

The Holland family, Dukes of Exeter, Earls of Kent and Huntingdon, 1352-1475

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At the turn of the fourteenth century, the Hollands were a knightly family of no great import in Lancashire. In 1475, Henry Holland died as the Lancastrian claimant to the throne. Such a transformation, in itself, deserves explanation. This will reveal the dramatic rise of a family through the beneficence of noble and then royal patronage and, even more so, through the fortune of a good marriage being compounded by a combination of fortuitous heirless deaths and a significant remarriage to...

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