

So who was Edwin Firth – thoughts of Ben Mackenzie

Hi Peter,

Good to hear from you & many thanks for the attached information. I have a picture of Squire Firth outside the Wheatsheaf Inn in Skipton & have a few postcards of the Skipton Band but had no background info. on them.

I have been through all my books & notes & the only reference I could find was in 'Memories of Upper Wharfedale' by Thomas Hebden Metcalfe (1999) who writes, on page 18,

"Buckden Institute was built around 1912 & was opened by Sir Mark Romer, who at the time had the estate shooting on rental. I think someone called Firth laid the foundation stone." This made me think that if it was Edwin, the famous local musician, then he would not describe him as "someone called". Also at that time I do not think a person like Edwin would have had the title esquire after his name as I think it was reserved for people from a certain level in society. He also seems to be based in Cheshire from 1909 until his death. Miss Stansfield of Buckden House was such a prominent person at that time then I think she must have had a great deal of influence in what was going on.

So I researched for Edwin Firth's with a bit of nobility attached and came across the first attachment which is from the register of Probates - Great Western Railway Shares. Left hand page bottom left mentions on of the executives of the will of Josiah Firth as Edwin Firth and he is described as Esquire. Also mentioned is Sir Charles Firth, described as a knight. Edwin was living in Ilkley at the time & the relatives in Harrogate - local connection! This Firth family seem to have made their money in the textile trade & come from Heckmondwick.

The second attachment for the 1911 census shows Edwin Firth living at Glenholme, Ingleton, aged 67, and described as a sealskin silk plush manufacturer. Something makes me think that Glenholme is a substantial house but I can find no reference for it.

So I think that through Miss Stansfield & her connections with the local gentry Mr Firth was invited, over the hill, to lay the foundation stone.

This is only based on guess work Peter & I imagine that somewhere the event has been recorded. Whenever or if ever it comes to light is in the hands of the gods. I recently bought 120 documents about land purchases for the Yorkshire Dales Railway in 1902 - they were destined for the skip. I wonder how much more has ended up in land fill sites.

Let me know if you find out anything else about the Institute in its centenary year. Just had a thought. Maybe the Craven Herald Archives have a record of the event.

Good to have made contact again Peter. I often visit your web site to see what is going on at the top of the Dale.

Best wishes

Ben

REGISTRATION OF PROBATES

AND OTHER DOCUMENTS.

No.	Date Exhibited.	Proprietors.	Date of Death, Marriage, etc.	Description of Document Registered.	Date of Document.	TO WHOM TRANSMITTED.		Address.	Remarks.	STRENGTH TRANSMITTED.		No. in Transfer Register.	NEW CERTIFICATE ISSUED.			Reference to Acknowledgment.
						Name.	Description.			Description.	Amount.		No.	Date of Issue.	To whom sent.	
PR 119/364 Feb 2/6	1909 Oct 6	Richard Vincent Coleman of the Chauntry Ruckland in Dover in the County of Kent	1908 July 5	Probate Principal Registry	1909 Sept 7	Henry Hayward and Travers Bidder Harley	Executor Beneficiary	Market Square Dover St James Street Dover	Returned to Council Ordinary Winifred Hayward Market Square Dover	350 Ret	38578	5244 5245 5246	5249/99	Impced returned to Winifred Hayward Market Square Dover	52478	
£41383	14	2							Provision by William Coleman and Henry Coleman the other surviving Executors							
PR 119/365 Feb 2/10	1909 June 6	Charles Edgar Sheelock of 24 Saint James' Square Rath, N.A. Clerk	1909 June 6	Probate Principal Registry	1909 Aug 27	The Rev ^d Henry Sheelock and The Rev ^d Joseph Nathan Taylor		Balderton Rectory Suffolk Binchencliffe Vicarage Suttonfield	Returned to Council Ordinary Parson & Parson Solicitors Trinity Lodge Westminster	500 Ret	38579	68750	Oct 4/09	Impced returned with Probate	52479	
£14055	16	8														
PR 119/366 See previously filed See PR 119/399 Feb 29/96	1907 Nov 16	Paul Kenwood of Blunch House Bromley Kent in the following 1/2 right John Howard Moore & Paul Kenwood	1907 Nov 16	Probate Principal Registry accepted as proof of death certification by PR 119/399 Declaration by St Mitchell some person as of person Lord, Westminster	1908 Feb 20	John Howard Moore	Exor	9 Grosvenor Road Westminster SW	The Secretary Council Ordinary John Mitchell 9 Grosvenor Road Westminster	1575 Ret	38665	6776005 6776006 6776007 6776008 6776009	Oct 7/09	Received to meet charges		
PR 119/367 See 2/6	1905 Dec 2	Joseph Firth of Dartmouth, 28 Duchy Road Nassagali Retired Woollen Manufacturer in the following 1/2 right Thomas Freeman Firth Joseph Firth Edwin Firth	1905 Dec 2	Certificate of Death Declaration by St James some person as of Queens Road, Southport	1909 Sept 15	Thomas Freeman Firth and Edwin Firth	Exor	The Fluck Richmondwick Fondale, Witley	Returned to Council Ordinary F. W. Bentley Fetate Bldg Suttonfield	276 Ret	38695	5286	Oct 7/09	Marked returned with Cert of Death	52851	
						Thomas Freeman Firth Sir Charles Firth and Edwin Firth	Exor	The Fluck Richmondwick Fondale Road Witley Fondale, Witley	Returned to Council Ordinary F. W. Bentley Fetate Bldg Suttonfield	1531 Ret	38696	5287	Oct 7/09	- B ^o -	52852	

CENSUS OF ENGLAND AND WALES, 1911.

Number of Schedule 9
(To be filled up by the Enumerator after collection.)

Before writing on this Schedule please read the Examples and the Instructions given on the other side of the paper, as well as the headings of the Columns. The entries should be written in Ink.

The contents of the Schedule will be treated as confidential. Strict care will be taken that no information is disclosed with regard to individual persons. The returns are not to be used for proof of age, as in connection with Old Age Pensions, or for any other purpose than the preparation of Statistical Tables.

NAME AND SURNAME	RELATIONSHIP to Head of Family.	AGE (last Birthday) and SEX.		PARTICULARS as to MARRIAGE.					PROFESSION or OCCUPATION of Persons aged ten years and upwards.			BIRTHPLACE of every person.	NATIONALITY of every Person born in a Foreign Country.	INFIRMITY.	
		For Infants under one year state the age in months as "under one month," "one month," etc.	Ages of Males.	Ages of Females.	Write "Single," "Married," "Widower," or "Widow," or opposite the names of all persons aged 15 years and upwards.	State, for each Married Woman entered on this Schedule, the number of:—	Completed years the present Marriage has lasted. If less than one year write "under one."	Children born alive to present Marriage. (If no children born alive write "None" in Column 7).	Total Children Born Alive.	Children still Living.	Children who have Died.				Personal Occupation.
<p>of every Person, whether Member of Family, Visitor, Boarder, or Servant, who</p> <p>(1) passed the night of Sunday, April 2nd, 1911, in this dwelling and was alive at midnight, or</p> <p>(2) arrived in this dwelling on the morning of Monday, April 3rd, not having been enumerated elsewhere.</p> <p>No one else must be included.</p> <p>(For order of entering names see Examples on back of Schedule.)</p>															
1.	2.	3.	4.	5.	6.	7.	8.	9.	10.	11.	12.	13.	14.	15.	16.
1	Edwin Furth	Head	67	Married	39				Retired	Scotkin + Silk plush Manufacture	801	0	Forkshire		
2	Daisy Wilson	Servant	17	Single						General Servant - Tailor	100	0	Yorkshire		
3															
4															
5															
6															
7															
8															
9															
10															
11															
12															
13															
14															
15															

(To be filled up by the Enumerator.)

I certify that:—

(1) All the ages on this Schedule are entered in the proper sex columns.

(2) I have counted the males and females in Columns 3 and 4 separately, and have compared their sum with the total number of persons.

(3) After making the necessary enquiries I have completed all entries on the Schedule which appeared to be defective, and have corrected such as appeared to be erroneous.

Initials of Enumerator d.e.c.

Total. <u>2</u>		
Males.	Females.	Persons.
1	1	2

(To be filled up by, or on behalf of, the Head of Family or other person in occupation, or in charge, of this dwelling.)

Write below the Number of Rooms in this Dwelling (House, Tenement, or Apartment). Count the kitchen as a room but do not count scullery, landing, lobby, closet, bathroom; nor warehouse, office, shop.

12

I declare that this Schedule is correctly filled up to the best of my knowledge and belief.

Signature Edwin Furth

Postal Address Glenholme, Ingleton