



EDGAR EVENTS

**Researching and sharing Edgar family
history No. 31, August 2009**



DNA Update

by James Edgar (Editor) (jamesedgar@sasktel.net)



Nobody challenged me on the announcement of our 4th Anniversary Newsletter (except my wife!). Jodie was kind enough to politely point out that from July 2006 to July 2009 is only three years, not four! Oh well, it was four Julys!!!

Test, tests, and more tests — my Scotland mailout has struck paydirt! To date, I have received 12 responses to my letters to Scottish Edgars, four of whom have ordered DNA tests. We have these people now with test kits either at the lab or with them for their swabs: Keith Edgar of Omagh, Northern Ireland; David Edgar of Queensland, Australia; Ron Edgar of Lincolnshire, England; Lawrence Edgar of Glasgow, Scotland; Harry Edgar, John Edgar, and James Edgar all of Edinburgh, Scotland.

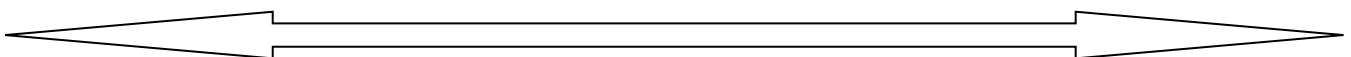
In addition, **Sharon (Edgar) Bunek** of Michigan has ordered a 67-marker test for her brother, **Doug Edgar**, the results of which should be coming along in a month or so.

We have a test result from **David Edgar** in Guildford that raises an interesting question. **David** is an R1b, and he claims descendancy from the Wedderlie **Edgars**. Here's the interesting part: **Steve Edgar** of Toronto and I are the same Haplogroup (I1) and he claims descendancy from Crinan of Scotland, through to the Wedderlie **Edgars** and to the **James Edgar**, Secretary to the "Old Pretender," James Edward Stuart. We can't both claim descent from Wedderlie—it's either R1b or I1. We have another test result coming along that may put this to rest; Ron Edgar of Lincolnshire claims his ancestor was born at Wedderlie!

On the Ancestry.com site, we have identified many peoples' most ancient known **Edgar** ancestor and his date and place of birth. This information is shown in the note with each name on the DNA Compare page. Also, we have included with each tested person their Haplogroup in brackets behind their name, for easy access to the different Haplotypes in our group.

IMPORTANT NOTICE: Would every Edgar please submit at least a simple tree, a "bare bones" tree in a PDF to the Edgar DNA Project Web site? We desperately need these trees to further all of our research efforts, and to find the right Edgar to share new info with. You can easily put a file on the DNA site—upload your tree, elaborate and detailed, or bare-bones. We assure you this information will remain in the Edgar project for our use only.

Now for something new, an Edgar Researcher's Report, spearheaded by Sharon (Edgar) Bunek. She's up next!



Edgar Researchers Report



by Sharon Edgar, Wayne MI (onsims@aol.com)

Dear Edgar Family, We have a new project, an exciting project, and here it is! Enjoy!

Our new project is called the Edgar Researchers Report, which will include Edgar information that you and I want to share with our general membership. I am convinced that we all have found very interesting information, not only about our own Edgar families but also valuable information about other Edgar families, and here is our opportunity to share our findings with others. We are growing! And it is getting more difficult to find that right Edgar that might benefit from new information. Your administrators, James and Steve, and I believe that the Edgar Researchers Report written by our members is the most efficient method of getting new and important research information quickly to all of our Edgar members.

This is a worldwide effort. You are invited to write about any topic and/or your specific area of interest, whether it's your own family or a special Edgar project that you are involved in, your DNA family connections, or historical articles. We trust your judgement. If you are working with others in a specific research project, we would love to hear about that, too.

I have agreed to help with the Edgar Researchers Report, and I have a deadline to meet with James for the publication of the newsletter, so please submit your reports to me before the end of the third week of the month. Email me with any questions, other ideas, *etc.* I am excited about this project and hope that you are also. Thank you in advance for your participation, Sharon Edgar.

I love to work with other Edgar researchers and share information and I love teamwork. Here I will briefly share some projects that have included other Edgars and the benefits realized not only in advancing factual information on a particular Edgar family, but just as important, the formation of new friendships with Edgar family.

1. George Edgar family of Bedford County, VA, USA. There was a time when I thought this could be my Edgar family, and I collected many records and sources of information in my research effort. After a short while, I realized that this Edgar family was not mine and then I met, online, Elaine Leslie, and, researching together, we discovered this is Elaine's family. So many brick walls to overcome, but we did it, and along our way we met G.C. Edgar, who also descends from this George Edgar family. G.C. provided additional documentation on his direct line that went on to TN, AR, and TX, and also provided a DNA test. More research by this Edgar team, and then we met Susan Howe, who also descends from the George Edgar family. She combined her info with ours and then the "team" analyzed what was missing in the paper-trail evidence.

The "team" divided up the task at hand, Elaine and John, her husband, visited several locations in VA to locate the records; G.C. sent for many other important documents and publications; Susan, who is a member of the DAR and lives in VA, went to the DAR headquarters in Washington, D.C. for specific information on this Edgar family, and she also found information for my own Edgar family. Today we are able to say that the George Edgar family came from Scotland in the early 1730s to the US, and we have extended our research to Scotland with some very promising results on specific locations. This is "teamwork" and show the importance of sharing records and sources with others — I doubt that just one researcher could not have advanced this Edgar family this fast. The George

Edgar family of Bedford, VA is an important American family, as the descendents went on to all areas of the US. In the near future, this "Edgar team" will share additional information regarding their family.

2. Edgar Families of Washington County, PA, USA. My James Edgar born Northern Ireland, probably County Down, in 1762, first settled in this county according to family bible records, as his son, James Edgar Jr., was born here in 1794. This James Edgar family then went on to Wellsburg, Brooke Co., VA (WVA), by 1801 and finally settled in Harrison Co., OH, around 1816. However, there are other Edgar families in Washington Co., PA, before 1800, and I always wanted more info on these Edgars; the Cecil Twp. Edgars, and the Judge James Edgar family. I researched and collected my own information and other Edgar researchers also sent me their documents, as the Judge James Edgar family is of great interest to many of our Edgar members. Then along came Sharlene Miller, who found an old posting of mine last year, and we have formed a team to research and define all the Edgar families in Washington Co., PA, in order to group all of these Edgars into the correct family. Sharlene first provided a DNA test from John Edgar of MO, and Bingo! he was a match to our I1 Haplogroup. This is an extensive project just on our own Edgar family that we will share in the near future, but, for now, I can share some important research on the Judge James Edgar family.

James Edgar, esquire, was born in York Co., PA, in 1745; his father was William Edgar and his mother is unknown at this time. History states that as Judge James Edgar came to Washington Co., PA, in the 1770s, his father's family went on to North Carolina. Historical references also mention that the Judge did visit his Edgar family in NC on several occasions. William Edgar, the father of Judge James Edgar, went with his other two sons, Adam and Hugh, and settled in the area of Mecklenburg, NC. Just before the 1800 census, William Edgar, with Adam and Hugh, came to Washington Co., PA, and settled in the Smith Twp. area. William Edgar, the father, and two other sons, Judge James Edgar and Adam Edgar, died in Washington Co., PA. However, Hugh Edgar, the other son, went on to Wayne Co., OH, on Presbyterian Church business. Some of the descendents of Hugh Edgar remained in Wayne Co., OH, while others settled in Stark Co., and Hancock Co., OH. This is just a brief summary of this Edgar family, as I wish to correct previous assumptions that I have incorrectly made. At one time, I considered the Adam Edgar of Smith Twp. as a possible relative of my own Edgar family, but I was incorrect; I am related to the Adam Edgar of Cecil Twp., Washington Co., PA. In the past, I worked with Bob Webb and his team of South Carolina Edgars, and I did consider that possibly his Adam Edgar of Chester Co., SC, could be the same Adam Edgar found in the Mecklenburg area of NC. This is not the case. Many of you have requested that we try to find a DNA participant for this Edgar family, and we are trying hard. Judge James Edgar did not have any sons, and his brother Adam had one son, James Edgar. I have not found any sons for him. Hugh Edgar, however, had a large family with several sons, and I am currently exploring all possibilities for descendants. Lastly, the Judge James Edgar family of York Co., PA, is very interesting; historical references mention that they are of Scottish descent. The earliest records I have found are land charters in the 1720s for James and Hugh Edgar. If anyone is researching the Edgars of York Co., PA, please contact me. In the future, I will provide a complete family tree for the Judge James Edgar family, which will include sourced information obtained from records, especially the deeds from Mecklenburg, NC.

3. Jamaica. I just received a delightful email from Frankie Sawyer, who is always willing to lend a helping hand by sharing her research efforts with others. Frankie has perked the interest of an Edgar family of Jamaica and they shared the following information: Grandfather Alec Edgar is of Scottish origin and lived in Watt Town in St. Ann, Jamaica, where he owned several pieces of property called Chewmagna. Alec had six children, and

some live in the US and Canada. After Frankie returns from her trip to Scotland, she will continue to help this Edgar family and just maybe we will get a DNA test.

Of course we have Edgars from Scotland that did settle in Jamaica and here are some quotes from a few sources.

“The traditions of the family of Auchingrammont, supported by the uncertain evidence of old-fashioned silver plate, bearing the arms of Wedderlie, asserted that they were the descendants of a iclet of Wedderlie, inasmuch as the father of the first Edgar of Auchingrammont was an Edgar of Dunse; that he took with him to Jamaica, portraits of the Edgars of Wedderlie; and that on his return he married a relative named Edgar, by whom he acquired property in the Lawn Market, Edinburgh.”

“Early in the eighteenth century, the Edgars of Auchingrammont owned property in Jamaica, viz., Wedderlie plantation, and Osborne, in the parish of St. George. The latter was named after a *Tr. Osborne, surgeon*, probably of the *Peffermyln family*, who settled in Jamaica towards the close of the seventeenth century.”

Source: Genealogical Collections Concerning the Scottish House of Edgar. Andrew Edgar, Charles Rodgers, Grampian Club. 1873. London.

4. Edgar Family in Auchingrammont: Just a note from me before you read the extensive family tree of Alexander Edgar of Auchingrammont. Even as we continually debate the Wedderlie Edgars, here is a very old article from 1860 that absolutely criticizes the genealogy work of others. I collect articles just like this one.

EDGAR FAMILY

(2* S. ix. 334. 373. 415.)

In the last number of “N. & Q.” I observed a Query by J. H. which led me to refer to the former numbers alluded to; and in 2nd S. ix. 334., I find a statement made by J. F. N. H. which, being very materially incorrect, it may be of use to him (and to C. W., who has however not fallen into such errors), to set the question in a measure right. J. F. N. H. says that “the representation of Wedderly devolved on the Edgars of Auchin- grammont.” There is no proof of this: Alex. Edgar, of Auchingrammont, having come from Nether houses, and having only acquired the estate of Auchingrammont late in life, by purchase, I believe.

Again : “*James Handy side Edgar*, of Auchingrammont.” This was *not* the name of the last male Edgar of Auchingrammont. Alexander Edgar of Auchingrammont had three sons and some daughters, whose descendants still exist. The son’s names were: 1. “*James*” (of Auchingrammont) ; 2. “*Alexander*,” of Wedderly Plantation ; 3. (Dr.) “*Handyside*.” Two daughters, “*Priscilla*” and *Susan*. All these, except the first and the third, have representatives now living, and numerous.

Again: “At her decease” (Miss M. Edgar’s) the representation of the family devolved on “*Captain Henry Edgar*” and his brothers and sisters: “the only survivors of which (family) are Henry, as aforesaid; Major James Edgar, 69th Regt.; and *Louisa*, wife of the Rev. Sam. Jackson.” **The errors here are as follows: —**

Henry, James, and Louisa are *not* the sole survivors of their family, their father **Alexander Edgar** having had no fewer than **eleven children by his wife Ann Gordon**, in the following order :

1. Margaret, born 1798; married Col. H. McGregor; issue, a son in the 31st Regt., and a daughter married.

2. Anne, b. 1800; m. J. White. She is still alive, and her daughter, Mrs. Henderson, has a numerous family.

3. Mary, b. 1802 (deceased); m. J.H. Aucher, and left a son and daughter, both married, and with children — the former being in the 60th Rifles.
4. Elizabeth, b. 1803 (deceased); m. George Archer, 64th Regt.; and had a son (living), now in the 78th Highlanders.
5. Susan, b. 1805; d. 1859; unmarried.
6. Alexander, d. *, in 63rd Regt.; b. 1807.
7. *Louisa*, b. 1809; m. Rev. Sim. Jackson. Has issue a son, and a daughter married to an officer—Mr. Hewett.
8. Jemima, b. 1813; *ob. inf.*
9. Henry (as above), b. 1815; unmarried.
10. Jas. Handaside (as above), b. 1816; unmarried.
11. Catherine, b. 1819; *06. inf.*

I procured these particulars from official sources, and can therefore guarantee their accuracy; and, although somewhat lengthy, you will perhaps agree with me that their insertion is of material consequence, where the occasion is that of genealogical error. **The baptisms of the children of Alex. Edgar and Ann Gordon are recorded in the parochial registers of Jamaica and of Edinburgh.**

It thus appears that, on the failure of a male line, the succession of nearest of kin to the last Edgar of Auchingrammont would be:

1. The son of Margaret Edgar, daughter.
2. The son of Mary Edgar, third daughter.
3. The son of Elizabeth Edgar, fourth daughter.
4. The son of Louisa, sixth daughter. Last, not (*inf*)

Then would follow the daughters of these daughters, viz.: Anne, daughter of Margaret. Anne, daughter of Anne. Mary, daughter of Mary. Elizabeth, daughter of Louisa. Last, not first, in the order of succession.

PS — C. W. is correct in his statements regarding the Edgar family with one exception, which I shall be glad to point out to him if he wishes. On the death of Admiral Edgar, Thomas Edgar of Glasgow was noted in the herald's books as next of kin. H. P. is entirely wrong about Admiral Tait. I regret that I cannot give a decided answer to J. H.'s question. I am not aware of any relationship whatever between the persons to whom reference is made. However, as the claim of representation sought to be established must be decided by dates and facts, not by anyone's "supposition," perhaps J. H. will have the goodness to state (or, at least, give some idea), *when* and *how* Edgars of Auchingrammont, in Lanarkshire, sprang from the Wedderlie family, in Berwickshire? C. W."

Source: Notes & Queries a Medium of Inter-Communication for Literary Men, Artists, Antiquaries, Genealogists, etc. Second series ninth volume. Published London 1860.

5. Extracts from Belfast Newspapers:

Newry 1st August, 1765

Robert Edgar, who formerly sold Medicines in North-street, takes this Method to acquaint the Public that he has removed to Market-street, to that Apartment behind the old Market-house, where Mr. Richardson held his Office, and has laid in a choice Collection of the most reliable Medicines, chiefly designed for his own practice, which he is determined to keep as good in their Kinds, and sell for as reasonable as elsewhere in Town. Advice in the Shop will be given; as also the Poor of the Town, who make application, visited grati: But when called abroad he is to be considered as under the Character of Physician.

Grammar –School, Newry. 2nd May 1785

J. Edgar grateful for past favours, continues to teach at his usual Prices, at his School in Water Street, which constitutes a part of the completed Academy in the North of Ireland: in which and the adjoining Room (all admirably calculated for their different sciences) any young Gentlemen may have an opportunity of becoming acquainted with the ancient and modern Languages, Writing, Arithmetick, Book-keeping, Dancing, Musick, &c, &c with every branch of the Mathematicks, fully adapted for finishing the education of a private Gentleman, publick Trader, or Mechanick. ----- He also begs leave hereby to acquaint his worthy friends, and the liberal publick, that he has now taken the commodious House in the Liberty, adjoining Mr Greer's present Dwelling, which for healthy, airy and pleasant situation cannot be exceeded, perhaps scarce equalled; and as it seems naturally formed for the pleasure and satisfaction of Borders, he proposes taking in six or eight whom he can accommodate on very eligible terms.

Any Gentleman wishing to know more, by applying at his School or House as above, or dropping a line to **J. Edgar, Newry**, may be fully satisfied as to particulars. 2nd May 1785.

DOWN ASSIZES March 22nd 1799

On Saturday last the assizes for County Down were opened at Downpatrick by Judges Lords Kilwarlin and Carleton, when the following persons were tried:

John Raverty convicted of a burglary in the dwelling-house of **Alexander Edgar** at Derrylacka (near Newry) in January last, were sentenced to be hanged on the first of May next.

[My note: SteveUK would like any other info regarding Robert Edgar and J. Edgar in Newry.]

Records from England



by Bill Edgar, Victoria, Australia (edgaraust@hotmail.com)

West Sussex Record Office

Conveyance (Lease and Release), in Consideration of £650 Add Mss 17549, 17550 29 & 30 September 1831 1. From (a) James Stanford of Staxted in Lingfield, co. Surrey, miller, Henry Austin of Crowhurst, co. Surrey, farmer, and **Susannah Edgar** formerly of Lingfield and now of Charing, co. Kent, wid.; and (b) **James Edgar** of Westerham, co. Kent, vetinary surgeon, **John Edgar** of Charing, co. Kent, shopkeeper, George Chapman of Lingfield, co. Surrey, surgeon, and w. Eliza, **Susanna Agnes Edgar** of Charing, co. Kent, spinster, Thomas **Edgar** of Westerham, co. Kent, druggist, **Jane Edgar** of Charing, co. Kent, spinster, and **Edward Edgar** of the same, shopkeeper; to (c) George Chapman (as above); (d) Charles Sawyer of East Grinstead, shopkeeper

Messuage and lands called Porters Croft alias Porters (1¼a.) in Lingfield, co. Surrey, abutting N. on land described below, E. on a lane from the Blue Anchor to Plaisted alias Plaistow Street, W. on lands formerly of Abraham Atkins, esq., S. on lands formerly of Robert Nicholas, clerk, but now of William Young Lands formerly in one piece and part of the waste of Lingfield Common (5a. 1 r.) bought by **James Edgar, jun.**, dec'd, from the Commissioners for the enclosure of Lingfield Common (a) by the direction of (b) convey the premises to (c)

Recites wills of **James Edgar, jun.**, 20 May 1816, and **James Edgar, sen.**, 19 August 1816 [see Add Mss nos. 17547: 17548]The purchase money is to be divided among the children

of **James Edgar**, jun., dec'd Memorandum on dorse of the deed that part of the premises were sold on 1 October 1887 [with details]

Witnesses: William Alston Head, Richard George.

2. Copy of Will and Codicil, of James Edgar of Lingfield, Co. Surrey, apothecary Add Mss 17548 19 August 1816:

i) Devises to s. **James Edgar**, jun., messuage called Porters in Lingfield, Co. Surrey and all drugs and fittings in the shop where they both carry on their profession (ii) To w. Susannah, messuage called Nailors in Lingfield, co. Surrey, in occ. of George Pratt; goods in the house in which he resides for her lifetime. After her death the messuage Nailors is to be sold His executors are to sell Nailors and the residue of the household goods and to pay a quarter of the proceeds to s. **James Edgar**; a quarter to dau. Sarah, w. of Richard Keward; a quarter to dau. Easter, w. of James Stanford; a quarter to William Chart, alias Inkpen, husband of dau. Hannah, now dec'd

(iii) His daughters and their husbands are to account for all the money and goods advanced to them so as to put them on an equal footing

(iv) £10 bequest to George Pratt

(v) Appoints his wife his executrix and s. **James Edgar**, jun., and James Stanford his executors and trustees

The Codicil, dated 19 August 1816, recites that his s. **James Edgar** has died (see his will Add Mss no. 17547) and provides that the messuage called Porters shall be disposed of according to the directions in the will of s. **James Edgar**

Witnesses: John Jewell, sen., John Jewell, jun., Alexander Brown

3. Cause number: 1869 B95.

Short title: Barwise v Edgar.

Documents: Bill only.

Plaintiffs: John Barwise and another.

Defendants: Robert Edgar, William Edgar, William Armstrong, Ruth Armstrong his wife, Thomas Edgar, Clement Edgar, Mary Ann Edgar and Sarah Edgar.

Provincial solicitor employed in Cumberland.

4. Cause number: 1862 E62.

Short title: Ernest v Partridge.

Documents: Bill (deleted), demurrer (deleted), interrogatories (deleted), six demurrers.

Plaintiffs: Henry Ernest.

Defendants: Frederick Robert Partridge, John Charles Willams (abroad), Henry Edwards, Edmund Gough, Robert Henry Sawyer, Charles Wycliffe Goodwin and Revd Henry Goodwin, Herbert William Day, William Rippingall, William Turquand, **Lucy Edgar and Joseph Haythorne Edgar**, William Bunce Greenfield, Edwin Elmer Durrant, Frederick Edwards, John Parker, Rupert Clarke, James Benward Travers, Charles Mortlock, George Kieckhoefor, Edward Thomas Mortlock, James Elsdon Everard, William Govett Romaine and John Clement Govett, James Parkin, Charles Albert Govett, Metcalf Hopgood, Daniel Edward Colston, John Prescott Blencowe, Joseph Fry, John Francis Partidge, William James Edwards and George Octavius Edwards, Lewis Frederick Edwards and Fanny Kemp.

Amendments: **Amended by order 1863.** Lucy Edgar, Joseph Heythorne Edgar, William Bunce Greenfield, Edwin Elmer Durrant, Frederick Edwards, John Parker, Rupert Clarke, James Benward Travers, Charles Mortlock, George Kieckhoefer, Edward Mortlock, James Elsdon Everard, William Govett James Parkin, Charles Albert Govett, Metcalf Hopgood, Daniel Edward Colston, John Prescott Blencowe, Joseph Fry, John Francis

Partridge, William James Edwards and George Octavius Edwards, Lewis Frederick Edwards, and Fanny Kemp all struck out as defendants.

5. Cause number: 1870 E11.

Short title: Edgar v Edgar.

Documents: Bill, interrogatories.

Plaintiffs: George Henry Edgar.

Defendants: William Schindler Edgar.

John Cleveland. **Thomas Edgar**, Gunner of the Eagle has petitioned for pay while serving in her. His claim is related to another by William Dodds. Dodds was warranted Gunner of the Rainbow in **January 1747**, but failed to join the ship before she sailed. Edgar, the Rainbow's former Gunner, served in Dodd's place. Dodds was ordered by Rear Admiral Chambers to join the Eagle. Recommend, provided he has passed his Gunner's accounts, Dodds should be made Gunner of the Eagle. Edgar was, before joining the Rainbow, supernumerary for victuals only on the Portland's Prize and on the Mars, by order of Admiral Chambers, the Eagle being his proper ship during this period. Recommend that Edgar and his servant should be paid by bill.

Court of Probate and Supreme Court of Judicature, High Court of Justice, Probate.

6. Testator: Edgar, George Henry Edgar Case: Edgar v. Goldney. Testator: Edgar, George Henry Edgar Case: Edgar v. Goldney Court of Probate and Supreme Court of Judicature, High Court of Justice, Probate, Divorce and Admiralty Division: Principal Probate Date: 1873.

Source: The Catalogue of The National Archives Papers relating to the estate of Elizabeth Edgar

HB 54/E20/28 1840-1902

Suffolk Record Office, Ipswich Branch

7. Marriage settlement of Elizabeth Arkell and Rev Mileson Gery Edgar, 1840

schedule of deeds of estate, 1866

abstract of title to an estate in Westerfield and St Margaret, Ipswich (1830-1875), with plan and instructions for counsel, 1878

case papers re the executorship of Edward Lynch Edgar's estate, 1889-1890

will and codicils of Elizabeth Edgar of Ipswich, widow, 1891

agreement to trustees to hire Coddensham Hall Farm, 1893

succession duty accounts, 1893

agreement of trustees to hire Red House and 2 cottages in Ipswich, 1895

case papers re Elizabeth Edgar's trust, 1897-1898

appointment of new trustee, 1902

London Metropolitan Archives

8. Marriage settlement of Reverend John Gibson and Ann Edgar ACC/1045/133 1754

1. Revd. John Gibson of Heston.

2. Ann Edgar, eldest daughter of Mileson Edgar late of Ipswich, deceased.

3. Robert Edgar of Ipswich esq.

4. Mileson Edgar of the Redhouse near Ipswich esq. and Bartholomew Gibson of St. Paul's Churchyard, grocer.

Property: Manor and farm of Islips and lands in Northall, in trust for (1), (2), and their heirs.
Consideration: Settlement by (2) of properties in Suffolk.
Signed and sealed by (1), (2), and (4).

The National Archives, Kew, Richmond, Surrey, TW9 4DU

<http://www.nationalarchives.gov.uk/>

[Notes from Sharon: Bill has located the best source of obtaining wills and probate records before 1854 and for a small fee one may purchase the records. Bill sent me over 70 Edgar wills that he found in the index, and I am just including a few for reference. Please note that there are locations other than England, such as Scotland, Spain, and Jamaica. The earliest Edgar will is dated 1547. I have also added some comments in red.]

James Edgar of Saint George County of Surrey, Island of Jamaica	05 May 1838
Alexander Edgar, Rear Admiral of Great Yarmount, Norfolk <i>According to our Edgar history, this the last Laird of Wedderlie</i>	11 Mar 1817
Theodore Edgar of Dumfries, Dumfriesshire	25 June 1785
Hugh Edgar, Captain of a Company of Foot in the Regiment now In the Garrison of Gibraltar in the Kingdom of Spain, Gibraltar	19 September 1729
Stephen Edgar, Gentleman of Watlington, Norfolk	28 June 1694
William Edgar, Chirurgeon of Saint Mary Matfellow alias Whitechapel, Middlesex	19 April 1681
David Edgar of Arthuret, Cumberland	02 July 1658

I just started research on this David Edgar also found in Canonbie Parish, Dumfries, Scotland. This is a border warfare area and history states that this particular area "changed hands" many times. I have been searching for this David Edgar's will in Scotland, so "Thank you," Bill, as you have located this critical document.

These research records of Bill Edgar are just a small sample. In future newsletters, I will include more of Bill's records. Bill also maintains a huge "one-name" database on Edgars in all locations: http://jameswd.sasktelWeb site.net/One_name_list.xls



Richard Edgar,
Tandragee, Co. Armagh, Northern Ireland
edgar888@yahoo.com

An email message from Richard on 2009 July 17:

"My Web site EdgarWeb is eight years old today, sadly this will be its last birthday as come 13th October 2009, Geocities the webserver who host my Web site will be closing. I know a lot of this project members have used and continue to use the information on my Web site for research, because of this it is my intention to move my Web site to a new host company, I will inform you all of its new location once it is up and running, I am

currently testing four different host companies. I also hope to update my site as part of this relocation, if anyone has anything they would like added to the site please let me know. “

Great News! Richard's new Web site is up and running at

<http://edgarfamily.angelfire.com>

Congratulations Richard on the new Web site! “Thank you!” from your Edgar family. I cannot think of another individual who has dedicated over eight years providing valuable research records for everyone at his Web site, plus at our Edgar DNA Group site, where Richard has submitted over 75 files! Richard has many special Edgar projects of his own, and always has the time to share with others. I received from Richard new research documents regarding deceased Edgar Veterans from South Africa.

Edgars from South Africa lost in both world wars

1780 Sergeant Donald Anderson Edgar

4th Regiment South African Infantry

Died 30th May 1916, age 46

Son of the late Lt. Col. Edgar, of Bradford, England

Donald Edgar also served in German West Africa

Grave IV. B. 1. Nieppe Communal Cemetery, France

742 Gunner S. Edgar

South African Field Artillery

Died 15th November 1920

C.E. III. D. 30. Bloemfontein Cemetery, South Africa

27414 Lance Corporal James L. Edgar

2nd Battalion Transvaal Scottish, South African Forces

Died 11th January 1942 (Second World War)

Grave 13. F. 7. Halfaya Sollum War Cemetery, Egypt

Richard has created an extensive and wonderful memorial for Edgar Veterans of WWI at his Web site. He has also included important research info by listing the parents, wives, and addresses of the Edgar veterans, as well as many pictures of gravesites. Richard sent me his current listing of over 80 Edgar Veterans. Here are a few for examples — visit his new Web site for the complete listing.

Edgars from England, Scotland and Wales, lost during the First World War

Alexander Edgar

No: 12250

Rank: Corporal

2nd Battalion Worcestershire Regiment

Son of Adam and Sarah Ann Edgar, of Orchard House, Stratford Rd., Hockley Heath, Birmingham, England

Died 16th June 1915, age 25

Panel 17 and 18 Le Touret Memorial, France

Elizabeth Edgar

Rank: Staff Nurse

Queen Alexandra's Imperial Military Nursing Service

Died 26th February 1918

Hollybrook Memorial, Southampton, England

William Edgar

Rank: Bellboy

S.S. Ausonia (Liverpool) Mercantile Marine

Son of Mary Eleanor Edgar (nee Thompson), 8 Mulgrave St., Liverpool, and the late John Edgar

Died: 30th May 1918, age 16

Tower Hill Memorial, London, England

Note from Richard: William is the youngest Edgar.

William Henry Edgar

Rank: 2nd Class Waiter

S.S. Lusitania (Liverpool) Mercantile Marine

Son of Jesse and Dinah Edgar, 27 Virginia St., Southport, Lancashire

Died: 7th May 1915, age 21

Tower Hill Memorial, London, England

[Note from Sharon: "RMS Lusitania was an ocean liner owned by the Cunard Line and built by John Brown and Company of Clydebank, Scotland, torpedoed by a German U-boat 1915 May 7. The ship sank in 18 minutes, eight miles off the Old Head of Kinsale, Ireland, killing 1,198 of the 1,959 people aboard. The sinking turned public opinion in many countries against Germany, and was instrumental in the bringing the United States into World War I." Source, Wikipedia]

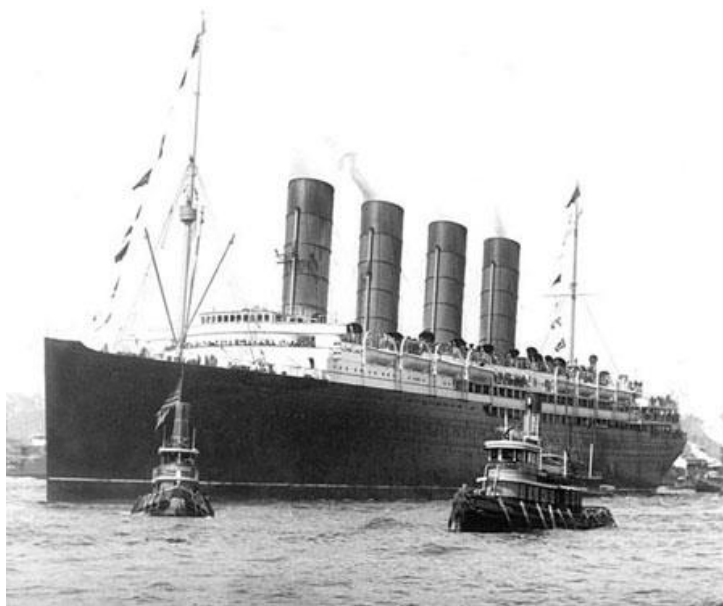


Figure 1 RMS Lusitania

Who's who?



Steve Edgar of Weston, Crewe (steven-edgar@sky.com)

Who's who in terms of DNA and in terms of family?

Over the past month, I have seen many emails passing back and forth from a lot of researchers trying to untangle the knots in our Edgar history. DNA is not giving the simple clear-cut answer we wanted.

We started using DNA as a tool to prove supposed family links. It started when James and I thought we had a common ancestor in Newry, Co. Down, in 1800. We searched high and low, hired genealogists, plundered PRONI (Public Records Office Northern Ireland) — no ancestor found. What next? James's wife, Jodie (a.k.a. Mrs. Poirot), suggested DNA. It seemed a good idea, so we did the test, along with Richard, and thought all we had to do was wait three weeks and all would be revealed. When the results came back, we were startled to say the least. We three are not related, not in 10,000 years! We took this as a negative and were in some ways disappointed. Looking back, we should have seen this as a positive, as it got us away from trying to forge a link that was not there. We each carried on with our research and found family elsewhere. We then used DNA to confirm what we had found on paper, with a positive result.

DNA is a tool. It is accurate at matching Haplotypes. But, it is only a tool.

The problem comes with the individuals, us, the people we are testing. We are not who we think we are. Are you your father's child? Are you sure? Really sure? How about your paternal grandfather? Or your great-grandfather? Are you still as sure?

What we need to ask ourselves is "who are we looking for?" Are we looking for our Edgar ancestors or looking for our "blood" male ancestor? The person we are looking for may well not be the same person.

The DNA sample we take is looking for DNA on the Y chromosome that only males carry. It is carried with the male line only. It also mutates slightly over time.

Now, the big questions....

If a child is illegitimate, adopted, or fostered and is given the name Edgar, who are they?

If he was your father, who are you?

How far back can you go with the above scenario before you really are an Edgar?

Are you an Edgar at all?

If a mother remarries an Edgar and renames her first-marriage children as Edgar, what then?

Can you see where I'm going?

We have been using DNA in two ways. The first was to confirm what we already knew on paper, the second was random tests to find new family (this also helped to locate DNA

groups in various areas). These families could then be matched on paper; If you know you are definitely related, it's more than half the battle done.

What we must be clear on is who or what we are looking for. If you are looking for your male ancestor from 10,000 years ago, then DNA is your perfect answer. One test and bingo, you're sorted. Just look for your matches on the DNA matching site. They may well all have different surnames.

If you're looking for your Edgar family, then you need to use DNA as another tool to help your conventional paper, Internet, library, records search. It is powerful, it is immensely helpful, but it is only a tool. The answer it gives opens up an opportunity to further research.

If we take my family DNA as an example, I have a match with Donald in 1780 and Juanita's family in 1650. But none earlier. This would indicate that the ancestor prior to 1650 was not an Edgar by blood. Adopted, fostered, or illegitimate? We don't know yet, but, we are likely to be related by family to any one of the other Edgar lines. The missing person should, one day, show up as a match to us at one generation extra on the MRCA (most recent common ancestor) chart. With more paper research, we may well find the exact family where this event occurred, DNA in the future may even give us the name of the person who introduced the new DNA into my family line. Question — If the above is correct, am I an Edgar? You can send answers in an email to steven-edgar@sky.com.

In the future, as more families do more DNA tests, the picture will become clearer. We will find these elusive relatives.

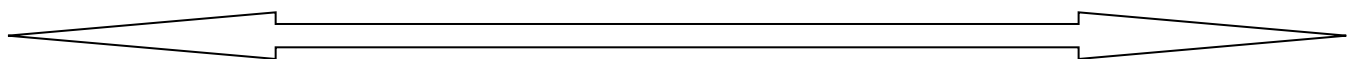
Deciding what you want to trace, now that we have DNA, is up to the individual. In making my mind up, I thought of the scenario where we did not have DNA tests, but we did have accurate paper trails (dream on, Steve!!!).

The children in a particular family could have been sired by any number of fathers, but they were brought up as Edgars — Edgar traditions, relationships, history, etc. — it would all be Edgar. If I did not know they were illegitimate, I would be none the wiser; I wish to stay with this ignorance.

This is not to devalue the power of DNA. It is a brilliant tool, look at the results we have had so far.

I don't want to trace my male ancestor who had a Friday-night fling 350 years ago. I am researching my Edgar ancestors.

Steve UK



Picture time:

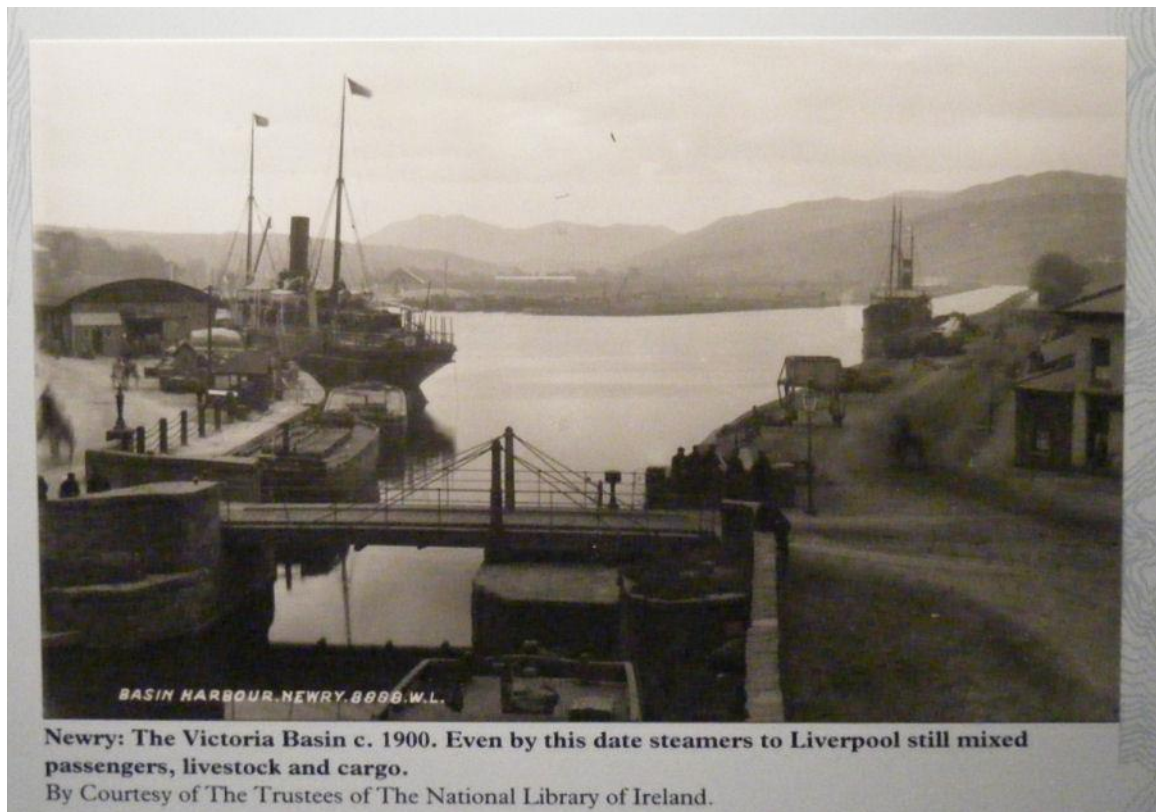


Figure 2 Taken at the Ulster American Folk Park, Co. Tyrone, Northern Ireland



Figure 3 The well-used churchyard cemetery at Greyabbey, Ards Peninsula, NI.

[Ed. Edgar Events #18 (July 2008) featured an article by Richard Edgar of Tandragee. Here is a short lesson on the fruitful connections that come about by writing and publishing such information.

I received the following letter from Ken Richards, who found the reference to... Well, I'll let you read his letter.]

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Hello James,

My name is Ken Richards and I live in Hampstead, New Hampshire, USA. I have recently started working on the Richards family genealogy and found the following connection to Elizabeth Edgar of St. John's, Newfoundland when viewing the Newfoundland Edgars who died in World War I part of your most recent newsletter:

My Grandfather, William W. Richards, was born in St. John's, Newfoundland in 1896. William enlisted in the First Newfoundland Regiment (Reg. #41) on September 2, 1914. My grandfather's military service record lists his father (my great grandfather), William J. Richards, 35 Pennywell Rd., St. John's, as his next of kin.

I noted on your Web site that a listing for Private Albert Edgar (Reg. #2528), whose mother was Elizabeth Richards (formerly Elizabeth Edgar) of 35 Pennywell Rd., St. John's, Newfoundland.

Would you have more information on Elizabeth, or know who I might contact?

Thanks very much in advance,

Ken Richards
93 Picadilly Road
Hampstead NH 03841
USA

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[Ed. Ken Richards' letter got me searching through my emails and I came across this one from Jim Edgar in Newfoundland, addressed to Richard in Tandragee and myself. Even more fascinating, since I'm the National Secretary of The Royal Astronomical Society of Canada, I have access to the entire membership database of names and addresses. I had once searched the records to look for other Edgars. That's where I found the only other one besides me — Jim Edgar of Newfoundland. We have a double connection!

I invited Jim to join our DNA group; he submitted his DNA, and he's in Haplogroup R1b. From my earliest email from Jim, I knew he had a mutual interest in the WWI battles with Richard Edgar of Tandragee, so I connected them up. In the email message below is the smoking gun connection to Ken Richards: Albert Edgar's regimental number! It's fascinating to me that we've made this connection through such a circuitous sequence of events. You never know where the next connection will come from, nor how the memory will be jogged — the more stories we write and publish, then the more connections we make. Send me your own story and we'll put it in a newsletter.]

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From Jim in Newfoundland to Richard and James:

I have read your emails and commentaries in Edgar group and I have closely looked at all the pictures you posted on the group site. I greatly appreciate the information you gave.

I was in France in May with a group from my old high school to tour Newfoundland and Labrador memorials, battlefields, and cemeteries and to place a memorial plaque in the Pavilion at Beaumont Hamel to the memory of 56 "Old Feildians" who died in WWI and 34 in WWII. There are five battlefields memorialized by Newfoundland and Labrador in France and Belgium. The memorials are a bronze life-sized caribou, a symbol of Newfoundland and Labrador. My group were able to visit only the four in France.

Richard, you told us about your visit to the Beaumont Hamel memorial on July 1st this year. The plaques on the memorial list Newfoundlanders and Labradorians whose graves or remains have not been identified. There are many more who have been identified and are buried, mostly in British cemeteries throughout France, Belgium, and the UK and their headstones have a large engraving of a caribou head.

You asked about Edwin Edgar whose name is on the Beaumont Hamel Plaque. He was a first cousin of my father. Edwin, whose regimental number was 737 was 19 years old when he died on July 1st. 1916, the first day of the Battle of the Somme. He lived on a small island, Greenspond, on the north east coast of Newfoundland. This is where our first Newfoundland ancestor, Dr. John Edgar, came from Oxford, England, in 1810 to settle and practice.

My father, John [Jack] was also in the Royal Newfoundland Regimental number 2640. He was wounded in April 1918, and returned to service after a few weeks. He was again wounded on October 20, 1918, and this wound caused him to lose his left arm above the elbow, after two years of unsuccessful treatments.

He had two other relatives killed in the war. His brother, Albert, number 2528, was killed on November 20th 1917, the first day of the battle of Cambrai, at the St. Quentin Canal between Marcoing and Masnie`res. He is buried in the Marcoing British Cemetery close to the Newfoundland Memorial Caribou at Masnie`res. I was able to visit his gravesite, and this was a very moving experience, as I was probably the first relative to visit in 91 years, although I believe my father was also at that battle. Albert was 20 years old. He had been living on another small island called Pilley's in Notre Dame Bay, with a family who was rearing him. The other relative who was killed in the war was his first cousin, Charles LeGallias Edgar. Charles' number was 199 so that he was in the first 500, the famous "Blue Puttees." Charles was 24 years old. He joined as a Private and rose to the rank of 2nd Lieutenant. He was severely wounded at Suvla Bay in Turkey on December 5, 1915, and returned to duty in January 1916. He was killed by shellfire February 26, 1917, and is buried in the Guards Cemetery at Combles. I wasn't able to visit this cemetery on this trip.

I have also read with great interest the description of the mural of the Ballynahinch Town Council 1803 by Horace Reid. He notes that the Rev. Samuel Edgar was a Prohibitionist and his famous son, Dr. John Edgar, was a Temperance Reformer. I notice that this Dr. John would probably be about the same age as my great-great-grandfather, Dr. John Edgar, who came to Newfoundland around 1810. Would you have any information about Dr. John the Reformer?

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[Ed. Once the two of them were connected, they exchanged these messages (somewhat abbreviated....)]
From Jim to Ken

I have Just read your E-Mail to me June 28 09 and the ones from James in Sask and Richard in NI. My Grandmother Elizabeth was married to your Great Grandfather William J. Richards and I understand that she was his second wife. I have some information about her Goulding family, her maiden name, and of course, her Edgar family but I don't know much about the Richards family. I know of your Grandfather William W. Richards' war records. His Regimental Number 42 means he was of the first 500 volunteers, the famous "Blue Puttees". He was wounded by gunfire in the left leg in July 1916, probably at the Battle of Beaumont Hamel July 1st, where the regiment was almost annihilated. I also remember a Stan Richards who used to come to our house when I was young. Perhaps he is your uncle. I am delighted to hear from you and I would be happy to give you all the information I have if you wish to pursue the matter. Indeed I would appreciate having information on the Richards family from you.

Regards,
Jim Edgar

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[Ed. And this response from Ken to Jim....]

Thanks for your kind reply. I would enjoy corresponding with you and sharing all of the information I have. As I mentioned, I haven't found a great deal about the Richards family, but here is what I do know:

As you probably know from the war records, William W. Richards was discharged from the service on February 15, 1919.

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The U.S. Petition For Naturalization Form indicates that he emigrated with his wife, Marion Louise (Pretty) Richards, on or about October 22, 1919. The couple passed into the U.S. overland through Vanceboro, Maine, by way of Sydney, New Brunswick.

William & Marion settled in Cambridge, Massachusetts, where he secured work as a printer for Ginn & Company, a text book manufacturer in Boston, Massachusetts. They had the following children:

John Leroy Richards - 1921-1998

Marion (Dorothy) Richards (unmarried) - 1922- circa 1950's

William Richards - 1923-1993

Edith Richards Kennedy - 1926-2007

Albert Wallace Richards - 1928 –

Albert is my father, age 81, and he currently resides in Lexington, Massachusetts

Here is what little I know about my Newfoundland roots:

- William W. Richards' father was William J. Richards. Unfortunately, I have no information on whether William W. had any siblings, either by his mother or via Elizabeth... I have not heard about Stan Richards...was he a child of William J. and Elizabeth? Perhaps you may know something of William J. Richards' other children? *(I have since chatted with my father and learned that he does indeed remember talk of a Stan Richards. I also believe that I have located Stan's son)*

- I have been told that William W.'s mother's name was Selina Daw (or perhaps Dawe?), but I have not found any record of the marriage or information on Selina's family, birthplace or death date. *(I have since learned, from my great Aunt's obituary, that Selina's last name may have been French, not Daw...)*

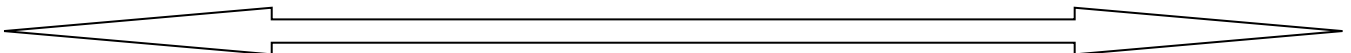
....

I'm sure that I will think of other questions, but for now, I would be grateful for any information regarding Elizabeth and William J., including their birth dates, death dates, birth locations, marriage date, children other than Albert Edgar and William W., etc. I would also love to identify who William J.'s father and mother were and where they might have been from.

I look forward to hearing from you, when you have time to respond.

Best Regards,
Ken

[Ed. So there you have it – half cousins, joined by our efforts at increasing Edgar family knowledge worldwide!]



Krikory – Edgar Link



by Steve Edgar of Weston, Crewe (steven-edgar@sky.com)

I start this off with a big “Thank you!” to the researchers who helped on this (you know who you are!!).

Benjamin William Edgar was the eldest son of Joseph Edgar and Elizabeth James, of Newry, Co. Down. He was one of the last generation of ropemakers in the town. He was named after Elizabeth’s father, Benjamin William James, a chair maker.

Newry is at the head of Carlingford Lough on the east-coast border between Eire and Northern Ireland. It was at the forefront of the maritime industry in the 1700s and early 1800s; Newry is the start of the first major “modern” canal, linking the sea with Lough Neagh and the interior (this canal can be viewed as the prototype for all of the future canals, including Suez and Panama).

The town prospered with all of the trade, and a ropemaker was obviously in great demand. But, in the mid-1800s, trade started to decline; modern steamships were bigger and needed less rope and cordage than the older sailing ships. The narrow canal from the sea was not wide enough to allow passage for these larger ships. Belfast took over as a deep-water port, and offered all the facilities Newry could not.



Gradually the town declined, and, from being a once-prosperous family, my Edgars began to suffer financially, and started to move out to other potentially lucrative areas. My great-grandfather, Joseph Edgar, and his bride-to-be, Elizabeth Phillips, left Newry to marry in Salford, Lancashire. He took employment as a railway carter.

Figure 4 Joseph Edgar & Elizabeth Phillips

His eldest brother, Benjamin William Edgar, set off for Liverpool. (As an aside, I was totally unaware of his existence until Jodie “Mrs. Poirot,” found him; he is not mentioned in the family Bible.)

In Liverpool, Benjamin married Margaret Ann Hunt, and settled as a ropemaker in Selby, Yorkshire, where they had a son, Benjamin. From there, the family moved to Bradford, Yorkshire, where they had three more children, Mary Ann, Robert, and Margaret Elizabeth. Sometime around 1885/6, his wife, Margaret, died, possibly in childbirth.

In 1886, Benjamin married Hannah Milligan from Ireland, and moved to Seacombe, Birkenhead, where they had a son, Francis John. Finally, from there he emigrated to Philadelphia in 1887; Hannah and the children followed in 1888. He applied for US citizenship in 1890, which was granted in 1894. In Philadelphia, they had two more children, William L. and Samuel. Samuel died in 1900, when he fell from a fire escape.

Benjamin William died in 1907. The next record is the 1910 US census showing Hannah, sons Frank and William, along with son-in-law, Frederick Krikory, married to daughter Margaret. Frederick Krikory was an Armenian b. 1873. Margaret and Frederick had children Frederick, Charles, George, and Henry.

The other Edgar children have not been traced yet.

I decided to have a go at contacting the Krikorys in the USA. Naturally, I thought this would be some sort of major project, but no, it was easy-peasy!!! I checked one of the census name locators and, would you believe it, the name Krikory is unique to Pennsylvania. Better yet, it is concentrated around Quakertown and Sellersville. I looked up the addresses of all the Krikorys in white pages and wrote to them all. Last week, I got an email from a new cousin, Maggie Krikory. Maggie is amazed that she has some more Irish ancestors, and is busy compiling a history and fact sheet on the family.

The name Krikory appears to be a variation of Krikorian — a well-established (and numerous) name from Armenia. It's a stroke of luck for me that Frederick used the variation!

OK, now all I need are the other Edgar children of BWE. Any clues would be gratefully received for Benjamin b. 1878; Mary Ann b. 1880; Robert b. 1885; Francis John (Frank) b.1887; and William L. b. 1890.

Steve UK

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Time for another picture...



Figure 5 Derryleckah Row – northeast of Newry, Northern Ireland.

Our house is a very, very, very fine house

Crosby, Stills, Nash & Young, 1970



by James and Steve Edgar, with recollections by Bob Edgar and Marylen (Edgar) McKenzie

Growing up in Kamloops was a treat. It was a small enough place that we knew most people, and yet large enough to be considered the hub city of central British Columbia. The house we called home was built by our father, Les Edgar, toward the end of WWII. Helen & Les were renting the house at 874 Pleasant Street, just a stone's throw away from 919 Pine Street, so it was easy for them to get back and forth to the construction site.

The lot where the house is built was unsold for a long time, the reason being that the land was an old creek bottom, full of round stones. Most prospective buyers were afraid the water could return and wash out a house built on the site. The block directly south of 919 is a cemetery, which had been there for a long time. The old stream-bed ran through it, so there had to be some confidence that the water would not return. Dad walked up into the hills south of the cemetery to determine if the stream could indeed come back to life. He went about five miles back and found that the land had shifted to divert the watershed away from its original course.

Confident that the lot would remain dry, he decided to buy it. One late-winter day in the 1950s, though, a Chinook wind came through town and rapidly melted much of the snow on the surrounding hills – water swept down the avenue about 8 inches deep! That day the water found the old stream bed, scoured out some graves in the cemetery, and flooded our basement. It's the only time we can recall that ever happening.

Bob recalls that Dad bought the lot from the town in 1943 for \$1000. Building began, and the house progressed to the point of ready for plastering the walls. Virtually all plastering was done by the Italians living in Kamloops; Dad's man had injured his back and could not do the job for some time. Dad went every night through that summer and sprayed the wall laths and studs with water for at least an hour. If the laths dried out too much, the fresh plaster would never adhere and it would dry too fast. Eventually the plaster crew was ready and the job was done. About half of the house had an overcoat of plaster of Paris, which accounts for the strength of the walls (plus the horse hair mixed into the plaster!). The house was substantially finished at the end of 1944.

Originally there was a wall between the kitchen and the dining room just south of the centre bedroom. The dining room was too narrow because Dad had miscalculated and didn't allow for passage behind a seated person. The wall was removed on Mother's Day 1955. Mum could hardly wait for that wall to come out — she had struggled for too many years trying to seat seven of us around the table in the tiny dining room! It was one Mother's Day she never forgot.

Dad and Bob went up into the attic and strengthened the area above the wall. Then the wall was removed, with virtually no settlement of the ceiling and no cracking of the plaster.

The war effort didn't stop Dad from building — for many people in Canada, it was “life goes on as usual.” Materials shortages meant that the porcelain in the sinks and bathtub was of inferior quality, but Dad found that the drawer pulls, hardware, and electrical wire he wanted had been hoarded by a local hardware store. The most difficult purchases were the lead piping for the water systems and the electric wire (copper) which was all in short supply because of WWII. It wasn't much more than 15 years after installation that the porcelain was chipping out of the sinks. But, the house was soundly built using good quality wood, which was readily available from a friend of our dad's, John Lingren, who owned a sawmill up at Pinantan Lake, B.C. Kamloops was the centre of a large logging and lumber industry in those days.

Dad completed construction and the family moved in November 1945, eighteen months following the birth of my elder brother, Steve.

Many people in this era of sub-prime mortgages may find it hard to believe, but one had to have the foundation poured, the walls up, and the rafters in place, before you could apply for a loan. (Mortgages were unavailable for domestic housing at that time.) I can recall Dad telling me that he had a hard time getting that loan because there were two prices for the lots, \$65.00 for the ones that faced the Pleasant Street Cemetery and \$75.00 for those that didn't face the cemetery. He used to chuckle that the application for a loan in a different part of town, right across from the local “Potter's Field,” was approved, mainly because the bank agent couldn't see the headstones on account of the grass being so high! I don't imagine Dad was chuckling at the time, though.

Being a carpenter meant that Dad could build the house to his own liking. He installed a coal chute as part of the foundation at the back, so that furnace fuel — coal and wood — could be easily brought into the basement. As you can see in the photo here, the wood was stacked against the fence, and when the coal truck made a delivery, the driver could back right up to the chute and deposit the load into the basement coal room. I can gleefully recall the day when natural-gas pipelines were installed in Kamloops — no more stacking wood, and no more tending to that old stinky coal furnace!!

Steve - Les (Dad) - Bob -- Piling Wood



Next to the “coal bin” was a “cold room,” where Mum could keep her preserves; it was also a nice chilly place to keep fresh fruit and vegetables. We could almost always reach just inside the door into a box of MacIntosh apples — living close to B.C.'s fruit country had its advantages! There is no flavour finer than a fresh MacIntosh!! At Christmastime, there would be one of those small wooden boxes in the cold room full of Mandarin oranges, each in its thin paper wrap. (They didn't last very long, being free for the taking!)

The house was originally built as a three-bedroom dwelling, which was fine for a while. John and Bob, my older brothers, would each have a room, and Steve would be in the master bedroom, at least for the first couple of years. But then I came along in 1946, and Marylen was born in 1949, so arrangements changed a few times. Finally, Dad converted his workshop, in the basement, to a bedroom for Bob, Steve, and myself, while John and Marylen had their own rooms on the upper floor. [Ed. John died in 1988.] Marylen acquired

her room in the autumn of 1953, and, as most four-year-olds will do, she promptly went to work scribbling with indelible ink on the newly applied wallpaper. She vividly recalls the thrashing from Mum — the lesson was not lost on her, as Marylen never again scribbled on the walls!!



Figure 6 Marylen's wallpaper

Dad built a shop/garage in the back of the lot that was essentially a “garage,” but it didn’t hold any vehicles until after he retired in 1971.

Then, as usually happens with most families, the older kids grew up and left home, so the younger ones got their own rooms. What a thrill that was — a room of my own!

Eventually, we all left, too, and Dad and Mum lived out their years at 919 Pine Street in Kamloops. Dad died in 1991, and Mum stayed as long as possible, until she could no longer look after herself. Steve and Jane took her into their home in November 2000 – 55 full years after she moved into 919 Pine St., and they put the house on the market. Steve with his wife, Jane, is the only one of us kids still living in Kamloops, so the responsibility for all this fell on their shoulders. We all helped as much as we could, but from a distance.

A while after Mum had moved out and sold, I happened to be visiting Kamloops, so we stopped by the old house on Pine Street to say “Hello” to the new owners. They were pleased to meet Mum, and to hear about what the house was like when new in 1945. We showed them where the wall used to be that separated the kitchen and dining room; and where the windows were in the living room that Dad had boarded over. This couple made a commitment to restore the house to its former “grandeur.” They modernized along the way by installing new electrical wiring, copper water pipes, and such, but they retained the original flavour as much as they could.

Over the years, the original pine doorjambs and window frames had been painted over, but the new owners had stripped off the paint, showing the wood off in all its glory — it was beautiful! Mum was thrilled, and so were they. As you can see in these snapshots from our visit in 2001, how lovingly they had restored Dad’s built-in roll-top desk, the doors and drawers in his office, and the living room woodwork and wall plaster.



Mum didn’t live to see the complete restoration or the honours given to the present owners and the house—she died in 2004.

A while ago (July 11), Steve sent the photos you see below, with the plaque from the City of Kamloops so proudly displayed by the front door—it brings a tear to my eye to know that the house is appreciated; not just by me and my siblings, but by all who see it for what it truly is—part of the history and heritage of Kamloops!



This is what Steve wrote when he sent these pictures:

Hi Everyone:

Jane and I were invited up to the folks who bought mom and dad's house and they showed us a really neat sign on the front of the place. (919 Pine Street, Kamloops.)

Hope you all remember with fondness the times spent in that place and hope you enjoy the photos that I took today. The photos will self-explain...

Enjoy!

Love to all...

Steve & Jane