



EDGAR EVENTS

**Researching and sharing Edgar family
history No. 41, June 2010**



DNA Update

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



Last issue, I wrote “That will be more than just a passing interest – to see how close **Jason** and **John** are.”

Jason Edgar of North Bay, Ontario, has his test results now on our Ancestry.com site — he’s definitely an I2b1, and definitely related to **John William Edgar** of Illinois. The generation predictor shows **Jason** and **John** as two generations apart. However, since they don’t have an obvious relationship in recent history, we have to assume that there have been few mutations in their DNA. Note in the following trees, they are both descended from a John Edgar, but not the same one! Or, at least, the two Johns are married to different spouses.

Jason’s tree

Descendants of John Edgar

- 1 John Edgar b: Abt. 1815 in Ireland d: Aft. 1861
 - .. +Martha Drummond b: Abt. 1817 in Ireland m: 26 Dec 1834 in Maybole, AYR, Scotland d: Aft. 1851
 - 2 Margaret Edgar b: Abt. 1836 in Maybole, AYR, Scotland d: Aft. 1861
 - 2 Robert Drummond Edgar b: Abt. 1838 in Maybole, AYR, Scotland
 - +Priscilla Payton Brewerton b: Feb 1845 in Nelson, New Zealand
 - .. 3 Robert Edgar b: 28 Feb 1874 in Motupiko, New Zealand
 - .. 3 Frederick John Edgar b: 11 Jul 1875 in Nelson, New Zealand d: 13 May 1944 in Nelson, New Zealand
 - +Lillian Byrne b: 05 May 1878 in Ireland m: 13 Sep 1904 in Nelson, New Zealand d: 17 Jul 1946 in Nelson, New Zealand
 - 4 Frederick George Edgar b: 14 May 1908 in Nelson, New Zealand d: 05 Jun 1981 in Auckland, New Zealand
 - +Zena Agnes Gell Williams b: 1915
 - 5 Anthony Edgar d: 2007
 - 5 Michael Edgar b: 20 Jan 1944 in Lower Hutt, New Zealand
 - +Gaynor May Thow b: 04 Aug 1945 in Hastings, New Zealand m: 08 Sep 1969
 - 6 Mee Moi Theresa Edgar b: 18 Sep 1969 in Malaysia
 - 6 (* I2b1) Jason Michael Edgar b: 11 Oct 1970 in Wellington, New Zealand
 - +Joanna Barbara Watt m: 21 Feb 1998
 - *2nd Wife of (* I2b1) Jason Michael Edgar:
 - +Bridget Jennifer Haight b: 16 Feb 1966 in North Bay, ON, Canada
 - 6 Leah Frances Edgar b: 03 Nov 1971 in Wellington, New Zealand
 - 6 Mei Fong Catherine Edgar b: 14 Apr 1974 in Malaysia
 - 6 Ming Ming Edgar b: 17 Apr 1989 in China
- 2 John Edgar b: Abt. 1844 in Maybole, AYR, Scotland d: Aft. 1851
- 2 James Edgar b: Abt. 1846 in Maybole, AYR, Scotland d: Aft. 1851
- 2 William Edgar b: Abt. 1849 in Maybole, AYR, Scotland d: Aft. 1861
- 2 Sarah Edgar b: Abt. 1852 in Maybole, AYR, Scotland d: Aft. 1861

John William's tree

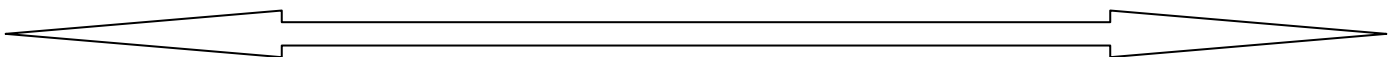
Descendants of John Edgar

- 1 John Edgar b: in Co. Down, Northern Ireland
 - .. +Elizabeth Kennon/Kean b: Abt. 1787 in Glasgow, LKS, Scotland d: Aft. 1861
 - 2 James Edgar b: 20 Mar 1815 in Maybole, AYR, Scotland d: Aft. 1861
 - +Agnes Prophet b: Abt. 1818 in Aberdeen, ABD, Scotland m: 31 Oct 1839 in Govan, Lanark, Scotland d: Aft. 1851
 - .. 3 John Edgar b: Abt. 1841 in Glasgow, LKS, Scotland d: Aft. 1901
 - +Mary Brown b: Abt. 1852 in Stevenston, AYR, Scotland m: 26 Mar 1877 in Irvine, AYR, Scotland d: Aft. 1901
 - 4 John Edgar b: 26 Jan 1878 in Irvine, AYR, Scotland d: 31 Aug 1961 in USA
 - +Margaret Cuthbertson b: Abt. 1878 in Scotland m: 28 Mar 1902 in Saltcoats, AYR, Scotland d: Aft. 1930 in USA
 - 5 John Edgar b: Abt. 1904 in Scotland d: Aft. 1930 in USA
 - 5 Alexander Cuthbertson Edgar b: 24 Apr 1905 in Saltcoats, AYR, Scotland d: 05 Jan 2003 in USA
 - +Lurlene Dixon m: 04 Jul 1932
 - 6 (* I2b1) John William Edgar b: 07 Feb 1933 in KY, USA
 - +Lucille Hank m: 24 Mar 1957
 - 5 William Joe Edgar b: Abt. 1908 in Scotland d: Aft. 1930 in USA
 - 5 Robert Edgar b: Abt. 1909 in Scotland d: Aft. 1930 in USA
 - 5 Mary Edgar b: Abt. 1912 in IL, USA d: Aft. 1920 in USA
 - 5 Jessie Edgar b: Abt. 1915 in IL, USA d: Aft. 1930 in USA
 - 5 Mattie Edgar b: Abt. 1918 in IL, USA d: Aft. 1920 in USA
 - 5 Harry Edgar b: Abt. 1920 in IL, USA d: Aft. 1930 in USA
 - 4 Henry Edgar b: Abt. 1880 in Irvine, AYR, Scotland d: Aft. 1901
 - 4 William Edgar b: Abt. 1882 in Irvine, AYR, Scotland d: Aft. 1910 in USA
 - 4 Robert Edgar b: Abt. 1886 in Stevenston, AYR, Scotland d: Aft. 1910 in USA
 - 4 Jessie Edgar b: Abt. 1887 in Stevenston, AYR, Scotland d: Aft. 1910 in USA
 - 4 Maria Edgar b: Abt. 1894 in Dregghorn, AYR, Scotland d: Aft. 1901
- .. 3 Agnes Edgar b: Abt. 1843 in Glasgow, LKS, Scotland d: Aft. 1861
 - +John McPherson b: Abt. 1839 d: Aft. 1861
- .. 3 James Edgar b: Abt. 1845 in Glasgow, LKS, Scotland d: Aft. 1861
- .. 3 Elizabeth Edgar b: Abt. 1849 in Glasgow, LKS, Scotland d: Aft. 1861
- .. 3 Margaret Edgar b: Abt. 1853 in Glasgow, LKS, Scotland d: Aft. 1861

Could **Jason's** relative (**John**) born in Ireland in 1815 be a cousin perhaps to the **James Edgar** on **John's** tree, born in 1815 in Maybole, Scotland? It's highly unlikely that one mother gave birth twice in the same year in different countries! So, they aren't brothers.

Jason's family are already in New Zealand by 1874 (birth of **Robert Edgar**), while **John's** are in the USA after 1909 (birth of another **Robert Edgar**). Thus the common ancestor has to have existed before 1874.

We continue to delve into this I2b1 family ancestry. There's more to come...



The Value of Early Records



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

Ten years ago, before I started family history research, if you'd asked me how many Edgars there were, my answer would have been "not a lot." It had always been my thought that we were a select lot; this thought was "confirmed" when I made contact with Steve and James in Canada.

Both sets of ancestors from Newry area? Same approximate date? Easy — we're related! There aren't that many Edgars in Ireland, are there?

It was only when we both completed some research and did a DNA test that we realized we are so unrelated; the truth began to dawn, there are many more Edgars than we anticipated.

In our naivety, we thought 20 or so tests and we'd have this lot sorted. Yup — failed again!

We have nearly 70 tests done, and we are now getting the results expected some years ago, matches all over the place; it's nice to see it working at last and being able to achieve our objective — finding out who the Edgars are and where they are from.

The value of early records cannot be over-emphasized. The earlier the better! In some ways, it is easier to trace down the records from the past towards the present, at the very least, you know their location and can source from parish records, *etc.* Working from the present backwards always creates a problem pre-1841 on the UK census — where were they from?

In some ways, it might be more valuable to trawl the earlier parish records randomly and see who turns up! We know what we are looking for and we can spot an Agar, Eager, Edgar, Eadgar a mile off, something most transcribers can't do. (My wife, Barbara, has volunteered to transcribe some records for a family history society and is having awful problems reading the original records. She has no idea what she is looking at and is doing her best to make sense of what she is seeing.)

If you have any old records, pre-1800, these are worth their weight in Printer's Ink (gold is only worth \$1000 an ounce!) Some records you have may be unique and I would ask you to share them, certainly they will be of use to someone. If we can pool resources, we should be able to help a lot of other researchers. Too many research organisations (no names!) are "for profit" and not for achieving a goal.

To give an example of the usefulness of early records, I checked the UK census for the Edgar family records for the frequency of Edgar families

1841 – 50 families
1851 – 422 families
1861 – 767 families
1871 – 1335 families
1881 -- 1941 families
1891 -- 2406 families
1901 – 3042 families

Bear in mind that loads of Edgars were migrating to Australia, Canada, and the US, as well.

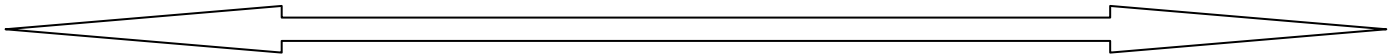
Ploughing through the William Edgars for example, in each census from 1841 there are 10, then 28, 64, 110, 128, 167, finally 194 in 1901.

Using this, a William Edgar in 1941 is almost 20x less common than in 1901.

Pre-1841, families were generally less mobile and would stay in a location for generations.

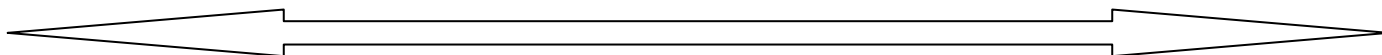
I have lots of pre-1800 Irish records I can share if anyone needs to check them. I would ask you all to share yours as well, especially as we are doing so well with the DNA.

Steve Edgar



Picture Time, *by James Edgar*

I snapped this abandoned grain bin in a farmer's field east of where I live here in Saskatchewan. Matthew, my son, liked it so much that he has it on his computer desktop background — me too!



More DNA Update

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



Over the past while, Jodie (a.k.a. **Mrs. Poirot**) suggested that it would be helpful to have a sheet or a printed page that showed all the earliest ancestors of all our DNA-tested members.

I have it almost complete and there will be more to come. I posted what I've started and give a snapshot of the I2b1s here. The posted file you can find at the Ancestry.com Web site, on our Edgar group page. The posted file also shows spouse, marriage date, and place, where known.

Name	Address	Haplo- group	Earliest ancestor Name	Birthdate
I2b1				
David Scott Ager	Poughkeepsie, NY, USA	I2b1	Nicholas Ager	Abt 1796
Alfred Edward Edgar	Argentina via K Bloomfield	I2b1	Robert Edgar	?
Archibald John Edgar	Kilkeel, N. Ireland	I2b1	James Edgar	1830?
Albert Colin Edgar	Crewe, UK	I2b1	William Edgar	1819
David Edgar	Annalong, N. Ireland	I2b1	Jack (John) Edgar	Abt. 1890
Desmond Edgar	Modderfontein, S. Africa	I2b1	William Edgar	Abt 1800
Graham Charles Edgar	Melbourne, AUS	I2b1	Thomas Edgar	Abt 1810
Harry James Edgar	Kyle, SK, Canada	I2b1	Samuel Alexander Edgar	1857
Howard Metheny Edgar	KS USA - son is Steve KS	I2b1	Adam Edgar	1745
Jack Lee Edgar	Dallas, TX, USA	I2b1	John Edgar	1731
James D. Edgar	AL USA via Elaine Walker	I2b1	James Edgar	1790
James Edgar	Thornhill, Scot	I2b1	James Edgar	Abt 1890
James McLean Edgar	Edinburgh, Scot	I2b1		
James Vernon Edgar	GA USA via Joyce Phipps	I2b1		
Jason Michael Edgar	North Bay, ON, Canada	I2b1	Robert Edgar	Abt 1795
John David Edgar	Vic Aus son of Dee Edgar	I2b1	John Edgar	Abt 1795
John James Ian Edgar	Belfast, N. Ireland	I2b1	Robert Eagar	Abt 1630
John McKee Edgar	BC Canada via Peg Edgar	I2b1	John Edgar	Abt 1790
John Newton Edgar	WA USA via Tara Corona	I2b1	Adam Edgar	1745
John William Edgar	Illinois, USA	I2b1	John Edgar	Abt 1785
Judith Anne Lynn	Kansas, USA	I1b		
Leslie Edgar	Maryport, England	I2b1	John Edgar	Abt 1860
Michael Brian Edgar	Moneyreagh, N. Ireland	I2b1	Robert Edgar	Abt 1779
Norman Duncan Edgar	Dumfries, Scotland	I2b1	John Edgar	Abt 1800
Philip Thomas Edgar	Michigan, USA	I2b1	Joseph Edgar	Abt 1834
Richard John Edgar	Western Dist., Australia	I2b1	John Edgar	Abt 1717
Robert Allen Edgar	OH USA via Sandy Payne	I2b1	James Edgar	Abt 1794
Robin Wright Edgar	Moniaive, Scotland	I2b1	James Edgar	Abt 1780
William Macreadle Edgar	Yorkshire, UK	I2b1	Samuel Edgar	Abt. 1743
William Robert Edgar	Perth, Western Australia	I2b1	William Edgar	Abt. 1854
Glenda Dickson	Australia	I2b1a		

This is another appeal for family trees, particularly from people for whom we don't have any details in the list above and in the complete file on-line.

