



In Augusta County, they were called the Edmiston's. When they moved to the Holston, the sons of Edmond corrected their names to Edmonson. Robert was called Robert Edmondson Junior, not because he was the son of Robert Edmondson Senior, but because he was younger than a nearby cousin Robert Edmondson. That was the means the community used to discern which Robert was the subject of a statement. The other Edmondson's said that he was close kin, but did not specify where he fit into the family tree. Both Roberts made two of the eight Edmondson's from Washington County, Virginia at the Battle of Kings Mountain, Both Roberts are among the four Edmondson's named on the battlefield monument as patriot casualties.

*Biographical Directory of the Tennessee General Assembly, Volume 1, p 228.*

**Edmondson, Robert** (? , 1816)

House, 4<sup>th</sup> General Assembly, 1801-1803, representing Davidson County. Date and place of birth, names of parents, and extent of schooling not determined. Was married, but name of wife and date and place of marriage not found, Acquired large landholdings including Edmondson's Station, a point of defense against Indians. Engaged in diversified farming and stock raising. Justice of the peace, 1790-1812. Named by legislature, 1796, one of the commissioners to build courthouse, jail, and stocks at Clarksville, Montgomery County and to encourage production of Salt Lick Springs, money obtained from which was to be used by the county. Died February 19, 1816. Place of burial not found.

Robert was born 17Mar1753 to William Edmondson and Agnes Holmes Edmondson in Augusta County, Virginia. In 1776, he married Isabella Buchannan in Washington County. Residences and affiliations suggest that the marriage would have been performed by “the fighting parson” Charles Cummings, at Ebbing Spring Presbyterian meeting place. Robert signed the call to Cummings as Edmondson while Robert Edmondson Sr and the others closer to him, still used the spelling Edmiston. Eight Buchanan men signed the call.

Isabella Buchanan b: Abt. 1761 in Augusta County, VA, EFAB #5, p. 15, 16  
m: 1776 in Washington County, Virginia d: February 18, 1816 Father: Andrew Buchanan Mother: Joannah Hayes.

[Washington Co. VA Deed Book 1 p. 19] 19Aug1782, **Robert Edmondson** of the one part and William Edmondson Senr. of the other part both of the County of Washington and State of Virginia - for and in consideration of the sum of Five shillings in hand paid hath granted bargained and sold one certain Tract or parcel containing two hundred and fifteen acres be the same more or less being part of a tract granted to Col. William Edmondson by King George's Proclamation in the Year 1763... bordering white oaks on Andrew Buchanans land... Signed: **Robert Edmondson and Isabella Edmondson**. Wits: Thos. Edmeston, Andrew Buchanan and Wm. Edmiston. Recorded 20 Aug 1789

Lyman Copeland Draper placed Edmondson in Captain Beattie's company while Samuel Newell placed him in Captain William Edmondson's company. Newell somewhat doubted his memory.

Robert Edmondson was a graduate of Liberty Hall, now Washington and Lee University at Lexington, VA. Their catalogue of alumni lists him as Robert Edmiston of Washington County, VA, died 1816, age 63. W&L University also lists Kings Mountain participants David Campbell, William Campbell, Samuel Doak (chaplain at Sycamore Shoals), Samuel Greenlee, and Samuel Newell as alumni. Burke County sheriff department history also states that James Greenlee attended Liberty Hall and was a soldier at King Mountain. Joel Lewis dropped out of Liberty Hall to lead Pilot Mountain area militia. He was also wounded at Kings Mountain. Joel also moved to the “Military District”, also served in the Tennessee General Assembly, and was also buried on his Mill Creek plantation, now BNA Nashville International Airport.

Robert lived near the Washington County, VA, community called Liberty Hall, named for the local school, which was named for Edmondson's college. Both Robert Edmondson's were in the Battle of Long Island in 1776.

### *Kings Mountain and its Heroes*

Robert Edmondson, Jr. was Lieutenant of Captain David Beattie's Company. During the King's Mountain battle he was wounded in the arm. He sheltered himself behind a tree, with one of his soldiers, John Craig, who bandaged up his limb. By this time Campbell's men had successfully rallied and were returning to the charge when Edmondson exclaimed, "Let us at it again" Of such grit was Campbell's Holston soldiers composed, and long as there was any fighting to be done for their country, and they could stand upon their feet, they never failed to share largely in it. (Draper)

After the war, Edmondson settled at Irish Station at Haysboro, 7 or 8 miles above Nashville on the Cumberland River. The 1787 North Carolina General Assembly listed him as a Davidson

County commissioner and a trustee for salt licks, French Lick, Gasper's Lick, Neeley's Lick, and Ramsey's Lick. The trustees could lease the licks for the production of salt for public use.

In Feb 1788 at Neely's Bend, Edmondson was wounded in the arm during a skirmish with the Indians. Eight years later, a musket ball was removed from his arm. Edmondson was surety for placement of William Neely orphans and an appraiser of the Neely estate. In 1791, Robert was a Davidson County 14<sup>th</sup> district magistrate.

In 1792, Military Governor William Blount, Territory South of the Ohio, appointed Major Sharpe of Sumner County over all the stations of the middle Cumberland. Station number 7 was Edmondson's Station with 20 militia, cavalry, infantry, and officers.

- 1. Taylor's Spring near Bledsoe's
- 2. Spencer's Lick
- 3. Sconer's Lick
- 4. Brown's Spring
- 5. Kilpatrick's
- 6. Gower's Cabin (now Gower's Island in Cheatham Lake)
- 7. Edmondson's
- 8. Near the mouth of Sycamore (half way between Clarksville and Nashville)
- 9. Cave Spring near the mouth of Red River (Clarksville)

<http://bkmp.com/more-robert-edmondson-info/>

link contain a map to some Davidson County points related to Robert Edmondson. Given that Edmondson's station was between Gower's cabin and mouth of Sycamore Creek, it would be located in the vicinity of Ashland City, TN.

Land originally granted to William Cochran, Nov. 30, 1796, was deeded by Cochran to John Dickson. This deed was witnessed by Robert Edmondson. The land was located in Dickson County on both sides of Bartons Creek and on John Nesbitt's corner.

The first Tennessee general assembly (1796 with several of Edmondson's classmates, SW Virginia neighbors, and militia compatriots e.g. Joseph Black and Samuel Newell) divided the Mero District, aka Tennessee County, into Robertson and Montgomery Counties. They appointed Robert Edmondson one of the Montgomery County commissioners to erect public buildings in Clarksville. In 1801, he organized the production of salt in Montgomery County, the proceeds from which were used to build the jail and courthouse.

Robert Edmondson was magistrate, Davidson County Court of Pleas and Quarter Sessions 1789-1803 (Andrew Jackson legal papers from when Jackson practiced). He was Davidson County representative to the Tennessee 4<sup>th</sup> General Assembly 1801-1803.

William Edmondson stated in his will that his son Robert was tending his livestock (even though removed from Washington County). Harriet Simpson Arnow, in *Flowering of the Cumberland*, named Robert Edmondson as a typical industrious farmer with several varieties of livestock and crops of corn, cotton, flax, small grains. (Harriet was raised at Burnside, KY, her grandfather adjacent to the Samuel Newell farm. Newell, a college classmate of Edmondson, ran barges loaded with Pulaski County produce down the Cumberland to market in Nashville. There the Newells bought horses for the return trip.)

In 1804, North Carolina supreme court ruled in the case of William Ridge orphans vs William Terrell Lewis. The question before the court was admissibility of depositions taken far from Surry County where the case was adjudicated. James Martin Lewis (brother of defendant) deposed at his home (At the time, JM Lewis probably lived on Richland Creek, Sylvan Park area on land granted to his deceased brother, Micaijah Lewis. Joel Lewis lived on Donelson Pike at Murfreesboro Pike) in Davidson County TN before justices Robert Edmondson, Samuel Bell, and Robert Dickson 31Dec1801.

Edmondson's son Andrew J Edmondson was a War of 1812 captain under Andrew Jackson.

Edmondson died 16Feb1816 in Davidson County. Wife Isabella died two days later. Their estate inventory was filed 16Apr1816. The Edmondson cemetery is located at 36.0720200 -86.7288500 south of Edmondson Pike/Wallace Road and north of Haywood Lane. Access to the site is from Nolensville Pike to Winston Ave. west to the dead end. There is no marking. About an acre of wooded brush at the top of the ridge overlooks Mill (Seven Mile) Creek to the west. It is situated as one might imagine a final resting place for the owner.

Davidson County TN deed book 1 records the sale of 200 acres on Mill Creek from Robert Edmondson to his son Andrew Jackson Edmondson on 13Feb1816 (three days before Robert's death). The deed was registered in June 1816.

See Pontotoc Co., MS, Maury Co. TN and Shelby Co. TN. Jenette (Jane) Edmondson who married Peter Wright is believed to be a daughter of Robert, as was Joannah (Anna) who married George Titus.