

The Baronry of Delvin

Following the lineage of the Barons of Delvin is no mean affair. To try and follow the De Nogent descendants in Ireland, who were finally to become the Nugents, let us return to the closing years of the 12th Century, when the De Nogent ancestors first set foot on the shores of Ireland.

Exactly when King Henry II gave the county of Meath to Hugh de Lacy is not sure. What we do know, is that he did it for two reasons :

- 1 - He wanted to repay the De Lacy family for their constant loyalty,
- 2 - He wanted to balance the power of his loyal subjects against that of Strongbow, who had been exercising just a little bit too much power in a land that Henry had been ordered by the Vatican to "bring into line with the church".

Strongbow (Richard de Clare, 2nd Earl of Pembroke), who had finally understood the importance of the opportunity which was offered to him by Dermot MacMurrough, the ousted King of Leinster, had come to Ireland himself, with more soldiers. He had spent more than a year with superior forces, causing havoc and conquering several important cities. Henry had finally realized that this situation could degenerate into an intolerable situation, and so decided to solve the problem personally. He arrived in Ireland in October 1171, with an army strong enough to cause Strongbow to bow to his king and to his superior forces. From this moment, Strongbow realized that he had to play his cards with caution, so he relinquished all the conquered land and cities to his liege. He had married the daughter of the Irish King Dermot MacMurrough, and had also had the promise of MacMurrough kingdom, so he thought he had little to fear. Henry was magnanimous, and promptly returned the majority of the conquered lands to Strongbow, while keeping the major prizes of Dublin, Waterford and Wexford. But Henry was not yet finished ! He knew he had to return to England to look after current affairs, but he was worried about the potential havoc that Strongbow could wreak, if he was left to his own devices.

Henry had not set foot in Ireland alone. He had brought with him a large force of mercenaries, including descendants of the De Lacy family, who had been faithful to the crown for several generations. Hugh de Lacy, their chief had also convinced a handful of Anglo-Norman knights to accompany him, probably with the traditional promises of booty. These Anglo-Norman families were having a hard time in England (and Wales), and perhaps thought that there was more to be had in a new land. For whatever reason, the mercenaries arrived with Hugh de Lacy, 13 Barons of high repute, following de Lacy, rather than sustaining the King of England. Their efforts were rewarded far more than they could ever hope for.

Henry had spent more time than he could afford in Ireland, but he had to return to current affairs in England. However, he was loathe to leave the avaricious Strongbow, who would certainly carry on his conquests, the moment that Henry turned his back. Henry wanted to ensure that the balance of power was maintained. He gave Hugh de Lacy the County of Meath, but more important, he named him "justiciar" (or viceroy), which allowed De Lacy the right to name Barons, as if he were the King himself. De Lacy

divided the county of Meath amongst his Anglo-Norman Barons, and named many of them Barons in their own right. Among them, the descendant of Fulke de Nogent (or Fulke de Bellême), Gilbert de Nogent was thus nominated Baron of Delvin, and was awarded "large tracts of land in Bracklyn, Meath".

Strongbow had little time to benefit from his new kingdom, which he inherited upon the death of Dermot MacMurrough, and the marriage to MacMurrough's daughter. He died in 1176.

The Descent of the Family as Barons of Delvin

Although declared as Barons of Delvin, the fortunes of the De Nogent Family took a turn for the worse, when Richard de Nogent (known as la Capella), the brother of Gillbert, and who was named Baron of Delvin upon the death of his brother, had no male heir. Richards daughter (her name is not recorded) married Richard le Tuit, and the Baronry of Delvin escaped into the Le Tuit family. The tide turned for the De Nogent descendants when, more than 100 years later, John Fitz-John, 8th Baron of Delvin had no male heir, and his daughter married a descendant of the De Nogent family, in the name of Sir William (a cousin of the line of Richard la Capella), who appears to be the first to have anglicized the De Nogent Name to NUGENT. The Baronry of Delvin returns to the Nugent family, and the Nugents and their descendants are finally on the road to fame and fortune, although the family will suffer much from the changing attitudes of the successive Kings and Queens of England over the next centuries.

Nugent descendants married into many important English and Irish noble families, because they themselves were noble. We will follow the descendency of the Barons of Delvin, who were later titled "Earls of Westmeath". In the following table, are included the Lords of Delvin, so named when the title of Baron or Earl was already assigned to the first in line

*In the following list, dates on **blue** are extrapolations, and dates in **red** are approximations. Dates in black are probably correct, and dates marked "xxxx" indicate "unknown".*

The early Barons of Delvin were obviously numbered from "1". However, at a later date, and for some obscure reason, the numbering system changed (restarted at "1"). These new numbers are not shown in the following tables, for reasons of clarity.

In the following tables, the Family Number is an internal number I have given to each of the De Nogent/Nugent Family Members, and is not used in this document ¹. The Diagram Vector is a coordinate which allows you to locate any Family Member on the large Family Diagrams ². These diagrams are far too large to be included in this document, and can only be studied on a computer (pdf files). As a result, these two references are not used in association with this document, unless a CD was included, or unless you access the nugent.fr Internet site.

Family Number	Name	Title	DOB-DOD	Filiation	Diagram Vector
0236	- Gilbert de Nogent	(1st Baron of Delvin) -	(1150-1202)	Son of Richard	1R6
0234	- Richard de Nogent	(2nd Baron of Delvin) -	(1156-xxxx)	Brother of Gilbert	1Q6
0243	- Richard (Fitz-John) le Tuit	(3rd Baron of Delvin) -	(xxxx-xxxx)	Husband of Rosa, daughter of Richard	1Q6
0250	- John (Fitz-John) le Tuit	(4th Baron of Delvin) -	(1210-xxxx)	Son of Richard Fitz-John	1Q7
0255	- Richard (Fitz-John) le Tuit	(5th Baron of Delvin) -	(1240-xxxx)	Son of John Fitz-John	1Q7
0257	- Thomas Fitz-John	(6th Baron of Delvin) -	(1265-xxxx)	Son of Richard Fitz-John	1Q7
0259	- Richard Fitz-John	(7th Baron of Delvin) -	(1290-xxxx)	Son of Christopher	1Q7
0261	- John Fitz-John	(8th Baron of Delvin) -	(1325-xxxx)	Son of Richard	1Q8

¹ Family Member Numbers are shown on the Family diagrams, associated with the Name and the Date of Birth/Date of Death of each Family Member.

² The Diagram Vector is a position coordinate which enables rapid location of a Family Member on the large Tree Documents of the family. The coordinate is made up of 3 alphanumeric characters :

Character 1 represents the Diagram Number,
 Character 2 represents the horizontal axis of the position on the diagram (A letter from A to Z),
 Character 3 represents the vertical axis of the position on the diagram, within the column of the letter defined in Character 2 (from 1 to 9).

Example : 0236 Gilbert de Nogent has a vector of 1R6,
 All diagrams are composed of a large number of quadrants,
 1 represents the Diagram Number where the Family Member is to be

found,

R represents the column R quadrant within Diagram 1,
 6 represents the depth quadrant within the column R quadrant.

Family Number	Name	Title	DOB-DOD	Filiation	Diagram Vector
0270	- Sir William Nugent -	(9th Baron of Delvin) -	(1355-1415)	Son of Nicholas - "The first NUGENT"	2U1
0301	- Sir Richard Nugent -	(10th Baron of Delvin) -	(1382-1475)	Son of William	2U2
0307	- James Nugent -	(Lord Delvin)	(1408-1458)	Son of Richard	2S2
0309	- Christopher Nugent -	(11th Baron of Delvin) -	(1434-1478)	Son of James	2S2
0311	- Richard Nugent -	(12th Baron of Delvin) -	(1460-1537)	Son of Christopher	2S2
0313	- Sir Christopher Nugent -		(1483-1531)	Son of Richard	2S2
0315	- Richard Nugent -	(13th Baron of Delvin) -	(1523-1559)	Son of Christopher	2S2
0325	- Christopher Nugent -	(14th Baron of Delvin) -	(1544-1602)	Son of Richard	2S2
0328	- Richard Nugent -	(1st Earl of Westmeath) -	(1583-1642)	Son of Christopher	2S2
0357	- Christopher Nugent -	(16th Baron of Delvin) -	(1604-1625)	Son of Richard, 1st Earl	2S3
0363	- Richard Nugent -	(2nd Earl of Westmeath) -	(1621-1684)	Grandson of Richard, 1st Earl	2S3
0393	- Christopher Nugent -	(Lord Delvin) -	(xxxx-1684)	Son of Richard, 2nd Earl	2S3
0401	- Richard Nugent -	(3rd Earl of Westmeath) -	(1667-1714)	Grandson of Richard, 2nd Earl	2S3
0400	- Thomas Nugent -	(4th Earl of Westmeath) -	(1669-1752)	Brother of Richard, 3rd Earl	2S3
0403	- Maj. Gen. John Nugent -	(5th Earl of Westmeath) -	(1671-1754)	Brother of Thomas, 4th Earl	2S3
0410	- Christopher Nugent -	(Lord Delvin) -	(1690-1752)	Son of Thomas, 4th Earl	2S3
0407	- Thomas Nugent -	(6th Earl of Westmeath) -	(1714-1792)	Son of John, 5th Earl	2S3
0416	- Richard Nugent -	(Lord Delvin) -	(1742-1761)	Son of Thomas, 6th Earl	2S3
0417	- George Frederick Nugent -	(7th Earl of Westmeath) -	(1760-1814)	Son of Thomas, 6th Earl	2R3
0425	- George Thomas Nugent -	(8th Earl of Westmeath) -	(1785-1871)	Son of George Frederick, 7th Earl	2S3
0436	- William Henry Nugent -	(Lord Delvin) -	(1818-1819)	Son of George Thomas, 8th Earl	2S3
0381	- Anthony Francis Nugent -	(9th Earl of Westmeath) -	(1805-1879)	4th Cousin of George Thomas, 8th Earl	2Q3
0685	- William St. George Nugent -	(10th Earl of Westmeath) -	(1832-1883)	Son of Anthony, 9th Earl	2P4
0686	- Anthony Francis Nugent -	(11th Earl of Westmeath) -	(1870-1933)	Son of William, 10th Earl	2P4
0687	- Gilbert Charles Nugent -	(12th Earl of Westmeath) -	(1880-1971)	Brother of Anthony, 11th Earl	2Q4
0688	- William Anthony Nugent -	(13th Earl of Westmeath) -	(1928-xxxx)	Son of Gilbert, 12th Earl	2Q4
0690	- Heir Apparent Sean Charles Weston Nugent -		(1965-xxxx)	Son of William, 13th Earl	2Q4
0691	- Heir Presumptive Hon. Patrick Mark Nugent -		(1966-xxxx)	Brother of Sean, Heir Apparent	2Q4