

OBJECTIVES OF THE FIRST FAMILIES OF FRANKLIN COUNTY, PENNSYLVANIA

The prime objectives of the First Families of Franklin County, Pennsylvania, are to identify and honor the memory of the earliest pioneers of the county and to show the proven pioneer's lasting mark on the county they helped develop.

The research and work necessary in discovering the pioneers and their descendants is intended to foster and encourage increasing interest in the people who contributed in any way—great or small—to establishing the county and its customs, culture, genealogy, and history.

ELIGIBILITY

The applicant must be a direct descendant from an ancestor who settled in what is now Franklin County, Pennsylvania, by December 31, 1818. The applicant need not have been a resident of Franklin County, but must be able to prove descent from a Franklin County ancestor.

INSTRUCTIONS

The application must be accompanied by copies of ALL documentation necessary to prove the pioneer settled in the county by 1818, and to prove each step of descent from the pioneer to the applicant. Only prove to that generation. Applications must include a copy of one or more acceptable sources of proof, such as: birth certificates, marriage certificates, death certificates, published obituaries (with sufficient information), Bible records, church records, cemetery records, probate records, wills, county administrative records, and war pension records. Secondary sources may include state or federal census records, survey maps, etc. Copies of approved documentation from patriotic organizations may be submitted as supplemental information. **DO NOT SUBMIT ORIGINAL DOCUMENTS.** On each proof document, write the generation number corresponding to the ancestor on the application: #1 Applicant, #2 Parent, #3 Grandparent, etc.

Only list the mother of the child in the previous generation. For instance, list the mother's name in the third generation of the child in the second generation. Applicant's spousal information is optional.

Fill out the application as completely as possible, either typed or legibly hand-printed. Submit the application and proof to the Director of First Families, Franklin County Historical Society Library, 175 East King Street, Chambersburg, PA 17201, accompanied by the application fee of \$25. Additional applications may be made for other pioneer ancestors who settled in Franklin County by the end of 1818, for a fee of \$12.50. The First Family Director will review the application for accuracy and sufficient proof. If further proof is requested, the application shall remain inactive until the requested proof is filed and the application can be approved. A certificate will then be granted. (If sufficient proof cannot be provided, the application and application fee will be returned.)

PLEASE REMEMBER: A STATEMENT IS NOT NECESSARILY TRUE JUST BECAUSE IT IS IN PRINT.

The application, information, and all supporting documents and data become the property of the Franklin County Historical Society and will be maintained in the Society library to be available to the public for research purposes.