Isabella de la Roche

Isabella de la Roche^[1] (died before 1291) was a daughter of <u>Guy I de la Roche</u>. She was married twice, firstly to <u>Geoffrey of Briel</u>, <u>Lord of Karytaina</u> and then secondly to <u>Hugh</u>, <u>Count of Brienne</u>, having children only with her second husband.

Life

Isabella's date of birth is unknown. She was the fifth of six children, her siblings included: John I de la Roche, William de la Roche and Alice de la Roche, who was regent of Beirut. Her father Guy was created Duke of Athens in 1260 by King Louis IX of France.^[2]

Isabella de la Roche	
Died	before 1291
Noble family	De la Roche
Spouse(s)	Geoffrey of Briel Hugh, Count of Brienne
Father	Guy I de la Roche

Isabella was married firstly in 1256 to Geoffrey of Briel, Lord of Karytaina.^[3] The couple were married for thirteen years however, no children were born in this time. In 1269, Geoffrey died of fever while commanding the garrison at Skorta.^[4] Upon Geoffrey's death, Isabella received the half of the barony as her dower, the other half going to the prince William II of Villehardouin as suzerain of the barony.^[5]

In 1277, Isabella was married a second time, this time to <u>Hugh, Count of Brienne</u>, [6] a claimant to the thrones of <u>Cyprus</u> and <u>Jerusalem</u>. Their children became part of the <u>Brienne claim to the Kingdom of Jerusalem</u>. The couple had two children:

- Walter V of Brienne (d. 1311), Duke of Athens, Hugh's heir.
- Agnes of Brienne, married John, Count of Joigny

Isabella's date of death is unknown however, she did not outlive Hugh as he remarried in 1291 to Helena Komnena Dukaina, meaning Isabella must have died before 1291. Hugh and Helena had another daughter named Joanna. Through Isabella, her son Walter was able to claim Duchy of Athens in 1308 upon the death of her cousin Guy II de la Roche.

References

- 1. In some cases, Isabella is referred to as Isabella of Athens
- Cawley, Charles, <u>LATIN LORDSHIPS IN GREECE</u>, <u>Medieval Lands</u> (http://fmg.ac/Projects/MedLands/LATIN%20LOR <u>DSHIPS%20IN%20GREECE.htm#GuylAthensdied1263B</u>), Medieval Lands database, Foundation for Medieval Genealogy,
- 3. Livre de la conqueste de la princée de la Morée, p. 107.
- 4. William Miller, The Latins in the Levant (New York: Dutton, 1908), p. 142.
- 5. Bon, Antoine (1969). La Morée franque. Recherches historiques, topographiques et archéologiques sur la principauté d'Achaïe p 148
- Lignages d'Outremer, Le Vaticanus Latinus 4789, CCC.XXXIII, p. 90.

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