
WikiTree and Surname Studies

How to Use Them Together to Improve Your Research

Forest Elf



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G+1 101     + 27

Presenter



M. Gaulden

G+1 73     + 7



Eowyn K. Langholf

Born 1970's.

M. Gaulden

Born 1960's.

This presentation is a ***collaborative*** effort between Eowyn Langholf and Mags Gaulden.

What is WikiTree?

- Founded in 2008 by Chris Whitten
- Mission: to **connect the human family on one tree** that's free and accessible to everyone
- Designed to balance privacy and collaboration so that living people can connect on one world tree to common ancestors



What is WikiTree? (cont.)



- Privately collaborate with our close family members on modern family history and recent connections
 - Collaboration on deep ancestors is between distant cousins who are serious about genealogical research and careful about sources
 - Because all the profiles are connected on the same system our collaboration is creating a single family tree that will eventually connect us all and thereby make it free and easy for anyone to discover their roots
 - No "premium" memberships and nobody is charged for access to anything. Ever.
 - Those who actively help grow the tree must agree with the mission and Honour Code
-

Our Honor Code

This code is a pledge that community members make to each other. The creators and hosts of WikiTree have also made a pledge: [to keep WikiTree free.](#)

Nine points:

1. Collaborate
2. Accuracy
3. Assume mistakes are unintentional
4. Courteous to everyone
5. Privacy
6. Copyrights
7. Credit
8. Sources
9. Keep info as free and open as possible

Privacy vs. Collaboration

Privacy Level for Profile of Eowyn Langholf



Unlisted

No public information. Name won't appear in search results or directories. **Not an option for Wiki Genealogists.**



Private

- Strictly limited public information. Only the Trusted List can view or edit the full profile. The default for living people and non-living people when added as nuclear relatives of living people.



Private with Public Biography

- Same as Private but anyone can view the biography section.



Private with Public Family Tree

- Same as Private but anyone can view the family tree. Other individuals in the tree can still be private.



Private with Public Biography and Family Tree

- Same as Private but anyone can view the biography and family tree.



Public

Anyone can view the full profile but only the Trusted List can edit it. The default for non-living people under 200 years old except when added as nuclear relatives of living people. **Not an option for living people.**



Open

Anyone can view the full profile and any member who has signed the Wiki Genealogist Honor Code can edit it. Required for people over 200. **Not an option for living people.**

Enter profiles by hand or upload a GEDCOM



- Entering by hand gives you the opportunity for a Genealogy do-over.
- Uploading a GEDCOM creates all your profiles with all information from your files included.



Importing a GEDCOM

- Before importing a GEDCOM make sure you have at least a birth date or a death date for every individual.
- After Importing a GEDCOM your files become a part of our big ole shared tree.
- The GEDCompare report shows close matches that were found between people in your file and existing profiles on WikiTree. Carefully review each suggested match to determine if it is indeed a match, if so it should be skipped. You should also skip people with Unknown or Living as their name.



Anatomy of a WikiTree Profile

The Header



Edward Dillingham Whitten Jr. (1885 - 1949)



 0     0

[Profile \(public view\)](#)

[Edit](#)

[Images](#)

[Family Tree & Tools](#)

[Changes](#)

[Privacy](#)

[Profile \(private view\)](#)



The Data Fields

Mr. Edward Dillingham [Whitten Jr.](#)

Born **August 29, 1885** in **Brookline, MA** [?]

Son of [Edward Dillingham Whitten Sr.](#) and [Mary Olive \(Lorman\) Whitten](#)

Brother of [Celia Ann \(Whitten\) Yates](#), [Emily Olive \(Whitten\) Warren](#), [Lena \(Whitten\) Brown](#), [Maurice James Whitten](#) and [Evelyn Mary Whitten](#) [\[add sibling\]](#)

Husband of **[Effie Laurentine \(Legge\) Whitten](#)** — married August 29, 1918 in Scots Bay Road, Nova Scotia [?]


Father of [Joyce \(Whitten\) Kansanniva](#), [Bea \(Whitten\) Laserte](#), [Ed Whitten](#) and [Dot \(Whitten\) Johnson](#) [\[add child\]](#)

Died **January 21, 1949** in **Fitchburg, MA** [?]

Whitten-16 — Profile manager: [Chris Whitten](#) [\[send private message\]](#)

Last modified 5 June 2015.

This page has been accessed 2,171 times.

 Recommend this on Google

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[Categories:](#) [Railroad Workers.](#)



The Body

Biography

[\[edit\]](#)

Edward was born in Brookline, Massachusetts in 1885. It may have been August 28^[1] or 29.^[2]

The 1900 census (taken June 13) lists the 14-year-old Edward as living with his parents at 349 Summer St. in Fitchburg and doing Telegraph Messangrdry? (9 months unemployed?)

The 1910 census (taken April 24) lists the 24-year-old Edward as living with his parents at 96? Charles St. in Fitchburg and working as a railroad brakeman.

He married Effie on August 29, 1918 in Canning, Nova Scotia. See [Effie's page](#) for more about their life together.

He lived at 35 Brigham Park in [Fitchburg, Massachusetts](#). It was rented for \$28/month according to the 1930 census.

Edward worked for the Boston & Maine Railroad.

In 1928 he broke a leg after being thrown from the caboose of the train as it started.^[3]

He died at age 63. The [Whitten family bible](#) records the date as January 21, 1949.

Sources

[\[edit\]](#)

- [↑] [Whitten family bible](#)
- [↑] "Massachusetts, Births, 1841-1915," index and images, FamilySearch (<https://familysearch.org/ark:/61903/1:1:FX46-HCY> : accessed 3 June 2015), Edward Dillingham Whitten, 28 Aug 1885; citing Brookline, Norfolk, Massachusetts, reference p 212, Massachusetts Archives, Boston; FHL microfilm 1,428,208.
- [↑] From Springfield Republican (Springfield, MA), December 17, 1928.
 - Census records accessed at Ancestry.com by [Chris Whitten](#) in 2008.



DNA



DNA Connections

It may be possible to confirm family relationships with Edward by comparing test results with other carriers of [his Y-chromosome](#) or [his mother's mitochondrial DNA](#). [Y-chromosome DNA](#) test-takers in his direct paternal line on WikiTree:

- [Y](#) [Chris Whitten](#) [↔](#) - [Family Tree DNA yDNA 67 markers](#)
Haplogroup R-M269
[Ysearch D3D3Z](#)
[Family Tree DNA](#) kit 124309

It is likely that these [autosomal DNA](#) test-takers will share DNA with Edward:

- [au](#) [Chris Whitten](#) [↔](#) - [AncestryDNA](#)
GEDMatch ID A820770
[Ancestry.com](#) member ciwhitten
- [au](#) [Chris Whitten](#) [↔](#) - [23andMe](#)
- [au](#) [Ted \(Whitten\) Whittenkraus](#) [↔](#) - [23andMe](#)

Have you taken a DNA test for genealogy? If so, [enter it here](#). If not, [see our friends at Family Tree DNA](#).

Images



Images: 19

View by [popularity](#), [date](#), or [upload date](#). [Add new image](#).

Effie and Edward



[→Popularity](#) [E-Card](#) [Details](#)

Fitchburg, MA [\[uncertain\]](#), 1942 [Comments](#):
0, WikiTree Popularity: 2.

[G+](#) Recommend this on Google

[f Like](#) Be the first of your friends to like this.

[Tweet](#) [Pin it](#)

Silly Hat Day



[→Popularity](#) [E-Card](#) [Details](#)

Followed Tags



Followed Tags

Eowyn is a [Wiki Genealogist](#) following these tags:

ADOPTION_ANGELS

I'm a WikiTree Adoption Angel - we're a group of volunteers aiming to help connect adoptees and birth families.

BABB

My adopted grandfather's maternal line

CATEGORIZATION

I'm part of the categories project - one of the great features of WikiTree

GEDCOM

I'm the GEDCOM Manager and I review all submitted GEDCOMs before they are imported into WikiTree. If you have any questions regarding your GEDCOM I'm happy to help.

HOLSTON

My biological grandmother's paternal line

LANGHOLF

My adopted father's paternal line.













LDS

I'm the Leader of the LDS Project

PHOTOS

I'm the Leader of the Photo of the Week Project. Questions? [Please ask!](#)

WikiTree's G2G Forum

 +22  votes	6 answers	What are the benefits of joining a One Name Study? 182 views asked Feb 10 in The Tree House by Ros Haywood G2G6 Mach 1 (10,050 points) one_name_studies one_name_study murch blagdon
 +5  votes	2 answers	Who is working the Thompsons of Humbleton? 26 views asked Feb 8 in Requests for Genealogy Help by Robin Lee G2G6 Mach 9 (96,160 points) thompson england virginia one_name_studies
 +12  votes	0 answers	Who wants to break down a Brick Wall??? 85 views asked Feb 6 in Requests for Project Volunteers by Doug Lockwood G2G Astronaut (1,064,090 points) one_name_studies
 +22  votes	11 answers	Attention One Name Studies Project Members: What's New? 220 views asked Feb 5 in The Tree House by Alison Andrus G2G6 Mach 1 (19,840 points) one_name_studies projects
 +16  votes	2 answers	Introducing Our one name studies sites 96 views asked Feb 4 in The Tree House by Taylor Worthington-Gilchrist G2G6 Mach 2 (29,490 points) one_name_studies
 +9  votes	1 answer	I have two name studies I created at different times that really should be combined, can this be done, and if so, how? 36 views asked Feb 4 in WikiTree Tech by Michael Bissell --Benefiel G2G1 (1,440 points) one_name_studies

Categories

Alfred William **Abernathy**

Born **1799** in **Lincoln County, North Carolina, United States** [?]

Son of [William D Abernathy](#) and [Winifred \(Kimbrel\) Abernathy](#)

Brother of [Drury Gillum Abernathy](#) and [David Addison Abernathy](#) [\[add sibling\]](#)

Husband of **[Magdalena \(Friday\) Abernathy](#)** — married after March 11, 1824 in Lincoln County, North Carolina, United States [?]

Father of [Caroline Winifred \(Abernathy\) Hedick](#) and [Marshall Rufus Abernathy](#) [\[add child\]](#)

Died before **1870** in **Texas, United States** [?]

Abernathy-1197 — **No Profile Manager** [\[adopt this profile\]](#)

Last modified 15 February 2016.

15 February 2016

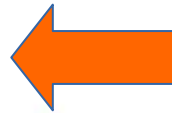
(36110807)11:41: [Eric Daly](#) added [Caroline \(Abernathy\) Hedick](#) as child for [Alfred Abernathy](#). [\[Thank Eric for this\]](#)

This page has been accessed 17 times.

 Recommend this on Google

[Help cousins find this profile.](#)

[Categories:](#) [Abernathy Name Study](#).



People or pages in Abernathy Name Study

There are 37 profiles on this category page.

A



- [Abernathy, Alfred W.](#) Born 1790's. Died 1870's.
- [Abernathy, Barrymore](#) Born 1780's. Died 1870's.
- [Abernathy, Charles](#) Born 1740's. Died 1820's.
- [Abernathy, Cora L.](#) (Cora Dellinger). Born 1870's. Died 1940's.
- [Abernathy, David](#) Born 1750's. Died 1830's.
- [Abernathy, David H.](#) Born 1720's. Died 1810's.
- [Abernathy, Drury Gillum](#) Born 1800's. Died 1850's.
- [Abernathy, Elizabeth A.](#) (Elizabeth Rockett). Born 1820's. Died 1850's.
- [Abernathy, Elizabeth](#) (Elizabeth Perkins). Born 1760's. Died 1830's.
- [Abernathy, James](#) Born 1720's. Died 1780's.
- [Abernathy, John D.](#) Born 1760's. Died 1840's.
- [Abernathy, Joseph](#) Born 1740's. Died 1820's.

A cont.

- [Abernathy, Joseph](#) Born 1780's. Died 1870's.
- [Abernathy, Marshall R.](#) Born 1830's. Died 1880's.
- [Abernathy, Martha](#) Born 1750's.
- [Abernathy, Martha B.](#) Born 1780's. Died 1840's.
- [Abernathy, Mary M.](#) (Mary Rockett). Born 1720's. Died 1780's.
- [Abernathy, Mary](#) (Mary Whisenhunt). Born 1810's. Died 1880's.
- [Abernathy, Mary](#) (Mary Farrar). Born 1780's. Died 1820's.
- [Abernathy, Miles D.](#) Born 1770's. Died 1860's.
- [Abernathy, Miles](#) Born 1780's. Died 1870's.
- [Abernathy, Moses](#) Born 1760's. Died 1850's.
- [Abernathy, Nancy](#) (Nancy Forney). Born 1760's. Died 1840's.
- [Abernathy, Robert](#) Born 1750's. Died 1840's.
- [Abernathy, Robert](#) Born 1750's.

A cont.

- [Abernathy, Sarah A.](#) (Sarah Rutledge). Born 1790's. Died 1860's.
- [Abernathy, Sarah](#) (Sarah Rockett). Born 1760's. Died 1810's.
- [Abernathy, Sarah Ann](#) (Sarah Ann Finger). Born 1840's. Died 1920's.
- [Abernathy, Sterling O.](#) Born 1820's. Died 1890's.
- [Abernathy, Turner](#) Born 1760's. Died 1840's.
- [Abernathy, Turner T.](#) Born 1790's. Died 1860's.
- [Abernathy, William D.](#) Born 1760's. Died 1850's.
- [Abernathy Name Study](#)

C

- [Cox, Elizabeth](#) (Elizabeth Abernathy). Born 1730's.

J



Category: Templeton Name Study

[Limit to Watchlist](#) | [How to Categorize](#) | [Category Search](#)

       0

[\[edit\]](#)

Categories: [One Name Studies](#) | [DNA Projects](#)

- [Templeton Name Study Free Space](#)
- [Templeton DNA Chart](#)
- [Templeton DNA Name Study](#)
- [Irish Templeton DNA](#)
- [Templeton DNA Northern Iredell County, North Carolina](#)
- [DNA Categorization for Projects](#)

This is a One Name Study to collect together in one place everything about the surname Templeton and its variants. The hope is that other researchers like you will join our study to help make it a valuable reference point for people studying lines that cross or intersect. Please contact the project leader, add categories to your profiles, add your questions to the bulletin board, add details of your name research, etc.

One Name Studies Explained

[\[edit\]](#)

With One Name Studies it is the *surname* that is of interest, rather than the family tree of members of the same family with several different surnames. It does involve many of the same research skills and techniques as family history, and most one-namers are actively researching both their own family and their one-name studv.



How to Get Started

- Talk to one of the project leaders and ask for a badge
- Add `one_name_studies` to your followed tags
- Contact current Study Coordinator or start your own if one doesn't exist
- See:http://www.wikitree.com/wiki/Project:One_Name_Studies

What To Do Once You're Set Up

1. Start by adding your one name study category to your profiles.
2. Look for other profiles with the same surname & post them to your study. These may be confined to a specific geographical area.
3. Invite members by the same name or who are researching the same name to join your study.
4. Add your surname origin and meaning to your study.
5. Add a table and post your yDNA results. Encourage other members to do the same so that closer comparisons can be made that will help you create your own yDNA signature.



What To Do Once You're Set Up

6. If you have DNA test results from other family members, add the tests along with links to their profiles.
7. Post your direct family line as a family unit & then invite others with the same surname to post their family line as a separate family unit, etc. In this case, the goal is to find a link between family units using traditional &/or DNA research. It would be especially helpful to outline profiles that show the results of your yDNA test.
8. Are there any famous notables by the same name? Add them to your study and encourage members to post their connections since they are usually proud of the connection and posting about it is discouraged on the notable's profile.
9. Add commentary for discussion. Who are your brickwalls? Are there any weak links that need more sources? Are there any interesting stories passed down through your family?



What To Do Once You're Set Up

11. Add sources and resources. Are there any published books based on your surname with possible links? Historical societies in your geographical area of study that hold files on your surname? Family Historical Societies? Websites that are dedicated to your surname? Links for further research?

12. Advertise your study to other members via G2G & invite others to collaborate. Post updates on what is new or interesting in your project. The more we communicate on G2G about our projects, the better the One Name Studies Project will be.



This is a One Name Study to collect together in one place everything about the surname Templeton and its variants. The hope is that other researchers like you will join our study to help make it a valuable reference point for people studying lines that cross or intersect. Please contact the project leader, [M. Gaulden](#) add categories to your profiles, add your questions to the bulletin board, add details of your name research, etc.

Origins of the Templeton Name

There are several versions of how the name Templeton, with various spellings, came to be derived. Some might be true, or have some truth, and some may be simply romantic folklore.

One popular version states the name is associated with the Knights Templar. This version is derived from two sources. One source is based on the description of the paschal lamb on Templeton coat of arms which is stated to represent Christians who performed service in Holy Land during the crusades. The other source is based on combining two words. The French word "templier" has been translated as meaning Templar, as in Knights Templar. The second word is from the older Anglo-Saxon word "tun" which was corrupted to the Old English "ton," which means farm, hamlet or village. Combining the two, one comes up with Templeton - sort of. It seems the line was connected with the crusades in some manner but it does not necessarily mean any Templetons were Templars or that the name was derived from the Templars (additional information below).

A second version of the name derivation is more plausible. An Old English word "templ" meant a place of worship and it did not necessarily mean a place of Christian worship if in use prior to the growth of Christianity in the British Isles. Per the Oxford Dictionaries we have "Old English templ, temple reinforced in Middle English by Old French temple, both from Latin templum 'open or consecrated space.'" Add to this "tun" or "ton" we would get Templeton, Templetun, Templetoun, Templetoune, etc. This is a more logical explanation since surnames came about when taxing was introduced in England. The addition of a surname helped the tax collector distinguish between those whose given name was the same. The surname was usually taken from the name of a geographical feature or a hamlet, town, farm, village in the area where the individual lived. When we

Templeton Name Study Image 2



Templeton

[+Popularity](#) [E-Card](#) [Details](#)

[\[location?\]](#) [\[date?\]](#) [Comments: 2](#). WikiTree

Popularity: 1.

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[f](#) Like Sign Up to see what your friends like.



Collaboration





<http://www.wikitree.com>