

OUR **TEMPLAR**  
**KNIGHT**  
**ANCESTORS**



## INTRODUCTION

From the early 8th century, Christian Europe faced ongoing attacks from Islamic forces. By the 10th century, much of the Iberian Peninsula, along with Sicily and southern Italy, was under Muslim control, and even Rome was besieged. As Constantinople came under threat, the Byzantine emperor appealed to the Pope. In 1095, Pope Urban II called for the First Crusade to aid Byzantium and reclaim the Holy Land.

By July 1099, the crusaders had captured Jerusalem. The region soon split into feudal states, loosely led by the King of Jerusalem, but lacked a reliable fighting force as most crusaders returned home. The Knights Templar would later fill this role as a permanent military order.

Meanwhile, pilgrims traveling from the port of Jaffa to Jerusalem and the Jordan River faced constant danger from bandits and raiders. Two knights, Hugues de Payens and Geoffrey de Saint-Omer, organized a group to protect them. King Baldwin II granted them quarters at the al-Aqsa Mosque on the Temple Mount, traditionally linked to Solomon's Temple. They became known as the "Poor Knights of Christ and of the Temple of Solomon."

In 1127, Hugues de Payens traveled through Western Europe to recruit members. With support from Bernard of Clairvaux, the order was formally recognized at the Council of Troyes in 1129 and given a monastic rule based on Cistercian traditions. The Templars adopted a white mantle symbolizing purity, and Hugues became their first Grand Master.

These soldier-monks became known as the Knights Templar.

While our family includes several Crusader ancestors, only two are known Templars: Earl William Marshal and Sir Hugh de Morwick. Here are their profiles.



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## TABLE of CONTENTS

Page

1. [Earl William Marshal](#)
4. [Temple Church](#)
- 6.. [Sir Hugh de Morwick](#)



## Earl William Marshal (1146 – 1219)

William Marshal, also called William the Marshal (Guillaume le Maréchal), was an Anglo-Norman soldier and statesman. He has been described as the "greatest knight that ever lived." He served five kings – Henry the Young King, Henry II, Richard the Lionheart, John and Henry III – and rose from obscurity to become a regent of England and one of the most powerful men in Europe. Before him, the hereditary title of "Lord Marshal" designated a sort of head of household security for the king of England; by the time he died, people throughout Europe (not just England) referred to him simply as "the Marshal".

In 1152, when William was probably about six years old, his father John Marshal switched sides in the civil war between King Stephen and Empress Matilda. According to one chronicler, when King Stephen besieged Newbury Castle, Stephen used the young William as a hostage to ensure that John kept a promise to surrender the castle. John broke his word, and when Stephen ordered John to surrender immediately or watch as he hanged William in front of the castle, John replied that he go ahead, for "I still have the hammer and the anvil with which to forge still more and better sons!" Fortunately for the child, Stephen could not bring himself to hang young Will.

As a younger son of a minor nobleman, William had no lands or fortune to inherit, and had to make his own way in life. As a youth he was sent to Normandy to serve in the household of William de Tancarville, where he began his training to become a knight. Through William de Tancarville, he then served in the household of his mother's brother, Patrick, Earl of Salisbury. In 1168 William's uncle was killed in an ambush by Guy of Lusignan. William was injured and captured in the same battle, but was ransomed by Eleanor of Aquitaine, who was apparently impressed by tales of his bravery. He had been knighted in 1167 and soon found he could make a good living out of winning tournaments. At that time tournaments were dangerous, often deadly, staged battles, not the



## LINEAGE *from* EARL WILLIAM MARSHAL

- 29. Earl William Marshal  
m. Isabel de Clare
- 28. Earl William de Warren  
m. Maud Marshal
- 27. Earl John de Warren  
m. Alice le Bruin
- 26. Baron Henry Percy  
m. Alianore Plantagenet de Warren
- 25. Baron Henry de Percy  
m. Eleanor de Arunde
- 24. Baron Henry de Percy  
m. Idoine de Clifford
- 23. Lord Henry de Percy  
m. Mary Plantagenet
- 22. Henry Percy  
m. Margaret de Neville
- 21. Sir Henry "Hotspur" Percy  
m. Elizabeth Mortimer
- 20. Earl Henry Percy  
m. Eleanor de Neville
- 19. Sir Henry Percy  
m. Eleanor Poynings
- 18. Sir William Gascoigne  
m. Margaret Percy
- 17. Sir George Talboys  
m. Elizabeth Gascoigne
- 16. Sir Edward Dymoke  
m. Anne Talboys
- 15. Sir Thomas Windebank  
m. Frances Dymoke
- 14. Lt. Col. Robert Reade  
m. Mildred Windebank
- 13. Lt. Col. George Reade  
m. Elizabeth Martiau

continued next page

jousting contests that would come later, and money and valuable prizes could be won by capturing and ransoming opponents. His record is legendary: he supposedly fought in 500 such bouts in his life and never lost once.

By 1170 his stature had risen so far that he was appointed tutor in chivalry for Henry the Young King, son of Henry II of England. The Young King's relations with his father were always fractious, and William stood by Henry during the Revolt of 1173-1174, during which he knighted the Young King. However, in 1182 William Marshal was accused of undue familiarity with Marguerite of France, the Young King's wife, and was exiled from court. He went to the court of Henry II that Christmas to ask for trial by combat to prove his innocence, but was refused. A few months later the Young King died, and on his deathbed, he asked William to fulfill his vow of going on a Crusade. William did so, crusading in the Holy Land from 1183 to 1186; while there he vowed to be buried as a Knight Templar.

Upon his return William rejoined the court of King Henry II, and now served the father through the many rebellions of his remaining sons (Richard, Geoffrey, and John). In 1189, while covering the flight of Henry II from Le Mans to Chinon, William unhorsed the undutiful Richard in a skirmish. William could have killed the prince but killed his horse instead, to make that point clear. After Henry's death, he was welcomed at court by his former adversary, now King Richard I, who was not foolish enough to exclude a man whose legend, and power, just kept growing.

In August 1189, when he was 43, King Richard arranged for him to marry the second-richest heiress in England, Isabel de Clare (1172-1240), the 17-year-old daughter of Strongbow. Her father had been Earl of Pembroke, and this title was granted to William, along with large estates in England, Wales, Normandy and Ireland.

Isabel was born in 1172, the eldest child of Richard de Clare, 2nd Earl of Pembroke (1130 - 20 April 1176, known in history as Strongbow and Aoife of Leinster, the daughter of Dermot MacMurrough, King of Leinster and More O'Toole. The latter was a daughter of Mutchertach O'Toole and Cacht ingen Loigsig O'Morda. The marriage of Strongbow and Aoife took place in August 1170, the day after the capture of Waterford by the Cambro-Norman forces led by Strongbow, and abetted by Dermot MacMurrough.

## LINEAGE *from* EARL WILLIAM MARSHAL

Continued

12. Col. Augustine Warner II  
m. Mildred Reade
11. Col John Lewis II  
m. Elizabeth Warner
10. Col. Robert Lewis  
m. Jane Meriwether
9. Col. Nicholas Lewis  
m. Mary 'Captain Molly' Walker
8. Lt. Hudson Martin  
m. Jane Walker Lewis
7. Thurston Dickinson  
m. Mary Walker Martin
6. John D. Duggins  
m. Frances Elizabeth Dickinson
5. James Henry Smith  
m. Elizabeth Marshall Duggins
4. Peter Christen Jensen  
m. Laura Ann Smith
3. Wilhelm August Heineman  
m. Lucile Marguerite Jensen
2. Peter Edward Heineman  
m. Doris Jean Crum
1. Peter Lea Heineman

Isabel's paternal grandparents were Gilbert de Clare, 1st Earl of Pembroke and Isabella de Meulan. She had a younger brother Gilbert de Striguil, 3rd Earl of

Pembroke, who died at the age of 12. She also had an illegitimate half-sister Basile de Clare, who married three times. Basile's husbands were: Robert de Quincy; Raymond Fitzgerald, Constable of Leinster; Geoffrey FitzRobert, Baron of Kells.

Isabel was described as pleasant, gentle, and extremely attractive. After her brother Gilbert's death in 1185, she became one of the wealthiest heiresses in the kingdom, owning besides the titles of Pembroke and Striguil, suo jure, much land in Wales and Ireland. She inherited the numerous castles on the inlet of Milford Haven, guarding the South Channel, including Pembroke Castle. She was a ward of King Henry II.

The marriage was happy, despite the vast difference in age between them. The marriage transformed the landless knight from a minor family into one of the richest men in the kingdom, a sign of his power and

prestige at court. William made numerous improvements to his wife's lands, including extensive additions to Pembroke Castle and Chepstow Castle.

William was included in the council of regency which the King appointed on his departure for the Third Crusade in 1190. He took the side of Prince John when the latter expelled the justiciar, William Longchamp, from the kingdom, but he soon discovered that the interests of John were different from those of Richard. Hence in 1193 he joined with the loyalists in making war upon the prince. Richard forgave Marshal his first error of judgement, and allowed him to succeed his brother, John Marshal, in the hereditary marshalship, and on his death-bed designated him as custodian of Rouen and of the royal treasure during the interregnum.

William supported King John when he became king in 1199, but they had a falling out when William paid homage to King Philip II of France for his Norman lands. William left for Leinster in 1207 and stayed in Ireland until 1212, during which time he had Carlow Castle erected. In 1212 he was summoned to fight in the Welsh wars. Despite these differences, it was William on 15 June 1215 at Runnymede who dealt with the barons who made King John agree to the Magna Carta, and he was one of the few English noblemen to remain loyal to the royal side through the First Barons' War. It was William whom King John trusted on his deathbed to make sure John's nine-year-old son Henry would get the throne.

On 11 November 1216, upon the death of King John, William Marshal was named by the king's council (the chief barons who had remained loyal to King John in the First Barons' War) to serve as both regent of the 9-year-old King Henry III, and regent of the kingdom. In spite of his advanced age (around 70) he prosecuted the war against Prince Louis and the rebel barons with remarkable energy. In the battle of Lincoln, he charged and fought at the head of the young King's army, leading them to victory. He was preparing to besiege Louis in London when the war was terminated by the naval victory of Hubert de Burgh in the straits of Dover. He was criticized for the generosity of the terms he accorded to Louis and the rebels in September 1217; but his desire for an expeditious settlement was dictated by sound statesmanship. Self-restraint and compromise were the key-notes of Marshals policy, hoping to secure peace and stability for his young liege. Both before and after the peace of 1217 he reissued Magna Carta, in which he is a signatory as one of the witnessing barons.

Without his presence England might not have survived the disastrous reign of John; where the French and the rebels would not trust the English king's word, they would trust William.

William Marshal's health finally failed him in February 1219. In March 1219 he realized that he was dying, so he summoned his eldest son, also William, and his household knights, and left the Tower of London for his estate at Caversham in Oxfordshire, near Reading, where he called a meeting of the barons, Henry III, the papal legate, the royal justiciar (Hubert de Burgh), and Peter des Roches (Bishop of Winchester and the young King's guardian). William rejected the bishop's claim to the regency and entrusted the regency to the care of the papal legate; he apparently did not trust the bishop or any of the other magnates that he had gathered to this meeting. Fulfilling the vow, he had made while on crusade, he was invested into the order of the Knights Templar on his deathbed. He died on 14 May 1219 at Caversham, and was buried in the Temple Church in London, where his effigy can still be seen.



Effigy of Earl William Marshal in Temple Church



Statue of Earl William Marshal behind the Royal Throne in the House of Lords, holding a copy of the Magna Carta

William Marshal appears in two romance novels by Marsha Canham: *In the Shadow of Midnight* and *The Last Arrow*. William appears (named only as the Earl of Pembroke) in William Shakespeare's historical play *King John* and is a central character in the traditional English ballad "Queen Eleanor's Confession" (Child 156), in which he is (fictitiously) revealed to have seduced Eleanor of Aquitaine while escorting her to England. Four generations of the Marshal family, from Isabel de Clare's parents through William fitzWilliam's fictitious bastard son, are the subjects of a series of four historical romances by Mary Pershall. *Dawn of the White Rose* (1985) is the one about William Marshal

and Isabel de Clare.

William Marshal appears in four of the books authored by Jean Plaidy on the Plantagenet Kings: *The Revolt of the Eaglets* (where he fights for Henry II), *The Heart of the Lion* (his relation with Richard Coeur de Lion), *The Black Prince* (his relation with King John Lackland) and *The War of the Queens* (in his role as regent of Henry III). His daughter Isabella also appears in the next book of the Saga, *The Queen from Provence*, as Richard of Cornwall's first wife...and numerous more cultural references.

The Office of Marshal, now Earl-Marshal still exists, and still holds responsibility for Royal Funerals. You can see his great castles such as Carlow Castle in Ireland, and Pembroke Castle with its great tower and Chepstow Castle in Wales.

## Temple Church (London)

Temple Church in the City of London located between Fleet Street and the River Thames, was built by the Knights Templar as their English headquarters. In the mid-12th century, before the construction of the church, the Knights Templar in London had met at a site in High Holborn in a structure originally established by Hugues de Payens (the site had been historically the location of a Roman temple in Londinium, now known as London).

Because of the rapid growth of the Order, by the 1160s the site had become too confined, and the Order purchased the current site for the establishment of a larger monastic complex as their headquarters in England. King Henry II, gifted land close to the River Thames to the Order of the Knights Templar.

After the capture of Jerusalem in 1099 by the Crusaders, the Dome of the Rock was given to the Augustinians, who turned it into a church (while the Al-Aqsa Mosque became a royal palace). Because the Dome of the Rock was the site of the Temple of Solomon, the Knights Templar set up their headquarters in the Al-Aqsa Mosque adjacent to the Dome for much of the 12th century. The *Templum Domini*, as they called the Dome of the Rock, along with the Church of the Holy Sepulchre upon which it was based soon became the architectural model for Round Templar churches across Europe. In a twist of fate, that church may originally have been a temple to Aphrodite in the second century.

4



The church building comprises two separate sections: The original circular church building, called the Round Church and now acting as a nave, and a later rectangular section adjoining on the east side, built approximately half a century later, forming the chancel. The Round Church is 55 feet in diameter, and contains within it a circle of the earliest known surviving free-standing Purbeck Marble columns. It is probable that the walls and grotesque heads were originally painted in colors.



Work on the London headquarters of the Knights Templar began in the 1160s. It was consecrated at Candlemas in honor of the Blessed Virgin Mary on February 10, 1185 by Heraclius, Latin Patriarch of Jerusalem - later re-dedicated in 1240 when the new chancel was built. It is believed that King Henry II (1154-1189) was present at the consecration.

The church was originally part of a large monastic compound that included residences, military training facilities, and recreational grounds for the military

brethren and novices, who were not permitted to go into the city without the permission of the Master of the Temple.

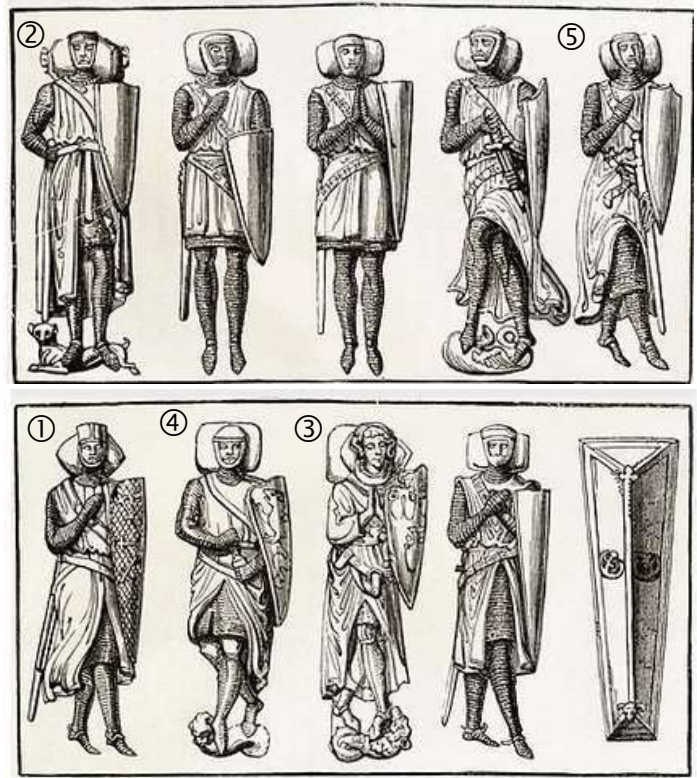
The original church had a small choir, but this was greatly enlarged in the early 1200s when King Henry III expressed a wish to be buried there. The new chancel was consecrated on Ascension Day 1240. However, when Henry's will was read upon his death in 1272, it was discovered he had changed his mind and wanted to be buried in Westminster Abbey instead.

The Knights Templar order was very powerful in England, with the Master of the Temple sitting in parliament as *primus baro* (the first baron in precedence of the realm). The compound was regularly used as a residence by kings and by legates of the pope. The Temple also served as an early safety-deposit bank, sometimes in defiance of the Crown's attempts to seize the funds of nobles who had entrusted their wealth there.

After the destruction and abolition of the Knights Templar in 1307, King Edward II took control of the church as a Crown possession. It was later given to the Knights Hospitaller, who leased the Temple to two colleges of lawyers. One college moved into the part of the Temple previously used by the Knights, and the other into the part previously used by its clergy, and both shared the use of the church. The colleges evolved into the Inner Temple and the Middle Temple, two of the four London Inns of Court.

One of the most interesting aspects inside the Temple Church are the nine life-sized marble knightly effigies that lie in the old round church. A tenth sarcophagus has a carved lid. These were believed to be tombs until the post- WWII restoration revealed no bodies, but only effigy memorials.

All the knights are on their back, with their eyes open, around the age of 30, but are otherwise positioned in different ways: some have their legs extended straight out while others have their legs crossed; some wear tunics over their armor and others wear full-length robes; some clutch their swords, some pray, and some have their arms straight at their sides.



Of the nine Knight effigies, five have been identified:

1. Geoffrey de Mandeville, 1st Earl of Essex
2. **William Marshal, 1st Earl of Pembroke**
3. Robert de Roos, 4th Baron of Hamlake
4. William Marshal, 2nd Earl of Pembroke
5. Gilbert Marshal, 4th Earl of Pembroke

## Sir Hugh de Morwick (1224- 1269)

Hugh de Morwick was born ca. 1224 in Morwick, Northumberland. Morwick, or Morricks, is a township in Warkworth parish, Northumberland; on the River Coquet, near the coast, two miles Southwest of Warkworth. His father, Hugh de Morewick, was 40 and his mother, Sybil de Umfraville, was 22.

Warkworth is a place of great antiquity, and during the heptarchy was of considerable importance: a church was founded there in 736, by Ceolwulph, King of Northumbria, who is supposed to have granted the monks of Lindisfarne Priory a charter of incorporation, under the provisions of which the town still retains the privileges of a borough by prescription. In 1174, William the Lion, King of Scotland, taking up his headquarters there, sent Earl Duncan, who commanded his army, to lay waste the adjacent country; and on the same day that William was defeated and taken prisoner at Alnwick, the earl, entering the town of Warkworth with his soldiers, set fire to it, and massacred the inhabitants without distinction of age or sex.

The 8th-century timber church was probably destroyed in the Viking raids that damaged Lindisfarne itself in the 9th century. The timber church was rebuilt in stone, but no trace of that first stone church remains. We do know that its altar stood beneath the present chancel arch.

It was replaced by the present stone building in 1132, around the same time as Warkworth Castle was begun on the hill above. The church was intended not only as a place of worship but as a place of refuge in times of war. The nave is narrow and high, with extremely thick walls and slit windows, reminiscent of military construction.



## LINEAGE *from* SIR HUGH de MORWICK

24. Sir Hugh de Morwick  
m. Agnes de Heyford
23. Sir John de Bulmer III  
m. Theophania de Morwick
22. Sir John Constable  
m. Albreda de Bulmer
21. Sir John Constable  
m. Maude de Hilton
20. Sir William Constable  
m. Elizabeth Metham
19. Sir John Constable  
m. Margaret Umfreville
18. Sir John Constable  
m. Lora FitzHugh
17. Sir William Mallory  
m. Joan Constable
16. Sir John Mallory  
m. Margaret Thwaites
15. Sir William Mallory  
m. Johanna 'Jane' Norton
14. Sir William Mallory  
m. Joan Constable
13. Rev. Thomas Mallory  
m. Elizabeth Vaughn
12. Rev. Thomas Mallory  
m. Unknown
11. Capt. Roger Mallory  
m. Unknown
10. Thomas Mallory  
m. Elizabeth Higgason
9. John Mallory Sr.  
m. Anne Coyne
8. John Mallory Jr.  
m. Grace Smith

continued next page

Hugh de Morwick had at least 1 son and 2 daughters with Agnes de Heyford de Morville. He died on 26 April 1269, in West Chevington, Northumberland, England, at the age of 46, and was buried in Guisborough, Yorkshire, England.

Near the south door is a medieval knight's effigy resting on a 17th-century table tomb. The effigy shows the knight in a traditional cross-legged pose with his feet resting on a carved lion. The inscription indicates that this is Sir Hugh de Marwick, English Crusader and Templar.



## LINEAGE *from* SIR HUGH de MORWICK

Continued

7. Henry Mallory  
m. Lucy (Chandler) Long
6. Tartan Smith  
m. Lucy Mallory
5. James Henry Smith  
m. Elizabeth Marshall Duggins
4. Peter Christen Jensen  
m. Laura Ann Smith
3. Wilhelm August Heineman  
m. Lucile Marguerite Jensen
2. Peter Edward Heineman  
m. Doris Jean Crum
1. Peter Lea Heineman



The Ordo Supremis Templii Militaris Hierosolymitani (OSMTH) –or Sovereign Military Order of the Temple of Jerusalem–is an international, ecumenical Christian Order with members from over 40 countries dedicated to defending human rights, promoting religious and political freedom, and providing humanitarian aid to those in need.

The Order today is founded on the principles of chivalrous service and Christian charity, first adopted by the original Templar Knights in the Holy Land in the year 1118 and carried out in those early days from their headquarters on the Temple Mount in the Holy City of Jerusalem, which were provided for them by the then King of the Latin Kingdom of Jerusalem, Baldwin the Second.

OSMTH is recognized by the United Nations with Special Consultative Status and maintain official delegations to the UN in New York, Geneva, and Vienna. They are a global network of professionals–including government leaders, diplomats, clergy, military officers, doctors, engineers, and humanitarian workers.

OSMTH aspires to foster a cosmopolitan society in which differences among peoples, cultures, and systems of government will be both respected and appreciated. Members seek the betterment of humanity through education, worldwide fellowship, chivalric principles, Christian charity, and civil behavior one to another.

