

Arnulf, Count of Holland

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Arnulf, also known as *Aernout* or *Arnold* succeeded his father in 988 as Count in Frisia. He was born in 951 in Ghent and because of this he is also known as *Arnulf of Ghent*. Arnulf was the son of Dirk II, Count of Holland and Hildegard, thought to be a daughter of Arnulf of Flanders.

Career

Arnulf is first mentioned (together with his parents) in 970. Like his father, his name appears in numerous Flemish documents at the time. In 983 Arnulf accompanied Emperor Otto II and future Emperor Otto III on their journey to Verona and Rome. As count he managed to expand his territories southwards. Arnulf donated several properties to Egmond Abbey, amongst others Hillegersberg (which was previously called *Bergan*, but renamed after Arnulf's mother) and Overschie, which may have been rewards for the land-clearing activities of the monks of Egmond.

Arnulf was the first count to come into conflict with the West-Frisians and in 993 he invaded their territory, but on 18 September of that year he was defeated and killed in a battle near Winkel in West-Friesland. His son Dirk was still a boy at this time, but Arnulf's widow Luitgard managed to retain the county for her son with support from first Emperor Otto III and later her brother-in-law, Emperor Henry II.

Family

In May 980 Arnulf married Lutgard of Luxemburg, a daughter of Siegfried, Count of Luxemburg. The couple had (at least) two sons; the future Count Dirk III and Siegfried (also known as *Sicco*). Arnulf, his wife and his sons were all buried at Egmond.

He also had a daughter, Adelina of Holland, who was married to Baldwin II, Count of Boulogne and Enguerrand I, Count of Ponthieu.

On 20 September 993 Liutgard donated her properties at Rugge to Saint Peter's abbey of Ghent for the soul of her husband. In June 1005 she made peace with the West-Frisians through mediation by Emperor Henry.

Arnulf of Holland Count in Frisia



Arnulf as imagined in the 16th century

Reign	988–993
Born	950/955
Birthplace	Ghent, Flanders
Died	September 18, 993
Place of death	Winkel, West-Friesland
Buried	Egmond
Predecessor	Dirk II
Successor	Dirk III
Consort	Lutgard of Luxemburg
Issue	Dirk III Siegfried (known as <i>Sicco</i>)
Father	Dirk II
Mother	Hildegarde of Flanders

References/Bibliography

- Cordfunke, *Graven en Gravinnen van het Hollandse Huis* (1986).
- <http://fmg.ac/Projects/MedLands/HOLLAND.htm>

Preceded by Dirk II	Count of Friesland west of the Vlie 988–993	Succeeded by Dirk III
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