

Collection Summary

Title

Edwards and Ailshire Families Papers

Date

1918-1999

Extent

4 folders

Name and Location of Repository

Midwest Genealogy Center, Independence (Mo.)

Reference code: MGC 1010-EAFP

Processed by: Nicole Pye, 2012; Finding aid created by Amy Luther, 2012

Names of Creators

Ailshire, Vesta

Edwards, Ephram

Edwards, Minnie

Biographical History

Vesta Ailshire was born Willa Vesta Nobles in Washington, Ripley County, Missouri on November 14, 1906. Her first marriage to Henry Cato took place in Arkansas on February 23, 1924. Minnie Edwards deeded the Edwards farm to her niece, Vesta, and Henry Cato in 1946. Vesta's second husband, Wilbert Ailshire, helped to convert the farmland into the Independence Memorial Airport during the 1960's. Vesta built Mrs. A's Restaurant in the 1970's. This restaurant originally catered to the airport users but quickly became well-known in the area. Vesta died on October 4, 1999 in Independence, Missouri.

The Edwards family included Minnie Spradling Edwards and Ephram Edgar Edwards. Minnie was born on January 28, 1875 in eastern Missouri. Ephram was born on June 15, 1876 in Indiana. They were married in Ripley, Missouri on January 27, 1892. The Edwards resided in various areas of Missouri and Oklahoma during the early 1900s. In 1930, the Edwards rented a farm in Jackson County. They later bought this farmland, which was located along what is now R.D. Mize Rd. Minnie and Ephram were members of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints. Ephram passed away August 31, 1940 and Minnie passed away seven years later on April 4, 1947. They are both buried in Independence, Missouri.

Scope and Content

This collection consists of probate, ownership, and funeral information for the Edwards and Ailshire families, including: deeds, subpoena, tax statements, real estate contracts, receipts, leases, abstract of title, patriarchal blessings, property sale documents, obituaries, church records, wills, probate record, letters, zoning order, newspaper articles, proposal, review report, and photographs. Significant gaps exist from: 1924-1931, 1947-1958, 1966-1981, and 1981-1999.

Collection Inventory

System of Arrangement

These records are arranged in three series.

Series 1, Real Estate Documents, 1920-1946

- Item 1, Warranty Deed, November 20, 1920
- Item 2, Trust Deed, November 27, 1920
- Item 3, U.S. District Court Subpoena in Chancery, January 2, 1924
- Item 4, Missouri Warranty Deed, December 6, 1924
- Item 5, Deed of Trust, December 8, 1924
- Item 6, Merchant's Tax Statement, June, 1931
- Item 7, Real Estate Contract, November 16, 1937
- Item 8, Receipt of Real Estate Purchase, December 28, 1937
- Item 9, Quit-Claim Deed, December 28, 1937
- Item 10, Farm Lease, September 10, 1942
- Item 11, Farm Lease, October 9, 1944
- Item 12, Real Estate Contract, November 25, 1944
- Item 13, Missouri Warranty Deed, December 28, 1946
- Item 14, Abstract of Title, undated

Series 2, Edwards Funeral and Real Estate, 1918-1947

- Item 1, Patriarchal Blessing of Ephraim E. Edwards, June 23, 1918
- Item 2, Patriarchal Blessing of Minnie Edwards, June 23, 1918
- Item 3, Closing out Sale of Edwards' property, September 30, 1940
- Item 4, Obituary of Ephram Edgar Edwards, October 2, 1940
- Item 5, Funeral receipt for Ephram Edwards' funeral, undated
- Item 6, Warranty Deed for church cemetery lot, October 22, 1942
- Item 7, Obituary and Service for Minnie Edwards, 1947
- Item 8, Church records for Ephram & Minnie Edwards, undated
- Item 9, Last Will and Testament of Ephram E. Edwards, January 12, 1920
- Item 10, Last Will and Testament of Minnie Edwards, January 12, 1920

Series 3, Probate and property records, 1948-1999

- Item 1, Probate Record, 1948
- Item 2, Letter from James E. Smith to Vesta Cato, October 4, 1948
- Item 3, Board of Zoning Adjustment Order, June 25, 1958
- Item 4, Newspaper article on Vesta Ailshire, April 25, 1963
- Item 5, Newspaper article on Vesta Ailshire, undated
- Item 6, Proposal to Federal Aviation Agency, August 26, 1965
- Item 7, Review report on Little Blue River, November 30, 1966
- Item 8, Aerial photograph of Independence Memorial Airport, undated
- Item 9, Newspaper article on Vesta Ailshire, January 7, 1981
- Item 10, Obituary for Vesta Ailshire, October 5, 1999

Rights and Access

Conditions Governing Access

The collection is open for research use by appointment.

Physical Access

Most records within this collection are housed in file folders. Photographs are wrapped in tissue paper.

Conditions Governing Reproduction and Use

Permission to publish, quote, or reproduce must be secured from the Midwest Genealogy Center.

Languages and Scripts of the Material

Materials in the collection are entirely in English.

Finding Aids

Name index is available from the archivist.

Related Archival Material

Related materials providing further information on the Independence Airport may be found within the Midwest Genealogy Center's Vertical Files.

Immediate Source of Acquisition

This collection was donated by Diane Sadler.

Accruals

No further accruals are expected for this collection.

Existence and Location of Originals

Originals owned by the Midwest Genealogy Center.

Notes

The following sources were consulted during the preparation of the biographical history:

Ancestry.com. "1900 United States Federal Census." Provo, UT: Ancestry.com Operation Inc., 2004.

Ancestry.com. "1910 United States Federal Census." Provo, UT: Ancestry.com Operation Inc., 2006.

Ancestry.com. "1930 United States Federal Census." Provo, UT: Ancestry.com Operation Inc., 2002.

Ancestry.com. "1940 United States Federal Census." Provo, UT: Ancestry.com Operation Inc., 2012.

Ancestry.com. "Arkansas, County Marriages Index, 1837-1957." Provo, UT: Ancestry.com Operations, Inc., 2011.

Ancestry.com. "Missouri Marriage Records, 1805-2002." Provo, UT: Ancestry.com Operation Inc., 2007.