

Robert I, Duke of Burgundy

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Robert I of Burgundy (1011 – 21 March 1076), known as **Robert the Old** and "Tete-Hardi", was Duke of Burgundy from 1032 to his death. Robert was son of King Robert II of France and brother of Henry I of France.^[1]

In 1025, with the death of his eldest brother Hugh Magnus, he and Henry rebelled against their father and defeated him, forcing him back to Paris. In 1031, after the death of his father the king, Robert participated in a rebellion against his brother, in which he was supported by his mother, Constance of Arles. Peace was only achieved when Robert was given Burgundy (1032).

Throughout his reign, he was little more than a robber baron who had no control over his vassals, whose estates he often plundered, especially those of the Church. He seized the income of the diocese of Autun and the wine of the canons of Dijon. He burgled the abbey of St-Germain at Auxerre. In 1048, he repudiated his wife, Helie of Semur followed by the assassination of her brother Joceran and the murdering her father, his father-in-law, Lord Dalmace I of Semur, with his own hands. In that same year, the Bishop of Langres, Harduoin, refused to dedicate the church of Sennecy so as not "to be exposed to the violence of the duke."

His first son, Hugh, died in battle at a young age and his second son, Henry, also predeceased him. He was succeeded by Henry's eldest son, his grandson, Hugh I.^[2]

Contents

- 1 Family
- 2 Ancestry
- 3 See also
- 4 References
- 5 Sources

Family

He married his first wife, Helie of Semur,^[3] about 1033, and repudiated her in 1048. Robert and Helie had five children:

1. Hugh (1034–1059), killed in battle

Robert I "the Old"

Duke of Burgundy



Spouse(s)

Helie of Semur
Ermengarde of Anjou

Issue

by Helie:

Hugh
Henry of Burgundy
Robert
Simon

Constance, Empress of Spain, Queen consort of León and Castile

by Ermengarde:

Hildegarde, Duchess consort of Aquitaine

Noble family

Burgundy

Father

Robert II of France

Mother

Constance of Arles

Born

1011

Died

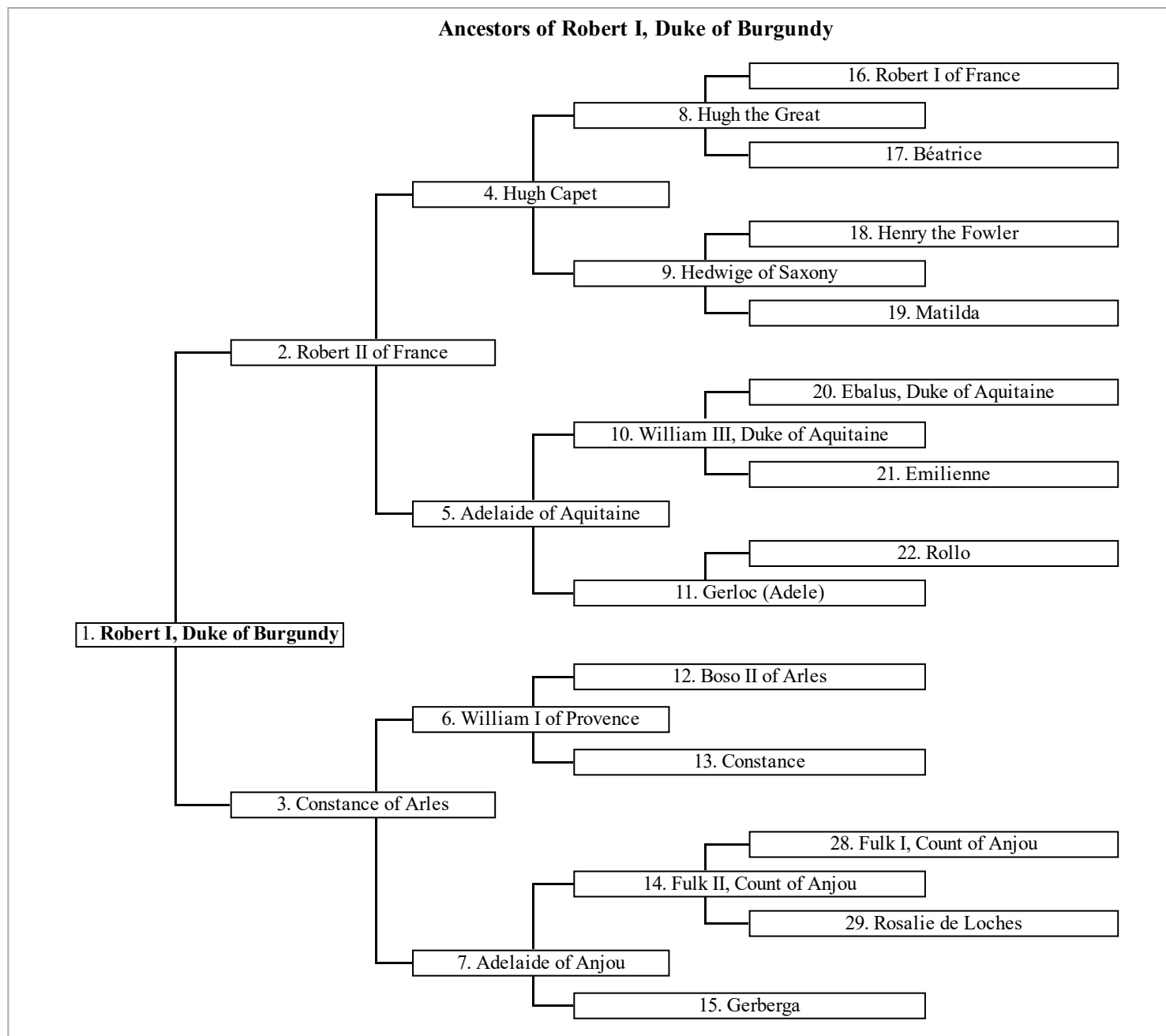
21 March 1076
Fleurey-sur-Ouche

2. Henry (1035–ca.1074). He died shortly before his father, thus making his son Robert's heir. His children included Hugh I, Duke of Burgundy (1057–1093), Odo I, Duke of Burgundy (1058–1103), and Henry, Count of Portugal (1066–1112), among others
3. Robert (1040–1113), poisoned; married Violante of Sicily, daughter of Roger I of Sicily
4. Simon (1045–1087)
5. Constance (1046–1093), married Alfonso VI of León and Castile

- From his second wife, Ermengarde,^[4] daughter of Fulk III of Anjou, he had one daughter:

1. Hildegarde (c.1056–1104), married William VIII of Aquitaine

Ancestry



See also

- Dukes of Burgundy family tree

References

1. *Kings, Rulers, and Statesmen*, ed. Mark Hillary Hansen, (Sterling Publishing Co., 2005), 111.
2. Elizabeth Hallam, *Capetian France: 987-1328*, (Longman Group Ltd., 1980), 30.
3. *Burgundy*, Constance B. Bouchard, **Medieval France: An Encyclopedia**, ed. William W. Kibler and Grover A. Zinn, (Routledge, 1995), 156.
4. Georges Duby, *The Knight, the Lady and the Priest*, (University of Chicago Press, 1981), 90.

Sources

- Gwatking, H. M., Whitney, J. P., et al. *Cambridge Medieval History: Volume III—Germany and the Western Empire*. Cambridge University Press: London, 1930.

Robert I, Duke of Burgundy House of Burgundy Cadet branch of the Capetian dynasty Born: 1011 Died: 2 March 1076		
Preceded by Henry	Duke of Burgundy 1032 – 1076	Succeeded by Hugh I

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