

Edgemere

The Spriggs turn to apple farming in
Nova Scotia, 1914-1920

Apple farming in Nova Scotia

- The Spriggs led a privileged life in England. They were industrious, prosperous Quakers, they were part owners of a mattress factory and they lived in a spacious home with servants
- Concerns about a vocation for Bob (he had lost an eye) led to a decision to forego their life in England and immigrate to Canada where Bob could engage in farming (a family story anyway)
- And so they came to Canada in 1914 and purchased an apple farm near the little village of Port Williams at the mouth of the Cornwallis River (on Starrs Point Road, named after their neighbour, the Starrs)...

Apple farming in Nova Scotia

- The timing was poor, however. With the outbreak of war, the apple market vanished and William and Alice were forced, in time, to sell Edgemere at fire-sale prices.
- Fortunately, they were financially independent and retired to St Anne de Bellevue near Montreal and a comfortable, quiet life. Bob became an engineer!
- See the slide show 'Train Ride to Applecroft' for images of their life in St Anne de Bellevue.



Help, Alison, Hester, Alice, Help, Bob, Will



Hester Spriggs



The original portion of the house was built by United Empire Loyalists in the late 1700s without a single nail



Life at Edgemere Farm



Alison Spriggs



The apple orchard



Life at Edgemere Farm



Will Spriggs



William Spriggs



Looking towards the Cornwallis River



William Spriggs Jr in RCAF uniform, 1918?



William and Alice Spriggs (nee Hayward)



Will's telegraph aerial



The hand offering apples



Alice Spriggs



The apple orchard, a sizable operation



William and Alice



Life at Edgemere Farm



Will, Hester, Alison, Alice and William Spriggs



Hester? and Alice Spriggs



Alison Spriggs



Life at Edgemere Farm



Alison and Hester Spriggs



William Spriggs and daughter Hester



Back: Bob and Will; Front: Hester, Alice and William



Life at Edgemere Farm



My grandmother Alice was an avid gardener



My grandmother, Alice Spriggs



Watering



William Spriggs picking apples



Alice Spriggs



Alison Spriggs



Life at Edgemere Farm



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Hester was 9 when she arrived at Edgemere



Will Spriggs? at the telegraph



Life at Edgemere Farm



The Cornwallis River



Cold winds lashed the shoreline in winter



Alison Spriggs?



Re-roofing the Apple shed



Staked hay



Life at Edgemere Farm



Life at Edgemere Farm



Hazel Warneford, Bob's future wife



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Bob, Hand, Hester and Alison



Hazel Warneford



Bob Spriggs and Hazel Warneford



Neighbours (the Starrs?) with Hester, Alice, Will and William



Life at Edgemere Farm



Life at Edgemere Farm



Will flew a reconnaissance bi-plane



Hester Spriggs



Bob and Will Spriggs



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William and the Hand playing who wins?



Alison Spriggs



Alice and William, two fine people I'm proud to call my own

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