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Andrew Thrush

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THE HISTORY OF PARLIAMENT

THE HOUSE OF COMMONS 1604–1629

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The House of Commons, c. 1624 (© Trustees of the British Museum)

THE HISTORY OF PARLIAMENT

THE  
HOUSE OF COMMONS  
1604–1629

*Andrew Thrush*

I  
INTRODUCTORY SURVEY  
APPENDICES

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## Foreword

*by the Chairman of the History of Parliament Trust*

There is no more significant or fascinating period in the history of Parliament than that covered by these volumes. They include the Parliament of 1604 to 1610, the infamous ‘addled’ Parliament of 1614, and the brief and increasingly fractious parliaments of 1621, 1624, 1625, 1626 and 1628–9.

Relations between King and Parliament had already deteriorated markedly before Charles I came to the throne in 1625. Thereafter there were constant, and serious, rifts over supply and crown finance and over both religious and foreign policy. The last Parliament of this period ended with the famous incident when Mr Speaker Finch was literally held down in his chair and prevented from adjourning the House in a vociferous parliamentary protest against religious innovation and the levy of Tunnage and Poundage. It was this incident which persuaded Charles that there was little point in seeking an accommodation with Parliament and there followed the so called ‘eleven years tyranny’ during which he ruled without Parliament – a period that was bought to an end by revolution in Scotland in 1638 and the events which led inexorably towards the outbreak of civil war in all the King’s dominions in 1642.

These volumes, the product of much original and painstaking research, throw new light on this tense and dramatic period. They contain 1,782 biographies of the men who were elected to sit in the House of Commons during these years, including such seminal figures in our parliamentary history as the great lawyer and advocate, Sir Edward Coke, the free trade enthusiast and Virginia Company spokesman, Sir Edwyn Sandys, and Sir Thomas Wentworth whose trial, as earl of Strafford, was one of the triggers of Civil War. The biographies also cover the early careers of many of the key figures in the continuing struggle between King and Parliament: John Pym; Oliver Cromwell; Sir Gilbert Gerard and Sir Henry Mildmay.

There are also 259 constituency articles which analyse not only local political rivalries and elections in every shire and borough but also examine the promotion of legislation at Westminster.

The introductory survey volume sets both biographies and constituency articles in context, provides a magisterial account of the way in which the House of Commons operated as an institution and is itself a major contribution to the scholarship of the period.



Work on these volumes began in 1980 under John Ferris who retired in August 1992 and sadly died before he could see the work completed. Since 1992 the Section Editor has been Andrew Thrush. It is he who is responsible not only for overseeing constituency articles and biographies, and contributing to them, but for the introductory volume.

On behalf of the Trustees I would like to pay tribute both to John Ferris and to Andrew Thrush and also to the late Professor Gerald Aylmer and Professor John Miller who were successively Chairmen of the Editorial Board during the years of gestation. Gerald Aylmer himself was a very distinguished historian of this period as was Conrad Russell, 5th Earl Russell. As a Trustee from 1992 until his death in 2004, Lord Russell took a particular and lively interest in these volumes.

This is the second set of volumes of the History to appear within 12 months. This is itself a major achievement and so I would also like to congratulate and thank most warmly the current Chairman of the Editorial Board, Professor Paul Langford, and our Director, Dr Paul Seaward for all they have done to make this possible. Together with his predecessors Valerie Cromwell and Peter Hasler, Dr Seaward has overseen the production of this exceptionally important part of the History of Parliament.

Sir Patrick Cormack FSA MP



## Foreword

*by the Chairman of the Editorial Board*

These volumes cover a critical period in the political history and heritage not just of England, but of the English-speaking world. Although the scholarly attention given to the period in the last few decades has enriched our understanding of their context and meaning, the parliamentary debates and documents of the time, most of all the 1628 Petition of Right, remain at the heart of the Anglophone political and legal tradition. From 1604 to 1629 the House of Commons was at the centre of English politics as never before, the forum for vigorous and increasingly bitter debates over finance, religion, foreign affairs and court corruption. The Parliament of 1604-10 was dominated by the discreet sabotage of James I's proposed union with Scotland and the 'Great Contract'. That of 1614, intended by the King to be the 'Parliament of Love', was poisoned by the row over Impositions and ended up as the 'Addled' Parliament. The four Parliaments of the 1620s, overshadowed by the religious divisions of Europe, became mired in recurrent confrontations over the security of Protestantism in the English Church, the influence over the king and his government of the duke of Buckingham, and the government's military strategy and competence as it bowed to pressure to combat the Catholic powers of Europe. The last Parliament of the period, that of 1628-9, collapsed into acrimonious protest against the government's attempts to raise money without parliamentary approval and 'Arminianism'. Despite, or because of, this catalogue of rows and recriminations, the Parliaments of the early seventeenth century proved remarkably fertile in procedural and institutional development. Reviving the process of impeachment provided a new and effective weapon to enforce accountability; establishing a system of grand committees enabled the House to conduct its debates in a more politically effective and responsive way.

This work provides material which will enable these events and developments to be explored in a way hitherto impossible. It includes 1,782 biographies of every Member elected for any of the Parliaments of the period, including those who did not, in the event, actually take their seat. These detail the political activities of each, but also set them within their local, family and professional contexts. The accounts of elections and politics in each of the 259 constituencies in England and Wales

returning Members to Parliament also provide information on the way in which they attempted to promote legislation at Westminster, showing the nature of each locality's relationship with Parliament. The introduction to these volumes, contained in volume 1, has extended and developed the History's traditional model for its introductory surveys, providing a comprehensive review of the membership, operation and management of Parliament, and the relationship between Members, constituencies and voters in the early seventeenth century.

John Ferris was the founding editor of the Section, and wrote the original drafts of very many articles. He retired in 1992, and sadly died in 2004. Since his retirement the Section has been led by Andrew Thrush, who has been responsible for the careful planning which went into seeing the project through to completion, ably oversaw the enormous task of revising all of the articles for publication, and is the author of the introductory survey. There have been, in all, 19 other contributors to these volumes. Apart from the editors, those who wrote over ninety articles are Alan Davidson, Simon Healy, Paul Hunneyball, Chris Kyle, Henry Lancaster, and Virginia Moseley. Andrew Thrush, Ben Coates, Simon Healy, Paul Hunneyball and Rosemary Sgroi, in addition to writing new drafts, were all involved in the laborious task of revising all the articles and seeing them through the press. The History is most grateful to the editors and to all of the contributors for what has been a labour of monumental proportions.

The Editorial Board of the History is responsible for ensuring the academic quality of the work, and I am grateful for the considerable contribution in time and expertise of its current members (Dr Colin Brooks, Professor Sir David Cannadine, Professor Pauline Croft, Professor Chris Given-Wilson, Professor John Morrill and Professor Miles Taylor) and the other historians who have served on the Board over the lifetime of the project (Professors Gerald Aylmer (Chairman 1989-1998), Caroline Barron, Ian Christie, A.G. Dickens, Edward Miller (Chairman 1974-1989), and John Miller (Chairman 1998-2008)). We are especially grateful to Professor Croft, who has taken specific responsibility for monitoring the 1604-29 Section's output and progress, and has been a source of unfailing support, wise counsel and practical help to the directors and the current editor. The Directors and General Editors of the History over the period have been Peter Hasler, Valerie Cromwell and Paul Seaward. The History in general, and the Board in particular, have also had very capable support since 2000 from our administrator, Shirley MacQuire.

The huge task of typesetting these volumes has been accomplished in-house by Alpay Beler, the History's electronic publications project manager, from text captured onto the History's own content management system, with the assistance of Shakur Shidane, Jenny Johnson, Caroline Delph, Jonathan Mackman and the members of the Section. This is now the third set of volumes published by Cambridge University Press. We are very grateful to them for their enthusiastic cooperation, and in particular to Richard Fisher and Andy Williams for their assistance in many ways.

Three other important contributions need to be noted. First, the compilation of these volumes would have been vastly more difficult were it not for the work of a

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sister organisation, the Yale Center for Parliamentary History, and its great series of publications providing in print the parliamentary diaries and other relevant documents of the period, which have been intensively used throughout these volumes. Second, these volumes would have been far less rich in detail were it not for the many owners, public and private, of manuscript collections, who have readily and often enthusiastically cooperated with the project. Finally, the project would have been impossible were it not for the longstanding and consistent commitment and financial support of the History of Parliament's Trustees, HM Treasury, and the House of Commons Commission. We are deeply indebted to all of them.

Paul Langford FBA

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## *Acknowledgements*

Research for these volumes was conducted at a large number of record offices, libraries and other repositories throughout the United Kingdom, Ireland and the United States. It is with great pleasure that the Board records its thanks to the governing bodies and curatorial staff of each of these repositories for the kind assistance they have provided over many years to History's research staff. A full list of the collections consulted is provided at Appendix IX. The archives which have been used in the course of the research are: The National Archives; the British Library; All Souls College, Oxford; Anglesey County Record Office; the Archives of the Archdiocese of Westminster; Archivio di Stato, Florence; Bangor University Archives and Special Collections; Bath and North East Somerset Record Office; Bedfordshire and Luton Archives; Beinecke Library, New York; Berkshire Record Office; Berwick-upon-Tweed Record Office; Bibliothèque Nationale de France, Paris; Birmingham Archives and Heritage; Bodleian Library; Borthwick Institute for Archives, University of York; Bristol Record Office; Caernarvonshire Record Office; Cambridge University Library; Cambridgeshire Archives; Camden Local Studies and Archives; Canterbury Cathedral Archives; Cardiff Central Library; Carmarthenshire Archives Service; Centre for Buckinghamshire Studies; Centre for Kentish Studies; Chester and Cheshire Archives; Chicago University Library; Christ Church, Oxford; City of Westminster Archives Centre; the College of Arms, London; Cornwall Record Office; Corporation of London Record Office (now merged with the London Metropolitan Archives); Coventry History Centre; Cumbria Record Office (Carlisle); Cumbria Record Office (Kendal); Denbighshire Record Office; Derbyshire Record Office; Devon Record Office; Dorset History Centre; Downing College Library, Cambridge; Dr. Williams' Library, London; the Duchy of Cornwall Office, London; Durham County Record Office; Durham University Library; East Kent Archives Centre; East Riding of Yorkshire Archives and Local Studies Service; East Sussex Record Office; Essex Record Office; Exeter Cathedral Archives; Folger Shakespeare Library, New York; Flintshire Record Office; Glamorgan Record Office; Gloucestershire Record Office; Gonville and Caius College, Cambridge; Gray's Inn Library; Guildhall Library (now merged with the London Metropolitan Archives); Greater Manchester Record Office; Gwent Record Office; Hampshire Record Office; Harvard University, Houghton Library; Harvard Law Library; Harwich Town Hall; Henry E. Huntington Library, San Marino, California; Hereford City Library; Herefordshire Record Office; Hull Record Office; Hull Trinity House, Hull University Archives; Huntingdonshire Record Office; the Inner Temple Library, London; Isle of Wight Record Office; John Rylands University Library, Manchester; Kenneth Spencer Research Library,

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The Editorial Board of the History of Parliament is very grateful for the granting of access to the many archives, public and private, without which these volumes could not have been written. We gratefully acknowledge the curator, All Hallows by the Tower, London; the Warden and Fellows of All Souls College, Oxford; the marquess of Bath; Mr. John Branch of Messrs. Brockbanks, Solicitors, Whitehaven; the duke of Beaufort; the duke of Bedford and the trustees of the Bedford Estate; Bethersden Parish Records Society; Lieutenant-Commander Blease, RN; the Syndics of Cambridge University Library; Sir Richard Carew-Pole; the Christ's Hospital Foundation; the Dowager Countess Cawdor; the governing body of Christ Church, Oxford; the Clothworkers' Company, London; the duke of Devonshire and the Chatsworth House Trust; the Master, Fellows and Scholars of Downing College, Cambridge; the Drapers' Company, London; Lord Egremont; the Dean and Chapter of Exeter Cathedral; the governing body of Exeter College, Oxford; the Goldsmiths' Company, London; the Master and Fellows of Gonville and Caius College, Cambridge; the Honourable Society of Gray's Inn; Mr. Edward Harley; the governing body of King's College, Cambridge; the Leathersellers' Company,

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## *Preface*

*Andrew Thrush*

These volumes are a collective enterprise, and without the work and dedication of my colleagues on the Section they could never have been brought to fruition. In recent years I have had the pleasure of working alongside Dr. Ben Coates, Mr. Simon Healy, Dr. Paul Hunneyball and Dr. Rosemary Sgroi, all of whom have made substantial contributions to the constituency histories and biographies. I am especially grateful to Dr. Coates, Mr. Healy and Dr. Hunneyball for undertaking the onerous task of proof-reading five of the six volumes and for their patience in answering my endless queries while I was writing the Introductory Survey. I am also grateful to Dr. Hunneyball for providing us with a splendid set of maps. In addition, my warmest thanks are due to my former colleagues on the Section, Dr. Lloyd Bowen, Dr. Alan Davidson, Prof. Chris Kyle, Dr. Henry Lancaster, Dr. Glyn Redworth and Mr. George Yerby, and to those who worked on the Section before I became its editor in 1992: to Dr. Sabrina Baron; Karen Bishop; Dr. Anne Duffin; the late Mr. John Ferris (the former editor); Dr. Lynn Hulse; Dr. Peter Le Fevre, Dr. Virginia Moseley; Dr. Tim Venning; and the late Dr. Paula Watson. In addition I should like to thank Ms. Irene Cassidy and Mr. Christopher Thompson, both of whom furnished us with articles.

Over the years I and my colleagues have incurred a considerable debt of gratitude to the many scholars who have generously shared their knowledge and expertise with us. Most are acknowledged in the notes that accompany our articles, but several deserve special mention. Our particular thanks go to the late (and much lamented) Yale Center for Parliamentary History, whose editor, Prof. Maija Jansson, made available the Center's transcripts of unpublished parliamentary diaries, an act of generosity which saved us many hundreds of hours of additional work. We are no less grateful to Prof. Pauline Croft, who not only monitored the work of the section over the course of many years, thereby helping us to improve hundreds of articles, but also read the whole of the Introductory Survey. In addition thanks are due to successive directors of the History over the period this work was compiled: Mr. Peter Hasler, Miss Valerie Cromwell, and Dr. Paul Seaward (who also read and commented on the Introductory Survey in its entirety).

Among those individuals to whom we should also like to express our gratitude are Dr. Charlotte Brownhill, without whom we would probably not have known that Sir George Radcliffe was a Member of the 1628-9 Parliament; Dr. J.T. Cliffe, for a valuable correspondence; Prof. Ken Fincham for his advice on the careers of

*Preface*

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various civil lawyers; Mr. Alasdair Hawkyard and Mr. Roger Lockyer, both of whom commented on various draft chapters of the Survey; Dr. Michelle O’Callaghan for sharing with us her knowledge of the scurrilous yet immensely useful ‘Censure of a Parliament Fart’ of 1607; Dr. Helen Payne, for her expert guidance regarding the household of Anne of Denmark; Sir John Sainty, K.C.B., whose prodigious knowledge of early seventeenth-century officeholders has saved us from many an error; Christopher Thompson, for helping us to reconstruct the Rich family archives; and Dr. David Trim, for sharing with us details of the military careers of several men in Dutch service. We should also like to thank Jenny Johnson, for copyediting and proof-reading hundreds of articles; to Matthew Biggs, Simon Neal and the late Giles Margetts for indexing a variety of manuscript sources; to Ruby Norris and the late Faith Franklin who, before the era of computerization, typed the Section’s drafts; to Shirley MacQuire, the *History*’s capable administrator; and to Kathy Rangescroft, who proof-read the whole of the Introductory Survey.

## Method

These volumes of the *History* contain biographies of the 1,754 Members who sat in the House of Commons between the opening of the first Jacobean Parliament in March 1604 and the dissolution of Charles I's third Parliament in March 1629, together with entries on an additional 29 individuals who for various reasons have not been considered full Members. Those whose status had not been resolved by the end of the Parliament in which they sat have been included in the main sequence. The volumes also include accounts of all 259 constituencies, which explore the varying electoral fortunes, economic circumstances and political situation of the places they describe. An Introductory Survey, based partly upon information contained in the biography and constituency articles, is also provided, as are brief summary articles on each of the seven parliaments that sat between 1604 and 1629. Though not essential, readers may find it helpful to read the constituency articles and the relevant biographical entries in conjunction with one another.

In quotations from contemporary sources (though not in the titles of books or treatises) spelling, capitalization and punctuation have been modernized. Dates may be understood to remain in Old Style unless otherwise stated, but with the year beginning on 1 January. Place and date of publication have generally been omitted from book titles, which have been abbreviated wherever possible. An asterisk (\*) following a name denotes a Member of the House of Commons during this period (where this is not apparent from the surrounding text); a dagger (†) denotes a Member whose parliamentary career lies entirely outside the period.

### *Survey*

The Introductory Survey provides an institutional history of the House of Commons between 1604 and 1629, and explores key changes in the nature of the Commons during this crucial period in its history as well as the conduct of elections and the nature of the membership.

The appendices to the Survey provide the names of parliamentary officials and list the more important Crown officeholders. They also include a list of defeated candidates and the names of those Members returned in 1628 known to have resisted (either by refusal or by default) the Forced Loan of 1626-7. A bibliography of the principal manuscript sources used is also provided.



*Method*

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*Constituencies*

The entries offer an analysis of the ‘structure’ of constituency politics and a narrative account of elections. Each article is preceded by a summary of the basic information relating to the constituency, in tabular form. As well as a record of each election, this may include an estimate of the number entitled to vote and a definition of the franchise. However, in only a small minority of constituencies is it possible to give even a rough estimate of the size of the electorate. Indeed, this is normally possible only in those English boroughs where the right to vote was held exclusively by members of the corporation, or the number of voters was fixed by some other means, such as burgage-holding.

The recording of each individual election begins with the date, which is normally to be found in the *Return of Members of Parliament* (1878) or its appendix, published in 1879. Where the date of election is known to differ from that recorded on the indenture, the correct date has been given. Dates of by-elections (which are taken to exclude those elections resulting from a Member having been returned for more than one constituency) appear in italics. The names of all candidates are given, that is to say those who pursued their candidacy as far as the ‘cry’ or a poll, or who received votes even though they themselves may not have sought election. Those who undertook a canvass but withdrew before the election are *not* listed. Peerage or baronetcy titles are included if in force at the time of the election. Capital letters are used to denote the successful candidates, as listed in the indenture or indentures accepted by the sheriff and the clerk of the Crown in Chancery. These names are given in the order in which they appear in the indenture (as printed in the *Return of Members*), irrespective of any numbers of votes recorded, since precedence on the indenture depended on social seniority rather than the number of votes received. Unsuccessful candidates are listed in the order of their position in the poll, if known. Where more than one return was accepted by the sheriff and the clerk of the Crown (a ‘double return’), all names appearing on those indentures are capitalized, and the order of names preserved. Decisions taken subsequently by the House in the adjudication of double returns and petitions are noted, together with the date on which the decision was taken. In by-elections, and also in those cases where the elected Member chose to serve for another constituency for which he had also been returned, the name of the Member replaced appears in lower case, together with a brief indication of the cause of the vacancy.

The articles themselves concentrate on parliamentary elections, but attention has also been paid to the economic and political circumstances of each constituency, to the instructions and information which passed between Members and their constituents, and to a constituency’s legislative interests.

*Biographies*

The formal arrangement of biographies in this section of the *History* generally follows the practice of earlier volumes. However, in a departure from previous practice, the biographies are arranged in two sequences rather than one. Following the main series readers will find an appendix consisting of 29 individuals whose status

as Members is questionable. Some of these men, like Sir Anthony Aucher and James Thurbarne, were elected but never returned; others, like William Seymour, Lord Beauchamp and Sir Thomas Coventry, were returned but were no longer eligible to serve by the time Parliament met. Those who failed (or refused) to take the oaths required for membership have also been placed in the appendix if they did not also sit in another Parliament during this period.

It should be noted that many of the biographies published here differ from entries on the same Members appearing in *The House of Commons 1558-1603*. Where the information presented in a biography differs from an article already published on the same Member the current version is to be preferred. Such corrections have usually been made silently.

**Headings.** Members are styled at the head of their biographies according to their status at the time of their first election to Parliament in the period 1604-29. Where appropriate any subsequent acquisition of a knighthood, baronetcy or peerage will be reflected when the Member is mentioned elsewhere in the text, where parentheses are employed. For example, the form '(Sir) John Coke' indicates that this man has been the subject of a biography in his original style as 'John Coke' (he having first entered Parliament in this period in 1621, four years before he was knighted). Likewise the form 'the 2nd earl of Warwick (Sir Robert Rich)' denotes that this man's entry can be found under the heading indicated by the words contained in round brackets. Where two namesakes are styled in exactly the same way on their first entering the Commons in this period, ambiguity has been avoided by the addition of a numerical designation (in roman numerals), according to the chronological order of their first entering Parliament: hence 'James Lasher I' and 'James Lasher II', or, more unusually, 'Sir William Selby I' and 'Sir William Selby II'. The significance of such numerical designations is limited to this section of the *History*. They should not be taken to imply either family relationship or precedence by age. Eldest sons of peers are accorded their courtesy titles.

The spelling of a Member's name reflects standard modern forms rather than contemporary usage or the Member's own spelling. Members themselves, as well as fathers and sons, were not always consistent in the manner they spelt their surname. Employment of modern forms avoids using spellings that might strike the reader as perverse, such as 'Jhon' for John, or 'Cornwaleys' for 'Cornwallis' (a form consistently and repeatedly used by Sir Charles Cornwallis). However, where contemporaries commonly employed a spelling significantly at variance with our usage, we have indicated such variants in parentheses, for instance 'ASTLEY (ASHLEY), Sir John'. Those readers wishing to know how a Member spelt his own name are directed to the end of the genealogical paragraph of the preamble, where these forms are indicated, if known, after the abbreviation '*sig*'. The spelling of peerage titles has also been standardized, according to the form adopted by the *Complete Peerage*. Thus Sir Francis Bacon is styled Viscount St. Alban and not Viscount St. Albans.

The address given in the heading is the subject's place of residence at the time of his membership of the Commons during this period. Where necessary (such as in the

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case of lawyers who often owned country seats as well as chambers in London) multiple residences are given. Where a Member is known to have lived elsewhere before his first election to Parliament in this period, or to have moved after he ceased sitting during this period, the phrases ‘formerly of’ and ‘later of’ are employed. However, dates of residence are omitted, being given instead (if significant) in the main text.

**Constituencies.** All the constituencies for which a Member sat are listed, in chronological order, including those for which he served outside the period covered by these volumes. Where a Member was returned at a general election, a simple year date is given, this being that of the first meeting of Parliament. Month days are provided only where more than one Parliament met in the same year, as happened in 1554, 1640 and 1679. If a Member came in at a by-election, or at an election occasioned by a Member’s decision to serve for another constituency, the precise date of his election (day, month and year) is given. Terminal dates of service are not indicated unless a Member died or left the Commons early as a result of elevation to the peerage, disqualification or expulsion. For the dates on which each Parliament ended, readers are advised to refer to the preambles to the brief parliamentary accounts printed as part of the Introductory Survey. Members who left the Long Parliament to serve in the royalist Parliament at Oxford in 1644 also receive a terminal date to indicate the end of their service at Westminster, but with the addition of the phrase ‘1644 (Oxf. Parl.)’.

**Birth.** Where the Member’s exact date of birth has not been found, his date of baptism has been given instead. Where neither birth date nor baptismal date have been discovered, an approximate birth date is given, signified variously as ‘aft.’, ‘bef.’, ‘by’ or ‘c.’, depending on how it has been inferred. A question mark before a date indicates either inference or unreliable evidence, and an oblique stroke separating two dates indicates a date somewhere between the two. An approximate date of birth may have been derived from age at entry to school or admission to or matriculation at university, or it may have been established with the help of a Member’s funeral monument, a statement in a legal deposition or from a minimum age given in the inquisition *post mortem* of the Member’s father. Where no other evidence survives, a birth date may have been derived from the date of parents’ marriage (for first-born children) or from the birth dates of siblings.

**Genealogy.** Where available, the following information has been included immediately after a Member’s birth date: the Member’s position in his family (such as only son, second but first surviving son, and so forth); the name and address of his father (unless the latter is a Member in his own right in this period, when the address is normally omitted); his mother’s Christian name, and the full name and address of her father; the names of any brothers sitting in this or other periods. Where a Member inherited his father’s estates, the date of the father’s death appears towards the end of the genealogical paragraph and is prefixed with the abbreviation ‘*suc. fa.*’. Otherwise, the death date appears in round brackets after the father is first mentioned.

**Education.** Included here is time spent in school (or being educated ‘privately’), university, Inn(s) of Court or Chancery, and in foreign travel where it appears to have been conceived as part of his education. Where possible the full duration of each stage of the education process is given, but as the length of time spent at school, Inn or university is often not known only the date of entry is normally recorded. The academic qualifications obtained by the Member, together with the date of the award, are also indicated in this section, as is a Member’s call to the bar (‘called’), the date of call being also given. If the age at entry to Inn or university is given in the record of admission, this fact is recorded. In this period it was becoming increasingly common for young gentlemen to finish their education by touring the Continent for a year or two. In recording the details of foreign travel of this kind, the biographical summaries not only attempt to estimate the duration, but also to list the countries and states visited.

**Marriage.** Where known, the full date of marriage is given, together with the Christian name of the Member’s wife, the name and address of her father, and the name, address and date of death (year only) of any previous husband(s). If the date of the marriage has not been found, the date of the marriage licence (if applicable) or the date of any marriage settlement is given instead. In many cases, however, it has proved necessary to estimate the date of marriage, in which case the forms ‘aft.’, ‘bef.’, ‘by’ or ‘c.’ are employed to signify the nature of the evidence used. The full date of the wife’s death or burial is included, as is the size of the marriage portion where known. The wives of Members who married more than once are listed in strict chronological sequence. The number of children each wife bore a Member is given after her name and family details. Sons and daughters are separately counted, but where the sex of one or more children has not been established the following form has been used: ‘2s. 1 da.; 1 other ch.’ Children known to have died before their father are indicated by means of round brackets and the abbreviation *d.v.p.* (*decesit vita patris*) thus: ‘2s. (1 *d.v.p.*)’. However, where all a Member’s sons or daughters by a particular wife predeceased him the brackets have been dispensed with. Illegitimate offspring are recorded separately, along with the name of the mother where it is known, after the Member’s marital history.

**Titles and succession.** The titles acquired by a Member during the course of his life, and the date that he entered into his inheritance, are recorded after his marriage details. Where a Member enjoyed a courtesy title, the year dates only are provided, but in all other cases full dates (of knighthood or creation) are given. Titles of honour are laid out in chronological order. Inheritance by the Member of his father’s estates is also recorded here (‘*suc. fa.*’), being inserted in the appropriate chronological position, but unless the Member inherited a title on the death of his father the year date only of succession is given. Where a Member succeeded to the estates of another family member, this fact too is recorded, except in the case of jointure lands which reverted to the Member on the death of his mother (these normally forming part of the Member’s patrimony).

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**Offices.** The preliminary paragraphs attempt to list all offices held by a Member throughout his career. Normally year dates only are given, but where possible terminal dates are provided, though where a Member held an office until his death the terminal date has been replaced with the abbreviation '*d.*' Fuller dates are given only where a Member's tenure of office began and ended within the calendar year, or where a Member entered into an office in the year in which he died.

Offices have been grouped under eight categories: (a) central government; (b) local and municipal government, a category which excludes offices of a legal nature, such as borough recorderships; (c) legal; (d) military and naval; (e) academic; (f) membership of chartered or trading companies; (g) parliamentary, though chairmanship of committees is excluded; (h) membership of business syndicates. Sub-headings have not been employed, as the theme of each paragraph should be readily apparent and because further subdivisions have sometimes been employed for the sake of clarity. (For instance, in some entries parochial offices have been grouped together in a separate paragraph). The order of the paragraphs depends on the date of the first appointment in each group. For reasons of economy, offices within each paragraph are grouped together by type (so, for instance, all the appointments to sewer commissions are dealt with together), the dates of each appointment being set out chronologically. The arrangement of each type of office also follows a chronological pattern.

**Main text.** Where possible, the parliamentary career forms the main focus of each biography. The aim has been to explain why a Member sought entry to Parliament, how he came to be elected, and what he did in the House. In many of the smaller biographies all the information on a man's parliamentary career is given, no matter how slight, but in the larger entries some selection of the material has proved necessary, particularly in respect of committee appointments. It should be noted that a Member's parliamentary career outside the period 1604-29 is sketched in comparatively lightly.

Although the parliamentary career forms the main focus of many biographies, attention is also paid to a Member's wider political interests, his family background and social status, his economic and financial interests, his landholdings and wealth, his religious beliefs and his cultural and intellectual pursuits. However the treatment of these subjects is necessarily limited, particularly in the case of those Members, like Inigo Jones and John Donne, whose principal claim to fame rests on their achievements outside Parliament. In some of the longer biographies subheadings have been provided for ease of reference.

**Sources.** The dates of parliamentary elections provided in tabulated form at the start of each constituency article are taken from Return of Members of Parliament (1878) or the appendix to this work published in 1879 unless otherwise stated. All other sources used are given in the endnotes/footnotes. Citations of Thomas Rymer's *Foedera* refer to the ten-volume edition published at The Hague in 1745. A list of the parliamentary sources used will be found in the list of abbreviations

located at the beginning of each volume. A list of the manuscripts consulted will be found at the end of this volume. Please note that some of the archives mentioned in the endnotes have changed their name since the time of writing. We are grateful to archives for bringing to our attention changes to references and call numbers since we originally looked at documents in their care. Where possible, these have been altered in the notes to each article. In many cases we have tried to indicate in the bibliography of manuscripts sources consulted the current call numbers for such documents.

# Abbreviations

*List of abbreviations used in the notes to this volume*

acct.	account
Add.	Additional
<i>AHR</i>	<i>American Historical Review</i>
<i>APC</i>	<i>Acts of the Privy Council</i>
Arch.	Archaeological
<i>Arch. Cambrensis</i>	<i>Archaeologia Cambrensis</i>
<i>Arch. Cant.</i>	<i>Archaeologia Cantabrigiensis</i>
Assoc.	Association
Beds.	Bedfordshire
Berks.	Berkshire
<i>BIHR</i>	<i>Bulletin of the Institute of Historical Research</i>
bk(s).	book(s)
BL	British Library
BN	Bibliothèque Nationale de France
Bodl.	Bodleian Library, Oxford
<i>Bor.</i>	<i>Borough</i>
<i>Bowyer Diary</i>	<i>The Parliamentary Diary of Robert Bowyer 1606-1607</i> ed. D.H. Willson
Cam. Soc.	Camden Society
Cambs.	Cambridgeshire
<i>Cat.</i>	<i>Catalogue</i>
‘CD 1604-7’	‘Commons Debates 1604-7’ ed. S. Healy in <i>Parliaments, Politics and Elections 1604-40</i> ed. C.R. Kyle (Cam. Soc. 5th ser. xvii)
Cent.	Centre
Cent. Kent. Stud.	Centre for Kentish Studies, Maidstone
<i>CD</i>	<i>Commons Debates</i>



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<i>Chamberlain Letters</i>	<i>Letters of John Chamberlain</i> ed. N.E. McClure
<i>CJ</i>	<i>Commons Journal</i>
Coll.	College
<i>Colls.</i>	<i>Collections</i>
corp.	corporation
<i>Corresp.</i>	<i>Correspondence</i>
Cornw.	Cornwall
Cott.	British Library, Cotton manuscripts
CRO	County Record Office
<i>CSP</i>	<i>Calendar of State Papers</i>
<i>CTB</i>	<i>Calendar of Treasury Books</i>
D'Ewes, <i>Jnls. of all the Parls.</i> (1682)	S. D'Ewes, <i>The Journals of all the Parliaments during the reign of Queen Elizabeth: both of the House of Lords and House of Commons</i> (1682)
<i>Docs.</i>	<i>Documents</i>
<i>Dom.</i>	<i>Domestic</i>
'Earle 1624'	Diary of proceedings in the House of Commons by Sir Walter Earle, British Library, Additional ms 18597
ed.	edited by
edn.	edition
Eg.	Egerton manuscripts
<i>EHR</i>	<i>English Historical Review</i>
E. Kent Archives Cent.	East Kent Archives Centre, Dover
Eng.	England
FSL	Folger Shakespeare Library, New York
GL	Guildhall Library, London
Glanville, <i>Reps. of Certain Cases</i> (1775)	John Glanville, <i>Reports of Certain Cases Determined and Adjudged by the Commons in Parliament</i> (1775)
Glos.	Gloucester
Hakewill, <i>The Manner How Statutes are Enacted</i> (1671)	W. Hakewill, <i>The Manner How Statutes are Enacted in Parliament by Passing of Bills</i> , in <i>Modus Tenendi Parliamentum</i> (1671)