

Lineage Society Rules and Application Procedures

For purposes of condensing procedures, the following information is labeled First Families of Clinton County, but most rules also apply for Settlers and Builders of Clinton County, and Civil War Families of Clinton County. Any unique rules for each will be added in a separate section of this document.

OBJECTIVES OF THE FIRST FAMILIES OF CLINTON COUNTY, OHIO

The prime objectives of the First Families of Clinton County are to identify and honor the memory of the earliest pioneers and settlers of Clinton County Ohio and to show the proved ancestor's lasting mark on the county they helped develop, by honoring their descendants. The research and work necessary to discovering the pioneers and their descendants is intended to foster and encourage interest in the people who contributed in any way—great or small—to establishing Clinton County, and its local customs, cultures, genealogy and history.

REQUIREMENTS FOR MEMBERSHIP IN THE FIRST FAMILIES OF CLINTON COUNTY, OHIO

Only members of the Clinton County Genealogical Society may apply for membership. Applicants for First Families of Clinton County (FFCC) must complete the application form, showing their Clinton County ancestors(s), proving their descent from the ancestor(s), and proving their ancestor(s) settlement in Clinton County by 31 December 1820.

The application must be accompanied by copies of ALL documents necessary to (1) Prove the ancestor(s) settlement in Clinton County by 31 December 1820 and (2) Prove each step of direct descent from the ancestor(s) to the applicant. Proof may not be omitted for any step. If your ancestor is already I First Families of Clinton County on a relative's line you only need to prove your direct-line relationship back to the mutual ancestor.

Original application for membership in First Families of Clinton County must be accompanied by a \$20.00 application fee, which covers an ancestry line for as many pioneer ancestors who settled by 31 December 1820 as the applicant can prove on application. A supplemental(s) application listing additional ancestors in the time period proved must be accompanied by a \$5.00 fee.

FF/CC applications must be typed into the fillable pdf. Application, or hand-printed in black ink, and mailed or taken with the fee check made out to Clinton County Genealogical Society. The deadline for application acceptance in a calendar year will be 1 November of the year in which application is made. In any case where further proof is requested, that portion will be withheld until the requested proof is filed the Committee.

Upon acceptance in FF/CC, all applications and accompanying proof shall become the property of the Clinton County Genealogical Society. Do not send original documents or photos as all

proof will be kept with the application. You are advised to send photocopies of your certified documents and keep the originals for your own files.

Upon acceptance in FF/CC notification will be given acknowledging your acceptance. A certificate will be presented at the November Awards meeting of the Clinton County Genealogical Society. Those unable to attend will receive their certificate in the mail.

REQUIREMENTS FOR MEMBERSHIP IN THE SETTLERS AND BUILDERS OF CLINTON COUNTY, OHIO

Only members of the Clinton County Genealogical Society may apply for membership. Applicants for Settlers and Builders of Clinton County, Ohio must complete the application form, showing their Clinton County ancestor(s), proving their descent from the ancestor(s), and proving their ancestor(s) settlement in Clinton County from 1 January 1821 through 31 December 1860.

Application procedure is identical to information above for the First Families of Clinton County, Ohio.

Upon acceptance in Settlers and Builders of Clinton County, Ohio, all applications and accompanying proof shall become the property of the Clinton County Genealogical Society. Do not send original documents or photos as all proof will be kept with the application. You are advised to send photocopies of your certified documents and keep the originals for your own files.

REQUIREMENTS FOR MEMBERSHIP IN THE CIVIL WAR FAMILIES OF CLINTON COUNTY, OHIO

Only members of the Clinton County Genealogical Society may apply for membership. Applicants for Civil War Families of Clinton County must prove their ancestor(s) served in the Civil War and were residents of Clinton County at the time of enlistment or are buried in Clinton County. Dates of service must be between 12 April 1861 and 18 April 1865. Documented proof of service in any capacity will be eligible.

Only bloodlines are eligible. Adoptive lines are not eligible.

Other than proof of service in the Civil War, the application procedure is identical to information above for the First Families of Clinton County, Ohio. If Civil War ancestor is already proven in our First Family Record, proof of service for your Civil War ancestor is the only documentation needed.

Upon acceptance in Civil War Families of Clinton County, all applications and accompanying proof shall become the property of the Clinton County Genealogical Society. Do not send original documents or photos as all proof will be kept with the application. You are advised to send photocopies of your certified documents and keep the originals for your own files.

APPLICATION INSTRUCTIONS FOR LINEAGE SOCIETIES OF CLINTON COUNTY

1. Please type on the fillable pdf. Application or print in black ink all known information in the spaces provided on the application form you are submitting.
2. Use a separate official application form for each line to be proven.
3. If your ancestor is already proven in a Lineage Society, you only need to prove your direct-line relationship back to the mutual ancestor.
4. If claiming descent through a female ancestor's line proof of the maiden name and/or marriage to verify the changes of name must be enclosed. i.e. marriage license etc.
5. On the back of each proof you submit, please note the citation—where you found the information, title, author, volume, page, when published, or similar identifying information. It is also wise to write your name on each piece of documentation.
6. Dates should be written day/month/year. Estimated birth years (etc) should be noted as estimated.
7. Submit the completed application(s) with photocopies of evidence documents. Do not use original documents as they will not be returned.
8. Only one photocopy of any document is necessary even if used for more than one generation or more than one applicant. If you submit multiple copies. Some documents may be returned or discarded due to storage limitations.
9. For Civil War veteran military service documentation, do not submit the entire file. Include only that document necessary to prove service.
10. If you are submitting a supplemental, you do not need to duplicate any documents that were included in your original application.

EVIDENCE CITATION FOR LINEAGE SOCIETY APPLICATIONS

1. Primary Evidence—
 - a. Legal documentation from vital statistics, courthouses or other Government records, church and school records are considered to be beyond doubt, and the best proof.
 - b. Other original documentation, such as census records, newspaper clippings, old letters, Bible and family record pages, tombstones, etc. are considered almost as authentic.
2. Circumstantial evidence—implied facts; hearsay oral, written, or published family traditions; family group sheets and charts, lineage papers from patriotic or hereditary societies; material authored by the applicant CANNOT be considered proof.

3. Documents **MUST ACTUALLY STATE** the fact proved. Implied evidence is not accepted as proof. All proof documents must state the fact to be proved.
4. Proving female ancestors must be proved by their maiden name as individuals. She must be proven as the mother of the child, not as the wife of a proven father.
5. All documents must include a full citation to the original source. (EX.) Will, Clinton County Records Center, Volume 6, Pages 270-271. Sources such as newspaper clippings should be identified by the name of the newspaper and the date of the clipping's appearance.
6. Residency of each ancestor must be established according to the application rule. Deed records, tract books, warrants, grants, wills, etc. must state that the individual was "of Clinton County". Tax lists, census records, and township trustee records generally concern only residents specifically and are considered excellent proof.
7. A copy of the ancestor's family for the 1820 Clinton County census must be included as proof of residency, if applying for First Families of Clinton County; applicable census records should also be included for Settlers and Builders of Clinton County, Ohio
8. Reminder: All documents must have citation written on back of document (see #5) **AND** identify each document in lineage order by consecutive numbers in the upper right corner on front of the document.

SAMPLES:

--Obituary listing parents of deceased—we will accept this and consider correct to the facts reported even though the one who would know best is dead. We prefer proof of a death certificate but will accept an obituary listing as proof.

--If the Death Certificate states deceased was Born in Clinton County and names the parents, the mother's residency is proven by virtue of the child's birth, **NOT** the fathers.

--Census records for the 1820, 1830 and 1840 list males and females by age group—only the head of the household is accepted as a resident. The others are not names. Additional proof is asked.