengthened in 1645 by the addition of an earthwork fort above the town. On the other side of the estuary, Kingswear was also occupied and fortified. Fairfax launched a carefully planned and co-ordinated land and sea attack in January 1646, storming the town and castle on the 18th and securing the remaining Royalist outposts around Dartmouth and Kingswear on the 19th.

The early Tudor blockhouse at Baynards Cove, at the southern end of Dartmouth (SX878510), apparently played little part in the Civil War and fighting centred around Dartmouth Castle, ¾ mile south-east of the town at the mouth of the Dart (SX887503). Built in the late fifteenth century, the three storey artillery fort comprises two linked towers, a round tower containing the principal living quarters and gun emplacements and a square entrance tower. It remained in military use until the early twentieth century, but is now a scheduled historic monument, open to the public daily. The Church of St Petrox nearby was used as an additional magazine and store by the Royalist garrison. On the hillside above are the remains of Gallants Bower, the earthwork fort thrown up by the King's men in 1645 (SX886502).

On the opposite bank of the Dart stands Kingswear Castle (SX892503). Built in the late fifteenth century, it was derelict and ruinous by the seventeenth and was not occupied during the Civil War. Instead the Royalists built an earthwork fort, Mount Ridley, on the hillside above Kingswear, but unfortunately the subsequent expansion of the town has obliterated all trace of it. The Redoubt Hotel probably stands on the site.

Exeter (SX9292) Modern Exeter is very much the second city of Devon, but in the seventeenth century the still-thriving port rivalled if not

exceeded Plymouth in size and wealth. The city was defended by a circuit of Roman and medieval walls, within the northern angle of which stood a Norman castle. Exeter was held by a Parliamentary garrison during the opening months of the war, but by late November 1642 Royalist forces had appeared before the walls. Although Hopton's initial assault was repulsed, there followed ten months of intermittent sieges and repeated attacks, ending on 7 September 1643 when the beleaguered garrison, by then isolated in a largely Royalist county, surrendered to Prince Maurice. Exeter became the Royalists' HQ in the south-west, garrisoned by them and frequently visited by members of the royal family. By October 1645, however, the city was threatened by Fairfax's Parliamentarians who – like the Royalists two years before – quickly established a ring of bases around the city, including Exmouth, Topsham, various points along the Clyst, Stoke Canon, Poltimore, Powderham and Dunsford. Fairfax made no serious attempt to storm Exeter, preferring to blockade it until either starvation or the collapse of the Royalist cause throughout the area persuaded the garrison to surrender. Sure enough, by early April 1646 Sir John Berkeley had opened negotiations, and talks in Poltimore House led to the surrender of the city on lenient terms on 9 April. Nine years later the Royalist cause was again brought low in Exeter, when in late spring 1655 the rebel John Penruddock was tried here and executed on a scaffold in front of the castle.

Most of Norman Rougemont Castle has been demolished and the site is now occupied by eighteenth- and nineteenth-century court buildings. The much restored Norman gateway survives at the top of Castle Street and twelfth-century Rougemont Tower stands at the northern angle of the city walls. Long stretches of the walls survive to a good height, particularly on the southern side between the cathedral and Southernhay West and down to Quay Hill, and to the north along Bartholomew and Paul Streets and on through Rougemont Park. The medieval guildhall in Fore Street contains many fine seventeenth-century paintings, including a portrait of George Monck.

Great Fulford (SX790918) The medieval home of the Fulford family stands in private grounds three miles north-west of Dunsford. The house was garrisoned for the King from 1643 and fell to Fairfax in autumn 1645 after a ten day siege. The house was then used to quarter Parliamentary troops over the winter. The circular earthwork 500 yards south of the mansion,

guarding the southern approach road, may date from the Civil War.

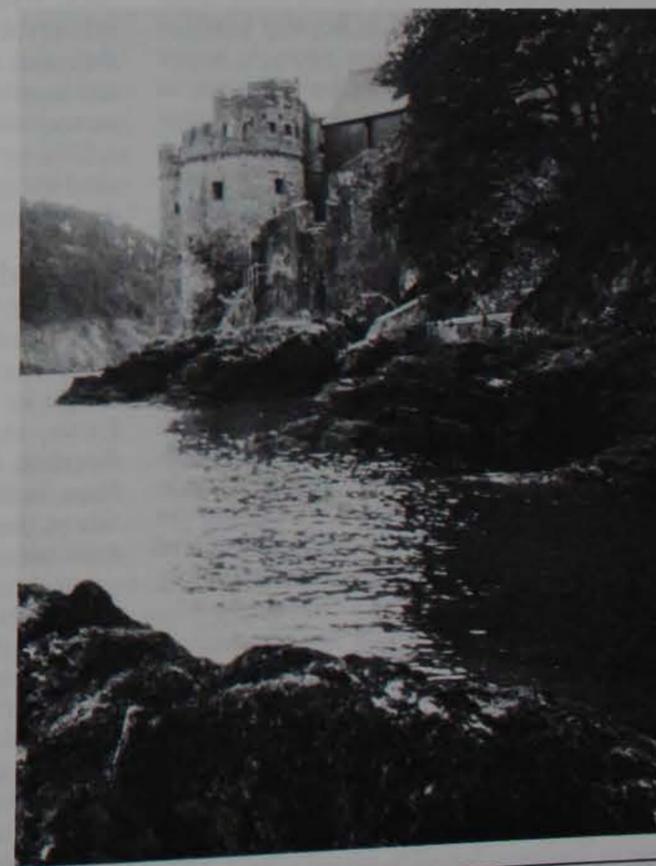
Hemyock (ST134133) On 6 March 1644 Royalists from east Devon attacked Col. Butler's Parliamentary force stationed in Hemyock. Butler and 200 of his men took refuge in the old castle but gave themselves up on the following day. The castle, which stood just west of the church, was subsequently slighted and only the gatehouse remains intact, a late medieval structure with twin flanking towers. Surviving fragments of the keep and great hall were incorporated in the later farm buildings, and slight traces of the castle moat are still visible, particularly on the west side. The farm and surrounding land are private and should be viewed from the road or the churchyard.

Modbury (SX6651) In the early morning of 7 December 1642 Col. Ruthin and 500 Parliamentary Horse from Plymouth swooped down upon the 3,000 Royalist volunteers gathering at Modbury to enlist in the King's army. Hopton and other officers managed to escape and their would-be soldiers were scattered by Ruthin's men. Ten weeks later the Parliamentarians were back, for on 21 February 1643 a Parliamentary force moving to relieve Plymouth came across Slanning's and Trevanion's Royalists stationed here. The two forces clashed on a hilltop immediately east of the village (around SX667515) and the Royalists were eventually pushed west through Modbury and fell back on Plymton, losing 100 dead and at least as many captured. The tombs and effigies in St George's Church were allegedly mutilated by Parliamentary troops.

Plymouth (SX4755) Although it was repeatedly assaulted, besieged and blockaded by Royalist forces, the town of Plymouth held out for Parliament throughout the Civil War, the only important base in Devon to do so. Under intermittent siege from November 1642 to January 1646, the garrison also endured several Royalist attempts to storm the town. The most determined attempt by the Royalists to capture Plymouth began with the arrival of Prince Maurice on 30 September 1643. He closely invested the town, establishing bases in an arc from Plymstock, Plymton, Egg Buckland, Tamerton, Saltash and Mount Edgecumbe to Mount Stamford. Against him, the Parliamentary garrison under Col. James Wardlaw manned a defensive line of forts and walls or embankments stretching from the Tamar to the Plym. In deteriorating weather Maurice abandoned the main siege on



Above: Powderham Castle, Devon. The seat of the Courtenay Earls of Devon for nearly 600 years, Powderham is partly fourteenth century, but Civil War damage and later rebuilding and modernization has destroyed or concealed most of the medieval stronghold which fell to Fairfax in 1646. Despite the imposing military frontage, Powderham is largely a grand eighteenth- and nineteenth-century house.



Right: Dartmouth Castle, Devon. The waterside fort guarding the river Dart and the approach to the town was the focus of action when Dartmouth fell to Maurice in October 1643 and to Fairfax in January 1646. The castle, built by townspeople in the early 1480s as a defence against possible French attacks, was one of the earliest coastal fortresses designed specifically for artillery.

22 December but the blockade continued and the threat to the town was not lifted until the Parliamentary invasion in winter 1645–46. On 25 March 1646, old New Year's Day, Fairfax and Cromwell led a triumphant procession through the loyal town.

In less happy times for the Parliamentary cause after the Restoration, Drake's or Nicholas's Island in the Sound became a prison for several enemies of the regime, including the political philosopher James Harrington and Robert Lilburne, soldier, regicide and deputy Major General of Yorkshire in 1655, who ran the area in the absence in London of Major General Lambert. Lambert himself was imprisoned here from 1670 until his death in March 1684, when he was laid to rest beside his wife (d1676) in St Andrew's Church.

Almost nothing now survives of Civil War Plymouth. The great urban expansion of the nineteenth and twentieth centuries has obliterated all trace of the earthwork defences thrown up by the Parliamentarians in 1642 and the bombs of the Second World War have reduced medieval St Andrew's Church to a ruined shell.

Powderham (SX9684) Powderham Castle (SX968836) was garrisoned for the King at the end of 1642 and remained in Royalist hands as an outpost of Exeter for three years. In winter 1645–46 Fairfax's troops attacked the castle as part of the operation to surround and isolate Exeter. Their first assault in mid-December 1645 was repulsed and although the retreating Parliamentarians briefly occupied and fortified St Clement's Church (SX973844), they fell back in the face of a Royalist counter-attack. On 25 January 1646 they returned, however, and successfully stormed the castle. The medieval stronghold of the Courtenays, Powderham Castle was extensively redesigned and rebuilt in the eighteenth and nineteenth centuries, and only two medieval towers and the Elizabethan domestic wings remain of the fortress which saw action in the Civil War. Open during the summer, the castle contains a fine collection of furniture and fittings, including a portrait of the Parliamentary General William Waller.

Salcombe Castle (SX733382) Known variously as Salcombe Castle, Fort Charles and the Old Bulwark, this Henry VIII coastal fort was garrisoned for the King by Sir Edmund Fortescue in 1645. The small but well-equipped garrison was under siege by the following January and finally surrendered on 9 May 1646, the last base in Devon to fall to Parliament. The ruined

castle stands near the water's edge at North Sands, south of Salcombe.

Shute House or Barton (SY253974) The late medieval manor-house was garrisoned for the King from early 1643 until May 1644, when it was surrendered to a Parliamentary raiding party. The house apparently played no further part in the war. The fourteenth- and fifteenth-century castellated mansion and its Jacobean gatehouse remain a private residence, not usually open to the public.

Sourton Down (SX5491) On the night of 25–26 April 1643 Hopton led his 3,500 strong Cornish army into Devon, advancing with incautious speed on James Chudleigh's quarters at Okehampton. The Parliamentarians were aware of Hopton's plans, and Chudleigh was waiting with his Horse on Sourton Down, an area of fairly flat, high ground on the fringe of Dartmoor, 1½ miles north-north-east of Sourton village. The Royalist van stumbled straight into the ambush, scattering in panic when Chudleigh's men fired a volley at close range and then charged. At least 60 Cornishmen died before the approach of Hopton and the Royalist rear restored order and persuaded Chudleigh to fall back. While Chudleigh awaited the arrival of his Infantry from Okehampton, Hopton took up a defensive position behind prehistoric earthworks on the Down. However, the expected second attack never in fact took place, and after a brief exchange of shots the two armies marched away in opposite directions amid a heavy downpour.

South Molton (SS7125) On the evening of 14 March 1655 John Penruddock's Royalist rebellion ended in this quiet north Devon market town. The rebel army, less than 400 strong, was caught by Unton Crook's troop of Horse from Exeter, and after a three hour street fight the Royalists broke and fled. Some escaped, but large numbers of rebels – including the leaders Grove, Jones and Penruddock himself – were captured.

Tiverton (SS9512) The town and castle were taken for the King early in 1643 and remained in Royalist hands for 2½ years. On 17 October 1645 Fairfax's army approached from the east and quickly overran the town, the Royalist garrison taking refuge in the castle. Fairfax bombarded the fortress for three days until a lucky or skillful shot broke the chains of the drawbridge and brought it crashing down. The 250 Royalists within promptly surrendered.

Tiverton became one of the bases for the Parliamentary army over the winter, and Cromwell and Fairfax were probably frequent visitors.

Most of the fortress which saw action in the Civil War has gone, destroyed in the war itself or demolished thereafter. A fourteenth-century gatehouse, the medieval south-west and south-east angle towers and parts of the Tudor rebuilding survive, largely incorporated within a Georgian mansion. The castle, which stands by St Peter's Church (SS954129), is open on certain Sundays and weekdays during the summer.

Topsham (SX9688) The thriving port on the Exe Estuary served as an outpost of Exeter and its capture was a crucial preliminary to any attack on the city itself. In winter 1642–3 Hopton's forces stormed and captured Topsham, expelling the small Parliamentary garrison, thereby cutting the water route to Exeter and preventing supplies reaching the city by sea. In July 1643 Warwick tried and failed to retake Topsham and thus reopen the estuary in a combined land and sea operation. In autumn 1645 the Parliamentary army, in turn, made the capture of Topsham one of its first priorities in the operation to isolate and starve out the Royalists in Exeter.

Torrington (SS4919) At the end of January 1646 Hopton took to the field in an attempt to draw the Parliamentary forces away from Exeter. On 10 February his army of 2,000 Foot and 3,000 Horse occupied Torrington, now Great Torrington, and set about fortifying the place with a circuit of earthworks and barricades of

tree-trunks across the approach roads. Leaving a unit before Exeter to continue the siege, Fairfax and Cromwell led the Parliamentary army north-west through Crediton and Chumleigh and approached the town on 16 February, driving in several Royalist outposts, including a party at Stevenstone House (SS528194) – the present house is Victorian. Fearing that any delay would enable Hopton to slip away under cover of darkness, Fairfax ordered an immediate attack on Torrington. Thus the last battle of the Civil War in Devon took place in the failing light of a winter's afternoon as the Parliamentarians fought their way across the barricades and then through the streets of Torrington. At this point a stray spark ignited the Royalist gunpowder stored in the parish church, and the resulting explosion not only killed many Royalist soldiers and Parliamentary prisoners in and around the church but also effectively ended the battle. Falling debris narrowly missed Fairfax, and in the resulting confusion Hopton and the remnant of his army slipped away and fled back to Cornwall. On the following day Hugh Peter preached amid the ruins in the market square, warning the Devonians of the evils of King Charles and his Irish Catholic allies. The Parliamentarians soon moved on, some back to the operations before Exeter, but most – including Fairfax and Cromwell – west into Cornwall in pursuit of Hopton.

Only the south-east chapel of the old parish church survived the explosion of 1646. The rest of St Michael's was rebuilt in 1651 and despite Victorian extensions and renovations, much of the present building dates from the Interregnum.

DORSET

The county was divided in allegiance during the early months of the war, some towns – particularly the south coast ports – declaring for Parliament, other regions for the King. The Royalists gradually gained the upper hand during 1643 and by the end of the year only Lyme and Poole held out. Most of the county was retaken by Parliament during the following year, but not until 1645–46 did the Royalists relinquish control over several strongholds. Cromwell was frequently in Dorset between March and October 1645, but he fought no major engagements here. Indeed, there were no significant battles or skirmishes in the field within Dorset, the war quickly developing into a dour struggle for control of a number of key towns and fortresses.

Abbotsbury (SY5785) In 1643 Sir John Strange-ways fortified the Abbey House for the King and installed a Royalist garrison; at the same time he occupied the adjoining church as an outpost and store. The garrison survived for

eighteen months until November 1644, when Sir Anthony Ashley Cooper led a party of Musketeers and Horse against Abbotsbury. The Church of St Nicholas was stormed by the Musketeers and the dozen or so Royalists within

quickly expelled. The capture of the main house proved far more difficult and only after six hours of fierce fighting did the Parliamentarians reach the walls of the house. They wrenched open the windows and threw in blazing furze, forcing the Royalists to abandon the soon blazing and smoke-filled house. As Parliamentary troops rushed in to plunder a spark set off the Royalist magazine, killing over 50 Royalists and Parliamentarians and demolishing much of Abbey House. Cooper withdrew with the 130 surviving Royalist prisoners.

Nothing now remains of the Strangeways' Elizabethan mansion built on the site of a Benedictine Abbey. The present Abbey House is much later and the adjoining ruins are apparently no earlier than the eighteenth century. St Nicholas's Church has survived several renovations largely unaltered; bullet holes in the Jacobean pulpit were supposedly made by Cooper's forces as they stormed the church.

Chideock (SY4292) Chideock Castle, also known as Whitechurch Castle, stood on high ground immediately north of the village. A late medieval fortified manor-house defended by a moat, it was owned during the mid-seventeenth century by Henry, Lord Arundel, who garrisoned it for the King in 1643. In March 1644 it was stormed and taken by a detachment of Parliamentarians from Lyme led by Capt. Thomas Pyne, who subsequently garrisoned it for Parliament. Retaken by Royalists in the autumn, it changed hands for the third and final time in July 1645 when the 100-strong Royalist garrison fell to the Lyme Parliamentarians. By the eighteenth century only the gatehouse remained, and today nothing survives above ground. The site of the castle, however, is still clearly visible, indicated by a number of earthworks – particularly the dry ditches of the former moat – in a field 300 yards north-east of the church.

Christchurch (SZ150926) Held for the King by Sir John Mills during the opening eighteen months of the war, Christchurch was attacked and taken by Waller's Horse on 3 April 1644. Nine months later, on 15th January 1645, Goring stormed the town, forcing Major Lower and his 200-strong garrison to take refuge in the castle. Reports that a Parliamentary relieving force was approaching prompted Goring to fall back. Much of the medieval motte and bailey castle has since been destroyed, but the ruins of the fourteenth-century keep survive, and to the east stands the Castle or Constable's Hall, a well-preserved medieval hall which once stood

within the castle bailey. Keep and hall are open daily.

Corfe Castle (SY959823) One of the most spectacular ruins in England, Corfe Castle stands on a steep hillock overlooking the village. The Normans built the keep on the site of an earlier Saxon fortress, and over the following centuries the castle was strengthened with the addition of curtain walls, wall towers, and gatehouses on the slopes below. The castle was garrisoned for the King in 1642 and, despite frequent attacks, it held out until 1646, ably defended by Lady Bankes and other members of the family. It finally fell through treachery: on 26 February Lt.-Col. Pittman rode out from the castle to collect reinforcements, defected to Parliament, and led 50 Parliamentary soldiers back into the castle under a Royalist banner. The castle was slighted after the war and rendered indefensible. The extensive ruins are open daily.

By the road ¼ mile south-west of the castle stand the Rings, the remains of a siegework thrown up by King Stephen in the twelfth century. Five hundred years later the stronghold was reused by the Parliamentarians as a battery. Inevitably, the site became known as 'Cromwell's Battery', although Cromwell himself played no recorded part in the siege.

Dorchester (SY6990) In common with many Dorset towns, Dorchester changed hands several times in 1643–44 as the two sides disputed control of the county. Despite the addition of earthworks around the town to strengthen the much-decayed Roman defences, Dorchester remained very vulnerable to attack, the occupying garrison usually retreating without a fight at the approach of a larger force. Not until November 1644 was the town finally secured for Parliament by Col. Sydenham. Cromwell was frequently in the area during 1645 and there is an unconfirmed tradition that in March of that year he clashed with local Royalists at Fordington, now a western suburb of Dorchester.

Most of the Civil War defences have been destroyed. The exception is Maumbury Rings, a Neolithic henge and Roman amphitheatre south of the town centre by Weymouth Avenue. In 1642 the Parliamentarians threw up gun emplacements within the circular earthwork to cover the main road to Weymouth. The internal terracing and the gun platform in the south-west corner are still visible.

Denzil, Lord Holles, was buried in St Peter's Church in 1680. MP for Dorchester in the Long Parliament, he was one of the most prominent



Corfe Castle, Dorset. The spectacular medieval castle (above), with a Norman keep and a complex of later walls, towers and gatehouses crowded on the steep slopes below, was held for the King throughout the war. Lady Bankes's garrison eventually fell by subterfuge in 1646 and Capt. Thomas Hughes of Lulworth was ordered to slight the castle by mining and explosives. The south-west gatehouse (right), a thirteenth-century ashlar pile guarding the entrance from the outer bailey, was destroyed by undermining the southern of its twin towers. In consequence, the gatehouse broke in two above the central arch and the southern tower (on the left) slipped roughly 8 feet down the slope, while remaining largely upright and intact.

political opponents of the King during the early 1640s and was one of the five Members whom Charles tried to arrest in January 1642. He lies with his son and grandson in the family vault beneath the church, near a large standing monument to the Holles family.

East Lulworth (SY855822) Lulworth Castle, in reality a Jacobean lodge or fortified house, is a three storey embattled block with round corner towers. Garrisoned for the King at the outbreak of war, by 1644 it had fallen to Parliament and was being used as a base to cover the Royalists in Corfe. Although the Corfe garrison launched several raids on Lulworth, it was a twentieth-century fire rather than Civil War cannon which reduced the castle to its present state. Roofless and gutted, but otherwise complete, the spectacular shell can be viewed from the public footpaths which run close by.

Hambleton Hill (ST8512) Hambleton is a large, irregular-shaped hill standing between the rivers Stour and Iwerne and topped by the remains of an extensive, multi-ramparted hill-fort. In early August 1645 a large body of Clubmen, somewhere between 2,000 and 4,000 strong, gathered on the hilltop. Cromwell and Disbrowe came under fire as they approached up the western slopes in the hope of parleying with the Clubmen; they returned later on 4 August at the head of a full-scale assault. Cromwell led one party up the western slopes to distract the Clubmen whilst Disbrowe launched the main attack from the Child Okeford side. Overwhelmed by the professional soldiers, the Clubmen scattered. Five hundred were rounded up and held overnight in St Mary's Church in Iwerne Courtney or Shroton (ST860125). Cromwell and his men quartered in and around the village before returning to Sherborne on the 5th.

Lyme Regis (SY3492) A small but prosperous port and cloth town, Lyme was strongly Parliamentary during the 1640s. Despite its rather weak position, overlooked by high hills and with no stone walls for defence, Lyme held out for Parliament throughout the Civil War, a vital land and sea base in an area which was overwhelmingly Royalist in 1643–44. On 20 April 1644 Prince Maurice appeared before Lyme with 6,000 men, quickly driving in the Parliamentary outposts and establishing an arc of bases around the north of the town. Below them Cols Were and Ceeley defended the town behind a hastily constructed ring of earth banks and turf and earth blockhouses – all traces of these

defences have long disappeared and their precise layout and location are not known. The siege continued for nearly two months, the King's men keeping up a heavy bombardment and launching several unsuccessful attacks, the Parliamentarians occasionally sallying out to hinder Royalist operations. A prolonged siege was futile – Lyme was kept supplied by sea and could not be starved out – and having failed to take the town by storm, Maurice fell back on 15 June at the approach of the main Parliamentary army under Essex. Various relics of the siege and of the town's heroic defence are now on display in the Philpot Museum in Bridge Street.

Poole (SZ0190) A Parliamentary stronghold throughout the Civil War, Poole held out even during the Royalist high-tide of 1643–44. In July 1643 Sir Walter Erle fell back into Poole from his position before Corfe and he organised the subsequent defence of the town against frequent attacks from Lord Crawford and others. The Parliamentary fleet in the bay not only kept the town supplied by sea but also broke up Royalist operations with heavy artillery fire. Old St Michael's Church at Hamworthy (SY9991), one mile north-west of Poole, was wrecked in the course of this naval bombardment.

Portland (SY685744) Secured for Parliament at the outbreak of war, the 'Isle' of Portland and its strongpoint, Portland Castle, changed hands several times during 1643. According to tradition the castle was captured on one occasion by subterfuge: two groups of Horse approached the castle and the first, flying Parliamentary colours and apparently fleeing from Royalists, were immediately admitted by the garrison, whereupon they attacked and overpowered the unsuspecting Parliamentarians. By the end of 1643 the castle was garrisoned by a large Royalist force and it remained under the King's control for over two years, resisting blockades by land and sea and repelling occasional attacks. The garrison finally surrendered on 6 April 1646, by which time the Royalist cause in the south-west had collapsed. The castle, built by Henry VIII in rich Portland ashlar, survived the Civil War in surprisingly good order, and remained in military use until the nineteenth century. Open to the public daily, the castle comprises a tower, externally round but internally octagonal, standing at the centre of an artillery emplacement shaped like a segment of a circle, the outer curved wall of which faces north towards the sea.

Sherborne (ST648167) The old castle, built by

the Bishop of Salisbury in the twelfth century, was one of the few medieval fortresses in Dorset still defensible during the Civil War. The Marquis of Hertford occupied the castle for the King in August 1642 and repaired its defences, which had been partly destroyed in the late sixteenth century when Raleigh began converting the place along more domestic lines. In early September the Earl of Bedford arrived at the head of a 7,000-strong Parliamentary army and set up camp to the north of the castle. However, repeated raids by Hopton and others persuaded the Earl to depart on the 6th without having launched a serious attack on the castle. Hertford himself marched off later in the month. The castle changed hands several times in 1643–44, but by 1645 it was under the control of Sir Lewis Dyve and his large Royalist garrison. The main Parliamentary army laid siege to the castle at the end of July and the King's men endured a fortnight of heavy bombardment and mining. Cromwell was present during the early stages of the siege and again on 15–17 August when Dyve and his 400-strong garrison surrendered. The badly damaged castle was slighted later in the year and much of the stone was taken away to build an extension to St Mary Magdalene's in Castleton.

The castle stands on a slight knoll to the east of the town and comprises a curtain wall with gatehouses and angle towers enclosing a large, roughly rectangular ward in which stand the keep and adjoining domestic and religious buildings. Open daily, the castle is now very ruinous. Several earthworks beyond the curtain wall are ascribed to the Civil War, particularly the triangular bastion to the west, immediately beyond the moat and south-west gatehouse, thought to be a gun emplacement thrown up by the besieging army in summer 1645.

Sturminster Newton (ST7813) On 29 June 1645 a large body of Dorset Clubmen, aided and abetted by local Royalists, clashed with Massey's Parliamentarians outside Sturminster. Surprised and outnumbered, Massey's men fell back in disorder.

Wareham (SY9287) Wareham changed hands several times during the Civil War, the earth ramparts which had protected the town in the tenth century proving no real obstacle in the seventeenth. Though derelict, the Norman castle was still defensible during the early 1640s and was slighted by Parliament after the Civil War. Today nothing survives except a slight mound off Castle Close.

Weymouth (SY6778) Despite the attempts of both sides during the Civil War to strengthen Weymouth and Melcombe Regis with earth banks and ditches, the towns could offer little resistance to a determined assault and accordingly changed hands at least six times during the course of the war. Col. Sydenham and the Parliamentary garrison attempted to bolster Weymouth's defences in autumn 1644 by erecting two earth and turf forts, North Fort and Chapel Fort, around the town. They did not stop Dyve's forces taking Weymouth for the King on 9 February 1645, and Sydenham fell back on Melcombe. However, the Parliamentarians returned at the end of the month and finally secured Weymouth. The great expansion during the eighteenth century and later has not only effectively united Weymouth and Melcombe Regis as a single urban centre but also obliterated all trace of the Civil War defences, including Sydenham's two forts.

Wimborne St Giles (SU0312) St Giles House, the seat of the Ashley family (later the Ashley Coopers and later still the Earls of Shaftesbury), was the birthplace and home of Anthony Ashley Cooper, the 1st Earl. Although the earldom and much of his career belong to the period after the Restoration, Ashley Cooper rose to prominence in the mid-seventeenth century. He joined the King's army at the outbreak of war but soon adopted the Parliamentary cause and saw action in Dorset and Wiltshire. He was one of Cromwell's principal supporters in 1653–54, serving in the first Protectorate Parliament and in the Protectorate Council. For reasons which remain unclear, he broke with Cromwell early in 1655 and became an outspoken critic of the Protectorate.

The present St Giles House was begun by Ashley Cooper in the 1650s on the site of the family's late medieval mansion. Originally a modest brick house with a five or seven bay front and a hipped roof, it has been extensively remodelled and extended since the late seventeenth century.

After a frequently stormy career the 1st Earl was buried in St Giles's Church in 1683 (SU032120). The elaborate monument in the church, featuring a statue of Ashley Cooper standing before an obelisk, was erected nearly fifty years later.

Wynford Eagle (SY5895) The Tudor and Jacobean Manor Farm was the seat of the Sydenham family and here was born William Sydenham, Parliamentary soldier, governor of

Weymouth, Melcombe and the Isle of Wight, a leading supporter of Cromwell in the 1650s and a member of the Protectorate Parliaments and

Councils. Sydenham demolished the old house in the 1630s and built the present, rather plain Manor Farm.

DURHAM

Secured for the King at the outbreak of war, County Durham suffered only minor Parliamentary incursions until the appearance of the Scottish army in March 1644. The departure of the Scottish Parliamentarians southwards into Yorkshire and the approach of Montrose's band of Royalists led to a brief Royalist recovery in summer 1644, but the destruction of Newcastle's army at Marston Moor in July was rapidly followed by the collapse of the King's cause throughout the area. Cromwell passed through County Durham in 1648 and again in 1650–51 on his way to and from Scotland.

Barnard Castle (NZ0516) The town and the medieval castle guarding the crossing of the Tees lay well to the west of the principal north–south routes, in territory firmly held by the Royalists in 1642–44 and then abandoned by them without a fight. Thus Barnard Castle escaped serious bloodshed in the Civil Wars. In October 1648 Cromwell visited the area while making his way south from Scotland in rather leisurely fashion, and he stayed at Barnard Castle on the 24th and 25th. The castle was semi-derelict by the seventeenth century and it is possible that Cromwell lodged at a humbler building within the town.

Bishop Auckland (NZ214301) Little remains of Auckland Castle, the medieval fortified palace of the Bishops of Durham. Charles I was lodged here as a prisoner of the Scots in February 1647. Later in the year the estate was sold to Sir Arthur Hesilrige, who demolished large sections of the palace, including the medieval chapel and great hall. The site was restored to the Church in 1660 and the surviving buildings refurbished; the medieval banqueting hall was converted into a chapel. The palace, which was extended and remodelled in the eighteenth century, stands amid an extensive and carefully landscaped park. Parts of the palace, including the state rooms and the chapel, are open to the public on certain weekdays in summer.

Brancepeth (NZ223377) Cromwell usually travelled to and from Scotland via Durham, but in August 1651 he bypassed that city and stayed instead at Brancepeth on the 15th. He may have lodged in the castle, the medieval seat of the Neville family, heavily restored in the nineteenth century and still a private residence.

Chester le Street (NZ2751) The town was the scene of a brief skirmish on 20 March 1644 when a Scottish raiding party surprised and captured a detachment of Royalist Horse from Newcastle's army.

Durham (NZ2742) Secured for the King in 1643, Durham became the temporary HQ of Newcastle and the Royalist army in March and early April 1644. The Earl had fought a series of delaying actions, hindering the southern advance of the Scottish army, but by mid-April the Scots had overcome the forces sent to contain them and, having abandoned the attempt to take the town of Newcastle, were marching south once more. Their approach and the news that Selby had fallen and that York was therefore threatened persuaded Newcastle to hurry south rather than attempt to hold Durham. The Royalists marched out on 13 April and the Scots passed through unopposed soon after.

Cromwell was in Durham in September and October 1648 – he attended a Thanksgiving service in the cathedral on 8 September – and in July 1650 on his way to and from Scotland. Despite a local tradition that on at least one occasion he lodged at a farmhouse in Shincliffe, south-east of Durham (NZ2940), it is probable that he usually stayed at Durham Castle, the medieval stronghold of the Prince-Bishops of Durham.

The castle, with its central courtyard surrounded by domestic ranges to the north and west, the gatehouse and curtain wall to the south and the much restored keep on a motte to the east, is open on certain weekdays throughout the year.



Above: Durham, Co. Durham. The city skyline is dominated by the castle and cathedral, the twin seats of the Prince-Bishops of Durham. Cromwell probably lodged in the much-restored castle on several occasions in 1648–50 and attended services in the Norman cathedral.

Right: Saffron Walden, Essex. In May 1647 the Sun Inn was the venue for a series of discussions attended by Cromwell, Ireton, Fleetwood and other officers. The late medieval building was decorated in the seventeenth century with a form of elaborate plaster work known as pargeting. The gable on the left bears the date 1676; that on the right, probably earlier, shows the Cambridgeshire folk-hero, Tom Hickathrift, and the Wisbech giant whom he slayed.

Lumley Castle (NZ288511) A very impressive and almost perfectly preserved late medieval castle, Lumley was built in the late fourteenth century for the family of that name. It was garrisoned for the King by Sir Richard Lumley from 1642 but was evacuated without a fight in April 1644 when the Earl of Newcastle abandoned his bases in the area and retreated to York. The quadrangular castle, with large corner towers and a central square courtyard, remains a private residence.

Piercebridge (NZ212155) Dere Street, one of the principal routes linking Yorkshire and the north, crosses the Tees here. At the end of 1642 the younger Hotham tried to hold the crossing against Newcastle's Royalist army heading south towards York. Heavily outnumbered, Hotham sent up a barrage of cannon and musket fire which succeeded in holding the Royalist advance for a time. However, Newcastle's 8,000 men eventually forced their way across the

sixteenth-century five-arch bridge and brushed aside the Parliamentarians. The bridge survives, albeit widened and renovated in the eighteenth century.

Raby Castle (NZ129218) A late medieval stronghold of the Neville family, Raby Castle was bought by Sir Henry Vane senior in 1626. Garrisoned for Parliament in the Civil War, the castle was captured by Royalists in 1645 but swiftly retaken by a small local force led by Sir George Vane. Scottish Royalists unsuccessfully besieged the place three years later. Throughout the period Raby was the principal country seat and occasional residence of Sir Henry Vane senior and junior. Their seventeenth-century work has largely disappeared and the present castle is a mixture of medieval fortress – including Lady Joan's, the Kitchen and the Chapel towers – and eighteenth- and nineteenth-century remodelling. Raby Castle now houses a fine collection of furnishings from many periods and is open to the public during the summer.

EAST SUSSEX

The county saw no significant action during the Civil Wars and was held by Parliament without serious challenge throughout the period. The Royalist raids of 1643 along the south coast were halted in West Sussex and the disturbances in Kent five years later did not spread to its western neighbour. Cromwell seems never to have set foot within East Sussex.

Glynde (TQ456093) Col. Herbert Morley was born and brought up at Glynde Place. MP for Lewes during the 1640s, Morley was one of the leading lights in the defence of Sussex, raising troops, levying money, sequestering estates and generally administering the area for Parliament. His zeal and enthusiasm won him praises from Parliament but many enemies in Sussex. By the 1650s, however, he had broken with Cromwell and army and became an outspoken critic of the Protectorate. He purchased a pardon at the Restoration and spent the last years of his life in

retirement at Glynde. The fine Tudor house, built by William Morley around 1560, was extensively remodelled by the Bishop of Durham in the mid-eighteenth century. The eastern range is now largely Georgian, but the western retains its original Tudor appearance. The finely furnished house is open on certain weekdays during the summer. Col. Morley lies beneath an inscribed monument near the altar of St Mary's Church, the medieval church next to Glynde Place which was rebuilt in exuberant style by Bishop Trevor in the eighteenth century.

ESSEX

Essex was secure for Parliament throughout the first Civil War and saw serious fighting only in the second, when, in summer 1648, Colchester became one of the centres of Royalist rebellion. There are several Cromwellian traditions connected with Essex – for example, the dubious tale that Cromwell almost drowned in the spring or well at Maldon which now bears his name – but clear and well-documented links are few.

Abbess Roding (TL5711) John Thurloe, Cromwell's Secretary of State and Secretary to the Protectorate Council, was born and brought up at the old rectory here; his father was rector of St Edmund's.

Boreham (TL735103) New Hall or Newall, 1½ miles north-north-west of the village, is the surviving part of the early Tudor royal mansion of Beaulieu which stood on the site. The quadrangular house, remodelled in the 1570s, has been largely demolished, and little remains of the Tudor building beyond the impressive southern façade. Cromwell acquired the property in 1651 but seems never to have visited the place. A later story that he and his family held a reunion at Newall on 25 April 1652, Cromwell's 53rd birthday, rests on no contemporary evidence and is highly implausible: Cromwell attended Council meetings in London on 23 and 27 April and others who supposedly attended the gathering, including his brother-in-law John Disbrowe, were definitely far away from Essex on the 25th. Now a convent, both Newall and the surrounding land are private, but the exterior of the building can be viewed from the public footpath which runs close by.

Chipping Ongar (TL55030) Jane Palavicini, daughter of Sir Oliver Cromwell and first cousin of the Protector, lies buried in the Church of St Martin of Tours. In 1606 she married Sir Toby Palavicini, then of Babraham, Cambridgeshire, but Sir Toby later sold off his extensive Cambridgeshire estates and the couple moved to Essex. Jane (d1637/8) lies beneath an inscribed black marble floor slab in the chancel of St Martin's.

Colchester (TM0025) In early June 1648 the remnant of the Earl of Norwich's Royalist force left Kent and marched north to join the Essex Royalists led by Sir George Lisle and Sir Charles Lucas. The combined army swept through the southern half of the county, sacking the magazine at Braintree and briefly occupying Chelmsford before moving on to Colchester on 12 June. Fairfax was in hot pursuit and approached

Colchester on the following day, attacking immediately. Lucas had drawn up his men across the London road, covered by cannon in St Mary's churchyard and on the castle. Despite the initial success of his right wing under Barkstead, Fairfax was compelled to fall back under heavy musket fire and a Royalist counter-attack. The Parliamentary forces settled down for a long, formal siege, cutting the roads and rivers into Colchester and surrounding the town with ten earthwork forts, linked to the south of the Colne by a bank and ditch. The extra-mural suburbs were overrun and Royalist outposts driven back within the walls. By late July the heavy Parliamentary bombardment was no longer answered by Royalist cannon, for within the town both ammunition and food were running very low. Starvation and disease compelled the Royalists to surrender the town unconditionally at the end of August. Fairfax entered Colchester on the 28th and promptly executed Lucas and Lisle in the castle yard.

Although the Parliamentary siege works have completely disappeared, much of the circuit of Roman and medieval walls which sheltered the Royalists survive in good order, particularly in the south east around Priory Street and on the west side by Balcerne Hill and Lane where a Roman gateway, the West or Balcerne Gate, also survives. Just beyond the wall by Priory Street stand the remains of the Norman church of St Botolph's Priory, wrecked during the Parliamentary bombardment. Nearby in Abbey Gardens, the fifteenth-century gatehouse of the otherwise demolished Abbey of St John bears marks caused by Civil War cannon and the timber frame of an early Tudor house in East Street – now called Siege House – is riddled with Civil War bullets. The massive castle keep now houses Colchester Museum in which many relics from the siege are on display; the museum is open every weekday. An obelisk in Castle Park marks the spot where Lucas and Lisle were shot. In 1661 they were honoured with a solemn service in St Giles's Church and a black marble monument was later erected over the Lucas vault in the north chapel where both had been unceremoniously buried. In 1648, immediately

after the surrender of the town, they and the other rebels had been held in the yard of the Red Lion, a well preserved Tudor inn which still stands in the High Street.

Felsted (TL676204) This small town has several Cromwellian connections. Oliver's sons were all educated here in the Old School House, a timber frame and plaster Tudor hall with a projecting upper storey which survives in good order near Holy Cross Church. His eldest son, Robert, died at Felsted and lies buried near the south porch of the church. The Rich family, Earls of Warwick, had their country seat nearby and many of them lie in vaults beneath Holy Cross, including Robert, the 2nd Earl (d1658), Parliamentary Admiral during the first Civil War and his grandson, another Robert, who married Cromwell's youngest daughter in November 1657 but died just three months later. Cromwell's father-in-law, Sir James Bouchier, also acquired extensive property around Felsted and he, too, may be buried here.

Hatfield Broad Oak (TL5416) Cromwell's aunt Joan and her husband Sir Francis Barrington lived at Barrington Hall, one mile north of the village, where they brought up their large family of nine children. The Tudor and Jacobean hall has completely disappeared and the present Barrington Hall (TL550177) is eighteenth-century. Joan and Sir Francis were buried in the Church of St Mary the Virgin (TL547166) but no monument now marks their graves.

High Laver (TL5208) Otes, the family home

of the Mashams during the seventeenth century, stood one mile north-north-west of the church. Sir William Masham was a prominent opponent of Charles I's government and according to tradition Cromwell visited Otes to confer with him on several occasions in the late 1630s. The house no longer exists.

Little Stambidge (TQ888907) Little Stambidge Hall was the principal country seat of the Bouchier family during the sixteenth and early seventeenth century. Sir James Bouchier became a very wealthy City merchant and he acquired property elsewhere in Essex and East Anglia but he retained Stambidge Hall and it was probably here that his daughter Elizabeth – later the wife of Oliver Cromwell – was born and brought up. The present hall is largely Georgian but sections of the earlier Tudor building are incorporated at the rear and parts of the old moat also survive. The hall is private, but it can be viewed from the adjoining public footpath.

Saffron Walden (TL5438) The increasingly restless Parliamentary army was stationed around the town from March to May 1647. Cromwell was here on 2–20 May, holding talks with other senior officers about military grievances and possible remedies in the Sun Inn, at the corner of Market Hill and Church Street. The late medieval building comprised a central hall flanked by gabled wings; the storey above the hall was added in the late sixteenth century and the rich parquetry in the seventeenth. The building is owned by the National Trust and is open to the public.

GLOUCESTERSHIRE

Although Gloucestershire was largely Parliamentary in 1642–43, from the outbreak of the war the Royalists held a number of bases around the fringes of the county and by 1643–44 they had taken all but a triangle of land around and to the east of Gloucester. The defence of the city became one of the major contests of the war and the surrounding area – on both sides of the Severn – was very thickly garrisoned with a circuit of Parliamentary outposts protecting the approaches to Gloucester and further circles of Royalist bases beyond. Cromwell passed through eastern Gloucestershire in June 1645 on his way to Dorset and in summer 1648 he stopped in Gloucester en route to and from South Wales, but there is no evidence that he took part in any fighting within the county.

Beachley (ST5490) During the Civil War the bare flat promontory between the mouth of the Wye and the Severn Estuary made an ideal

military base, protected on three sides by water and by a bank and ditch across the neck of the headland to the north. In September 1644 500

Horse, sent to Beachley by Rupert to cover the lower reaches of the Wye and the Aust passage, were surprised by Massey's Parliamentarians and over 100 Royalists were killed or captured before the survivors managed to cut their way out. Nothing daunted, in the following month Col. Winter briefly re-established a Royalist base here, only to fall to a combined land and sea attack by Massey on 14 October. A party of Royalists under Winter escaped northwards along the east bank of the Wye and, according to a rather fanciful tale, the Royalist commander escaped the pursuing Parliamentarians by leaping from the cliff into the river at a spot now known as Winter's or Wintour's Leap (ST541963). The headland around Beachley is still occupied by a military camp, now overshadowed by the Severn Bridge.

Berkeley (ST685989) The grim medieval castle was secured for Parliament in 1642 but the garrison withdrew in February 1643 at the approach of Rupert and for the following 30 months it served as a Royalist base. In September 1645 the Parliamentarians returned, established a battery in the churchyard of St Mary's and bombarded the castle for three days, wrecking the outer defences. The castle was stormed and captured on the 25th. Repairs were carried out after the war, particularly to the north and west sides facing the church, which had sustained most damage during the bombardment. The castle, which is in good order, comprises a curtain wall with four mural towers enclosing a roughly circular ward in which stand the Norman keep and a number of medieval and post-medieval domestic buildings. Berkeley Castle is open daily except Mondays during the summer.

Beverstone (ST860940) The remains of the thirteenth-century quadrangular castle, including parts of the west range, the south-west drum tower and the eastern gatehouse, stand on private land near St Mary's Church. A modern house on the site of the southern range may incorporate further sections of the old fortress. The castle was garrisoned for the King in 1642 and held without serious challenge until 1644, when it was twice attacked and taken by Massey's men. It fell to the Parliamentarians on 23 May but was promptly retaken by the Royalists and not until the autumn, following a second siege and bombardment, was it finally secured for Parliament.

Boddington (SO8925) The Tudor manor-house, extensively rebuilt or redesigned in 1820

in mock-Tudor style, was garrisoned for the King in 1643–44.

Brookthorpe (SO8312) The area of the village saw frequent clashes during the war, the most serious in August 1643 when a party of Gloucester Parliamentarians stumbled into a Royalist troop here and were hard put to cut their way back north. The Royalist force covering Gloucester was probably based in Brookthorpe Court, the timber frame and stone mansion, late Tudor but heavily restored in the nineteenth century, which stands east of the church.

Chavenage (ST872951) Chavenage House, an 'E'-shaped Elizabethan manor house, open to the public on certain days during the summer, was supposedly visited by Cromwell and Ireton during 1648. They came, the story runs, to persuade the owner, Col. Stephens, to take part in the trial and execution of the King and were lodged during their stay in two bedrooms in the south-east wing, now known as the Cromwell and the Ireton Rooms. However, a number of factors weigh against this colourful tale. Cromwell passed through Gloucestershire in May and July 1648 but on both occasions he was moving quickly to meet Royalist rebellions elsewhere and it seems unlikely that he would have spent time at Chavenage. The story assumes that by summer 1648 Cromwell not only had firm plans for the removal of the King but was also willing to reveal them to others who were unconvinced or hostile. Perhaps the most telling point against the tradition is the claim that Cromwell and Ireton visited Chavenage together, for throughout summer 1648, the only time of the year when Cromwell could possibly have been here, Ireton was serving in Kent and Essex, putting down Royalist rebellions there.

Cheltenham (SO9522) A small village in the seventeenth century, little more than the single High Street, Cheltenham was one of the bases for Royalist troops during the siege of Gloucester and was taken by Essex on 6 September 1643 en route to the city.

Chipping Campden (SP1539) Campden manor-house, a modest Tudor hall extensively rebuilt by Sir Baptist Hicks in the early seventeenth century, was garrisoned for the King under Lord Molineaux in 1644–45. The Royalists evacuated the place in May 1645, burning the house as they left to prevent it being used by Parliamentary forces. The stable block, the Jacobean lodges and the gateway survive intact by

the southern entrance to St James's churchyard; in the field beyond stand the fragmentary remains of the manor-house itself.

Cirencester (SP0202) Cirencester was important in the Civil War because it lay on one of the principal routes linking the Midlands and the south-west. With Royalist Oxfordshire firmly controlling the less direct routes to the east and Parliamentary Gloucester blocking the western road, control of Cirencester and of the road which passed through it became a major objective of both sides. In consequence, the town saw frequent skirmishing and, defended by nothing more than decayed and outgrown Roman walls and banks, changed hands several times during the course of the war.

The fiercest fighting took place on 2 February 1643, when Rupert and Hertford launched an early morning raid on the large Parliamentary garrison, which had been cut off by snow for much of January and was dangerously short of supplies. The Royalist forces attacked from the north and south-west while their guns pounded the east side of the town and although the garrison resisted fiercely, by noon Rupert had captured the town, together with 1,000 prisoners with 1,000 prisoners and five guns.

The prisoners were held in the Church of St John the Baptist; on the wall of the south aisle is a memorial tablet to Hodgkinson Paine, a local clothier who perished during Rupert's attack. The town's museum contains several items from the Civil War.

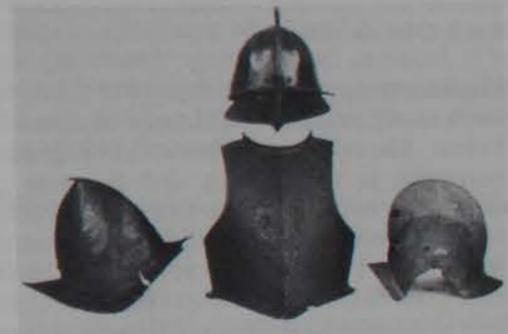
Coleford (SO5710) By February 1643 Lord Herbert had gathered a 2,000-strong Royalist army in South Wales and was marching east through the Forest of Dean towards the Parliamentary stronghold of Gloucester. On 20 February he clashed at Coleford with a Parliamentary detachment under Col. Berrows, which had been sent to engage and halt the Royalists. Although more experienced than their opponents, the Parliamentarians were heavily outnumbered and were thrown back in disorder, losing over 50 men.

Eastington (SO7805) The outlying Parliamentary garrison, protecting the approaches to Gloucester, probably occupied Eastington Manor, the Elizabethan manor-house of the Stephens family. The large three storey house, which stood close to the west end of the church, fell derelict and ruinous in the eighteenth century and was demolished in 1775. Marks on the tower of St Michael's Church were reputedly caused by cannon-fire.

Gloucester (SO8318) The city of Gloucester controlled not only the lowest bridgeable crossing of the Severn but also the main road linking south-west England with Wales, the Marches and the West Midlands. Garrisoned for Parliament without opposition in autumn 1642, it remained a crucial Parliamentary stronghold throughout the Civil War, even in 1643-44, when Bristol and most of the region had fallen to the King. In the opening months of 1643 Col. Edward Massey, the young Parliamentary governor, hastily repaired the city's derelict defences, the Roman walls which stood to the north, east and south and the large medieval castle to the west. His work was soon put to the test, for the main Royalist army appeared before the city on 10 August 1643 and laid siege to the place. Charles I established his HQ at Matson House, to the south of the city (SO847155), and Rupert lodged at Prinknash Park (SO879134). The Royalists quickly overran the extra-mural suburbs and closely invested the city, but bad weather hindered their operations and heavy rain flooded the tunnels which they had dug under the city walls, ruining the mines just as they were ready to be sprung. Meanwhile Essex and an army of 15,000 were hurrying west from London to the relief of the city and their approach on 5 September persuaded the demoralised Royalists to abandon operations and depart. Although much of the county remained under Royalist control until 1644-45, the high-tide of Royalism in the region had passed and the county town was never again under serious threat. In 1648 Cromwell passed through the city on his way to and from South Wales, but his stay was brief and it is not known exactly where he lodged.

After the Restoration, Gloucester suffered for its Parliamentary past and its walls, gates and castle were slighted on Royal orders. Almost no trace of them remains – the base of the Eastgate tower and adjoining ditches have been revealed by excavation. During the Civil War Massey had his HQ in a sixteenth-century timber-framed inn in Westgate Street; now No. 26, it can be viewed from Westgate Street and from the adjoining Maverdine Passage. Further down Westgate Street stands an early Tudor, three storey, timber-framed building, known as Bishop Hooper's Lodging, now a local museum containing many relics from Civil War Gloucester. The churches of St Mary de Lode and Holy Trinity served as prisons for captured Royalists and St Mary de Crypt as a magazine.

Haresfield Beacon or Hill (SO8209) The hill affords superb views over Gloucester and



Top: Highnam Court, Glos. The compact 2½ storey red brick house was built sometime around or a little before the Restoration. It stands on the site of an earlier Highnam Court, occupied by Herbert's Royalists in February 1643 but wrecked in the following month when Waller and Massey fell upon and routed the King's men.

Above: Gloucester, Glos. Civil War helmets and breastplates and other items from the period are on display within the city's folk museum in Bishop Hooper's Lodging.

Left: Tewkesbury, Glos. The case of the Milton Organ, probably the oldest organ still in regular use in Britain, was built in Oxford around 1580. Cromwell had the organ moved to Hampton Court where, according to tradition, the blind Milton would play it to soothe the Protectoral brow.

was probably used as an observation point by the Royalist army besieging the city and by Essex's relieving force in 1643. A modern inscribed stone near the summit commemorates the siege. Although it is sometimes referred to as the 'Cromwell stone' Cromwell was not with Essex's army in 1643 and there is nothing to link him to Haresfield Beacon.

Hartpury (SO8025) The Royalist garrison here during the siege of Gloucester was probably based in Hartpury Court. The Tudor building has largely gone and the present farmhouse of that name which stands on the site is a much later mock-Tudor edifice.

High Meadow (SO559105) The Royalist garrison was one of several minor outposts in the area covering the western fringes of the county and the road into South Wales. The home of the Catholic Hall family, the large 'H'-shaped Tudor house set in grand gardens was further strengthened by a series of earthworks. Col. Hall abandoned the place in 1645. The house has been demolished but its site is still evident from the decayed earthworks and foundations around the present, modern High Meadow, north-east of Newland.

Highnam (SO7919) In March 1643 Lord Herbert's newly raised Royalist army occupied Sir Robert Cooke's manor-house at Highnam, quartering in the grounds and throwing up earthworks on the east side to counter possible attacks from Gloucester – traces of these earthworks are still visible in and around the churchyard (SO796195). Aware of Herbert's movements, Massey and Waller planned a joint attack. Some of Massey's men approached Highnam on 23 March and a fierce skirmish developed, but the main attack was launched on the following day. Massey led one assault from the east while Waller, who had ferried his men across the Severn on the far side of Highnam, swooped down from the west. Surprised and surrounded by a larger and more experienced force, the Welsh Royalists broke. At least half the 2,000-strong force surrendered on the spot, but others managed to cut their way clear. One party fled north, along the west bank of the Leadon, but was caught and cut down around Barber's Bridge, east of Tibberton (SO772221). Many bodies, probably those of Herbert's Welsh Royalists, were found buried by the bridge in the nineteenth century and a small monument, made partly of stone from the walls of Gloucester, was erected on the spot, just south of the bridge.

Huntley (SO716198) The remains of a moat north of the church and on the western outskirts of the village may mark the site of the Tudor manor-house. It was held by Parliament as an outpost of Gloucester, but was surprised and captured by Winter's Newnham Royalists in January 1644. Collusion was suspected.

Lancaut (ST5396) Like Beachley to the south, Lancaut is a natural stronghold, a promontory of land protected on three sides by the waters of the Wye. The military potential of the site and of others within adjoining meanders has long been recognised and the area is rich in ancient forts and earthworks, including Offa's Dyke. A line of ditch and bank across the neck of land to the east of Lancaut (around ST542967) is probably ancient, but may have been recut or redug in the Civil War. In the course of the conflict, both sides established a base in the village, garrisoning the manor-house and the church to cover the river-crossing into South Wales. In February 1645 a force of Horse and Foot sent from Gloucester overwhelmed the small Royalist garrison here and finally secured the place for Parliament.

Littledean (SO6713) Following his victory at Highnam in March 1643, Waller advanced through the Forest of Dean into south-east Wales. Two thousand Royalists under Maurice hurried south from the Worcester area to intercept him and block his line of retreat back to Gloucester. Aware of the Royalists' approach, Waller sent most of his Infantry, guns and baggage across the Severn by boat from Chepstow and then he and the Horse moved cautiously along the west bank of the Severn towards Gloucester. On 11 April they entered Littledean and drew up on the hillside immediately south of the town to await the approach of Maurice's men, who were a mile or two north. When the Royalists did not appear, Waller continued his march towards Gloucester, leaving a small garrison at Littledean. At the departure of most of the Parliamentary army, Maurice swooped down on the town and a confused but fierce street fight developed as Waller and the main body of Horse quickly returned. Although the Royalists eventually took the town, they sustained heavy losses and were unable to prevent the Parliamentarians slipping away.

Maurice garrisoned the town, establishing a base at Dean Hall, near the southern end of Littledean. The garrison survived until 7 May 1644, when Massey's men returned, quickly overran the town and negotiated the surrender

of the hall. Discussions were broken off when a Royalist sniper shot and killed one of Massey's men. The Parliamentarians responded by storming the place and killing many members of the garrison, including its two commanding officers. The hall survives as a private residence, a largely Tudor building with a Jacobean north wing and a third storey added in the nineteenth century.

Lydney (SO6303) The Elizabethan home of Sir William Winter, known variously as Lydney, White or White Cross House, stood immediately opposite the lychgate of the parish church. Fortified and garrisoned for the King by Sir John Winter in 1643, it endured a number of Parliamentary raids over the following two years. In May 1645, with the virtual collapse of the Royalist cause in much of the county, Winter evacuated the place, removed the lead and valuables and then burnt the house to the ground rather than see it fall into Massey's hands.

Lypiatt Park (SO886058) The medieval mansion was garrisoned for Parliament in 1643–44 as an outpost of Gloucester, protecting the southern approaches to the city. On 1 January 1645 Sir Jacob Astley led a Royalist raiding party to Lypiatt, surprising and expelling the small Parliamentary garrison. With most of the county firmly in Parliament's hands, Astley made no attempt to hold the place and instead he sacked and burnt the house and withdrew. Restored after the war and remodelled and extended in the nineteenth century, the house stands in private parkland east of Stroud.

Miserden Park (SO9409) Miserden Park, an Elizabethan mansion built out of a derelict and partly demolished Norman castle, was garrisoned for Parliament throughout the Civil War as an outpost of Gloucester. The house apparently never saw serious action and survived the war unscathed. The three storey, richly gabled mansion overlooking a steeply wooded valley remains a private residence.

Naunton (SP1123) Cromwell House, an early Stuart building, originally 'L'-shaped, belonged to the Parliamentary Aylsworth family in the mid-seventeenth century. There is no clear foundation to the story that Cromwell stayed here.

Newnham (SO691115) Newnham was garrisoned from time to time during the Civil War by Royalist forces to cover Gloucester and to break the lines of communication between the city and South Wales. In early April 1643 the Royalist

garrison fell back at the approach of Waller but returned towards the end of the year, establishing a base in and around the parish church and digging a bank and ditch around the site to protect the landward approaches. These proved insufficient to halt Massey's men, who attacked Newnham on 8 May 1644, pushed Sir John Winter's Royalists back into the church and then took the building by storm. Twenty Royalists perished and over 100 were captured. The Church of St Peter stands at the south end of the town, affording superb views over the Severn. The embankment which runs nearby, from Castle House and the castle mound to the vicarage, may be part of the Royalists' Civil War defences.

Painswick (SO8609) During the Royalist operations against Gloucester in late summer 1643 Charles established a base in Court House, a Jacobean mansion which stands immediately south of the church. St Mary's itself served as a prison for captured Parliamentarians. One of them, Richard Foot, carved an apt quotation adapted from Spencer's *Fairie Queen* within the church – 'Be bold, be bold, but not too bold'. The village suffered several raids and bombardments, in the course of which both the Court and the church were hit and damaged. The Court House, which was restored after the war and is in good order, is open on certain weekdays during the summer.

Prestbury (SO9724) The Gloucester Parliamentarians established a base here to protect the approaches to the city. The troops fortified and garrisoned the priory, west of the church, a fourteenth-century timber frame and stone block, originally little more than a single storey hall open to the roof belonging to Lanthony Priory. It was converted to secular use at the Dissolution, when two-storey bays were added at each end. The building was extended and clad in stone in the eighteenth and nineteenth centuries.

Stow on the Wold (SP1925) A small town possessing neither stone walls nor a castle in the seventeenth century, Stow was nevertheless of great importance in the Civil War as it lay at a crucial junction where no less than eight roads met. There were frequent skirmishes in and around the town and on 21 March 1646 the last important engagement of the first Civil War took place just outside Stow, on a hillside near the village of Donnington (SP1928). Lord Astley had led 3,000 Royalists south from Worcester, trying to avoid Parliamentary units and reach

the King at Oxford, but by 20 March he was hemmed in near Stow by converging forces. Astley drew up on open land, at a spot now covered by Horsington Plantation. Attacked at dawn on the 21st by the combined forces of Brereton, Birch and Morgan, Astley's heavily outnumbered army put up a fierce and spirited fight but was eventually broken and put to flight back through Stow and beyond. After the battle many of the 1,000 prisoners were held in St Edward's Church. St Edward's Hall, nearby, contains an extensive collection of contemporary and later portraits of many prominent Royalists and Parliamentarians, including Cromwell, Ireton, Pym and Hampden.

Sudeley (SP032277) Secured for the King by Lord Chandos at the outbreak of war, Sudeley Castle became the Royalist HQ for operations in the north of the county. Although it fell to Massey after a brief siege on 29 January 1643, within a fortnight Rupert had retaken the fortress and it remained under Royalist control until summer 1644. On 10 June 1644 the garrison surrendered to Waller and the castle was subsequently slighted by Parliament. Parts of the ruined late medieval quadrangular fortress remain unaltered, but large sections were incorporated within nineteenth- and twentieth-century rebuilding, and the present castle is a curious mixture of medieval and modern. Marks on the outer face of the northern gateway and on two adjoining towers are attributed to Civil War cannon-fire, and the desecration of Katherine Parr's tomb in the chapel is usually blamed on Waller's men. Sudeley Castle is open on certain weekdays and weekends in summer.

Taynton (SO7322) Taynton stood in a frontier zone hotly disputed by the Gloucester Parliamentarians and the Royalists to the north-west. It was repeatedly raided and frequently changed hands. The strongpoint was probably Taynton House, a Tudor mansion belonging to William Crundall, which still stands, though it was greatly remodelled and modernised in the nineteenth century. The medieval Church of St Lawrence probably served as an outpost or store and was wrecked in the course of the conflict; it was rebuilt in 1647–48 and, although heavily restored in the nineteenth century, much of the

present church remains mid-seventeenth-century in origin, a simple hall orientated north-south. Within is a monument to Thomas Pury (d1693), the Parliamentary politician and MP for Gloucester in the 1640s, who lived at The Grove, a late Tudor timber frame and brick house to the east of the village (SO743216).

Tewkesbury (SO8932) The area around Tewkesbury was the scene of frequent skirmishing during the war and the town, defended by nothing more than hastily erected earthworks, changed hands at least ten times. None of the Civil War defences survive.

The Milton organ in Tewkesbury Abbey was built in the early seventeenth century and was housed at Magdalen College, Oxford, until 1654. It was then acquired by Cromwell and placed in the Great Hall at Hampton Court. There Milton and others would reputedly play it to the Protector and his family.

Westbury on Severn (SO717140) Westbury served as an outpost of Gloucester during the Civil War, Parliamentary forces garrisoning the church and adjoining manor-house to cover the road to and from South Wales and the Forest of Dean. In January 1644 the town fell to a force of Royalists from Newnham led by Col. Winter, but four months later, on 7 May, Massey arrived from Gloucester to retake the place. He expelled the Royalists from the church by tossing in grenades and then captured the main force within the house. Westbury remained in Parliamentary hands until the end of the war. The Church of St Peter, St Paul and St Mary survives intact, complete with its detached northern tower, but the Elizabethan manor-house, Westbury Court, has been completely demolished and modern houses now stand on the site next to the churchyard.

Wotton under Edge (ST7593) In November 1643 Capt. Backhouse and a Parliamentary force swooped down from the hills to attack a convoy of Royalist reinforcements from Ireland moving through Wotton *en route* from Bristol to Oxford. Although they had the initial advantage of surprise, the Parliamentarians were outnumbered by the 1,100-strong convoy and were eventually beaten off with heavy losses.

GREATER LONDON

The county rarely witnessed open fighting during the period. In November 1642 Charles I approached from the west but was turned back at Turnham Green, and a minor Royalist rebellion to the south in summer 1648 was quickly crushed. London's importance stems from its role as the political and administrative centre of the Parliamentary cause throughout the 18 years of Civil War and Interregnum. Most senior Parliamentarians lived in London full or part time and many lie buried here. Cromwell himself was frequently in the capital during the 1640s, and after September 1651 he very rarely left the boundaries of Greater London.

The entries have been divided into Greater London Suburbs and Greater London Central, the latter roughly corresponding to the built up area of the mid-seventeenth century and its immediate environs.

I GREATER LONDON SUBURBS

Acton (TQ2080) Philip Skippon – soldier, leader of the London Trained Bands, one of Cromwell's Major-Generals in 1655 and a Protectoral Councillor – lived for much of the period in Acton, at Acton House, long since demolished. His first wife, Maria Comes (d1655), was buried beneath a monument in the chancel of St Mary's Church. Two years later Philippa, wife of Francis Rous, another Acton resident, was buried nearby. St Mary's was rebuilt in the mid-nineteenth century and most of the pre-Victorian monuments were destroyed.

Brentford (TQ1777) At dawn on 12 November 1642 Prince Rupert stormed the town, expelling and largely destroying the regiments of Brooke and Holles who were holding Brentford for Parliament. The Parliamentarians put up stiff resistance but were slowly pushed back towards the Thames where many were killed. Some tried to swim the river to safety, but most drowned in the attempt. Rupert captured 500 Parliamentary soldiers and their guns and he established a base in Syon House, from where his cannon covered the Thames and hindered the passage of Parliamentary ammunition barges. However, Syon House and Brentford were both evacuated within the week as the Royalists pulled back to Reading and Oxford.

The present Syon House (TQ173766) in parkland north of the Thames is a Georgian successor to the mansion which Rupert occupied, a late medieval nunnery converted to secular use at the Dissolution. The placing of the battle symbol on Ordnance Survey maps at TQ175768 is somewhat arbitrary, for there was a running fight through Brentford and around Syon House and the Thames.

Chiswick (TQ2177) The present Church of St Nicholas in Chiswick Mall is largely Victorian,

for in the nineteenth century all but the late medieval tower of the old parish church was demolished to make way for the new. Two of Cromwell's daughters, Mary (d1713) and Frances (d1721) lie in unmarked graves somewhere within the church. Mary, Lady Falconberg, had taken a house in Chiswick – Sutton House or Court, to the west of the church – in the 1670s and had lived there permanently after the death of her husband in 1700; she was soon joined by her long-widowed sister Frances. Sutton House no longer exists. According to a rather fanciful tradition, the body of Cromwell himself lies buried within St Nicholas's.

Croydon (TQ319654) The Archbishop's Palace in Old Palace Road was once the summer residence of the Archbishops of Canterbury and is now a church school. It comprises a complex of mostly fourteenth- and fifteenth-century buildings, including the Great Hall, Great Parlour, Library, Long Gallery and Chapel, arranged around two courtyards. Seized by Parliament in the 1640s, the palace was acquired by Sir William Brereton after the war. Brereton, the former leader of the Parliamentary war effort in Cheshire and the surrounding district, seems to have spent most of the 1650s at Croydon and he died here in April 1661. Shortly afterwards the property returned to the church.

Greenwich (TQ3977) The late medieval and Tudor palace of Greenwich was almost completely demolished soon after the Restoration and new buildings erected later in the century. Inigo Jones's Queen's House, completed in 1635, survived the rebuilding and, with the adjoining wings of the former Royal Hospital School, now comprises the National Maritime Museum. Admiral Blake lay in state in the Queen's House in 1657 before burial in West-

minster Abbey, and here several relics from the Interregnum navy are to be seen, including portraits of Blake and Penn, some of Blake's personal and professional possessions and a model of the *Naseby*, launched in 1655 and renamed the *Royal Charles* five years later.

Hampton Court (TQ157685) The mellow red brick palace, begun in the early sixteenth century by Wolsey, was taken by Henry VIII in 1529 and remained a royal residence until the time of George II. The palace is a complex of ranges and quadrangles, the main Base Court leading onto several lesser courts. The Tudor Great Hall and other parts of the original palace survive, but much was demolished and rebuilt by William III in the late seventeenth century. In December 1653 Hampton Court was given over to the new Protector under the Instrument of Government, and it became Cromwell's weekend retreat, used regularly during the summer months and often in winter too. Several officials and dignitaries were allocated lodgings within the palace, as were Cromwell's daughters Elizabeth and Mary and their husbands; indeed Mary married Thomas, Lord Falconberg at Hampton Court. Charles I's bedroom and suite on the upper floor remained unfurnished and unoccupied during the 1650s; Cromwell had his principal bedroom on the ground floor in Charles I's former Day Rooms.

Heston (TQ1277) Elizabeth Cromwell and her husband John Claypole owned the long demolished White House at Heston, probably using it as a town house in the period before the Protectorate; under Cromwell they had rooms at Hampton Court and Whitehall. The tradition of Cromwell visiting his daughter and son-in-law at Heston is plausible but unconfirmed by contemporary sources.

Highgate (TQ2887) Lauderdale House on Highgate Hill was owned by Henry Ireton during the last three years of his life, and then passed to his brother John, a London alderman and City politician. The late Tudor mansion was largely demolished and rebuilt after the Restoration, and it became for a time the home of the Cabal politician whose name it bears. Restored after a serious fire in 1963, it is now a local museum and restaurant.

On the other side of Highgate Hill stand Cromwell House and Ireton House, the former certainly early seventeenth-century, the latter possibly eighteenth. Despite the names, they have no known links with Cromwell and his son-in-law.

Ickenham (TQ0786) Swakeleys, an 'H'-plan mansion built for Sir Edmund Wright in 1630, passed to his son-in-law, Sir James Harrington, in 1642. Harrington, a prominent MP and Parliamentarian and cousin of the author of *Oceana*, lived here until the Restoration. He made several additions to the house, including a painted screen in the Great Hall which originally bore the busts of many leading politicians and soldiers of the mid-seventeenth century; those of Charles I and Sir Thomas Fairfax remain *in situ*. Swakeleys still stands and was recently converted into offices.

The bust of the Earl of Essex, Fairfax's predecessor as Parliamentary Lord General, was at some time removed from the screen and is now in the mausoleum attached to St Giles's Church, Ickenham.

Kensington (TQ2579) The Kensington area has many Cromwellian associations, some of them rather dubious. John Lambert frequently stayed at his father-in-law's house in Kensington during the 1640s and at least two of his children lie buried in St Mary Abbots, the medieval parish church rebuilt by Scott in Victorian Gothic.

According to tradition Cromwell or Thurloe owned an estate around the then village of Kensington, and present street names – Cromwell Road, Mews, Place and Crescent and Thurloe Street, Square, Close and Place – supposedly recall this former ownership. Tradition, too, has it that Cromwell once owned and lived in Hale House, renamed Cromwell House, a seventeenth-century mansion demolished in the nineteenth, which stood on the south side of Cromwell Road by Queensberry Place; again, there is no clear evidence to support the tradition.

Holland House, off Holland Walk, was used by Fairfax in the late 1640s as both army HQ and residence, and around that time several other senior officers, including Lambert, had temporary lodgings here. According to less reliable accounts, Cromwell and Ireton often held conferences in the gardens of Holland House, where Cromwell could shout at his rather deaf son-in-law without risk of being overheard. A grand Jacobean mansion built in 1606 and owned from 1623 by the Earl of Holland, whose ineffectual Royalism brought him to the block in 1649, Holland House survived in remarkably good condition until 1940, when much was completely destroyed and the remainder gutted. The standing portions have been restored and the outline of the rest is marked out in the



Top: Hampton Court, Greater London. The royal chambers at the heart of Wolsey's palace, occupied by Cromwell and his court during the Protectorate, were swept away when Wren laid out the colonnaded Fountain Court for William III. Above: The great seal of the Commonwealth of 1651, designed by Simon, shows the House of Commons in session in St Stephen's Chapel, Westminster. Left: Cromwell's death mask, cast in September 1658, can be seen in the British Museum and elsewhere.

grounds of Holland Park, now open to the public.

The Victoria and Albert Museum in Cromwell Road contains many relics from the period, including a buff coat and other costumes of the 1640s and 50s and a number of mid-seventeenth-century miniatures, including a self-portrait of Samuel Cooper.

Kingston upon Thames (TQ1769) Kingston's importance in the seventeenth century lay in its bridge, the lowest crossing of the Thames before London Bridge. The town was occupied and garrisoned by Parliamentary forces at the outbreak of war but was evacuated on 12–13 November 1642 at the approach of the King's army. Kingston was held by the Royalists for five days in mid-November before they, in turn, evacuated the place.

The Parliamentary army was frequently based in and around Kingston after the first Civil War and in 1647 Fairfax briefly established his HQ at the fourteenth-century Crane Inn, now demolished.

The town saw military action again in July 1648, for the Earl of Holland's brief Royalist rebellion began and ended around Kingston. Six hundred Royalists gathered at Kingston on 5 July, but retreated into Surrey at the approach of one of Ireton's Horse regiments. They went as far as Reigate but then turned about and headed back towards Kingston, pursued by Livesey's Cavalry. On 7 July Holland made a stand on Kingston or Surbiton Common, one mile south-east of Surbiton station. In a brief exchange the rebels were routed – 20 were killed, including Francis Villiers, the Duke of Buckingham's brother, and the remainder fell back through Kingston and away north. When Parliamentary patrols entered Kingston at dawn on the 8th they found the place deserted.

Putney (TQ2375) In October and early November 1647 the General Council of the Army held a series of often bitter and ultimately inconclusive debates somewhere in Putney, probably in the parish church of St Mary the Virgin. They were attended by most of the senior officers, including Cromwell, Fairfax and Ireton, and by several more radical junior officers. The discussions ranged over the political settlement of the country, including both the constitutional details of government and the broad principles upon which they were to rest. A Cromwell Association plaque within St Mary's, which was largely rebuilt in the nineteenth century, commemorates the events which took place in or near the building in autumn 1647.

Stoke Newington (TQ3386) A large red brick mansion on the north side of Stoke Newington Church Street became the home of Charles Fleetwood after his marriage to Mary Hartopp in 1664. The couple lived here for nearly 30 years, surrounded by the many children of their previous marriages. The house, which became known as Fleetwood House, has long gone, and only the name Fleetwood Street, running north to Abney Park Cemetery, recalls the Cromwellian link. Several children of Fleetwood's marriages lie buried in Old St Mary's Church, Stoke Newington. Despite occasional claims to the contrary, Fleetwood's second wife, Cromwell's eldest daughter Bridget, was not buried here but in St Anne's, Blackfriars, which was destroyed in the Great Fire and not rebuilt.

Turnham Green (TQ205785) By 13 November 1642 the Parliamentary party, seriously threatened by Charles I's march on London from the west, had been stirred into organising the defence of the capital. Twenty-four thousand men, including a large contingent of the London Trained Bands under Skippon, drew up on the common at Turnham Green to oppose the King's men. Charles's army was outnumbered, and after facing the Parliamentarians all day, the Royalists drew off to Hounslow at night. Most of the area has now been developed, and a road and tube station both bear the name Turnham Green. The common was probably a little to the south-west of these, and a small triangle of open land, still called Turnham Green, survives west of the junction of Chiswick High Road and Heathfield Terrace.

Uxbridge (TQ0584) Parliamentarian throughout the Civil War, Uxbridge saw no serious fighting. It was, however, a convenient base to the west of London, and the Parliamentary army frequently quartered in and around the town. It was also the venue of a peace conference between Royalists and Parliamentarians in January 1645. The Royalist delegation, led by the Duke of Richmond, lodged on the south side of the High Street in the Crown Inn, since demolished, whilst the Earl of Northumberland and the Parliamentary group lodged on the north side in the George. Talks were held at a number of venues, including a Tudor and Jacobean mansion in the High Street, then called Place House. Partly demolished and partly remodelled in the eighteenth century, the building became an inn, The Crown and Treaty House, and still stands at the north end of the High Street.

Wimbledon (TQ2472) On the hillside to the north of the town centre stood Wimbledon House, an Elizabethan mansion built for Sir Thomas Cecil in 1588. A large and rambling stone and brick building with turrets, several wings and a lead roof, it was surrounded by extensive gardens. It was bought by John Lambert in 1652, and he lived here for the rest of the 1650s, during his period as a senior politician and then in retirement after his fall. According to tradition Cromwell visited him at Wimbledon on several occasions. The house was returned to the Crown in 1660 but was completely demolished in 1717. Over the following century a succession of houses were built on or near the

site, the latest, Wimbledon Park House (built 1799), surviving until 1949. Cecil's house probably stood on or near the present Home Park Road. Much of its extensive gardens have been built over or developed as tennis courts, but parts survive as open land, now Wimbledon Park and golf course.

Woolwich (QT4378) The Museum of Artillery in the Rotunda, Woolwich Common, contains an unrivalled collection of guns and artillery pieces from the fifteenth century to the Second World War. Many items from the Civil War are on display.

II GREATER LONDON CENTRAL

Apsley House, Picadilly The late eighteenth-century red brick house is famous as the residence of the Duke of Wellington from 1816 to his death, and is open to the public as a Wellington museum. Cromwell's ghost is said to have appeared in the house during the Reform Bill crisis of 1832, pointing sternly at the riotous crowd outside and then vanishing.

Artillery Grounds, Chiswell Street A rectangle of open land survives in the area bounded by Chiswell Street, Bunhill Row, Bunhill Fields and City Road. In the seventeenth century it formed the exercise grounds of the Honourable Artillery Company of the City of London, and here Skippon frequently exercised the trained bands and others called upon to defend London. Still used for military purposes, the grounds are not usually open to the public; the present barracks and other buildings are all post-seventeenth-century.

British Museum, Great Russell Street The museum holds a number of relics from the Civil War and Interregnum, including Cromwell's death mask, seals of the Commonwealth and Protectorate and a selection of Civil War siege pieces. Also on display are examples of Protectorate coins bearing the imperial bust of Cromwell, few of which went into general circulation and survive only as very rare proofs.

Buckingham Street, WC2 Number 12 Buckingham Street, a six bay brick house of the 1670s, was from 1687 the town house of Cromwell's daughter, Mary, Lady Falconberg. It survives as a private residence.

Bunhill Fields, Bunhill Row One of the

main burial grounds of late seventeenth- and eighteenth-century London, Bunhill Fields cover a rectangle of land between Bunhill Row and City Road. South west of the City Road Gate stands the restored table tomb of Charles Fleetwood and his third wife, Mary Hartopp. The tombs of the Puritan divines Dr Thomas Goodwin and Dr John Owen stand nearby, respectively north-east and north-west of Fleetwood's tomb. In the central southern part of the Fields are two Cromwell vaults, containing the remains of the Protector's eighteenth-century descendants – one, Richard and William and their wives, the other, Thomas and Henry – grandchildren of Oliver's son Henry, sometime Lord Deputy of Ireland.

Christ Church, Newgate Street The medieval Franciscan church, converted to parish use at the Dissolution, was occasionally the venue for official state services in the seventeenth century. On 7 June 1649 senior army officers and MPs, including Cromwell, Fairfax and Ireton, attended a service of Thanksgiving for the apparent end of the wars. Christ Church was badly damaged in the Great Fire and rebuilt by Wren. Sadly this church, too, was largely destroyed in the Second World War and now only the tower survives.

Clerkenwell Close, Clerkenwell Despite the strong tradition linking Cromwell to Clerkenwell Close, there is no clear evidence that he ever owned or lived in a house here. The large house, popularly linked with Cromwell or Thurloe and renamed Cromwell House, was probably Sir Thomas Chaloner's Tudor mansion. It was demolished in the nineteenth cen-

ture, but the new house on the site preserved the tradition in its name, Cromwell Place.

Coleman Street, City Here stood the Star Inn, long since demolished, a favourite meeting place of Cromwell and other Parliamentarian leaders.

Derby House, Canon Row, Westminster The late Tudor mansion of William, Earl of Derby, was used throughout the Civil War and Interregnum for a variety of state purposes. John Pym died here in 1643 and his body lay in state at Derby House before burial in Westminster Abbey nearby. The building was used by several parliamentary committees, including the Committee of Both Kingdoms, later of Both Houses, the government's principal executive body, often known as the Derby House Committee. Derby House stood on the east side of Channel or Canon Row, on the west bank of the Thames a little south of Whitehall Palace. The building was demolished in the eighteenth century and Canon Row itself disappeared during nineteenth-century redevelopment. The site of Derby House lies under the present Victoria Embankment and New Scotland Yard.

Downing Street The area now covered by Downing Street includes the site of Hampden House, the town house of the Buckinghamshire family of that name, including William Hampden and his wife Elizabeth Cromwell, Oliver's aunt. The area was acquired and developed by George Downing, one of several Parliamentarians-cum-Royalists who did well out of the Protectorate and then turned to Charles II.

Drury Lane Cromwell had a house in Drury Lane in 1646 but its precise location is unknown and no seventeenth-century building linked with him survives.

Falconberg House, Soho Square On the east side of Soho Square stood the town house of Mary, Lady Falconberg. She lived there from time to time from the early 1670s until 1687. The house has been completely demolished but street names in the area still recall the association – Sutton Row (named after Sutton Court, the Falconbergs' Chiswick house) and Falconbridge Mews and Court.

Grocers' Hall, Grocers' Hall Court In common with the other halls of the city companies – Goldsmiths', Weavers', Haberdashers' etc. – Grocers' Hall was requisitioned by Parliament at the outbreak of war and used through-

out the 1640s and 50s for meetings of various parliamentary and non-parliamentary committees. After the service of Thanksgiving on 7 June 1649 Cromwell, Fairfax, Ireton and other senior soldiers and politicians attended a great banquet in Grocers' Hall. The Elizabethan building has long gone and the present hall on the site was opened in 1970.

Holborn A principal east-west route through London, in the seventeenth century Holborn was a convenient and fashionable area in which to live and at various times Fairfax, Milton, Pym, Warwick and other parliamentary leaders had houses in or off Holborn.

Just west of the junction with Red Lion Street stood the Blue Boar Inn, demolished in the nineteenth century. According to dubious accounts it was here that Cromwell and Fairfax intercepted the King's 'Saddle Letter' revealing the insincerity of his dealings with the English Parliament and army and his hopes for a treaty with the Scots.

A little further west stood the Red Lion, once the largest and most popular inn in Holborn. A strong tradition has the exhumed bodies of Cromwell, Bradshaw and Ireton resting at the Red Lion overnight on their way to Tyburn, and later accounts claim that Cromwell's body was rescued in the night and quickly buried in an unmarked grave to the north in what was then open land, now Red Lion Square. Sightings of ghostly cloaked figures stalking the Square at night have been linked with this.

Further east, on the north side of Holborn opposite Chancery Lane, stood Warwick House, the town house of the earls of that name, including the 2nd Earl, the Parliamentary Admiral during the first Civil War. His grandson Robert Rich and Frances Cromwell, Oliver's daughter, lived here after their marriage in November 1657 until Rich's death just three months later. The house was demolished in the late seventeenth century and only the name Warwick Court survives.

Jamaica House, Bermondsey By the junction of Cherry Gardens and Jamaica Road stood a house – long since demolished – said to have been owned by Oliver Cromwell. No surviving evidence supports the Cromwellian tradition.

King Street, Westminster In the seventeenth century King Street was a main thoroughfare to the west of the Thames, running north from Westminster Abbey, through the western fringes of Whitehall Palace and up to Charing

Cross. The area has changed considerably over the past 200 years and King Street has disappeared – the present St Margaret Street, Parliament Street and Whitehall roughly follow its course. Cromwell had a house in King Street during the latter half of the 1640s and was in residence in 1648. Tradition has it that his house stood on the west side of the street, by the entrance to the Blue Boar's Head Yard, a site now occupied by the north-west corner of Parliament Square and adjoining offices. However the original rent book of the area suggests that Cromwell had a house on the east side of King Street, probably near the northern end.

Lincoln's Inn, Chancery Lane Although no entry is to be found in the admission rolls, near contemporary accounts report that Cromwell was a student here in 1617, occupying chambers over the gatehouse. His son Richard certainly studied here, as did several other leading Parliamentarians. From 1646 to 1659 John Thurloe occupied a chamber on the south side of the gatehouse, No. 24, which still exists; on the outer wall, facing Chancery Lane, a blue plaque records his residency. From 1660 until his death eight years later Thurloe lodged at Dial Court, since demolished, where his papers were discovered at the end of the seventeenth century. Thurloe lies buried in Lincoln's Inn Chapel, beneath a tombstone bearing a Latin inscription.

London Museum, London Wall The museum contains relics from all periods of London's history, including the mid-seventeenth century. Civil War armour and several swords from the Hounslow factory are on display, together with some of Charles I's clothing.

Long Acre, Covent Garden Cromwell owned or rented a house here from 1637 to 1643, somewhere on the south side of the street. The precise location is uncertain, and none of the present houses claim Cromwellian associations.

National Army Museum, Royal Hospital Road The principal museum of the English army from the sixteenth to the twentieth century, the National Army Museum holds a small collection of Civil War relics, including armour, weapons and a number of documents relating to the Parliamentary army.

National Portrait Gallery, Charing Cross Road The Gallery holds portraits and miniatures of many of the leading Parliamentary soldiers and politicians, together with their

Royalist opponents. Portraits of Cromwell, Fairfax, Ireton and Lambert are usually on display, together with miniatures of Cromwell and Thurloe and a bust of the Lord Protector.

St George the Martyr, Queen's Square Built as a chapel of ease to St Andrew's, Holborn, St George's gained parish status in the 1720s, and was extensively remodelled a hundred years later. Queen's Square had already been developed when the chapel was built and its graveyard, later the parish burying ground, was sited in then open land 200 yards to the north, a long, narrow, rectangular strip of land immediately north of Foundling Hospital, originally known as Nelson's Burying Ground. Richard Cromwell's daughter Ann or Anna, wife of Thomas Gibson, was buried here in 1727. The burial grounds survive as open land south of Regent Square and north of Coram's Fields.

St George the Martyr, Southwark The present St George's is a Georgian building on the site of an earlier church in which George Monck was married in 1652. John Rushworth (d1690), Secretary to the Army during the Civil War, was buried near the pulpit of the old church. According to near-contemporary reports Cromwell's body rested here briefly in autumn 1658, where it was met by friends and clergy who accompanied it across the river to Somerset House.

St Giles, Cripplegate, Fore Street This medieval church, gutted in the Second World War and since restored, has several Cromwellian connections. On 22 August 1620 Oliver Cromwell was married here to Elizabeth, daughter of Sir James Bourchier. Two years later his cousin, Richard Cromwell, married Elizabeth Hake in St Giles's. John Milton (d1674) lies buried here, and there is a memorial to him in the south aisle. Modern stained glass in the west windows include the armorial bearings of Milton and Cromwell. A facsimile of the record of Cromwell's marriage is on display, as is a marble bust of the Lord Protector.

St Giles in the Fields, St Giles High Street The present building dates from the early eighteenth century, but incorporates fittings and monuments from the medieval church which stood on the site. Andrew Marvell (d1678) lies buried here, on the south side of the church under the pews, and Sir Thomas Widdrington (d1664), Parliamentary lawyer and politician and Speaker of the 2nd Protectorate Parliament, rests somewhere under the chancel.

St Lawrence Jewry, Gresham Street Wren's late seventeenth-century church, which replaced the medieval church destroyed in the Great Fire, was itself gutted in the Second World War and has since been restored. Dr John Wilkins, sometime Bishop of Chester and the second husband of Cromwell's youngest sister Robina, was buried here in December 1672. Cromwell's niece Elizabeth, daughter of Robina by her first marriage, was married here in 1664 to John Tillotson, later Archbishop of Canterbury. Tillotson was buried in the chancel of St Lawrence's in November 1694 and a memorial to him survives on the north chancel wall.

St Margaret, Parliament Square The early sixteenth-century building in the shadow of Westminster Abbey has long been the MPs' church, used for parliamentary services and other semi-religious ceremonies. Services were held here regularly during the Civil War and Interregnum as MPs gathered for days of Thanksgiving and Humiliation. Members of the Long Parliament subscribed to the Solemn League and Covenant in St Margaret's, and in 1654, 1656 and 1659 the Lord Protector and his Councillors attended special services to mark the opening of the three Protectorate Parliaments. John Milton married Katherine Woodcock here in 1656. The marriage was a short one for two years later she was buried in St Margaret's. Henry Elsyng (d1654), long-serving Clerk of the House of Commons, and James Harrington (d1677), the political philosopher, also lie in or around the church, though no monuments to them survive. On the north and west sides of the church are modern memorial windows to Blake and Milton.

At the Restoration most of the leading Parliamentarians who had been buried in Westminster Abbey over the previous 18 years were exhumed and reburied in a communal grave in St Margaret's churchyard, now the North Green. A Cromwell Association tablet on the outside west wall of the church commemorates the 21 known to have been so reburied, including Blake, Deane, Popham, Meldrum, Dorislaus and Pym, Cromwell's mother Elizabeth, who died in November 1654, and his sister Jane, wife of John Disbrowe, buried in October 1656.

St Pancras Old Church, St Pancras Road Within the church is a small monument to the artist Samuel Cooper (d1672) who lies buried here. Cooper painted many of the leading figures in mid-seventeenth-century England and his miniature of Cromwell, though unfinished, is

one of the most striking likenesses of the Lord General.

The Strand Many grand houses lined the Strand in the seventeenth century, including Essex House, where the Earl and Parliamentary Lord General lived and died, and York House, Fairfax's London residence during the 1650s. Both have been demolished and only the street names remain to mark the sites, Essex Street and Devereux Court around Essex House and York Street, Buckingham Street and Villiers Street around York House, which had been rebuilt by the Duke of Buckingham in the 1620s.

On the south side of the Strand stands Somerset House, a late eighteenth-century mansion on the site of the original palace built in the mid-sixteenth century by Protector Somerset and given over to Protector Cromwell a hundred years later. In fact, Cromwell never took up residence and the buildings, which had stood empty for much of the Civil War, were used for other state purposes, housing ambassadors and conferences. Somerset House also served as a staging post for bodies on their way to Westminster Abbey, and Admiral Blake and Cromwell's daughter Elizabeth both rested here briefly during the Protectorate. Cromwell himself lay in state in Somerset House during the autumn of 1658, and twelve years later the body of his former ally turned Royalist, George Monck, rested here. The buildings known to the two Protectors were demolished in the eighteenth century.

Tower of London The main fortress of the capital and the kingdom, the Tower is a complex of buildings of many periods, with the Norman White Tower encircled by several lines of later concentric defences. The place was held by Parliament throughout the Civil War and Interregnum and served as armoury, magazine, garrison, prison and place of execution – Strafford and Laud died here. A collection of arms and armour from the Civil War is on display in the present Armoury within the White Tower. The remains of the executed regicide and former Major-General, John Okey, lie within the Chapel of St Peter Ad Vincula, granted a Christian burial by Charles II.

Tyburn On 30 January 1661 the corpses of Cromwell, Ireton and Bradshaw were posthumously executed at Tyburn and their headless bodies buried nearby. Five other regicides, Hacker and Axtell (ex. October 1660) and Okey, Barkstead and Corbett (ex. April 1662) also suffered here. Tyburn ceased to be a place

of execution in the late eighteenth century and has since been engulfed by the westward spread of London. The road complex of Marble Arch probably overlies the site of the permanent scaffold and, despite a number of dubious counter-claims, Cromwell's body almost certainly rests somewhere under the surrounding streets or houses. No. 1 Connaught Place is sometimes suggested as the place of burial, though this seems to depend on the uncertain evidence of sightings of Cromwell's ghost in the house and garden.

Wallace Collection, Manchester Square The Wallace Collection at Hertford House, Manchester Square, includes a fine selection of British and European armour. Many examples from the English Civil War are on display.

Wallingford House The late Tudor mansion which stood immediately north-west of Whitehall Palace became the meeting place during the late 1650s for a group of pro-Commonwealth army officers, often known as the Wallingford House Party. It was demolished in the eighteenth century and the Old Admiralty Building stands on the site.

Westminster Abbey, Parliament Square During the Civil War and Interregnum the Abbey continued to be the favoured burial place for political and military leaders, and many of the prominent Parliamentarians who died 1642–60 were interred here. Most were removed at the Restoration.

The usual place for such burials was Henry VII's Chapel, particularly the east end, now the RAF Chapel. Cromwell was buried here in an elaborate state funeral in November 1658, and nearby were the tombs of Bradshaw and his wife, Ireton, Cromwell's mother Elizabeth and sister Jane, Blake, Deane, Bond, Mackworth, Constable, and a daughter of Charles Fleetwood. All were removed after 1660 either for 'execution' at Tyburn or reburial in St Margaret's graveyard. A large floor tablet in their memory set down by Dean Stanley in the nineteenth century is now covered by the modern carpet of the RAF Chapel, and all that is usually visible is a small slab by the entrance marking 'The Burial Place of Oliver Cromwell 1658–1661'.

Two Cromwellians buried in Henry VII's Chapel survived exhumation. The excavators were probably unable to locate the tomb of Major-General Charles Worsley, buried here in June 1656; a large skeleton, thought to be his, was found in the eighteenth century during a

search for James I's body. By accident or design Cromwell's favourite daughter Elizabeth (d August 1658) was also left in peace and a later floor tile just west of Henry VII's tomb marks the spot with the simple inscription 'Elizabeth Cromwell, daughter of Oliver Cromwell, 1658'.

Popham (d1651), Pym (d1643) and Strode (d1645) had been buried around St John the Baptist's Chapel and were duly exhumed at the Restoration. A floor slab in the north aisle outside the chapel records their burial and removal. Popham's elaborate monument within the chapel survived, but its inscription was removed. Rather fortunately, perhaps, the Earl of Essex (d1646) was left undisturbed at the Restoration; a later floor slab over his grave in St John the Baptist's Chapel describes him as 'late Lord General of the Forces Raised and Employed by the Parliament of England'.

Edward Montagu and George Monck survived the Restoration to become prominent royal servants in the 1660s, rewarded with the Earldoms of Sandwich and Albemarle respectively, and in due course given state funerals in the Abbey. A floor tablet west of the Queen's tomb in the Queen Elizabeth Chapel records many Stuart worthies buried nearby, including Albemarle (d1670) and Sandwich (d1672). There is a larger memorial to Albemarle in a side chapel to the south of Henry VII's Chapel and his funeral effigy survives in the Abbey museum.

There is a modern memorial tablet to Admiral Blake on the south wall of the south choir aisle.

Westminster Palace Although Henry VIII had moved his court to Whitehall, the former Royal Palace of Westminster remained in the seventeenth century the centre of law and administration. The jumble of buildings included Westminster Hall, the Lords' House, St Stephen's Chapel – in which the Commons sat and Cromwell took his seat as an MP on many occasions – and the Painted Chamber, in which Cromwell received his Protectorate Parliaments on formal occasions. The place was gutted by fire in 1834 and largely destroyed, the new Palace of Westminster (Houses of Parliament) and precincts covering much of the site. The only important part of the medieval palace to survive is Westminster Hall, begun by William II but extended in the following centuries. In the seventeenth century the hall was divided into several courts of law – Common Pleas, King's Bench and Chancery – which continued to meet during the Civil War and Interregnum. Important state trials were also held here, including that of Charles I in January 1649, attended by Cromwell and the other regicides. Nearly four

years later Cromwell returned to the hall to be formally installed as Lord Protector. Because of its position within the precincts of the Palace, Westminster Hall is usually closed to the public.

In Old Palace Yard, facing Parliament Square, stands a statue of Cromwell by Sir Hamo Thornycroft, unveiled in 1899.

Whitehall Palace The principal royal residence in London from the reigns of Henry VIII to James II, Whitehall Palace was a rambling collection of buildings which stretched from the Thames to St James's. The buildings were only partly used during the 1640s, split into apartments and allocated to MPs and others. Cromwell's association began in February 1650 when Parliament voted him the Cockpit, formerly the lodgings of the late Earl of Pembroke. Cromwell lived at Whitehall until his death in 1658, and the Palace became his main residence and seat of government during the Protectorate. The new

court was established here, most senior politicians and administrators were allocated rooms, and the Protectorate Council met regularly in the Privy Council Chamber on the north side of the Palace.

None of these chambers can be seen today, for almost the whole building was destroyed by fire in 1698. The main part of the Palace occupied a square of land from the river to the present Whitehall (the street), an area now covered by government offices. The Cockpit, a term used to describe the western ranges of the Palace between the Holbein and King Street Gates, lay to the west of the present Whitehall.

The Banqueting House is the only important part to survive. Built by Inigo Jones 1619–22, it stood near the south entrance to the Palace. It was on a scaffold in front of this building that Charles I died on 30 January 1649. The Banqueting House is open to the public on most weekdays.

GREATER MANCHESTER

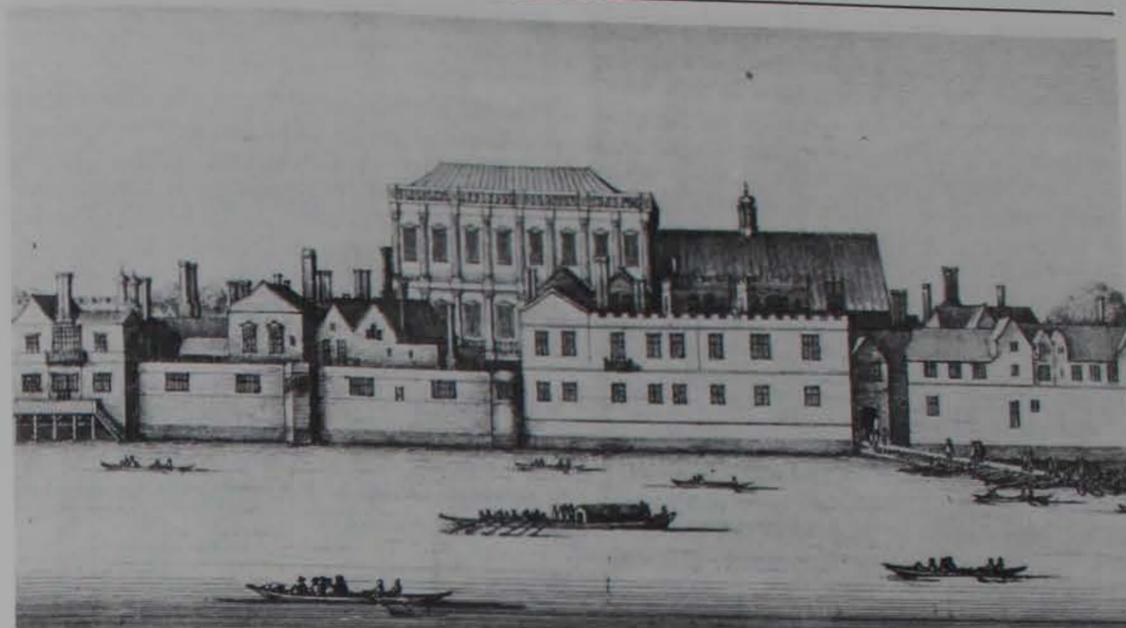
The area now covered by Greater Manchester saw some of the bloodiest episodes of the Civil War as Royalists and Parliamentarians fought for control of the prosperous north-western towns and as two armies battled their way south along the main western route between Scotland and England. Although the region was generally sympathetic to Parliament, large parts of the county fell initially under the influence of Royalist north Cheshire and not until the latter half of 1644 did Parliamentary forces secure the whole of Greater Manchester. The region saw further fighting as two Scottish Royalist armies marched through in 1648 and 1651. In August 1648 Cromwell pursued the already shattered Royalist force through the area, his only recorded visit to the area now covered by Greater Manchester.

Bolton (SD7209) The 'Geneva of the North' was strongly Parliamentary in sympathy and became one of Parliament's main bases in the area. Without stone walls, however, Bolton was always vulnerable to attack and although troops and townspeople held off the Earl of Derby in February and March 1643, earthworks and barricades proved no obstacle to Prince Rupert. He stormed the town on 28 May 1644, overwhelming the Parliamentary garrison in a fierce two hour fight and then letting loose a tide of destruction and killing. Garrison and townspeople alike were put to the sword and at least 1,600 died during the sack of Bolton. The Earl of Derby, who was present during the massacre, returned here seven years later to be executed in Churchgate. He spent his last hours held in the thirteenth-century Ye Old Man and Scythe Inn.

An inscribed tombstone in St Peter's Church in memory of John Okey (d1684) records the bloody events through which Okey lived, including the Civil War and the storming of Bolton.

Leigh (SD6500) In one of the many minor skirmishes in the area west of Manchester, a Royalist detachment surprised near Bolton on 27 November 1642 was pursued by Parliamentary Horse in a running fight from Chowbent (now Atherton), through Leigh and on to Lowton Moor or Common, two miles to the south-west (SJ6498). Here the Royalists tried to turn and stand but were quickly routed by the Mancunian Parliamentarians.

Manchester (SJ8398) A Mancunian weaver,



Above: Whitehall Palace, Greater London. The rambling Tudor and early Stuart palace was Cromwell's principal residence and seat of government during the Protectorate. Although Cromwell's own suite was on the far side of the complex, the royal state rooms on and near the Thames continued to serve as government offices and accommodation. On the right, boats are landing at Whitehall Palace Stairs; the small flight on the left are the Privy Stairs. Inigo Jones's Banqueting House, which towers behind the riverside range in this seventeenth-century print, is almost the only part of the old palace to have survived (right). In January 1649 Charles I stepped through one of the first floor windows onto a temporary scaffold draped in black. The precise location of that window is disputed – it may even have been in a separate forebuilding at the north end, of which nothing remains. Below right: Charles I's death warrant was signed and sealed by 59 regicides; Cromwell's signature appears in the left hand column.



Richard Perceval, was one of the first civilian victims of the confrontation between King and Parliament. He was killed here in July 1642 when Lord Strange (soon to inherit the Earldom of Derby) and his Royalist retinue clashed with the pro-Parliamentarian townspeople. When Derby returned two months later at the head of a 3,000-strong army he found the town defended by mud walls and chains stretched across the streets, the work of Johan Rosworm, a German soldier and engineer. The Royalists tried and failed to storm the town and settled down for a long siege, but when heavy rain flooded their trenches and ruined their powder, a wet and dispirited Derby abandoned the attempt. Manchester remained a Parliamentary base throughout the war, defended so strongly that neither Rupert in May 1644 nor the Scottish Royalists in 1648 and 1651 seriously attempted to take the town.

The Civil War earthworks and most of the small town which they defended have long since disappeared beneath the sprawling industrial city. The only surviving building with clear Civil War associations is Chetham's Hospital in Long Millgate, which was fortified by Rosworm and served as the principal Parliamentary magazine for the region. In origin a late medieval cathedral college, the building has been used at times as a private residence and as a hospital; it is now a music school.

Middleton (SD8606) Sir Ralph Assheton, one of the leading north-western Parliamentarians, was born, brought up and buried here. A member of the Long Parliament, he took up arms at the end of 1642 and proceeded to galvanise a rather lack-lustre Lancashire war effort, initiating a campaign which saw Derby routed at Whalley in April 1643 and most of the Royalist bases in the area fall soon after. Assheton died in 1651 and was buried with his wife in St Leonard's Church. They lie beneath a monumental brass on which Sir Ralph is portrayed in half-armor of the period and his wife in a flowing dress. The Assheton tomb is something of a rarity, for very few monumental brasses were made during the Civil War and Interregnum – a period more often associated with their destruction – and less than twenty are known to survive.

Stockport (SJ8990) A Parliamentary base for much of the Civil War, Stockport was captured by Rupert on 25 May 1644 after Cols Mainwaring and Duckenfield had tried unsuccessfully to hold the approach road. The Royalists plun-

dered the town but quickly moved off towards Bolton.

Turton Tower (SD732152) A fifteenth-century peel tower extended and converted to domestic use in the sixteenth century, Turton Tower stands high on the edge of Turton Moor. Now a museum, open daily, it contains several items rescued from nearby Bradshaw Hall prior to demolition, including a large oak bedstead in which Cromwell supposedly slept on one occasion.

Westhoughton (SD6506) In December 1642 a small Parliamentary unit under Cols Bradshaw and Venables was surprised and captured at Westhoughton by a 1,000-strong detachment from Derby's army.

Wigan (SD5805) Held initially for the King by Major-General Blaine, Wigan was surprised and captured by Assheton in April 1643. Thereafter neither side formally garrisoned the town, which saw no further fighting until 1648.

On 18 August 1648 the rear of the Scottish army under Middleton was caught by Cromwell's advanced guard on Wigan Moor, north of the town, and pushed back into Wigan, creating near panic in the main army. Cromwell marched through the town in pursuit on the following day. He was here again on the 23rd on his return journey northwards.

Although the main Scottish Royalist army marched through unopposed in early August 1651, the Earl of Derby and a force of newly-raised recruits from Lancashire were caught outside Wigan on 25 August as they were marching south to rejoin their colleagues. Robert Lilburne engaged the inexperienced Royalists as they entered Wigan Lane, a broad sandy track bordered by hedges which ran off the moor and south into Wigan. After a very fierce fight at close quarters the Royalists were routed – 300 were killed and 400 captured and the Earl himself was badly wounded. A late seventeenth-century monument to the battle and to Sir Thomas Tyldesley, a Royalist officer killed in the engagement, stands beside the former track, now the main road through the northern suburb of Wigan collectively known as Wigan Lane. According to tradition, the wounded Derby hid from Parliamentary troops after the battle in the Old Dog Inn, which stood in the Market Place, Wigan.

Wybersley Hall (SJ9685) During the sixteenth century the Bradshaw family acquired extensive property in what was then northern Cheshire,

including Wybersley Hall. John Bradshaw was born here in 1602 and educated at nearby Stockport. He pursued a successful legal career both in Cheshire and London, culminating in his appointment as President of the court which tried and convicted Charles I in 1649. Bradshaw's republican leanings caused him to break with Cromwell and the Protectorate during the 1650s, much of which he spent in semi-retirement in the north-west. Despite failing health, he returned to national politics in 1659, upon the fall of the Protectorate; he was dead within a year. Of his birthplace, little now remains – fragments of the Tudor hall may survive, incorporated within the grand nineteenth-century castellated mansion which now stands on the site.

Wythenshawe Hall (SJ815898) A Royalist garrison on the southern fringes of a strongly Parliamentary area, the hall survived intermittent sieges throughout 1643. On 25 February 1644 Sir Thomas Fairfax arrived with a large force and heavy artillery and proceeded to bombard and then storm Wythenshawe, overwhelming Robert Tatton's small garrison. The hall was repaired after the Civil War and is still in good order. The early Tudor timber framed building with a central hall flanked by projecting gabled wings stands in parkland to the east of Sale. It is now a museum open during the summer and contains a fine collection of furniture, paintings and armour, much of it dating from the seventeenth century.

HAMPSHIRE

Although Hampshire was largely Parliamentary during the opening year of the war, from the outbreak the King's men held a number of isolated bases within the county and in 1643–44 they overran most of north, west and central Hampshire. The Battle of Cheriton in March 1644 ended Royalist dreams of taking the whole county and of pushing further east to threaten London, and the areas which remained in the King's hands were gradually reconquered by Parliament in 1644–45. Cromwell passed through Hampshire on many occasions during the 1640s on his way between London and the west; he campaigned here in 1645 and saw action at Winchester and Basing.

Alton (SU7239) Alton was the scene of two fierce engagements during 1643, the first of which has left no visible trace. On 22 February 1,500 Royalist Horse attacked a much smaller Parliamentary reconnaissance party temporarily stationed here. The Parliamentarians repelled the attack by discharging a field gun into the advancing Cavalry at very close range and to devastating effect.

At the end of the year Waller attacked and overwhelmed Major-General Crawford's newly established garrison here. Advancing from Farnham on the night of 12–13 December, the Parliamentarians followed a roundabout route and avoided main roads, thus escaping detection by Royalist scouts. The garrison was surprised before dawn and although the Horse managed to get away, Col. Bolle and the Royalist Foot were surrounded. They put up a brave fight, forced back from their initial position in St Laurence's churchyard into the church itself, where they continued to resist, climbing scaffolding within the church and firing down from the windows onto the advancing Parliamentarians. Even when Waller's men forced their way

into the church, the Royalists continued to fire from their position behind the corpses of several horses laid across the aisles. Eighty Royalists were killed during the operation and several times that number were captured when they at last recognised the hopelessness of their position and threw down their arms. The church still bears unmistakable signs of the battle, with marks in the south doors where Parliamentary pikes were driven through to prize them open and a peppering of bullet holes and splashes in the walls and pillars. An inscribed plaque on the wall commemorates the Royalist commander, supposedly struck down as he stood in the Jacobean pulpit. The dead were buried in a pit just outside the north wall of the nave.

Cromwell stayed overnight in Alton on 11 May 1649 en route to Burford.

Andover (SU3645) In October 1644 Waller's 3,000 Horse based here were surprised by Goring's Royalists advancing from the west and the outnumbered and ill-prepared Parliamentarians fell back before the King's men.

Cromwell was probably here on several occa-

sions – Andover stood on one of the main routes between London and the south-west – and he certainly lodged at Andover overnight on 9 March 1645 and 12 May 1649.

Basing House (SU663527) The Marquis of Winchester's massive fortified palace was a Royalist stronghold throughout the Civil War, a serious threat to communications between London and Salisbury and the south-west. A Norman motte and bailey castle stood on the site and a number of later medieval buildings were added within the bailey; they were known collectively as the 'old house'. In the sixteenth century the 1st Marquis of Winchester built a fortified house – the 'new house' – immediately to the east, a five storey mansion with a great tower in the north-east corner and lesser towers at the other angles. At the same time a four storey brick gatehouse with flanking towers was built at the west entrance to the inner ward. The whole site was surrounded by a dry moat and a curtain wall with interval towers. A large farmhouse to the north, the Grange, was defended by its own high wall.

The 5th Marquis garrisoned Basing House for the King in 1642 and endured frequent attacks over the following years. Richard Norton assaulted the awesome defences in July 1643; Waller spent nine days bombarding the place in the following November; Norton returned in July 1644 and besieged Basing for nearly six months until disease, deteriorating weather and raids from Royalist relieving forces sent from Oxford together persuaded him to depart; and in August 1645 a local force bombarded the house. But the honour of capturing 'old loyalty' fell to Cromwell, who arrived before Basing on 8 October 1645 with heavy siege guns and a plentiful supply of ammunition. A six day bombardment badly damaged the defences and on 14 October Cromwell stormed the place, capturing both the old and the new houses. One hundred Royalists were killed in the assault and twice that number were captured, including the Marquis and Inigo Jones. The houses were sacked and burnt and the stone and brick were subsequently carted off for use in other buildings.

Although the medieval earthworks remain, very little of the old or new houses survives above ground. There are odd fragments of walling, an octagonal summer-house, a dovecote and a small outer gatehouse by the road, but everything else was destroyed in or soon after 1645. The site has been excavated on several occasions and has recently been cleared; a selection of finds and other relics is on display in the

small museum at Basing. Although Tudor Grange Farm has also perished – the present building of that name dates from the late seventeenth century – the original brick barn survives nearby. Cromwell's ghost supposedly stalks the site of the former mansion, particularly the area around Grange Farm and the old barn. St Mary's Church often served as an outpost of the garrison and usually fell during the early stages of the Parliamentary attacks. In consequence it was damaged several times during the war, particularly during the final bombardment of October 1645, and much of the present church is mid-seventeenth-century post-war repair work. An earthwork to the north of the village called 'Oliver's Battery' has no known connection with Cromwell or the Civil War. A loopholed barn in Crown Lane may also have been occupied during operations here.

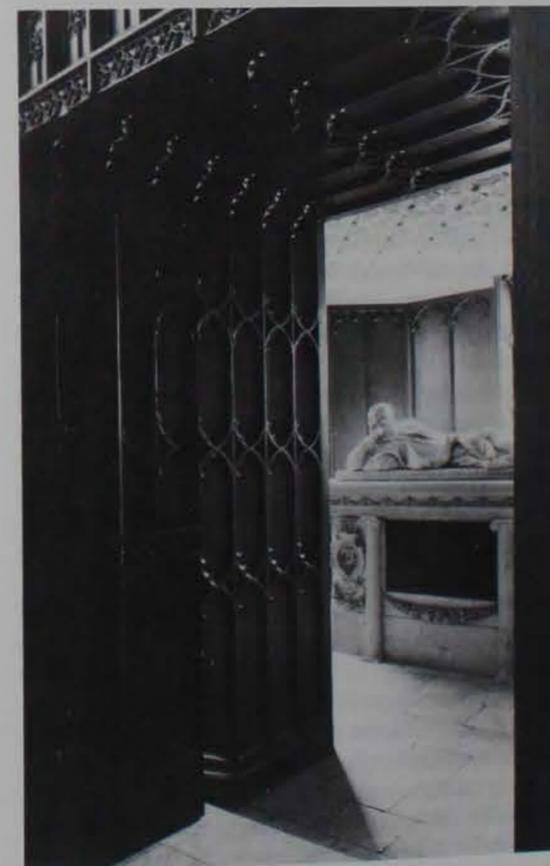
Basingstoke (SU6352) Cromwell was probably based in the old town during the operation against Basing House in the first half of October 1645. According to tradition, he lodged at the Fleur de Lys Inn in London Street. The former Bell Inn, opposite, housed the Marquis of Winchester and other prominent prisoners after the fall of Basing. Both buildings survive, though converted to shop and office use.

Bishops Waltham (SU550173) The former palace of the Bishops of Winchester was garrisoned for the King at the beginning of 1644. In early April Col. Bennet's 200 man garrison was besieged by a small Parliamentary force under Col. Whitehead; the arrival of Major-General Brown with reinforcements and heavy artillery sealed the garrison's fate. The palace was bombarded and wrecked and Bennet surrendered on the 9th. The ruined palace was then sacked and burnt. The remains of the largely fifteenth-century quadrangular palace are open daily.

Calshot Castle (SU489025) This small and simple Henrician coastal fort – a single round stone tower – served as a minor Parliamentary garrison throughout the war, guarding the coast and the approaches to Portsmouth.

Cheriton (SU5928) The major battle fought outside Cheriton on 29 March 1644 resulted in a decisive Parliamentary victory which halted the Royalist conquest of the region and marked a turning point in the Civil War in Hampshire.

In mid-March Waller had advanced up the Meon Valley to threaten the Royalists in Winchester. Hopton and Forth marched to meet him but Waller at first refused to give battle and the



Top: Basing, Hants. The huge early Stuart timber barn adjoining Basing House is the only part of the Royalists' fortified grange to survive intact. Left: The Vyne, Hants. Caloner Chute, resplendent in Speaker's robes, surveys his tomb chamber. Thomas Carter's effigy, executed over a century after Chute's death, is one of the finest monuments of the late eighteenth century. Above: Winchester, Hants. The archway of medieval Westgate proved far too narrow for modern traffic and the High Street has been re-routed to the left.

fourth week of March passed with nothing more than indecisive skirmishing in the area around East and West Meon. Waller then drew off towards Alresford but Hopton occupied the town ahead of him and the armies spent 1½ days sparring in the area south of the town. The major engagement finally took place on the 29th on largely open ground to the east of Cheriton. Waller drew up on a slight ridge running east of the village, facing the Royalists who were deployed a mile or so to the north on the other side of a slight depression. Both armies straddled the track which runs from New Alresford to the modern A272 near Bramdean. To the east of this track between the two armies stood Cheriton Wood, and the battle began here when Waller's right wing advanced to occupy the wood. The Royalist left responded by moving forward and a mixture of hand to hand fighting and heavy musket- and cannon-fire forced the Parliamentarians back. This initial Royalist success was squandered when part of the Royalist right wing under Col. Bard charged forward into the depression, where it was engaged and destroyed by Hesilrige's 'lobsters'. The Parliamentary right under Balfour then advanced into Cheriton Wood once more, slowly driving the Royalists back. With both wings under pressure, Hopton regrouped and launched a general assault from the centre, probably charging down the main track, and a fierce mêlée developed in the area west of Cheriton Wood around the point marked by the battle symbol on Ordnance Survey maps (SU598295). The Royalist centre fared badly and, with both wings collapsing, was in real danger of being outflanked and surrounded. Hopton therefore ordered his men to fall back and retreated northwards, through Alresford and eventually back to Oxford.

Cheriton Wood still stands, though its size and dimension have altered somewhat since the seventeenth century; the rest of the battlefield is still open ground and has probably changed little since 1644. A minor road now runs north-north-east from Cheriton through the centre of the battlefield and across the Alresford track or lane. In the nineteenth century, bodies, arms and armour were frequently discovered, both on the battle site and around West Meon.

Crondall (SU7948) The fine Norman Church of All Saints was a minor Parliamentary outpost for most of the war, guarding the western approaches to Farnham. The building may have been damaged at some point, for it was extensively restored during the 1650s; the grand red brick western tower was added in 1659.

Hursley (SU4225) In 1638 Richard Maijor, a wealthy Southampton merchant, acquired Merton Manor in Hursley, complete with the Tudor great house and outbuildings which stood to the west of the village. On 1 May 1649 his daughter Dorothy married Richard Cromwell in Hursley Church; the service was attended by Oliver Cromwell, who lodged at the manor-house overnight. The young couple lived at Hursley until 1658, when Richard took up residence at Whitehall as Lord Protector. They returned to Hampshire in 1660 and although Richard soon fled to the Continent, Dorothy stayed at Hursley until her death in 1676. Richard returned to England towards the end of the seventeenth century but he lived in London and Hertfordshire and paid only occasional visits to Hursley. The house was held by his eldest son, Oliver, until his death in 1705, when it became the subject of a long and bitter family dispute. In 1718, six years after Richard's own death, Merton Manor was sold to William Heathcote, who completely demolished the Tudor house.

Richard Cromwell and his wife were buried in the chancel of All Saints Church but any contemporary monuments to them were destroyed when the church was largely demolished and rebuilt in the nineteenth century. Of the church known to the Cromwells, the fifteenth-century tower alone remains, at the base of which is a large eighteenth-century monument to many members of the Maijor and Cromwell families buried nearby, including Richard Maijor, Richard Cromwell and Dorothy and six of their children.

Hurst Castle (SZ318897) Hurst Castle was built in the mid-sixteenth century, one of the many Henrician artillery forts defending the south coast. A twelve-sided central keep surrounded by three semicircular towers, Hurst was derelict by the eighteenth century, but was repaired and refortified during the Napoleonic Wars and again in the Second World War. It is now a scheduled monument, open to the public daily. In November 1648 Charles I was briefly held in Hurst Castle before being taken to London to face trial.

Moyles Court (SU1608) One mile east of Ellingham stands Moyles Court, the former house of John Lisle, Parliamentarian, judge and regicide; Lisle fled the country at the Restoration and was assassinated on the Continent in 1664. The early seventeenth-century two storey brick house was restored in the nineteenth century and remains a private residence. Fairfax, Cromwell and the military high command may have

met or lodged in Moyles Court when around Ringwood in March 1645.

Netley Castle (SU451088) The Henrician coastal fort, garrisoned for Parliament throughout the Civil War, was later converted into a dramatic domestic house. The simple sixteenth-century fort, a single storey rectangular block with archways on the seaward side and a strong embattled parapet, is all but lost amid the grand mock-Tudor Victorian mansion which engulfed it.

North Stoneham (SU441173) Cromwell's aunt Dorothy and her husband Sir Thomas Fleming lived at North Stoneham throughout their married lives. Both lie buried in the Church of St Nicholas.

Odiham (SU7451) Despite frequent Royalist raids, the town and nearby castle were held by Parliament for most of the Civil War. The fiercest clash took place on the night of 31 May–1 June 1644, when Royalist forces from Basing House mounted a supposedly surprise raid on Odiham. In fact, Norton's troops were forewarned and on the alert and the Royalists were repelled with heavy losses following a stiff fight around the town and the castle, which stood nearly a mile to the north-west in the village of North Warnborough (SU7227520). Little survives today except the picturesque ruin of a large thirteenth-century octagonal keep.

The George in the High Street is a Tudor timber framed inn remodelled and refronted in the eighteenth century. The dining-room contains Tudor panelling and a carved Elizabethan chimney-piece said to come from Basing House.

Old Alresford (SU588337) Richard Norton, Parliamentary soldier and politician and a close friend and correspondent of Oliver Cromwell, lived at Old Alresford House during the mid-seventeenth century. The old mansion stood in the north-west corner of a large park, which gently sloped down to a lake; the house was extensively rebuilt by Lord Rodney in the eighteenth century. Cromwell supposedly visited Norton on several occasions and lodged here in early October 1645 *en route* to Basing.

Portsmouth and Southsea (SU6400) Seventeenth-century Portsmouth was one of the most important and heavily defended south coast ports, and the Royalist cause received a major boost on 2 August 1642 when the town's governor, George Goring, declared for the King. Waller was despatched to retake the port and

entered the island on 12 August, brushing aside the small Royalist force holding the crossing at Portsbridge. Portsmouth, however, was another matter, for Goring's 400-man garrison was secure behind a circuit of medieval earth ramparts and stone walls. The rest of August passed with nothing more than minor skirmishing and an ineffective bombardment from Parliamentary batteries set up to the north of the town and at Gosport. The stalemate was broken in the early hours of 3 September when Waller surprised and captured Southsea Castle, meeting only token resistance from Capt. Challoner and his 12-man garrison. The fall of Southsea prompted Goring to open negotiations and four days later he surrendered Portsmouth. Despite a brief siege in autumn 1643 and occasional Royalist raids thereafter, the port remained in Parliamentary hands for the rest of the Civil War.

Southsea Castle (SZ642982) was one of the Henrician coastal forts of the sixteenth century, a single large round keep containing fourteen guns. The castle, which is open to the public, survives in good order, though much of the present building is nineteenth-century repair work following an explosion which demolished much of the original Tudor castle.

The earth and stone defences which surrounded seventeenth-century Portsmouth have largely disappeared and there survives only a short stretch of walls and mural towers by the seafront in Old Portsmouth (around SZ630994). No trace of the defences survives on the landward side. The medieval Church of St Thomas was used by the Royalists in August 1642 as a base and lookout point and in consequence suffered several direct hits from Parliamentary cannon which wrecked the tower and nave. Restored after the Civil War, St Thomas's is now the cathedral.

Romsey (SU3521) The town changed hands several times during the Civil War, usually with little or no fighting, and neither side established a formal garrison here. Marks on the outer wall of the north transept of the abbey are usually attributed to Civil War bullets, possibly fired when Waller attacked Royalist troops here in July 1643.

Southampton (SU4112) Southampton was held and garrisoned by Parliament throughout the Civil War and the Parliamentary troops hastily repaired the medieval walls which defended the town. Crawford unsuccessfully laid siege to the town in September 1643 and later Royalist raids occasionally reached the extra-mural suburbs. Despite the modern expansion

and large-scale rebuilding of Southampton, much of the circuit of thirteenth-century walls survives, particularly along Western Esplanade, behind Queen's Way and by Platform Road and Orchard Place; three of the original town gates and several mural towers also survive.

Southwick (SU6208) Richard Norton, the Parliamentary soldier and politician, inherited Southwick Park, formerly the estate of a twelfth-century Augustinian priory. The great house, which incorporated parts of the old priory itself, was destroyed by fire around 1750 and the present Southwick House dates from the nineteenth century.

The Vyne (SU637568) The Vyne is an early Tudor red brick mansion, extended by the Chute family during the seventeenth and eighteenth centuries. Chaloner Chute, lawyer, Parliamentarian, MP and Speaker of Richard Cromwell's Protectorate Parliament, acquired the house at the beginning of the 1650s and resided here until his death in 1659. He was responsible for adding the grand north portico, often described as the earliest domestic portico in England.

As a memorial to Speaker Chute, a tomb chamber was added in the late eighteenth century to the medieval chapel which adjoins the house. Inside is a magnificent monument by Thomas Carter portraying Chute lying on his side, his head propped up on an elbow, dressed in his official Speaker's robes and with his large hat beside him. (In fact, Chute died at his London house at Little Sutton and probably lies not here but in St Nicholas's, Chiswick.) The Vyne is open at weekends and on certain weekdays during the summer.

Warblington (SU728055) Margaret Pole, Countess of Salisbury, built a large moated manor-house here in the early sixteenth century. The house was garrisoned for Parliament by Col. Norton in January 1644 but fell to Hopton later in the year following a siege and bombardment. The Royalists made no attempt to hold the place, possibly because it had been badly damaged during the bombardment, and Warblington played no further part in the war. Today nothing remains of the Tudor mansion except a

tall octagonal turret in stone and red brick – formerly the angle tower of the gatehouse – and parts of the adjoining walls. The present Warblington House is a post-Civil War building which stands to the east of the site of the Tudor manor-house.

Winchester (SU4829) Town and castle changed hands several times in the course of the Civil War as first one side and then the other gained control of central Hampshire. In December 1642 Waller seized the town and quickly overwhelmed the small Royalist garrison which had taken refuge in the castle. The Parliamentarians soon moved on and the Royalists returned. Although Waller attacked the town again in spring 1643 he was driven off by a relieving force and Winchester remained in the King's hands. By summer 1645 the town was one of the few important bases in central southern England still held by the King and as such it became one of Cromwell's main targets during his Hampshire campaign. He arrived before Winchester on 28 September, overran the town on the following day and laid siege to the large and well supplied Royalist garrison which had taken refuge in the castle. Five days of heavy bombardment from all sides severely damaged the outer defences of the castle and induced the Royalists to open negotiations. The 700-man garrison surrendered to Cromwell on 6 October. The damaged castle was slighted by Parliament after the war and today little remains of the once mighty fortress begun by William I and greatly extended by his successors. The Great Hall alone survived demolition, and is now one of the finest medieval halls in England. The Roman and medieval town walls have also largely disappeared, though odd fragments remain, including a section around College Street, and two of the medieval town gates survive, Kingsgate and Westgate, the latter housing a small museum of local history.

On a hillside to the south-west of the town (SU460278) is an earthwork known variously as Cromwell's or Oliver's Battery or Cromwell's Camp, supposedly a gun emplacement thrown up by Cromwell at the end of September 1645. However, the site is a very long way from the town and castle and the association seems doubtful.

HEREFORD AND WORCESTER

Hereford and Worcester saw frequent fighting during the opening months of the Civil War until the region was secured for the King at the beginning of 1643. It remained overwhelmingly Royalist became the centre of renewed Royalist activity in August 1651 as Charles Stuart and his Scottish Royalist army entered the county and established their HQ here. The campaign which culminated in their destruction at the Battle of Worcester was led by Cromwell, his one clearly recorded visit to the area covered by the modern county.

Aconbury Camp (SO506330) Some sources suggest that this large Iron Age hill-fort, west-south-west of the village, was reoccupied and refortified during the Civil War.

Bewdley (SO7875) The town was important during the Civil War as it commanded one of the few bridges across the Severn. Lord Wharnton secured the place for Parliament in September 1642 but by the end of the year it had fallen to the King and it remained in Royalist hands for well over a year. In April 1644 Col. Fox and a 60-strong detachment for Edgbaston took the town; they arrived before Bewdley in the early evening, coolly bluffed their way past the guards on the bridge and at the east end of the town and then overpowered the surprised and gullible garrison. They proceeded to capture the governor, Sir Thomas Littleton, and the other senior officers, who had retired for the night to Tickenhill Manor, just outside the town. Fox made no attempt to hold the town and returned at once to Birmingham with his prisoners. He probably destroyed the town's defences as he left, for neither side garrisoned Bewdley thereafter. No trace of the medieval town walls and gates remains and the late medieval bridge across the Severn was long ago replaced by one of Telford's spans. Tickenhill Manor survives on the hillside beyond Park Lane, its Georgian exterior concealing the late medieval and Tudor building which was once a royal manor and a meeting place for the Council of the Marches.

Brampton Bryan (SO370726) A Parliamentary outpost in a largely Royalist area, the small castle held out heroically for many months. It was occupied for Parliament in 1642 and defended by Brilliana, Lady Harley, against Vavasour's besieging Royalists for much of the following year – the King's men lacked heavy artillery and were unable to batter down the outer walls. After a brief winter respite the siege and bombardment were renewed by Col. Woodhouse with greater energy and larger guns in

March 1644. On 17 April the Parliamentary garrison surrendered the by then badly damaged and undermined castle. Brampton Bryan was immediately razed and little more than the ruined gatehouse (private property) survives. In the 1650s stone from the demolished castle was used to rebuild the adjoining Church of St Barnabas, which had been occupied as a Parliamentary outpost in 1642–43 and wrecked by the Royalist bombardment of 1643–44.

According to tradition a violent storm on 3 September 1658, which toppled many of the trees in the grounds of the ruined castle, was caused by the Devil dragging Cromwell through the park on his way down to Hell. The Devil supposedly returns every 3 September to ram-page through the grounds with Cromwell's soul.

Broadway (SP0937) According to tradition, Cromwell stayed at the Lygon Arms, formerly the Whyte Harte, at some point during his Worcester campaign. The well preserved Tudor building in brown stone contains a room, decorated with seventeenth-century plasterwork and a fine Stuart fireplace, in which Cromwell supposedly lodged.

Canon Frome (SO6543) Canon Frome Court, a late Georgian building, stands on the site of the demolished fifteenth-century manor-house which was garrisoned for the King during the Civil War. On 22 June 1645 the stronghold was stormed and taken by Leven's Scots, who put governor Barnard and most of his garrison to the sword.

Croft Castle (SO449654) The Welsh border castle was garrisoned by both sides during the Civil War as a minor outpost guarding the northern approaches to Hereford. The fine late medieval fortified manor-house, with round corner towers in pink stone, was restored and remodelled in the eighteenth and nineteenth centuries. The richly decorated house is open to the public on certain weekdays during the summer.