

De Clare

The de Clare Family

Richard Fitz Gilbert (See Generation Three below) took the title “Earl of Clare” from one of his lordships in Suffolk where the ruins of Clare Castle can still be found not far from the River Stour. He seems to have adopted the name “of Clare” or “de Clare” at that time. Later de Clares had an Irish connection (See Generation Four below) , and County Clare in western of Ireland is named for this ancient family.

The arms of de Clare are described as “Or, three chevrons gules” which means “A gold shield with three red chevrons.”



De Clare

Generation One

Godfrey of Brionne & Eu

Died circa 1015

Godfrey was a son of **Richard I “the Fearless”**, 3rd Duke of Normandy. (See *Normandy*, Generation Seven) Godfrey had the following son:

- **Gilbert “Crispin”, Count of Brionne**, mentioned next.

Generation Two

Gilbert “Crispin”, Count of Brionne

Died in 1040, said to have been murdered by his cousin, Ralph of Gacé

For a short period in the autumn of 1040 following the sudden death (murder?) of Count Alan of Brittany, Gilbert was chief tutor to the young William the Conqueror. Gilbert had the following sons:

- **Richard FitzGilbert de Clare**, mentioned next.
- Baldwin FitzGilbert

Generation Three

Richard FitzGilbert de Clare, Earl of Clare; Lord of Bienfaite, Orbec and Tonbridge.

Born in 1035

Died in 1090

Richard FitzGilbert de Clare was most probably present at the Battle of Hastings. Richard married Rohese Giffard, daughter of Walter Giffard (died 1084), Lord of Longueville who was most certainly present at the Battle of Hastings. (See *Normandy*, Generation Ten)

Richard and Rohese had the following children:

- **Gilbert FitzRichard de Clare**, mentioned next.
- Walter de Clare, Lord of Nether Gwent
- Roger FitzRichard de Clare
- Richard FitzRichard de Clare, Abbot of Ely
- **Robert FitzRichard de Clare**, Baron of Baynard and Dunmow, who married **Maud de Saint Liz**, daughter of Simon de Saint Liz, Earl of Huntingdon and Northampton. (See *Fitz Walter*) Robert FitzRichard died between 1134 and 1136, and Maud then married to **Saher de Quincy**. (See *De Quincy*, Generation One)

- Adelize de Clare
- Rohese de Clare

Generation Four

Gilbert FitzRichard de Clare, Earl of Clare

Born circa 1066

Died in 1114 / 1117

Gilbert married **Alice (Adeliza, Adelaide) de Clermont** (See *Capet*, Generation Eleven) and they had the following children:

- Baldwin FitzGilbert de Clare, Lord of Bourne
- **Richard FitzGilbert de Clare**, mentioned next.
- **Gilbert FitzGilbert de Clare, 1st Earl of Pembroke**. Gilbert is sometimes referred to as “Strongbow”, but his son Richard is better remembered by this name. He was born circa 1100 and died on January 6, 1147. Gilbert FitzGilbert de Clare married **Isabel (Elizabeth) de Beaumont** (See *Beaumont*, Generation Four) and they had the a son:
 - **Richard “Strongbow” FitzGilbert de Clare, 2nd Earl of Pembroke**. He was born circa 1130 and died on April 20, 1176 in Dublin, Ireland. Richard married on August 26, 1171 at Waterford, Ireland to **Aoife MacMurrough**, Countess of Ireland. (See *Ireland*, Generation Seven). Their children:
 - Gilbert de Clare, 3rd Earl of Pembroke, born 1173 and died circa 1185
 - **Isabel de Clare, Countess of Pembroke**. Born about 1174; died in 1220 and interred at Tintern Abbey. Isabel married in August 1189 at London, England to **William Marshal**, 4th Earl of Pembroke. (See *Marshal*, Generation Three)
- **Alice de Clare** who married **Aubrey de Vere**, Justicar of England. (See *De Vere*, Generation Two) Alice and Aubrey had 8 children including:
 - **Juliana de Vere** who married **Hugh Bigod**. (See *Bigod*, Generation Three)
- Rohese de Clare

Generation Five

Richard FitzGilbert de Clare, Earl of Clare

Born before 1100

Died on April 15, 1136. Slain by the Welsh.

Richard married Adeliza de Keveliock, daughter of Hugh de Keveliock, Earl of Chester and sister of Ranulph de Guernons, Earl of Chester.

Richard and Adeliza had the following children:

- Gilbert FitzRichard de Clare, Earl of Hertford, born in 1115 and died without issue in 1153.
- **Roger de Clare**, mentioned next.
- Alice de Tonbridge de Clare
- Rohese de Clare
- Robert FitzRichard de Clare

Generation Six

Roger de Clare, Earl of Hertford and Clare

Born after 1115

Died in 1173

Roger succeeded his older brother Gilbert (d.s.p. 1153) as Earl of Hertford and Clare.

Roger married Maud de St. Hilary, daughter and heir of James de St. Hilary.

Roger and Maud had the following children:

- **Richard de Clare**, mentioned next.
- John de Clare
- Mabel de Clare
- Aveline de Clare who married circa 1205 to Geoffrey FitzPiers, Earl of Essex. Their son:
 - John FitzGeoffrey, Justicar of Ireland

Generation Seven

Richard de Clare, Earl of Hertford and Clare

Born circa 1153

Died in 1217 between October 30 and November 28

Richard was one of the 25 Sureties of the Magna Charta. He married circa 1180 to **Amicia**, Countess of Gloucester, daughter and heir of William FitzRobert, Earl of Gloucester and Hawise de Beaumont. (See *Magna Charta* and *Normandy* Generation Fourteen) Richard and Amicia had the following children:

- **Gilbert de Clare, Earl of Gloucester, Earl of Hertford and Clare** (See *Normandy*, Generation Fifteen)
- Richard (Roger) de Clare
- Matilda (Maud) de Clare; married William de Braiose who was murdered by King John (starved to death) in 1210 at Corfe or Windsor Castle.
- Rose (Joan) de Clare

Sources

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