

# Edgefare

A Medieval Outpost Town

By

Kory M. Kaese and Allison E. Kaese

Throughout medieval times, domains would set up settlements on the edge of their territories for several reasons:

- To increase trade
- To secure their borders
- To prepare to extend their borders
- To harvest natural resources in a given area

This is a brief example of such a settlement. It is on the border of a wilderness. This town was created to protect the northern borders of the realm. It also harvests lumber from the wilderness.

Edgefare is nine years old. It has two small outlying villages. One, called Southlin, is four miles southeast of the town has 250 members. They have cut out fields from the wilderness to grow grains and maintain livestock for the town. The other small village, of 200 members, is called Midlen. It is five miles to the southwest of Edgefare and raises livestock for the town.

## Temporal Setting

The town has been designed with the low to middle medieval ages timeframe in mind.

## Topographical Data

Edgefare is located on the northern border of its country and is built on a level clearing that is approximately a half mile in radius.

### To the North of Edgefare:

There is a dense forest that appears to go on for weeks if traveled by foot or mount. The forest is an old growth forest with several varieties of trees that include oak, pine, fir, and other hardwoods. The forest has not yet been fully explored. At this time, twenty-two acres of the forest have been cleared. There is an abundance of game and wild foods in the forest.

### To the East of Edgefare:

Across the river, there is a young and lightly populated forest that extends for several miles. It then opens up to prairie-style grassland. The forest contains a great number of apple and other fruit trees. The village of Southlin has started creating orchards from the fruit trees found in the forest.

### To The South of Edgefare and towards the center of the country:

There is the trail that led the settlers and the group of explorers that discovered this area to this location. The trail has the feel of an old riverbed with its smooth rocks and contoured turns.

### To The West of Edgefare:

There are mountains 5 miles to the west of the town of Edgefare. The mountain range starts ten miles southwest of the town. It

extends to the northwest as far as the eye can see. The village of Midlen is located between Edgefare and the mountains.

## The River

The river is known as the Fairway. Its headwaters are further north. It travels south into the rest of the country. It finally empties out into the great sea in the south. The Fairway is one mile east of the Town of Edgefare. There is a bridge that has been built to allow easy transport between Edgefare and Southlin.

The river is large and deep enough at this point to allow barges and small ships to travel its waterways. Several tributaries of the Fairway are also quite navigable. This extensive system allows the entire country to be traveled primarily by boat. The river also contains an abundance of fish and crustaceans.

## Climate

The climate for this region is moderate. It has a very long growing season and moderate winters. The winters are cold enough to freeze the river for 2 months out of the year. This stops any transport via the river at that time.

## Edgefare

### Population

Military Governor:	1 Knight (lord of the town and surrounding area)
Administration:	4
Commander of the guard:	1 Petite Sergeant
Men-at-arms:	110
Priest	1
Butcher:	4
Blacksmith	2
Cooper	3
Cobbler	2
Apothecary	2
Taylor	4
Tavern owners	3
Tavern staff	40
Inn owners	4
Inn staff	35
Tanner	7
Weavers	10
Trappers	20
Bakers	10
Engineer	2
Carpenters	25
Wood cutters	200
Scribes	10
Laborers	510
Children	190
Total population:	1200 members of the town

## Buildings

Fortified Manner (center of town)	1
Fortified Barracks (center of town)	1
Weaver sheds	2
Blacksmith shops	1
Bakeries	2
Taverns	3
Inns	4
Butcher shops	2
Taylor	1
Stables	1
Church	1
Cooper workshop	1
Cobbler workshop	1
Apothecary shop	1
Scriptorium	1
Homes	10
Tenant buildings	25

## Fortifications

There is a 20-foot stockade fence around the entire town with eight wooden watchtowers to protect the town. There is a 20-foot wide 16-foot deep dry ditch that encircles the entire town. The stockade has two heavy wood gates. One is at the south end of town. The other is at the north end and leads to drawbridges that extend over the dry ditch.

## Village of Southlin

### Population

1	Yeoman (administrator for the village). The yeoman is renting 30 acres of land from the lord of the town.
139	Farmers
35	Livestock handlers
76	Children

## Buildings

1	Yeoman's cottage made of fieldstone
50	Huts made of wattle and daub
1	Meeting lodge that is constructed of timber with wattle and daub

## Fortifications

The village does not have any fortifications. In a time of conflict the villagers will travel to the town for protection

## Village of Midlen

### Population

1	Yeoman (administrator for the village). The yeoman is renting 30 acres of land from the lord of the town.
100	Farmers
55	Livestock handlers
45	Children

## Buildings

1	Yeoman's cottage made of fieldstone
39	Huts made of wattle and daub
1	Meeting lodge that is constructed of timber with wattle and daub

## Fortifications

The village does not have any fortifications. In times of conflict the villagers will flee to the town for protection.

*Managed livestock population for the town and the two villages is 3630 animals of which 2200 are poultry, 800 are sheep, and the remaining animals are various kinds of cattle.*

## Future expansion plans

The town has received a royal permit to construct better fortifications for the town. Next season masons and stone cutters will be arriving to begin harvesting stone from the mountains to the west of the town. This stone will be used to construct fortifications for the town.

The Lord of the town has convinced his Queen to allow him to create two more villages to service the town. He has not yet decided where to place them although one is likely to be near the expected quarry.

## Notes and Miscellaneous Items

At any given time, there will be 40 men-at-arms patrolling the areas in and around the town and the villages. The patrols are all mounted and travel in groups of ten.

Edgefare hosts an annual festival right after the harvest. The festival lasts three days. This is in addition to the town market near the center of town.

Once every two months, except during winter, a caravan arrives from the east from a distant land.

There is a regular courier sent from the capital of the country to Edgefare. He carries official documents and may carry tax monies back to the capital as well. He usually travels by a small ship. During winter, the courier will travel by mount and will be escorted by ten mounted soldiers.

The barracks is a two story wood building. The bottom floor is the stable and the upper floor has the living quarters for the men-at-arms

Each yeoman owns livestock solely for his family's use. Most will own some chickens. Several will own one of the following: A cow, an ox or 3 sheep