

# Richard III may be innocent of murdering the princes in the Tower of London say researchers

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*King Richard III may be innocent of the murder of his two nephews, according to new evidence found by researchers*

**King Richard III**, whose remains were famously **found under a Leicester car park**, was known as England's murderous monarch.

Historians far and wide have long believed **the former King of England** would even go so far as to kill his own nephews, as their rights to the throne were stronger than his — a view popularised by William Shakespeare **in his play Richard III**. The alleged murders of the deposed King Edward V and his brother, Richard of Shrewsbury, Duke of York, took place in the Tower of London in the 1480s.

But now, new clues found in a church in Devon suggest that one of them might have left the tower unscathed.

According to researchers, the reputation of Richard III is being unfairly maligned, as he might not have murdered the young princes, reports **The Daily Telegraph**.

Philippa Langley, **who discovered the king's remains**, said that the older Prince Edward, believed to be 12 at the time, may have been allowed to live elsewhere under a false name.

A trail of documents led a team of researchers to a village in Devon, where Yorkist symbols have been found in the local church - meaning the prince may have sent to live in secret in the rural village of Coldridge.

Inside the church was an effigy of a man called "John Evans", who is staring at a glass window which depicts Edward V - which researchers believe may have been the young prince's alter ego.

John Dike, lead researcher, said: "The idea of a missing prince lying low in Devon might appear fanciful at first,

"With all the secret symbols and clues, it sounds somewhat like the Da Vinci Code. But the discoveries inside this church in the middle of nowhere are extraordinary.

**"The evidence suggests that Edward was sent to live out his days on his half-brother's land as long as he kept quiet, as part of a deal reached between his mother and Richard III, and later with Henry Tudor."**

The team is continuing to investigate the fate of Edward's younger brother, Richard of Shrewsbury, widely thought to have been nine when he was murdered.

He added: "We need more evidence and we would welcome anything that can shed further light on this mystery. But our findings already seem to point in one direction — that Richard III was innocent."

No has ever been found to prove their murder, apart from a pile of bones discovered under the Tower staircase in 1674.