

Carol Ann Lloyd for Smithsonian Associates Richard III Handout

Timeline

1452	Richard is born to Richard Duke of York and Cecily Neville at Fotheringhay
1455	Wars of Roses begins
1459	Richard Duke of York and other leaders flee; Richard and George with Cecily in custody
1460	Richard Duke of York and Edmund killed at Wakefield; Richard and George sent to Low Countries
1461	Edward succeeds at Towton and becomes King Edward IV; Richard and George return in honor
1464	Edward IV secretly marries Elizabeth Woodville; Cecily, George, and Warwick are furious
1467	Warwick builds alliance with angry George, who marries Warwick's daughter against the Edward IV's objections; Warwick and George raise an army
1470	Warwick returns and announces intention to restore Henry VI to the throne; after defeat, Edward IV and Richard flee to Burgundy While in sanctuary under Henry VI, Elizabeth Woodville gives birth to son, Edward
1471	Edward and forces return to England and Edward is restored to throne Richard is rewarded for loyalty; made Constable and Lord High Admiral, Great Chamberlain, High Sheriff of Cumberland for Life, Lieutenant of the North and Commander in Chief against the Scots and Warden of the West March
1472	Richard marries Anne Neville
1473	Elizabeth Woodville and Edward IV have a second son, Prince Richard Anne Neville and Richard have a son, Edward of Middleham (who becomes Prince Edward later)
1475	Richard is dominant magnate in north, especially in York, so he is less present at royal court
1476	George and Isabel have son and she dies, as does baby George becomes convinced one of her ladies-in-waiting, Ankarette Twynyho killed her
1477	George bullies jury into convicting Ankarette and has her executed He opposes King and is sent to the Tower and tried for treason; Edward himself is the prosecutor
1480	George is killed in the Tower, possibly drowned in Malmsey wine Richard is made Lieutenant-General of the North

Early April: Edward realizes he is dying so names Richard as Protector and Anthony Woodville, head of Prince Edward's household, despite ongoing disputes between families

9 April: Edward IV dies

Elizabeth Woodville in London; Prince Edward and Anthony Woodville at Ludlow; Richard in north

Elizabeth Woodville sends word that Anthony should bring new King to London

Next few days: Prince (now King) Edward learns of father's death at Ludlow

Richard Duke of Gloucester learns of brother's death, apparently first from Hastings

Elizabeth (now Dowager Queen and Queen Mother) begins arranging quick coronation for Edward V and recognition of him as King without Protectorate

29 April: Richard and Duke of Buckingham meets Antony Woodville, Lord Richard Grey, and Thomas Vaughan, and they all dine together in Northampton

30 April: Richard has Woodville, Grey, and Vaughan arrested and takes Edward V to London

When word of the arrest reaches London, Elizabeth Woodville and her family go into sanctuary at Westminster Abbey

4 May: Richard installs Edward in the Tower to prepare for his coronation, which is postponed to 22 June; preparations are ongoing

10 May: The council meets and formally announces Richard as Lord Protector

9 June: Surviving documents covering London news indicates Edward V's coronation expected soon and government is running under Protectorship of Duke of Gloucester

10 June: Richard sends for defensive force to come to London

13 June: At a council meeting, Richard has William Hastings executed for treason without trial

16 June: Prince Richard joins his brother in the Tower to "prepare for Edward V's coronation",

22 June: (date of Edward V's coronation) Ralph Shaw preaches a sermon at St Paul's Cross declaring Edward IV's marriage invalid making Edward V a bastard and Richard heir to the throne

25 June: the Lords and Commons assemble to approve a petition urging Richard to take the throne

26 June: Richard accepts the crown at Baynard's Castle

6 July: Richard and Anne are crowned King and Queen at Westminster

Note: throughout this time, Edward V and Prince Richard have been observed in the Tower gardens

August: Richard goes North on progress; rebellions break out in London to rescue Edward V

	<p><u>8 September</u>: Richard invests his son Edward as Prince of Wales in York Minster, two months after the coronation, a large public ceremony pledges support to Richard</p> <p><u>Late October/early November</u>: Buckingham rebels to support 1-Edward V (rumors of his death), 2-Henry Tudor, fails, and is executed; rebels start gathering around Henry Tudor in Brittany</p> <p><u>December 25</u>: Henry Tudor pledges to marry Elizabeth of York and begins signing letters Henry R (Richmond or Rex?)</p>
1484	<p><u>Jan to Feb</u>: Richard's only Parliament; <i>Titulus Regius</i> reinforces his status as King</p> <p><u>March</u>: Richard reaches agreement with Elizabeth Woodville for her and daughters to leave sanctuary; Richard makes public declaration that he will treat her daughters well and find good husbands for them in England</p> <p><u>April</u>: Richard's son Edward, Prince of Wales dies at Nottingham Castle; personal and political loss</p> <p><u>July</u>: William Collingbourne posts a placard reading "The cat, the rat, and Lovell our dog, Rule all England under a hog," directly challenging Richard and his ministers</p>
1485	<p><u>March</u>: Queen Anne dies; Richard began negotiations for new wife</p> <p><u>August</u>:</p> <p>7: Henry Tudor lands in Milford Haven; Richard summons his army</p> <p>19 Aug: Richard leaves Nottingham and moves toward Leicester</p> <p>21: Richard rides out of Leicester</p> <p>22: Battle of Bosworth: Richard leads mounted cavalry charge against Henry Tudor in attempt to kill him and end conflict; kills Henry's standard bearer; Thomas Stanley supports Henry Tudor ensuring victory; Richard is last English King killed in battle</p>

Legacy

Richard accomplished several things in his reign:

- Established Council of the North became part of royal council and improved conditions for northern England and brought regional governance under control of central government; this is thought of as one of Richard's most enduring successes and was unchanged until 1641
- Also instituted Court of Requests, a court poor people could apply to go have their grievances heard; he also improved the system of bail
- He ordered translation of laws and statutes of the kingdom from French into English; also reformed sale of property laws, established qualifications for jurors and instituted forms of trade protections

Had Richard been able to reign longer, would he have overcome the reputation that clung to him from the way he took the throne and been recognized as a great king?