**George Edmundson**

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*For those of a similar name, see* [*George Edmondson (disambiguation)*](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/George_Edmondson_%28disambiguation%29)*.*

**George Edmundson** (4 February 1848 – 3 July 1930) was a [clergyman](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Clergy) of the [Church of England](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Church_of_England) and academic historian of the [University of Oxford](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/University_of_Oxford). He took up [benefices](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Benefice) in [Northolt](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Northolt) and [Chelsea](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Chelsea%2C_London) and in retirement lived in the south of [France](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/France).

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**[**[**edit**](http://en.wikipedia.org/w/index.php?title=George_Edmundson&action=edit&section=1)**] Early life**

Born at Redcar House in [Redcar](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Redcar), [Yorkshire](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Yorkshire), Edmundson was the eldest son of the Rev. George Edmundson of Redcar and [St Leonards-on-Sea](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/St_Leonards-on-Sea), by his marriage to Elizabeth Anne, daughter of William Whytehead of [Thirsk](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Thirsk). His father was [lord of the manor](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Lord_of_the_manor) of [Agglethorpe](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Agglethorpe) in [Coverdale](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Coverdale_%28dale%29). He was educated at [St Peter's School](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/St_Peter%27s_School%2C_York), [York](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/York), and at [Magdalen College, Oxford](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Magdalen_College%2C_Oxford), where he was a demy. He took a first class in [Mathematical Moderations](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Honour_Moderations) in 1869 and another first in Maths in 1870, graduated [BA](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Bachelor_of_Arts) in 1871, won the Senior Hall Greek Testament Prize in 1873, and proceeded [MA](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Master_of_Arts_%28postgraduate%29) in 1874.[[1]](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/George_Edmundson#cite_note-who-0)

**[**[**edit**](http://en.wikipedia.org/w/index.php?title=George_Edmundson&action=edit&section=2)**] Career**

In 1871 Edmundson was elected to an Open [Fellowship](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Fellow) at [Brasenose](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Brasenose_College%2C_Oxford) and was Mathematical Lecturer there from 1871 to 1880 and also a college tutor from 1875 to 1880. He was ordained a [deacon](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Deacon) of the [Church of England](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Church_of_England) in 1872 and a [priest](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Priest) in 1874. From 1875 to 1881 he was Junior Bursar of his college and in the University was Mathematical Examiner for Final Honour Schools for 1875-76.[[1]](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/George_Edmundson#cite_note-who-0)[[2]](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/George_Edmundson#cite_note-robinson-1)

In 1880, Edmundson accepted the [benefice](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Benefice) of [Northolt](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Northolt), [Middlesex](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Middlesex), where he remained until 1906, when he became [Vicar](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Vicar) of St Saviour’s, Upper Chelsea, retiring in 1920. He was also [Rural Dean](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Rural_Dean) of [Chelsea](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Chelsea%2C_London) from 1916 to 1920.[[1]](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/George_Edmundson#cite_note-who-0)[[2]](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/George_Edmundson#cite_note-robinson-1)

From 1896 to 1899, Edmundson worked for the [British Government](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Government_of_the_United_Kingdom) in the matter of a Boundary Arbitration between [British Guiana](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/British_Guiana) and [Venezuela](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Venezuela),[[1]](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/George_Edmundson#cite_note-who-0)[[3]](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/George_Edmundson#cite_note-geog-2) and from 1901 to 1904 he worked for the government again on a Boundary Arbitration between British Guiana and [Brazil](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Brazil).[[1]](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/George_Edmundson#cite_note-who-0) His work was research, under the direction of [Sir Charles Alexander Harris](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Charles_Alexander_Harris), who later wrote "To the staff who worked under my direction in the two Guiana arbitration cases, where extreme accuracy and patience were required, I find it difficult to record my indebtedness. Mr de Villiers, my co-editor of Storm,[[4]](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/George_Edmundson%22%20%5Cl%20%22cite_note-3) and Dr Edmundson were with me throughout."[[5]](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/George_Edmundson#cite_note-4)

One of Edmundson's major works, *The Church of Rome in the First Century*, appeared in 1913, having originated as the [Bampton Lectures](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Bampton_Lectures) for that year. Much later, [J. A. T. Robinson](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/John_Robinson_%28bishop_of_Woolwich%29) praised it highly. In his *Redating the New Testament* (1977), he noted that Edmundson's book had largely been ignored at the time, perhaps because he was not a professional [New Testament](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/New_Testament) scholar and his conclusions were radically different from the consensus of the "higher criticism" of his day.[[2]](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/George_Edmundson#cite_note-robinson-1)[[6]](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/George_Edmundson#cite_note-5)

In 1917–18, Edmundson worked for the [Foreign Office](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Foreign_Office)'s Historical Department.[[1]](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/George_Edmundson#cite_note-who-0)

He married Florence Brooke Turner, the daughter of Joseph Brooke Turner, of [Edgerton](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Edgerton), Yorkshire, and they had one son and one daughter.[[1]](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/George_Edmundson#cite_note-who-0)

He retired to a house named the Villa Nicette, at [Saint-Raphaël](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Saint-Rapha%C3%ABl%2C_Var) in the south of [France](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/France) and died on 3 July 1930.[[1]](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/George_Edmundson#cite_note-who-0)

**[**[**edit**](http://en.wikipedia.org/w/index.php?title=George_Edmundson&action=edit&section=3)**] Honours**

* Foreign Member of the Netherlands Association of Literature, 1886[[1]](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/George_Edmundson#cite_note-who-0)
* Fellow of the [Royal Historical Society](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Royal_Historical_Society), 1894[[1]](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/George_Edmundson#cite_note-who-0)
* Honorary Member of the Dutch Historical Society, 1897[[1]](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/George_Edmundson#cite_note-who-0)
* Fellow of the [Royal Geographical Society](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Royal_Geographical_Society), 1911[[1]](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/George_Edmundson#cite_note-who-0)
* Ford’s Lecturer in English History (University of Oxford) 1909–1910[[1]](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/George_Edmundson#cite_note-who-0)[[7]](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/George_Edmundson#cite_note-6)
* [Bampton Lecturer](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Bampton_Lectures), 1913[[1]](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/George_Edmundson#cite_note-who-0)

**[**[**edit**](http://en.wikipedia.org/w/index.php?title=George_Edmundson&action=edit&section=4)**] Major publications**

* *Milton and Vondel, a Curiosity of Literature*, 1885
* *The Swedish Legend in British Guiana: An historical investigation* (1900)[[3]](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/George_Edmundson#cite_note-geog-2)
* 'The Revolt of the Netherlands', 'William the Silent' and 'The Dutch Republic' in [*Cambridge Modern History*](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Cambridge_Modern_History), vol. III *The Wars of Religion* (1904)
* *Archbishop Laud and his Work*, 1905
* 'The Administrations of John de Witt and William of Orange (1651–88)' in *Cambridge Modern History*, vol. V *The Age of Louis XIV* (1908)
* *Anglo-Dutch rivalry in the first half of the 17th century* (the Ford lectures), 1910
* *Intellect and Power, The Pride Sermon*, 1912
* *The Church in Rome in the First Century: an examination of various controverted questions relating to its history, chronology, literature and traditions: eight lectures preached before the University of Oxford* (Longmans, Green, 1913)[[8]](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/George_Edmundson#cite_note-7)
* *History of Holland* (Cambridge History Series), 1922
* *The Journal, Travels, and Labours of Father Samuel Fritz, in the River Amazon, 1686–1723*, translation from [Spanish](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Spanish_language), edited for the [Hakluyt Society](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Hakluyt_Society), 1922

**[**[**edit**](http://en.wikipedia.org/w/index.php?title=George_Edmundson&action=edit&section=5)**] External links**

* [George Edmundson](http://en.wikisource.org/wiki/Author%3AGeorge_Edmundson) at Wikisource
* [*The Church in Rome in the First Century*](http://www.ccel.org/ccel/edmundson/church.titlepage.html) full text online at ccel.org
* [*The Administrations of John de Witt and William of Orange (1651-88)*](http://www.uni-mannheim.de/mateo/camenaref/cmh/cmh507.html) full text online at uni-mannheim.de
* [Works by George Edmundson](http://www.gutenberg.org/author/George_Edmundson) at [Project Gutenberg](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Project_Gutenberg)
* [Works by or about George Edmundson](http://worldcat.org/identities/lccn-no99-47107) in libraries ([WorldCat](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/WorldCat%22%20%5Co%20%22WorldCat) catalog)

**[**[**edit**](http://en.wikipedia.org/w/index.php?title=George_Edmundson&action=edit&section=6)**] Notes**

* 1. ^ [***a***](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/George_Edmundson#cite_ref-who_0-0) [***b***](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/George_Edmundson#cite_ref-who_0-1) [***c***](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/George_Edmundson#cite_ref-who_0-2) [***d***](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/George_Edmundson#cite_ref-who_0-3) [***e***](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/George_Edmundson#cite_ref-who_0-4) [***f***](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/George_Edmundson#cite_ref-who_0-5) [***g***](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/George_Edmundson#cite_ref-who_0-6) [***h***](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/George_Edmundson#cite_ref-who_0-7) [***i***](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/George_Edmundson#cite_ref-who_0-8) [***j***](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/George_Edmundson#cite_ref-who_0-9) [***k***](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/George_Edmundson#cite_ref-who_0-10) [***l***](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/George_Edmundson#cite_ref-who_0-11) [***m***](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/George_Edmundson#cite_ref-who_0-12) [***n***](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/George_Edmundson#cite_ref-who_0-13) [*EDMUNDSON, Rev. George*](http://www.ukwhoswho.com/view/article/oupww/whowaswho/U208987%2C), in [Who Was Who](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Who%27s_Who_%28UK%29) (A. & C. Black, 1920–2008; online edition by [Oxford University Press](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Oxford_University_Press), December 2007 (subscription required), accessed 21 December 2010
	2. ^ [***a***](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/George_Edmundson#cite_ref-robinson_1-0) [***b***](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/George_Edmundson#cite_ref-robinson_1-1) [***c***](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/George_Edmundson#cite_ref-robinson_1-2) [John Arthur Thomas Robinson](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/John_Robinson_%28bishop_of_Woolwich%29), *Redating the New Testament* (Westminster Press, 1976), p. 349
	3. ^ [***a***](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/George_Edmundson#cite_ref-geog_2-0) [***b***](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/George_Edmundson#cite_ref-geog_2-1) Hugh Robert Mill, '[Geographical Literature of the month](http://www.jstor.org/pss/1774821)' in *The Geographical Journal*, vol. 15 (1900), p. 668, online at jstor.org (subscription required): "*The Swedish Legend in British Guiana. An historical investigation* by the Rev. George Edmundson. Size 13 x 9. Presented by E. F. im Thurn, Esq. British Guiana — Boundary. British Guiana Boundary. Arbitration with the United States of Venezuela."
	4. [**^**](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/George_Edmundson#cite_ref-3) *Storm van 's Gravesande: the rise of British Guiana*
	5. [**^**](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/George_Edmundson#cite_ref-4) Sir C. Alexander Harris, ed., *A Relation of a Voyage to Guiana by Robert Harcourt 1613* (Hakluyt Society, 1928), p. 1, footnote 1
	6. [**^**](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/George_Edmundson#cite_ref-5) [*Biography of George Edmundson*](http://www.ccel.org/e/edmundson/index.html) at ccel.org, accessed 21 December 2010
	7. [**^**](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/George_Edmundson#cite_ref-6) *The Oxford magazine* vol. 27 (1909), p. 136: "George Edmundson, MA, late Fellow of Brasenose College, to be Ford's Lecturer for the year 1909-10."
	8. [**^**](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/George_Edmundson#cite_ref-7) [outline](http://books.google.co.uk/books?id=yc5bAAAAMAAJ) at books.google.com

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