

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 to develop.

The research and work necessary to 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

Application must be accompanied by copies of ALL documents necessary to prove the pioneer settlement in the county by 1818, and to prove each step of descent from the pioneer to the applicant. Applications for a certificate must include a copy of one or more acceptable sources of proof, such as: Bible records; church records; death records, including published obituaries (if sufficient information is shown); wills; county administrative records; and War pension records. Secondary sources may include State or Federal census (give year, volume and page number); land records (must be a copy of land deed); survey maps; county histories (give title, author, date of publication and page number). Copies of approved documentation from patriotic organizations may be submitted as supplemental information.

Identify each proving document you submit by giving it the number of the ancestor on the application (1, 2, 3, etc.). **DO NOT SUBMIT ORIGINAL DOCUMENTS.**

Fill out as completely as possible, either typed or legibly hand-printed. Submit the application and proof to the Director of First Families of Franklin County, Franklin County Historical Society Library, 175 East King Street, Chambersburg, PA, 17201, accompanied by the application fee. The application fee is \$25.00; of this, \$5.00 is payable at the time the application blank is requested, and the balance of \$20.00 is to accompany the application. 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 Director and at least one Researcher 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 the 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.