

some reflecting pre-Conquest Norman ancestry, and were no strangers to earlier feuding; whatever their original territorial base, they were by now substantial local taxpayers eager to defend their interests. Many, of course, like Robert Holland, the Lancashire magnate and protégé of Earl Thomas, and Thomas Berkeley of Gloucestershire, relished fighting as a way of life. Berkeley, we are proudly informed by his biographer, had already 'been 28 times in arms in the field', so that he and his son Maurice, successively governor of Gloucester, crown custodian of many castles and High Steward of Aquitaine, lost no time in joining the rebels 'and laid waste all the Estates of both the Spencers (Despensers), and at the next Parliament caused them to be banished'.²⁹

Among the most influential in Warwickshire were representatives from familiar baronial families, like the Hastings, Cliffords, Mowbrays and Zouches, together with the Lancastrian gentry already referred to: Hugh and Roger Cuilly, Peter and Richard Lymesey, Robert and Richard Holland, William Trussell and Roger Beler. Others were substantial local knights, like John Bishopsdon of Lapworth, where he had recently added a magnificent gatehouse and built a moated manor house at nearby Bushwood, Thomas Baddesley of Baddesley Clinton, and other similar figures, like John Wyard, Geoffrey Beaufoy and Thomas Blankfront from Worcestershire and Herefordshire, John and Nicholas Segrave from Northamptonshire, and John and Henry Wylington from farther afield, all of whom possessed estates in Warwickshire. (Fig. 2) Apart from these leading figures, however, was a large body of middling gentry whose precise level of active involvement in the rebellion remains uncertain but who were certainly sympathizers, since they were punished by having their land temporarily forfeited as 'adherents' before being later pardoned: John Grendon of Stretton-on-Fosse, William Grevil of Burmington, William and Margaret Keynes of Oxhill, Gilbert and Robert Marshall of Ilmington and Barton-on-the-Heath, the East Anglian immigrant Saer Rochford and his wife Elizabeth of Budbrooke, John Twyford, lord of Stretton Baskerville, and Richard Whitacre of Elmdon and Over Whitacre.

Finally, the list of contrariants would not be complete without the addition of one more prestigious name, that of the 'monstrously

²⁹ J.R. Maddicott, 'Thomas of Lancaster and Sir Robert Holland: a study in noble patronage', *EHR*, lxxxvi, 1971; McKisack, *Fourteenth Century*, pp. 50-1, 204; *John Smyth, the Lives of the Berkeleys*, ed. J. Maclean, 3 vols, Gloucester 1883, i, pp. 186, 221; R. Atkyns, *The Ancient and Present State of Glostershire*, London 1712, p. 264.