

Forgotten castle ‘had major role’ in history

A LOST castle has been identified as one of the most important strongholds in medieval England.

Sheffield Castle was a huge structure that would have rivalled the Tower of London as a tourist attraction had it survived.

It was destroyed during the Civil War in 1646 and much of the remains later covered by a grim, concrete market complex.

But the site has been opened up by redevelopment and experts have found strong evidence that large parts of the walls are intact.

The castle was the seat of influential aristocrats who played a major role in national and international affairs, say Sheffield university researchers who have reviewed previous excavations.

They say it deserves to be thought of as ‘among the most important political and cultural centres in medieval England’. ‘The city has a

deep history that dates right back to the Middle Ages,’ said Prof John Moreland. ‘Since the castle was largely destroyed, this has largely been forgotten or ignored.’



Ruins: 1950s builders dig by the remains of Sheffield Castle's gatehouse, and an augmented reality program shows how the site looked PA



