Edmund Ellsworth II was born 7 Oct. 1845 at Nauvoo, Hancock, Illinois, the son of Edmund and Elizabeth Young Ellsworth. His mother was a daughter of Brigham Young, president of the Mormon Church. His father was a lumberman and farmer who moved to Illinois in 1841 where he joined the church. With the exodus from Nauvoo, he crossed the plains in Captain Daniel Spencer’s Second Co. Which arrived in Salt Lake Valley 12 Oct. 1847. Here he engaged in the lumber business until 1864 when he purchased land in Weber County, which he farmed until 1880. Then he went to Arizona where he purchased property at Show Low and erected a lumber mill which he operated for some time. He died there 29 Dec. 1893 at the age of 74 years, and his wife died in Lewisville, Idaho, 2 Feb. 1903 at the age of 76 years.

Edmund Ellsworth II was reared and educated in Utah. On 5 Nov. 1867 he married Ellen Cornelia Blair in the Endowment House in Salt Lake City. She was born 22 Oct. 1846 in Lauderdale County, Tennessee, the daughter of Seth Millington and Cornelia Jane Espy Blair. Her father was born in Ralls County, Missouri, her mother in Lauderdale County, Tennessee. In 1850 she migrated with her parents to Salt Lake City where her father practiced law throughout his life, defending the Mormons in many suits against the United States. He was born 13 March 1819 and died in 1874. Her mother died in 1850.

Shortly after their marriage, they along with others went to Arizona where they farmed for one season and aided in the settlement of St. Joseph on the Muddy River. Then they returned to Utah where he farmed and raised stock for a few years. He also worked in the lumber business while he farmed.

In 1882, in company with his brothers, Brigham H., John, and his brother-in-law, Richard Franklin Jardine, he traveled to what became Lewisville where they spent their days looking over the country. On the 4th day the party decided to locate here and all took up land, which was then covered with sagebrush. The following spring he brought his family here and built a 2 room dirt-floored log house which his family lived in until they built the present brick home that exists today.


Over the years Mr. Ellsworth continued to purchase more land until he owned 1400 acres. In 1911 he retired from farming and built a home in Rigby, but preferring Lewisville as his place of residence, moved back where he purchased a piece of property in the town of Lewisville and lived until his death, which occurred 14 Sep. 1926. His wife died 22 Sep. 1913 at Lewisville.
and both are buried in the Lewisville Cemetery.

He brought the first shire horse to Lewisville and worked on the construction of the Parks and Lewisville Canal. He served as president and as a director of the Parks-Lewisville Irrigation Co. For several years as well as for the Little Feeder Canal Company.

He took an active part in public affairs, filling the office of Justice of the peace while in Utah. He also was on the first school committee for Lewisville. For several years he was a major in the Mormon militia. After settling in Idaho he was a Probate Judge and County Superintendent of Schools.

Information from Lewisville Centennial Book 1882-1982
Typed into the computer by Kathleen Jardine Woolf Idaho Falls  17 Dec. 2002