

= Edmund FitzAlan , 9th Earl of Arundel =

Edmund FitzAlan , 9th Earl of Arundel (1 May 1285 ? 17 November 1326) was an English nobleman prominent in the conflict between Edward II and his barons . His father , Richard FitzAlan , 8th Earl of Arundel , died on 9 March 1301 , while Edmund was still a minor . He therefore became a ward of John de Warenne , Earl of Surrey , and married Warenne 's granddaughter Alice . In 1306 he was styled Earl of Arundel , and served under Edward I in the Scottish Wars , for which he was richly rewarded .

After Edward I 's death , Arundel became part of the opposition to the new king Edward II , and his favourite Piers Gaveston . In 1311 he was one of the so @-@ called Lords Ordainers who assumed control of government from the king . Together with Thomas , Earl of Lancaster , he was responsible for the death of Gaveston in 1312 . From this point on , however , his relationship to the king became more friendly . This was to a large extent due to his association with the king 's new favourite Hugh Despenser the Younger , whose daughter was married to Arundel 's son . Arundel supported the king in suppressing rebellions by Roger Mortimer and other Marcher Lords , and eventually also Thomas of Lancaster . For this he was awarded with land and offices .

His fortune changed , however , when the country was invaded in 1326 by Mortimer , who had made common cause with the king 's wife , Queen Isabella . Immediately after the capture of Edward II , the queen , Edward III 's regent , ordered Arundel executed , his title forfeit and his property confiscated . Arundel 's son and heir Richard only recovered the title and lands in 1331 , after Edward III had taken power from the regency of Isabella and Mortimer . In the 1390s , a cult emerged around the late earl . He was venerated as a martyr , though he was never canonised .

= = Family and early life = =

Edmund FitzAlan was born in the Castle of Marlborough , in Wiltshire , on 1 May 1285 . He was the son of Richard FitzAlan , 8th Earl of Arundel , and his wife , Alice of Saluzzo , daughter of Thomas I of Saluzzo in Italy . Richard had been in opposition to the king during the political crisis of 1295 , and as a result he had incurred great debts and had parts of his land confiscated . When Richard died in 09 / 03 / 1301 , Edmund 's wardship was given to John de Warenne , Earl of Surrey . Warenne 's only son , William , had died in 1286 , so his daughter Alice was now heir apparent to the Warenne earldom . Alice was offered in marriage to Edmund , who for unknown reasons initially refused her . By 1305 he had changed his mind , however , and the two were married .

In April 1306 , shortly before turning twenty @-@ one , Edmund was granted possession of his father 's title and land . On 22 May 1306 , he was knighted by Edward I , along with the young Prince Edward ? the future Edward II . The knighting was done in expectation of military service the Scottish Wars , and after the campaign was over , Arundel was richly rewarded . Edward I pardoned the young earl a debt of £ 4 @,@ 234 . This flow of patronage continued after the death of Edward I in 1307 ; in 1308 Edward II returned the hundred of Purslow to Arundel , an honour that Edward I had confiscated from Edmund 's father . There were also official honours in the early years of Edward II 's reign . At the new king 's coronation on 25 February 1308 , Arundel officiated as chief butler (or pincerna) , a hereditary office of the earls of Arundel .

= = Opposition to Edward II = =

Though the reign of Edward II was initially harmonious , he soon met with opposition from several of his earls and prelates . At the source of the discontent was the king 's relationship with the young Gascon knight Piers Gaveston , who had been exiled by Edward I , but was recalled immediately upon Edward II 's accession . Edward 's favouritism towards the upstart Gaveston was an offence to the established nobility , and his elevation to the earldom of Cornwall was particularly offensive to the established nobility . A group of magnates led by Henry de Lacy , Earl of Lincoln , forced Gaveston into exile in 1308 . By 1309 , however , Edward had reconciled himself with the opposition , and Gaveston was allowed to return .

Arundel joined the opposition at an early point , and did not attend the Stamford parliament in July 1309 , where Gaveston 's return was negotiated . After Gaveston returned , his behaviour became even more offensive , and opposition towards him grew . In addition to this , there was great discontent with Edward II 's failure to follow up his father 's Scottish campaigns . On 16 March 1310 , the king had to agree to the appointment of a committee known as the Lords Ordainers , who were to be in charge of the reform of the royal government . Arundel was one of eight earls among the twenty @-@ one Ordainers .

The Ordainers once more sent Gaveston into exile in 1311 , but by 1312 he was back . Now the king 's favourite was officially an outlaw , and Arundel was among the earls who swore to hunt him down . The leader of the opposition ? after Lincoln 's death the year before ? was now Thomas , Earl of Lancaster . In June 1312 Gaveston was captured , tried before Lancaster , Arundel and the earls of Warwick and Hereford , and executed . A reconciliation was achieved between the king and the offending magnates , and Arundel and the others received pardons , but animosity prevailed . In 1314 Arundel was among the magnates who refused to assist Edward in a campaign against the Scottish , resulting in the disastrous English defeat at the Battle of Bannockburn .

= = Return to loyalty = =

Around the time of Bannockburn , however , Arundel 's loyalty began to shift back towards the king . Edward 's rapprochement towards the earl had in fact started earlier , when on 2 November 1313 , the king pardoned Arundel 's royal debts . The most significant factor in this process though , was the marriage alliance between Arundel and the king 's new favourites , the Despensers . Hugh Despenser the Younger and his father Hugh Despenser the elder were gradually taking over control of the government , and using their power to enrich themselves . While this alienated most of the nobility , Arundel 's situation was different . At some point in 1314 ? 1315 , his son Richard was betrothed to Isabel , daughter of Hugh Despenser the Younger . Now that he found himself back in royal favour , Arundel started receiving rewards in the form of official appointments . In 1317 he was appointed Warden of the Marches of Scotland , and in August 1318 , he helped negotiate the Treaty of Leake , which temporarily reconciled the king with Thomas of Lancaster .

With Arundel 's change of allegiance came a conflict of interest . In August 1321 , a demand was made to the king that Hugh Despenser and his father , Hugh Despenser the elder , be sent into exile . The king , facing a rebellion in the Welsh Marches , had no choice but to assent . Arundel voted for the expulsion , but later he claimed that he did so under compulsion , and also supported their recall in December . Arundel had suffered personally from the rebellion , when Roger Mortimer seized his castle of Clun . Early in 1322 , Arundel joined King Edward in a campaign against the Mortimer family . The opposition soon crumbled , and the king decided to move against Thomas of Lancaster , who had been supporting the marcher rebellion all along . Lancaster was defeated at the Battle of Boroughbridge in March , and executed .

In the aftermath of the rebellion , the Despensers enriched themselves on the forfeited estates of the rebels , and Hugh Despenser the elder was created Earl of Winchester in May 1322 . Also Arundel , who was now one of the king 's principal supporters , was richly rewarded . After the capture of Roger Mortimer in 1322 , he received the forfeited Mortimer lordship of Chirk in Wales . He was also trusted with important offices : he became Chief Justiciar of North and South Wales in 1323 , and in 1325 he was made Warden of the Welsh Marches , responsible for the array in Wales . He also extended his influence through marriage alliances ; in 1325 he secured marriages between two of his daughters and the sons and heirs of two of Lancaster 's main allies : the deceased earls of Hereford and Warwick .

= = Final years and death = =

In 1323 , Roger Mortimer , who had been held in captivity in the Tower of London , escaped and fled to France . Two years later , Queen Isabella travelled to Paris on an embassy to the French king . Here , Isabella and Mortimer developed a plan to invade England and replace Edward II on the

throne with his son , the young Prince Edward , who was in the company of Isabella . Isabella and Mortimer landed in England on 24 September 1326 , and due to the virulent resentment against the Despenser regime , few came to the king 's aid . Arundel initially escaped the invading force in the company of the king , but was later dispatched to his estates in Shropshire to gather troops . At Shrewsbury he was captured by his old enemy John Charlton of Powys , and brought to Queen Isabella at Hereford . On 17 November ? the day after Edward II had been taken captive ? Arundel was executed , allegedly on the instigation of Mortimer . According to a chronicle account , the use of a blunt sword was ordered , and the executioner needed 22 strokes to sever the earl 's head from his body .

Arundel 's body was initially interred at the Franciscan church in Hereford . It had been his wish , however , to be buried at the family 's traditional resting place of Haughmond Abbey in Shropshire , and this is where he was finally buried . Though he was never canonised , a cult emerged around the late earl in the 1390s , associating him with the 9th @-@ century martyr king St Edmund . This veneration may have been inspired by a similar cult around his grandson , Richard FitzAlan , 11th Earl of Arundel , who was executed by Richard II in 1397 .

Arundel was attainted at his execution ; his estates were forfeited to the crown , and large parts of these were appropriated by Isabella and Mortimer . The castle and honour of Arundel was briefly held by Edward II 's half @-@ brother Edmund , Earl of Kent , who was executed on 3 September 1330 . Edmund FitzAlan 's son , Richard , failed in an attempted rebellion against the crown in June 1330 , and had to flee to France . In October the same year , the guardianship of Isabella and Mortimer was supplanted by the personal rule of King Edward III . This allowed Richard to return and reclaim his inheritance , and on 8 February 1331 , he was fully restored to his father 's lands , and created Earl of Arundel .

= = Issue = =

Edmund and Alice had at least seven children :

= = Ancestry = =