

Birth:

1351, England

Death:

Dec. 27, 1381

Cork

County Cork, Ireland

Edmund Mortimer, 3rd Earl of March and Earl of Ulster was son of Roger Mortimer, by his wife Philippa, daughter of William Montagu, 1st Earl of Salisbury.

He was an infant at the death of his father, Edmund, as a ward of the crown, was placed by Edward III of England under the care of William of Wykeham and Richard Fitzalan, 10th Earl of Arundel.

The position of the young earl, powerful on account of his possessions and hereditary influence in the Welsh marches, was rendered still more important by his marriage in 1368 at the age of 17 to the 13 year old Philippa, the only child of

Lionel of Antwerp, Duke of Clarence, second son of King Edward III and his wife Philippa of Hainault. Lionel's wife, Elizabeth, was daughter and heiress of William Donn de Burgh, 3rd Earl of Ulster, and Lionel had himself been created Earl of Ulster before his marriage. Edmund inherited the title Earl of Ulster on Lionel's death.

Therefore, the Earl of March not only represented one of the chief Anglo-Norman lordships in Ireland in right of his wife Philippa, but Philippa's line was also the second most senior line of descent in the succession to the crown, after Edward, the Black Prince and his son, King Richard II of England.

This marriage had, therefore, far-reaching consequences in English history, ultimately giving rise to the claim of the House of York to the crown of England contested in the Wars of the Roses; Edward IV being descended from the second adult son of Edward III as great-great-grandson of Philippa, countess of March, and in the male line from Edmund of Langley, fourth adult son of Edward III. Edmund's son Roger Mortimer, 4th Earl of March would become heir presumptive to the English crown during the reign of Richard II.

He died at Cork on 27 December 1381. He was buried in Wigmore Abbey, of which he had been a benefactor, and where his wife Philippa was also interred.

Family links:

Parents:

Roger Mortimer (1328 - 1360)

Philippa Montagu (1333 - 1381)

Spouse:

Philippa Plantagenet (1355 - 1381)

Children:

Elizabeth *Mortimer* De Camoys (1371 - 1417)

Burial:

Wigmore Abbey

Wigmore

Herefordshire, England