

TURBERVILLE family of Crickhowell, Brecknock.

The genealogies are confused and contradictory; that given in [Theophilus Jones](#), *History of the County of Brecknock*, mixes them up with the [Coity](#) family in Glamorgan, and with some English branches. [Sir John Edward Lloyd](#) supports [Theophilus Jones](#) in the theory that there is no evidence for the statement that the Burghills preceded the Turbervilles at Crickhowell.

ROBERT TURBERVILLE appears as a principal tenant of Bernard de Newmarch in 1121, and was probably therefore the original holder. A HUGH TURBERVILLE, according to the *Testa de Nevill*, held Dulverton by the tenure of castle guard at Brecon by grant from Henry II - a most peculiar tenure for a Devonshire lordship. A HUGH TURBERVILLE and a RICHARD TURBERVILLE attested Brecon charters in 1215 and 1220. Another HUGH TURBERVILLE was at Crickhowell in 1273, and then held Crickhowell not as a tenant in chief, but as a mesne lordship under Reginald Fitzherbert of Blaenllynfi.

This HUGH DE TURBERVILLE was a person of considerable importance, a member of the headquarters staff by means of which Edward I was endeavouring to transform the disorderly feudal levy into a disciplined army. In 1272 he was seneschal of Gascony. Recalled for the Welsh war, he served in some capacity in 1277. In 1282 he was serving in the paid cavalry with eight lances and later appeared with a corps of 6,000 infantry from the marches with a high rank of banneret. In the following year he brought 1,000 men and was promoted to the rank of deputy-constable. In 1284 he was constable of Bere castle, Merioneth; in 1287, during [Rhys](#)'s rising, he was at the siege of Dryslwyn, Carmarthenshire; in 1288 he was deputy-justiciar for a few months; and afterwards returned to Bere, where he died in 1293. He was the last of the family in the direct line. His daughter Sybil married Sir Grimbald Paunceforte, whose family succeeded the Turbervilles at Crickhowell.

A THOMAS DE TURBERVILLE also served in the same wars as leader of infantry and knight of the household, but it is not clear that he belonged to the Crickhowell family.

As in Glamorgan, the name of Turberville persisted in cadet branches in Brecknock at least until the 18th century.

Author

Henry John Randall, (1877 - 1964)

Sources

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G. T. Clark, *Limbus Patrum Morganiae et Glamorganiae* (1886)

Theophilus Jones, Edwin Davies, Joseph Russell Bailey, *History of the County of Brecknock* (1909-1930), iii, 125-6

J. E. Morris, *The Welsh Wars of Edward I a contribution to mediaeval military history, based on original documents* (Oxford 1901)

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