

The Second Battle of St Albans was fought between the Lancastrian and Yorkist armies in the early stages of the Wars of the Roses. The first part of the battle was fought in the middle of St Albans but the latter part, and the fiercest fighting, took place on Bernards Heath, to the north. When the Earl of Warwick, the leader of the Yorkist army realised that

‘...he had lost the fortified area on Bernards Heath...The only sensible thing to do was to save what he could of his army. Rallying his men, Warwick made a fighting retreat back through Sandridge, finally making a stand on the high ground to the south of Nomansland common.’

For a detailed account of the two battles of St Albans, see:
Burley, P., Elliott, M., and Watson, H. (2007) *The Battles of St Albans* Pen and Sword (from which the quotation above is taken)