Mont Orgueil Castle biography

The following people have played an important role in the history of Mont Orgueil Castle and some even have features named after them such as the Harleston Tower or Prynne’s Tower.

Philippe d’Auvergne (1754-1816)
A Jerseyman, also known as the Prince de Bouillon, he commanded the naval flotilla based at Gorey with the rank of Acting-Commodore during the French Wars. He used the castle as a base from which he operated a spy network known as La Correspondence. By 1814 he had risen to the rank of Vice-Admiral of the Red

Sir George de Carteret (1609-80)
Joined the King’s Navy in 1623 and was a Vice Admiral by the age of 32. He declined the command of the English Navy at the outbreak of the Civil War and was loyal to the King. He succeeded his uncle, Philippe de Carteret, as Bailiff and Governor of Jersey until Parliamentary forces successfully captured the island in 1651. After the Restoration in 1660 he was rewarded for his loyalty with a grant of land in America which became known as New Jersey

Sir Hugh Calveley (c1320-1394)
A successful military commander who made a name for himself in the campaigns of the Hundred Years War. A friend of the Black Prince he held many important positions including keeper of the Channel islands from 1378. His tomb in Cheshire is decorated with a life-size carving of him in a full suit of armour.

Henry Cornish
A godson of Henry VIII. Captain (Lieutenant-Governor) of Jersey from 1541 until 1549, under Edward Seymour, Earl of Hertford and Duke of Somerset

Sir Richard Harliston (1425- after 1495)
The leader of Edward IV’s fleet that recaptured the island from the French in 1468. When the two bailiwicks separated in 1470 he became the first Governor of Jersey. A staunch Yorkist, he refused to hand over Mont Orgueil to the Tudors following the defeat of Richard III in 1485. He went into exile and supported both Perkin Warbeck and Lambert Simnel in their rebellions in 1486 and 1495.

John Hélie
The Hélie family (also spelled as Helle or Hale) were local landowners in St Martin. John Helie is mentioned in a law suit dated 1439.

Paul Ivy
Also known as Paul Iwe, was the Queen’s Engineer. He wrote on the art of fortification and was active in Jersey in the 1590s when he was responsible for work at both Elizabeth Castle and Mont Orgueil. In 1597 he was working on the fortification of Falmouth.

Thomas Overay (Ovray)
A merchant, he was elected Mayor of Southampton on several occasions, he was Governor of Jersey from 1497 until his death in 1500.
Sir Hugh Paulet (c1500-1573)
Governor of Jersey between 1550 and his death in 1573. A devout Protestant, he fought in Flanders during the 1540s and commanded the forces which defeated the Catholic rebels in the West Country in 1549. In Mont Orgueil he continued the work started by Henry Cornish and his building programme radically altered the appearance of the castle.

Sir Amyas Paulet (1536-1588)
The son of Sir Hugh Paulet, he was Governor of Jersey from 1573 until his death in 1588. A strict Puritan, Sir Amyas was Elizabeth’s Ambassador to the French Court and also jailer to Mary Queen of Scots.

Sir Anthony Paulet (1562-1600)
The son of Sir Amyas Paulet and Margaret Hervey, Anthony was made Lieutenant Governor in 1583 and was sworn in as Governor in 1590. He died in 1600 and was succeeded by Sir Walter Raleigh.

Sir John Peyton (1544-1630)
Succeeded Sir Walter Raleigh as Governor of Jersey in 1603. Peyton saw action in Ireland and the Netherlands before he was appointed Lieutenant of the Tower of London in 1597. He was responsible for enforcing Church of England practices on Calvinist Jersey and while here he clashed a number of times with Jersey’s civil establishment over the question of his authority.

Sir John de Roches
He was sent to the islands by Edward II to review the defences in 1326, he was Keeper of Mont Orgueil 1328-1330.

Sir John Thynne (1513-1580)
Served as Steward in the household of Edward Seymour, Earl of Hertford and Duke of Somerset, Protector of England. Fought in Henry VIII’s Scottish expedition in 1544 and was knighted after the Battle of Pinkie in 1547. He was part of the Princess Elizabeth’s household during the reign of Queen Mary.

Sir Anthony Ughtred (Oughtred) (c1470-1534)
Governor of Jersey from 1532 until his death in 1534. His wife was Elizabeth Seymour, whose sister Jane was to marry Henry VIII and whose brother, Edward Seymour, became Protector to the boy-king, Edward VI. In 1512 he was captain of the 400-ton Mary James at the Battle of Saint-Mathieu (Brest) - reputedly the first sea battle using canon firing through gun-ports. As a soldier he played an important role in Henry VIII’s French and Scottish expeditions and was captain of Berwick upon Tweed 1523-28.