

The
Ancient History
of the Distinguished Surname

**** EDESON ****

Of the Anglo Saxon surnames of England few surnames are more distinguished than Edeson. Now, the historical trail of this surname has emerged from the mists of time to become an influential surname in history.

In a careful professional research of such ancient manuscripts as the Domesday Book compiled in 1086 A.D., by Duke William of Normandy, the Ragman Rolls (1291-1296), a record of homage rendered to King Edward 1st of England, the Curia Regis Rolls, The Pipe Rolls, the Hearth Rolls, parish registers, baptisms, tax records and other ancient documents researchers found the first mention of the name Edeson in Worcestershire where they were seated from very ancient times, some say well before the Norman Conquest and the arrival of Duke William at Hastings in 1066 A.D.

Many different spellings were found in the archives researched. Although your name, Edeson, occurred in many manuscripts, from time to time the surname was shown spelt as Eadie, Eades, Edey, Eadey, Eddy, Edeson, Edison, and these variations in spelling occurred within the history, even between father and son. There were many reasons for these spelling variations, some deliberate some accidental.

The Anglo Saxons were a fair skinned people who came to England about the year 400 led by General/Commanders Hengist and Horsa. After 600 years rule of England the Norman invasion from France and their victory at the Battle of Hastings, found many of the vanquished Saxon land owners to be forfeited their land by Duke William and his invading Norman nobles. The Saxons became oppressed under Norman rule, and some moved northward to the midlands, Lancashire and Yorkshire, even into Scotland.

The family name Edeson emerged as a notable English family name in the county of Worcestershire where they were recorded as a family of great antiquity seated with manor and estates in that shire. The surname Eadie is derived from the Old English word "eade" meaning riches. This root word formed the basis of a great many English names and is remarkable in that it is one of the few lasting names that was originally from a feminine name. The "son of Ede" thus became Edison and the nickname from that was shortened to Eadie. Early records place the name in Worcestershire in the year 1200, when Eddy Morwy held that name. Later the name branched to Surrey in the south, and Suffolk on the eastern sea coast. By 1379, the family had branched as far north as Yorkshire where Adam Edeson purchased land. This estate was to remain in the Edeson family for several generations. In the 13th century the name was found in Scotland as the variant Ade and the name in all its different spellings flourished for several hundred years. The name also found its home in Ireland. Here it was used synonymously with the Aidys and Adams in the county of Down. By the early 1500's the Edes had made London their home. Notable amongst the family at this time was Adam Edeson of Yorkshire.

During the 16th, 17th and 18th centuries England was ravaged by religious and political conflict. Puritanism, Catholicism, Royalist and parliamentary forces shed much blood. Many families were freely 'encouraged' to migrate to Ireland, or to the 'colonies'.

In Ireland, settlers became known as the 'Adventurers for land in Ireland'. They undertook to maintain the protestant faith. In Ireland this distinguished family settled in county Down in the 17th century.

The New World held many attractions for the adventurers. They sailed aboard overcrowded ships which were pestilence ridden, sometimes 30% to 40% of the passenger list never reaching their destination, their numbers reduced by dysentery, cholera, small pox, typhoid or the elements.

Amongst the settlers which could be considered a kinsman of the surname Edeson, or a variable spelling of that family name was John Eddy settled in Watertown, Massachusetts, in the year 1630. Samuel Eddy landed in Plymouth in the same year. In 1766, Mary Eddy had made Charles Town, S.C. her home; Captain Eddy settled in Boston Mass. in 1764; William Eddy, his wife Margeret with child, settled in Baltimore Md. in 1823; Mr. Edey settled in Virginia in 1653; Benjamin Edey settled in Boston Mass. in 1716; F. Edey settled in New York in 1823; James Eadie settled in Philadelphia Pa. in 1863; Thomas Eades and his sister Elizabeth settled in Maryland in 1685; John Eades settled in the Barbados in 1669; Henry Eades settled in Virginia in 1684; Roger Eades settled in Rappahannock Va. in 1728; George Edie settled in Virginia in 1775; William Edie settled in Philadelphia Pa. in 1860. In Newfoundland, Isaac Eadey was a planter of Hants Harbour in 1830; John Eady settled in Catalina in 1848; William was a fisherman of Bay de Verde in 1871.

The treacherous trek from the port of entry also claimed many victims as many joined the wagon trains to the prairies or to the west coast. During the American War of Independence, many loyalists to the Crown made their way north to Canada about 1790, and became known as the United Empire Loyalists.

More recent notables of this surname, Edeson, include many distinguished persons, Alexander Eadie, B.E.M. J.P. M.P. Midlothian; Mrs. Ellice Eadie, C.B.E. Standing Counsel to General Synod of Church of England; William Ewing Eadie, Director, The Burmah Oil Company Limited; Baron Swinfen (Eady); Sir George Eddie, O.B.E.; Prof. Howard Hadfield Eddet, C.M.G. Surgery, University of Melbourne; Prof. Alfred Alan Eddy, Biochemistry, University of Manchester.

Our research also determined the many Coat of Arms matriculated by the family name.

The most ancient grant of a Coat of Arms found was;

On a green background a gold lion rampant

The Crest is;

A greyhound

(not in text)
The use to live of 30 Opal St
West Ledersville (near Mengers)



*Eleanor Emily Edeson (Eddy)
lived in the old house opposite
123 St Leonards Ave,
West Ledersville (near Mengers)*