



First Families of Western Pennsylvania

Application

Be sure to include a supporting document with citation for each statement below. See *Rules of Evidence* for acceptable documentation.

Name of Ancestor _____

County of Residence in Western Pennsylvania _____ Year _____ Doc # _____

1. I, _____
was born (date) _____ at City _____ Co. _____ State _____ Doc # _____

and married (name) _____

who was born (date) _____ at City _____ Co. _____ State _____ Doc # _____

died on _____ at City _____ Co. _____ State _____ Doc # _____

we were married (date) _____ at City _____ Co. _____ State _____ Doc # _____

2. I am the child of _____

who was born (date) _____ at City _____ Co. _____ State _____ Doc # _____

died on _____ at City _____ Co. _____ State _____ Doc # _____

and married (name) _____

who was born (date) _____ at City _____ Co. _____ State _____ Doc # _____

died on _____ at City _____ Co. _____ State _____ Doc # _____

they were married (date) _____ at City _____ Co. _____ State _____ Doc # _____

3. The said _____ was the child of _____

who was born (date) _____ at City _____ Co. _____ State _____ Doc # _____

died on _____ at City _____ Co. _____ State _____ Doc # _____

and married (name) _____

who was born (date) _____ at City _____ Co. _____ State _____ Doc # _____

died on _____ at City _____ Co. _____ State _____ Doc # _____

they were married (date) _____ at City _____ Co. _____ State _____ Doc # _____

4. The said _____ was the child of _____

who was born (date) _____ at City _____ Co. _____ State _____ Doc # _____

died on _____ at City _____ Co. _____ State _____ Doc # _____

and married (name) _____

who was born (date) _____ at City _____ Co. _____ State _____ Doc # _____

died on _____ at City _____ Co. _____ State _____ Doc # _____

they were married (date) _____ at City _____ Co. _____ State _____ Doc # _____

Applicants Name: _____

First Families of Western Pennsylvania

5. The said _____ was the child of _____
who was born (date) _____ at City _____ Co. _____ State _____ Doc # _____
died on _____ at City _____ Co. _____ State _____ Doc # _____
and married (name) _____
who was born (date) _____ at City _____ Co. _____ State _____ Doc # _____
died on _____ at City _____ Co. _____ State _____ Doc # _____
they were married (date) _____ at City _____ Co. _____ State _____ Doc # _____

6. The said _____ was the child of _____
who was born (date) _____ at City _____ Co. _____ State _____ Doc # _____
died on _____ at City _____ Co. _____ State _____ Doc # _____
and married (name) _____
who was born (date) _____ at City _____ Co. _____ State _____ Doc # _____
died on _____ at City _____ Co. _____ State _____ Doc # _____
they were married (date) _____ at City _____ Co. _____ State _____ Doc # _____

7. The said _____ was the child of _____
who was born (date) _____ at City _____ Co. _____ State _____ Doc # _____
died on _____ at City _____ Co. _____ State _____ Doc # _____
and married (name) _____
who was born (date) _____ at City _____ Co. _____ State _____ Doc # _____
died on _____ at City _____ Co. _____ State _____ Doc # _____
they were married (date) _____ at City _____ Co. _____ State _____ Doc # _____

8. The said _____ was the child of _____
who was born (date) _____ at City _____ Co. _____ State _____ Doc # _____
died on _____ at City _____ Co. _____ State _____ Doc # _____
and married (name) _____
who was born (date) _____ at City _____ Co. _____ State _____ Doc # _____
died on _____ at City _____ Co. _____ State _____ Doc # _____
they were married (date) _____ at City _____ Co. _____ State _____ Doc # _____

9. The said _____ was the child of _____
who was born (date) _____ at City _____ Co. _____ State _____ Doc # _____
died on _____ at City _____ Co. _____ State _____ Doc # _____
and married (name) _____
who was born (date) _____ at City _____ Co. _____ State _____ Doc # _____
died on _____ at City _____ Co. _____ State _____ Doc # _____
they were married (date) _____ at City _____ Co. _____ State _____ Doc # _____

10. The said _____ was the child of _____
who was born (date) _____ at City _____ Co. _____ State _____ Doc # _____
died on _____ at City _____ Co. _____ State _____ Doc # _____
and married (name) _____
who was born (date) _____ at City _____ Co. _____ State _____ Doc # _____
died on _____ at City _____ Co. _____ State _____ Doc # _____
they were married (date) _____ at City _____ Co. _____ State _____ Doc # _____

Applicants Name:

Doc # _____

Description _____

Applicants Name:

Doc # _____	Description _____
Doc # _____	Description _____
Doc # _____	Description _____
Doc # _____	Description _____
Doc # _____	Description _____
Doc # _____	Description _____
Doc # _____	Description _____
Doc # _____	Description _____
Doc # _____	Description _____
Doc # _____	Description _____
Doc # _____	Description _____
Doc # _____	Description _____
Doc # _____	Description _____
Doc # _____	Description _____
Doc # _____	Description _____
Doc # _____	Description _____

First Family Ancestor _____

Name (incl. Maiden name) _____ WPGS Member # _____

Full Name of Spouse (if applicable) _____

Address _____ City _____ State _____ Zip + 4 _____

Telephone _____ Email address _____

I, (print name) _____ do certify that the information contained in this application is true to the best of my knowledge. I understand that this application and the enclosed documents will become the property of the Western Pennsylvania Genealogical Society.

Applicant's Signature _____ Date _____

WPGS Use Only

Date Application Received _____

Acceptance Date _____

WPGS Member? Year? _____

Fee Paid ? _____

First Families Member Number _____

Ancestor Number _____

Mail completed application, documentation, and \$40 check made payable to WPGS-FFWP to:
First Families of Western Pennsylvania, c/o WPGS, 4400 Forbes Ave., Pittsburgh, PA 15213-4080

First Families of Western Pennsylvania

Allegheny	The applicant must be a member of the Western Pennsylvania Genealogical Society.
Armstrong	The first family ancestor must have been a resident of one of the 26 Western Pennsylvania counties (or in the appropriate section of the parent county) by 31 December 1810. Counties are listed at left.
Beaver	
Bedford	A non-refundable one-time fee of \$40 must accompany the completed application. You may enter as many ancestors as you can prove. The fee covers ancestors submitted at this time or in the future.
Blair	
Butler	Applications are due by 30 November of each year. Members will be inducted at a meeting or seminar to be held in the spring of each year.
Cambria	
Cameron	The applicant agrees that the submitted application and supporting documents shall become the property of WPGS.
Clarion	
Clearfield	The completed application and documentation shall be mailed to: First Families of Western Pennsylvania, c/o WPGS, 4400 Forbes Avenue, Pittsburgh, PA 15213-4080
Crawford	Rules of Evidence
Elk	All evidence submitted as proof shall be sufficient to prove that the applicant is directly descended from the claimed ancestor. The evidence must prove residence of the ancestor by the above date and be sufficient to differentiate between any two persons of the same name residing in the same area at the same time.
Erie	
Fayette	
Forest	The direct line from applicant to first family ancestor must be proved at every step. Blood line descent only is acceptable; adopted children do not qualify as a step in the lineage.
Greene	
Indiana	Remember that <i>quality</i> of evidence is more important than quantity.
Jefferson	
Lawrence	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Each document submitted must include a complete citation on the front of the document. Applications without citations will be returned. Examples of proper citation may be found in Elizabeth Shown Mills', <i>Evidence! Citation and Analysis for the Family Historian</i>. Baltimore: GPC, 1997
McKean	
Mercer	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Documents must state the fact to be documented. An individual named as an "heir" in court records is not necessarily related to the testator.
Somerset	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Primary evidence is the best evidence. Birth, death and marriage certificates or courthouse records, such as wills and deeds, are considered primary evidence.
Venango	
Warren	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Bible records may be considered primary evidence, if event dates are contemporary with the publication date of the Bible. A copy of the title page must be submitted. The current location of the Bible should be given.
Washington	
Westmorland	

Rules of Evidence

- Letters, diaries, and family records can be accepted if they state facts that the writer could have known "first hand". The identity of the writer and the date of the document are necessary
- Secondary evidence such as census records, newspaper accounts, etc. will be considered as corroborative evidence.
- County histories and family genealogies (published or unpublished) will not be considered as documentation, but as secondary or corroborative evidence.
- Lineage papers from other societies will not be considered as documentation.
- Photocopies of original documents are acceptable. Transcripts, however, must be certified as a "true copy" by a courthouse official, cemetery employee, etc.
- Tombstone photographs must be legible and accompanied by a transcription of the stone.
- Documents written in a foreign language must be accompanied by a translation certified as a "true translation" by the translator (not the applicant or a family member).
- Female ancestors living in western Pennsylvania before 31 December 1810 must be identified by their maiden names.
- Married female applicants must include a copy of their marriage record, if they use their husband's surname.
- Your name and address must be on the reverse of every piece of paper submitted.
- The First Families application form may be duplicated for use as a worksheet or for submitting additional ancestors.

Filling in the Form

All names and dates should be entered as completely as possible. Unproven names and dates should be enclosed in parentheses.

Dates should be entered as follows: 15 Nov 1842

Other acceptable entries would be: Between 10 Oct 1842 - 30 Nov 1842 [i.e. writing and proving of will]; Bef. 1842; Aft. 1842, Circa 1842, etc.

Document numbers should be entered in numerical order on documentation pages 3 and 4. They will not necessarily be in numerical order on pages 1 and 2, since a document may be used to prove more than one fact and a fact may have more than one piece of documentation.

Ex. A will might prove date of death of an individual and also the married name of a daughter,

Ex. A death date might be documented by a death certificate, a tombstone photograph, and an obituary.

Doc # _____

Description

Doc # _____

Description

Applicants Name: