



LINEAGE SOCIETIES of CUYAHOGA COUNTY
P O BOX 311074 INDEPENDENCE, OH 44131-1074

APPLICATION
CUYAHOGA COUNTY LINEAGE GROUPS
 Application deadline is **Dec 31** of each year.

Instructions to Applicant: Fill in A and B on this page. List your qualified ancestors in the appropriate sections below. Type or hand print all information. A check for \$20.00 must accompany the application for each lineage group you are applying for. If this is a supplementary application, a check for \$10.00 must accompany the application for each lineage group you are applying for. Any new or supplementary applicant must be a current member of one of the recognized genealogical groups in Cuyahoga County, OH. The application fee is non-refundable. All applications with appropriate fees should be returned to the Lineage Societies of Cuyahoga County, P.O. Box 311074, Independence, OH 44131-1074.

A

Applicant's Name	Street Address		Town, State, Zip
Full Name of Spouse	Telephone	Email	I belong to Chapter:

B

I, (please print) _____ do hereby swear/attest that the statements set forth in this application are true to the best of my knowledge and belief.

Signature of Applicant _____ **Date** _____

This application, information, and all supporting documents and data become the property of the Lineage Societies of Cuyahoga County. CD's are not permissible as primary application. They will be allowed as a back up to original paper files.

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Name of Ancestor For Cuyahoga County Pioneers (Before Dec. 31, 1850)	Year First Proved in Cuyahoga County	Township	Document # Proving Residency	Official Use Only

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Name of Ancestor For Cuyahoga County Settlers (Before Dec. 31, 1880)	Year First Proved in Cuyahoga County	Township	Document # Proving Residency	Official Use Only

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Name of Ancestor For Cuyahoga County Centurions (1881 – 100 years back from Current Year)	Year First Proved in Cuyahoga County	Township	Document # Proving Residency	Official Use Only

CCP Number _____ CCS Number _____ CCC Number _____	Date Application Received _____	Acceptance Date _____	Fee(s) Paid _____	Dues Paid _____
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COMMITTEE CHAIR: _____ **Date** _____
HEAD JUDGE: _____ **Date** _____

1. I _____

Was born on _____	First _____	Middle _____	Maiden Name _____	Surname _____	Document Number _____
_____ at _____			City _____	County _____	State _____
					Document Number _____

2. I am the child of _____

Born on _____	at _____	City _____	County _____	State _____	Document Number _____
Died on _____	at _____	City _____	County _____	State _____	Document Number _____
And _____	their spouse				
Born on _____	at _____	City _____	County _____	State _____	Document Number _____
Died on _____	at _____	City _____	County _____	State _____	Document Number _____
Married on _____	at _____	City _____	County _____	State _____	Document Number _____

3. The said _____ was the _____

Of _____	Son or Daughter _____	Document Number _____
Born on _____	at _____	City _____
Died on _____	at _____	City _____
And _____	their spouse	
Born on _____	at _____	City _____
Died on _____	at _____	City _____
Married on _____	at _____	City _____

4. The said _____ was the _____

Of _____	Son or Daughter _____	Document Number _____
Born on _____	at _____	City _____
Died on _____	at _____	City _____
And _____	their spouse	
Born on _____	at _____	City _____
Died on _____	at _____	City _____
Married on _____	at _____	City _____

5. The said _____ was the _____

Of _____	Son or Daughter _____	Document Number _____
Born on _____	at _____	City _____
Died on _____	at _____	City _____
And _____	their spouse	
Born on _____	at _____	City _____
Died on _____	at _____	City _____
Married on _____	at _____	City _____

6. The said _____ was the _____
Son or Daughter Document Number
Of _____
Document Number
Born on _____ at _____
City County State Document Number
Died on _____ at _____
City County State Document Number
And _____ their spouse
Born on _____ at _____
City County State Document Number
Died on _____ at _____
City County State Document Number
Married on _____ at _____
City County State Document Number

7. The said _____ was the _____
Son or Daughter Document Number
Of _____
Document Number
Born on _____ at _____
City County State Document Number
Died on _____ at _____
City County State Document Number
And _____ their spouse
Born on _____ at _____
City County State Document Number
Died on _____ at _____
City County State Document Number
Married on _____ at _____
City County State Document Number

8. The said _____ was the _____
Son or Daughter Document Number
Of _____
Document Number
Born on _____ at _____
City County State Document Number
Died on _____ at _____
City County State Document Number
And _____ their spouse
Born on _____ at _____
City County State Document Number
Died on _____ at _____
City County State Document Number
Married on _____ at _____
City County State Document Number

9. The said _____ was the _____
Son or Daughter Document Number
Of _____
Document Number
Born on _____ at _____
City County State Document Number
Died on _____ at _____
City County State Document Number
And _____ their spouse
Born on _____ at _____
City County State Document Number
Died on _____ at _____
City County State Document Number
Married on _____ at _____
City County State Document Number

10. The said _____ was the _____
Son or Daughter Document Number
Of _____
Document Number
Born on _____ at _____
City County State Document Number
Died on _____ at _____
City County State Document Number

	City	County	State	Document Number
And _____				_____
their spouse				
Born on _____ at _____				
	City	County	State	Document Number
Died on _____ at _____				
	City	County	State	Document Number
Married on _____ at _____				
	City	County	State	Document Number
11. The said _____				
_____ was the _____				
			Son or Daughter	Document Number
Of _____				
				Document Number
Born on _____ at _____				
	City	County	State	Document Number
Died on _____ at _____				
	City	County	State	Document Number
And _____				

their spouse				
Born on _____ at _____				
	City	County	State	Document Number
Died on _____ at _____				
	City	County	State	Document Number
Married on _____ at _____				
	City	County	State	Document Number
12. The said _____				
_____ was the _____				
			Son or Daughter	Document Number
Of _____				
				Document Number
Born on _____ at _____				
	City	County	State	Document Number
Died on _____ at _____				
	City	County	State	Document Number
And _____				

their spouse				
Born on _____ at _____				
	City	County	State	Document Number
Died on _____ at _____				
	City	County	State	Document Number
Married on _____ at _____				
	City	County	State	Document Number
13. The said _____				
_____ was the _____				
			Son or Daughter	Document Number
Of _____				
				Document Number
Born on _____ at _____				
	City	County	State	Document Number
Died on _____ at _____				
	City	County	State	Document Number
And _____				

their spouse				
Born on _____ at _____				
	City	County	State	Document Number
Died on _____ at _____				
	City	County	State	Document Number
Married on _____ at _____				
	City	County	State	Document Number
14. The said _____				
_____ was the _____				
			Son or Daughter	Document Number
Of _____				
				Document Number
Born on _____ at _____				
	City	County	State	Document Number
Died on _____ at _____				
	City	County	State	Document Number
And _____				

their spouse				
Born on _____ at _____				
	City	County	State	Document Number
Died on _____ at _____				
	City	County	State	Document Number
Married on _____ at _____				
	City	County	State	Document Number

Give volume and page number for book references and include a copy, photo, or other facsimile copy of the pertinent pages of all published or unpublished records used for proof. Typed, hand printed, or written copies of documents, not certified as "True Copies," are not acceptable as proof. Published or manuscript material authored by the applicant or their families will not of themselves be accepted as proof. Information for additional ancestral lines may be included on blank pages, showing the tie-in to the line on the basic application. If more than two lines are submitted, please include an ancestral chart to show the inter-connections. Only blood lines are acceptable.

Documents as to descent: (List and include facsimile copies as stated above). Each step must be proved; references for all dates must be provided.

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Example:

1. Birth Certificate of Applicant (Use your own name)
2. Marriage Record of Applicant
3. Birth Certificate of Applicant's Spouse

**Instructions for Application to
Lineage Societies of Cuyahoga County**

OBJECTIVES

The objective of the LINEAGE SOCIETIES of CUYAHOGA COUNTY (LSCC) is to identify and honor the memory of early residents of the county, by recognizing their direct line descendants and to preserve the lasting mark on the county that those early residents made. The careful and complete work necessary to establish the identity of these pioneers is intended to encourage an interest in the customs, culture, genealogy, and history of Cuyahoga County.

GENERAL INFORMATION

Membership Requirements:

1. An applicant for any of the three (3) CUYAHOGA COUNTY LINEAGE GROUPS must be a current member of any recognized genealogical group in Cuyahoga County, both at the time of application and at the time of acceptance.
 - The **recognized** Cuyahoga County Genealogical Societies are:
Cuyahoga West Genealogical Society
East Cuyahoga Genealogical Society
Southwest Cuyahoga Genealogical Society
Cuyahoga Valley Genealogical Society
Greater Cleveland Genealogical Society
Computer Assisted Genealogy Group
Brooklyn Genealogy Group
2. An applicant must prove a bloodline descent from the early ancestor(s) according to the following timelines:
 - For **CUYAHOGA COUNTY PIONEERS** the ancestor must have resided in Cuyahoga County by 31 December 1850.
 - For **CUYAHOGA COUNTY SETTLERS** the ancestor must have resided in Cuyahoga County by 31 December 1880.
 - For **CUYAHOGA COUNTY CENTURIONS** the ancestor must have resided in Cuyahoga County between 1 January 1881 and 31 December of the year 100 years prior to the current year.
3. Proof documents must meet the requirements as stated in the "Application Instructions".

Miscellaneous Information:

1. All applications and supporting documents become the property of the Lineage Societies of Cuyahoga County. (LSCC)
2. Do not send original documents as they will not be returned.
3. If additional documentation is requested, it must be submitted before induction of an applicant will be permitted.
4. Only one Cuyahoga County Pioneers pin will be awarded to an applicant regardless of the number of ancestors submitted.
5. Initial certificates awarded may name more than one ancestor. Supplemental certificates awarded may name more than one ancestor. A separate certificate will not be issued for each proven ancestor in any given application.
6. Photocopy the application. Keep a copy of the application and all supporting documentation for your records.
7. Do not use staples. Do not submit in a binder or notebook.

APPLICATION INSTRUCTIONS

PLEASE READ CAREFULLY BEFORE SUBMITTING YOUR APPLICATION

1. All applications must be typed, printed by electronic equipment or legibly hand printed clearly in black ink.
2. Deadline for application is 31 December of each given year.
3. A fee of \$20.00 must accompany the initial application. A fee of \$10.00 must accompany each supplemental application. Make check payable to **Lineage Societies of Cuyahoga County**. The application fee is non-refundable.
4. Each application, initial or supplemental, may include as many ancestors as can be proven at the time.
 - a. Proof for each date, place and relationship must be included at the time the application is submitted.
 - b. Be aware that if the proof submitted is not considered sufficient to prove the event, additional information will be required before the application is accepted.
5. Dates must be written out in day, month, and year format: 11 December 2008.
6. Maiden names of all female ancestors must be included for the line leading back to the resident ancestor

being proved.

7. Any applicant who uses a name other than a birth name must provide proof of the name change and, if applicable, all surname changes back to the birth name.
 8. Illegitimacy is not grounds for denial.
 9. Each document submitted must include source information on the **front** of the document. Applications without source citations will be returned.
 10. All supporting documents must show the following on the **front of each page of the document**, while not obscuring the pertinent data contained in the document:
 - a. Name and address of applicant (Please no self-stick or gummed address or citation labels. They fall off over time.)
 - b. Complete source citation.
 - c. Each document must have its own number in the upper right hand corner.
 11. A list of all documents in numerical order must be provided. Document Number 1 should be your birth certificate
 12. Only one copy of a proof document need be submitted. The same document may be used to prove more than one event on the application. Whenever the same document is used as proof of more than one event, the number used for that document should remain the same each time the document is referenced.
 13. All photocopies must be legible.
 14. A 5-generation pedigree chart must be included. If more than one ancestral line is submitted, a pedigree chart must be included which shows the inter-connected relationships.
 15. All court documents must show state, county, volume and page number.
 16. All published works must have bibliographical information.
 17. Photocopies of the documents are preferred. However, where photocopying is not possible:
 - a. Typed or handwritten transcriptions of documents must be certified as true copies by an employee of the repository holding the original.
 - b. If applicant holds the original source, a non-related disinterested party must do this certification.
- Membership in another lineage society, such as First Families of Ohio, is not proof. The document copies used for proving the lineage might be considered proof, if they follow LSCC rules.
 - Birth records are *generally* considered a better proof of parental relationships than such statements found in death records or obituaries.
 - Court records are proof of relationships only if they actually state the relationships to be proved.
 - Graves or tombstones for two people located in close proximity to each other in the same cemetery are not proof of a relationship by themselves.
 - A marriage license alone is not proof of the marriage. If a marriage return is not located, additional supporting evidence of the marriage will be necessary.
- U.S. census records are proof of a relationship only if they actually state that relationship (1880 & after).

RULES OF EVIDENCE

The rules of evidence applying to membership in LINEAGE SOCIETIES CUYAHOGA COUNTY follow and are the standards by which all LSCC proof is judged. *There are no exceptions.*

The nature and extent of the evidence submitted as proof in all applications shall be sufficient to prove that the applicant is directly descended from the ancestor(s) named on the LSCC application blank, and sufficient to differentiate between any two persons of the same name residing in the same area at the same time. Proof must be included to show residence in Cuyahoga County according to the timelines shown for each lineage group. Documentation **MUST** prove each date listed, even if only an approximation (e.g. born c 1785-1790 per 1820 census)

BASIC RULES

1. A direct line from applicant to pioneer ancestor must be proved at every step. Collateral descent is NOT acceptable.
2. Each proof document must state its source. Proof is required for each date listed. Bible records must include a photocopy of the title page with publication date.
3. Married female applicants must include a copy of their marriage record to prove their change of name.
4. Female ancestors must be proved as individuals by their maiden names.
5. If an ancestor has been previously proved by another individual, the applicant may submit proof only to the nearest common ancestor, if so desired. A citation to the name and number of the lineage group member should be included.
6. Additional applicants for more than one pioneer ancestor do not require duplicate information of proof.

7. NEVER use a hi-lighter on any documentation. Use a red or blue pen with an arrow in the margin. Making a “dot” is even better.
8. The recognition dinner will be held in the spring of the following year. A pin and certificate will be awarded for Cuyahoga County Pioneers. A certificate will be issued for Cuyahoga County Settlers and for Cuyahoga County Centurions.
9. Reminder: a statement is not necessarily true just because it’s in print.

PRIMARY EVIDENCE

1. Primary evidence from vital statistics, courthouse, or other government records, church and school records, is usually considered acceptable evidence or proof.
2. Delayed birth certificates and social security applications are acceptable.
3. Vital records on the Internet are acceptable as “proof” IF provided by a state or other government agency website. The web address MUST be included as proof of where the information was found.
4. Chattel and property records DO prove residence.
5. Citizenship papers ONLY prove residency of when they were in the county. An application for “First Papers” is much better IF they were filed in Cuyahoga County. Also “Intent to Naturalize” is better.
6. Photographs of tombstones are acceptable for proof of birth and death dates and for relationships actually stated on the stone. Published compilations of tombstone readings are acceptable if no additional information has been written in that is not on the stones themselves.
7. City directories can be used as “proof” of residence.
8. Tax lists do NOT prove residence UNLESS they state: “Residence Tax List”.
9. Jury lists prove residence.

SECONDARY EVIDENCE

1. Secondary evidence such as newspaper clippings, old letters, Bible records and city directories, contemporary to the facts is considered almost as authentic.
2. The 1850 Federal census proves residence of the person whose name is listed. It does not prove any relationship. Only after the 1880 Census are relationships listed on the census records.
3. Deeds for land records do NOT prove residency BUT are acceptable as supporting evidence.
4. Land purchases and sales prove ONLY a relationship between a husband and a wife.
5. Land or tax records are acceptable only if they specify that the individual was a resident of Cuyahoga County, since many early landowners and speculators never lived in Cuyahoga County.
6. Church marriage records are NOT adequate “proof” UNLESS all that is being proved is maiden name.
7. Wills and estate papers MUST state relationship clearly. The term “Jr.” and “Sr.” does NOT guarantee that it is a son /father or ANY relationship at all.
8. Lineage papers, accepted or unaccepted, from other patriotic or hereditary societies by themselves are not considered proof. The document copies, which were used to prove the lineage, MIGHT be considered proof if they follow the rules of evidence established by the LINEAGE SOCIETIES of CUYAHOGA COUNTY committee. However these papers will not stand up on their own.
9. Documents written or printed in a foreign language must be accompanied by a translation into English and the translation certified as a “true translation” by the translator (not the applicant or a family member).
10. Copies of old letters, family records, etc., can be accepted as proof only for facts the writer of the record or letter would logically know of his/her own, contemporary knowledge. They cannot be accepted as proof for facts the writer could only have obtained by hearsay from older generations, or other sources.

EXAMPLES OF IMPLIED PROOF WHICH ARE USUALLY NOT ACCEPTABLE

1. Circumstantial evidence or “hearsay” is not considered as proof, unless backed up by primary or secondary evidence.
2. Oral, written, or published family traditions are not accepted as proof.
3. Printed or manuscript genealogies, or genealogical records or compilations, family group sheets and charts, family reunion records and similar materials are not considered proof. Unsupported information from an amateur or a professional genealogist is not acceptable, including such records printed in any genealogical, historical or similar publication.
4. Compiled sources and family histories do NOT constitute proof.
5. If a document merely implies a fact, this is not considered proof. An example is the expression “heirs at law” used in some states. This indicates different things in different states, but in no case found is it used as an indication or proof of direct descent. The statement could mean nieces, nephews, cousins, adopted children, or even parents. This also applies to the term “Jr.” And “Sr.” Years ago this meaning was used differently.
6. Unnamed individuals specified in court records as “heirs” or “heirs-at-law” unless it is known that

applicable laws at the time included only bloodline descendants.

7. Census records that show the name of the head of the family only, along with numbers of family members or others by age group, prove only the family head actually named. Next door or close neighbors on a census or tax record do not prove any relationship by themselves.
8. Blood descent is not necessarily proved by owning the same land as an earlier owner by the same name, whether the land was inherited or purchased.
9. A father is not proved as being in an area just because his child was born there. The birth only proves the mother was there!

GLOSSARY

- **Citation** – A statement that supplies details to identify the source
- **Direct evidence** – An evidence item that by itself answers the question – Birth Certificate/Marriage Record, etc.
- **Document** – Direct or indirect evidence
- **Evidence** – The *information* chosen as relevant to the question needing to be answered. Evidence is either *direct* or *indirect*.
- **Indirect evidence** – An evidence item that is relevant but incomplete in itself and therefore inadequate to answer the question at hand – School Records/Church Records/Newspaper articles, etc.
- **Information** – The data that a source provides. Information may be either *primary* or *secondary* (i.e., firsthand or secondhand). Any given source can contain both types of information.
- **Original source** – The person or record whose information *did not* come from data already spoken or written.
- **Primary information** – Data contributed by a knowledgeable eyewitness to or participant in the event that is the subject of the record or by an official whose duties included making a full, accurate record of it
- **Proof** – The evidence and reasoning that support our conclusion
- **Secondary information** – Data supplied by a person who recorded it after hearing of the event or its details from someone else.
- **Source** – A document, register, publication, artifact, or person that offers information. Sources are either original or derivative.
- **Supplemental application** – An application which a member submits, in a later year, for the purpose of adding ancestors who were not included on a previous application.