

= Walter de Lacy (died 1085) =

Walter de Lacy (died 27 March 1085) was a Norman nobleman who came to England after the Norman Conquest of England in 1066 . He received lands in Herefordshire and Shropshire , and served King William I of England by leading military forces during 1075 . He died in 1085 and one son inherited his lands . Another son became an abbot .

= = Early life = =

Walter was originally from Lassy , in Normandy . He had a brother , Ilbert de Lacy . Ilbert was the ancestor of the de Lacy family of Pontefract . Both Walter and Ilbert jointly held the Norman lands that were held of the Bishop of Bayeux .

= = Career in England = =

Walter was given the lordship of Weobley in Herefordshire after the Conquest . He is already attested in the Welsh Marches by 1069 , when he is recorded stopping a Welsh attack and then raiding into Wales in retribution . Walter and Ilbert may have come to England in the household of Odo of Bayeux , the Bishop of Bayeux and half @-@ brother of King William the Conqueror . Although some historians , such as W. E. Wightman , have argued that Walter was a follower of William fitzOsbern , others , including C. P. Lewis and K. S. B. Keats @-@ Rohan , have argued that Walter was an independent agent in England . By the time of Walter 's death , he held a block of lands in Herefordshire along the border with Wales . Another group of lands was centered on Ludlow in Shropshire . These two groupings of lands allowed Walter to help defend the border of England against Welsh raids . Walter also had other lands in Berkshire , Gloucestershire , Worcestershire , and Oxfordshire . Walter kept a large number of his manors in demesne , managing them directly rather than giving them as fiefs to his knightly followers . Some of these lands in Hereford , including Holme Lacy , were held of the Bishop of Hereford through feudal tenure . In total , Domesday Book records Walter 's lands as being worth £ 423 in income per year and as comprising 163 manors in 7 different counties . He was one of 21 individuals with land valued at more than £ 400 at the time of the survey .

In 1075 , Walter was one of the leaders of the force that prevented Roger de Breteuil from joining up with the other rebels during the Revolt of the Earls . Walter had joined forces with Wulfstan the Bishop of Worcester , Æthelwig the Abbot of Evesham Abbey , and Urse d 'Abetot the Sheriff of Worcester .

= = Family and death = =

Walter married Emma or Emmelina and they had three sons ? Roger , Hugh and Walter . Roger was the heir to Weobley and Walter became Abbot of Gloucester Abbey . Occasionally the elder Walter is claimed to have married twice ? once to Emma and once to an Ermeline , but this is probably a confusion of the variations of Emma 's name . Walter and Emma also had a daughter who became a nun at St Mary 's Abbey , Winchester . A niece was married to Ansfrid de Corneilles . Considerable confusion exists about Sybil , the wife of Pain fitzJohn . C. P. Lewis names her as the daughter of Walter , but W. E. Wightman calls her the daughter of Hugh , Walter 's son . Yet another pedigree has her as the daughter of Agnes , the daughter of Walter . In this rendition , favoured by Bruce Coplestone @-@ Crow , Agnes was married to Geoffrey Talbot .

The elder Walter died on 27 March 1085 , falling off some scaffolding at Saint Guthlac 's Priory when he was inspecting the progress of the building at that monastery . He was buried in the chapter house at Gloucester Abbey . He was a benefactor to Gloucester Abbey , as well as Saint Guthlac 's .