

Lord of the North

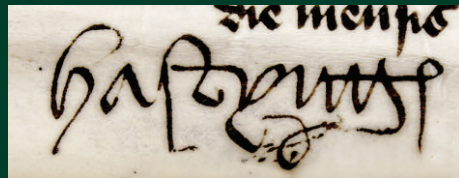
The Lord of the North

Edward rewarded those who had been loyal to him with lands and titles. During the 1470s Richard acquired great estates in Yorkshire, Cumbria and Northumberland. His marriage to Anne Neville, Warwick's daughter also brought him great wealth and power in the North. The pinnacle of his power and influence came in 1474, when he was declared the Lord of the North in a treaty with the Earl of Northumberland. Richard's loyalty to Edward is surely one of the reasons he was appointed Lord Protector to his son.



Richard and his wife Ann Neville.
Source: Northamptonshire Record Office.

William Hastings was another nobleman whose bravery and loyalty were rewarded by Edward. He was knighted after the battle of Towton and later became Lord Chamberlain, one of the most important posts in the country. He was created Baron Hastings and granted extensive lands in Leicestershire and Northamptonshire. He also served as Sheriff of Warwickshire and Leicestershire.



William Hastings' signature on a property deed relating to the Manor of Teigh in Rutland, 1472. His seal is the first on the left.



Ashby-de-la-Zouch Castle, mid-19th century.
Edward IV granted the castle to William Hastings, who undertook major building works to extend and improve it.



Kirby Muxloe Castle by John Flower, 1826.
The building was begun by William Hastings in 1480, but it was never completed following his execution in 1483.

Hastings was with Edward and Richard in exile and fought in the battles which restored the King. Like Richard, he was connected to the Neville family when he married Warwick's sister Katherine in 1462.

He would presumably have known Richard well and when Edward died on 9th April 1483, early indications were that they would work together to crown and guide the 12 year old Edward V. Hastings had helped to prevent the powerful Woodville family from gaining by the King's death, indicating his support for Richard.

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