



### Owain Glyndŵr's time in the Berwick-upon-Tweed

Berwick-upon-Tweed was an important border town during Anglo-Scottish conflict. Berwick castle was a key tactical stronghold for England. Owain is one of 300 soldiers posted at Berwick in March 1384, following the end of a peace treaty. He is a squire for Sir Gregory Sais, a Welsh knight famous for military exploits. The Scots manage to bribe the warden and take over the town and an English siege fails during 1384. The English have to pay 2000 marks to have it returned.

### Owain Glyndŵr's military service for John of Gaunt

Owain Glyndŵr joins John of Gaunt's military campaign into Scotland. It's a destructive campaign, seeking to weaken Scottish resistance by burning and destroying towns and supplies, including Edinburgh. This campaign did not stop the Scots from raiding England so Richard II led a campaign himself, with John of Gaunt and Owain Glyndŵr, in 1385. Despite reaching Edinburgh, the 1385 campaign wasn't seen as successful.

### Squire to Richard Fitzalan, Earl of Arundel

Owain and his brother Tudur were seen as important soldiers for the Earl, listed 8th and 20th on his list. They would likely help with his armour and weapons and Owain (as high on the list) would have been seen as a captain in battle and likely trained other soldiers. Together they fought at Battle of Margate, also known as the Battle of Cadzand took place between 24 and 25 March 1387. This was a famous victory in the Hundred Years War and many soldiers were knighted.

### Owain Glyndŵr's military service: Timeline

- March 1384: Posted to Berwick-upon-Tweed military garrison
- April 1384: Campaign to Scotland (led by John of Gaunt)
- Summer 1385: Part of Richard II's army on march into Scotland
- March 1387: Fought in Battle of Margate
- December 1387: Squire for Henry Bolingbroke, Battle of Radcot Bridge
- 1388: Name crossed off Richard Fitzalan's retinue
- 1394: Possibly on campaign with Richard II in Ireland

### Squire to Henry Bolingbroke

Owain became squire to Henry Bolingbroke, then the Earl of Derby, prior to the Battle of Radcot Bridge. Henry Bolingbroke was one of the Lords Appellant, who challenged Richard II's authority. The Royalists lost the battle and their leader, Robert de Vere fled. It was an important victory for the Lords Appellant, giving them more power.

### Richard II's downfall

The Merciless Parliament was formed by the Lords Appellant in 1388 to control Richard II. Richard's reign was calmer between 1389 and 1395 but further disagreements with nobility (such as the Earl of Arundel's execution in 1397 and Henry Bolingbroke's exile in 1388) led to him losing all support by 1399 and having to abdicate. Henry Bolingbroke returned and was crowned Henry IV. Richard died mysteriously in 1400.

### Retirement to Sycharth

Owain Glyndŵr was named in the Earl of Arundel's soldiers in 1388 but did not actually serve. His military service possibly continued in 1394 on a military campaign to Ireland with Richard II. After 1394, Owain's military career had certainly come to an end in the service of the English crown and he retired to the considerable comfort of his home at Sycharth.

