

FIRST FAMILIES/PIONEER FAMILIES OF MERCER COUNTY, OHIO

How do I Join?

Requirements: First Families: before 31 December 1860

Pioneer Families: from 1 January 1861 to December 1880

You must be a member of the Mercer County Chapter of Ohio Genealogical Society. An application must be completed and submitted along with an application fee of \$ 15.00 by the end of August in the given year.

Proof of descent from your ancestor, and proof of his settlement in Mercer County is to be documented, and submitted with the application.

Each fact for each ancestor must be documented, as to birth, marriage, and death; each document should prove itself, or combination of documents to prove the fact.

Primary evidence: records from vital statistics, and from other court, civil or governmental offices, records from church Sacramental registers; records from school. The documents need to be certified, in some manner, as being “true copies” of the original. This evidence is considered *authentic*.

Secondary evidence: census records, land records and deeds (giving description of the land’s location); cemetery records, newspaper notices and articles, memorial death cards, Bible records or other records that are pertinent to the facts reported.

Photocopies, photographed copy of pertinent records are to be submitted. Copies of printed or published documentation need to have a copy of the title page, with volume and page number. Copies of census entries need to show the family, date, township, county and state on the copy of the entry. This evidence is considered *almost authentic*.

Settlement evidence: census records, land records and deeds, are *almost authentic evidence*. Oaths of intention and of citizenship/naturalization documents and records are *authentic evidence* and are accepted as proof.

Passenger list entries and passport documents may be submitted as supporting evidence to that evidence needed to prove settlement.

Please see application for more information and specifics of documentation.

GUIDLINES AND RULES OF EVIDENCE

- § Please fill out this application, in duplicate, as completely as possible with all the information that is asked for, and to do so in a legible manner. The information in typewritten or in black ink hand-printed form is strongly recommended. A five generation pedigree chart is to be included, using the one provided in the application or one of the applicant's choosing.
- § All pages of this application, in duplicate, must be submitted. This application must first be accepted and verified by the *First / Pioneer Families Committee of Mercer County, Ohio*, and then approved by the *Mercer County Chapter of the Ohio Genealogical Society*.
- § A fee of **\$15.00** is to be included with the completed application. Checks should be written out to the *Mercer County Chapter of the OGS*. No application will be processed until the fee is paid.
- § Proof of descent from the ancestral settler and proof of his/her settlement in Mercer County is to be given [pages 2-4: entries 1-9 for descent, entry 10 for settlement]. Each fact pertaining to each ancestor must be attested. Thus, there needs to be some document or record attesting to the fact of birth and parentage, fact of death, and fact of marriage. This applies also for the applicant and the applicant's spouse. Documentation does **not** need to be in duplicate (this applies to the application only).
- § All documents presented as proof must of themselves, or in combination with other documents, actually state the fact to be proved.
- § **Primary Evidence:** records from vital statistics, and from other court, civil, or governmental offices; records from church Sacramental registers; records from school. The documents of these records need to be certified, in some manner, as being "*true copies*" of the original. This evidence is considered *authentic*.
- § **Secondary Evidence:** census records; land records and deeds (giving description of the land's location); cemetery records; newspaper notices and articles; memorial death cards; Bible records; or other records that are contemporary to the facts reported. Biographies and family histories from county atlases and histories are acceptable so as long as they are contemporary to the life of the ancestor they pertain to. A photocopied, photographed, or other fascimile copies of the pertinent records are to be submitted. Copies of printed or published documentation need to include a copy of the title page, along with volume and page numbers. Copies of census entries need to show the family, date, township, county, and state on the copy of the entry. This evidence is considered *almost authentic*.
- § **Settlement Evidence:** census records, land records and deeds, as noted above, are *almost authentic evidence*; Oaths of Intention and of Citizenship / Naturalization documents and records are *authentic evidence* and are accepted as proof. Passenger list entries and passport documents may be submitted as supporting evidence to that evidence needed to prove settlement.
- § **Unacceptable Evidence:** circumstantial evidence, anecdotal evidence or hearsay (oral or written), and published or manuscript material authored by the applicant or his/her family, are not accepted as proof.
- § Additional ancestral lines may be included. The needed information and supporting documentation is to included in the application. Copies of the section, **Proof of Descent and Proof of Settlement**, may be made for this purpose. The connections to the family applied for must be shown.
- § Please mark each supporting document with the **Generation Number** and the **Document Letter** so as to coordinate them with the **Supporting Documentation** entries given in the **Proof of Descent and Proof of Settlement** section. Once you have completed the entry of your ancestral settler, proceed directly to Entry 10, omitting how many ancestral enteries that may be necessary.
- § Application may be made for those ancestors who settled in that portion of Mercer County detached in 1848, or in that portion attached to the county the same year.
- § **This application, all information contained therein, and all supporting documents and data become the property of THE MERCER COUNTY CHAPTER OF THE OHIO GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY.**

FOR CHAPTER USE ONLY

| | |
|--|--|
| Approved Ancestors: 1. _____ 2. _____ 3. _____ 4. _____ 5. _____ 6. _____ 7. _____ 8. _____ 9. _____ Approved Settlement: 10. _____ Verified by: _____ | Date Received: _____ Membership Verified: _____ Fee Received: _____ Date Accepted: _____ First Family / Pioneer Family # _____ |
|--|--|

FIRST FAMILIES / PIONEER FAMILIES OF MERCER COUNTY, OHIO APPLICATION

First Families: before 31 December 1860

Pioneer Families: from 1 January 1861 to 31 December 1880



Applicant's Name: _____

Spouse's Name: _____

Street Address: _____

County: _____ City: _____ State: _____

Zipcode: _____ Telephone Number / E-mail Address: [optional] _____

Mercer County Chapter of the Ohio Genealogical Society membership dues paid for the year: _____



Ancestors of the Applicant who were settled in Mercer County before 31 December 1860 for *First Families* or from 1 January 1861 through 31 December 1880 for *Pioneer Families*:

| | NAMES OF ANCESTORS FIRST PROVEN IN MERCER COUNTY | YEAR PROVEN | TOWNSHIP PROVEN | COUNTY, STATE, & / OR COUNTRY OF ORIGIN |
|------|---|----------------|--------------------|--|
| I | | | | |
| II | | | | |
| III | | | | |
| IV | | | | |
| V | | | | |
| VI | | | | |
| VII | | | | |
| VIII | | | | |
| IX | | | | |
| X | | | | |



Approved by:

Committee Chairperson: _____ Date: _____

Chapter President: _____ Date: _____



APPLICATION NUMBER: # _____ FIRST / PIONEER FAMILY NUMBER: # _____



PROOF OF DESCENT AND PROOF OF SETTLEMENT

Please mark each supporting document with the Generation Number and the Document Letter so as to coordinate it with the Supporting Documentation given under each ancestral entry.

1. I, _____ was

born on _____ at [city, county, state] _____

Supporting Documentation: 1

| | |
|----|----|
| a. | c. |
| b. | d. |

2. I am the child of _____

born on _____ at [city, county, state] _____

died on _____ at [city, county, state] _____

and spouse _____

born on _____ at [city, county, state] _____

died on _____ at [city, county, state] _____

wed on _____ at [city, county, state] _____

Supporting Documentation: 2

| | |
|----|----|
| a. | e. |
| b. | f. |
| c. | g. |
| d. | h. |

3. The said _____ was

the child of _____

born on _____ at [city, county, state] _____

died on _____ at [city, county, state] _____

and spouse _____

born on _____ at [city, county, state] _____

died on _____ at [city, county, state] _____

wed on _____ at [city, county, state] _____

Supporting Documentation: 3

| | |
|----|----|
| a. | e. |
| b. | f. |
| c. | g. |
| d. | h. |

4. The said _____ was

the child of _____

born on _____ at [city, county, state] _____

died on _____ at [city, county, state] _____

and spouse _____

born on _____ at [city, county, state] _____

died on _____ at [city, county, state] _____

wed on _____ at [city, county, state] _____

Supporting Documentation: 4

| | |
|----|----|
| a. | e. |
| b. | f. |
| c. | g. |
| d. | h. |

5. The said _____ was
the child of _____
born on _____ at [city, county, state] _____
died on _____ at [city, county, state] _____
and spouse _____
born on _____ at [city, county, state] _____
died on _____ at [city, county, state] _____
wed on _____ at [city, county, state] _____

Supporting Documentation: 5

| | |
|----|----|
| a. | e. |
| b. | f. |
| c. | g. |
| d. | h. |

6. The said _____ was
the child of _____
born on _____ at [city, county, state] _____
died on _____ at [city, county, state] _____
and spouse _____
born on _____ at [city, county, state] _____
died on _____ at [city, county, state] _____
wed on _____ at [city, county, state] _____

Supporting Documentation: 6

| | |
|----|----|
| a. | e. |
| b. | f. |
| c. | g. |
| d. | h. |

7. The said _____ was
the child of _____
born on _____ at [city, county, state] _____
died on _____ at [city, county, state] _____
and spouse _____
born on _____ at [city, county, state] _____
died on _____ at [city, county, state] _____
wed on _____ at [city, county, state] _____

Supporting Documentation: 7

| | |
|----|----|
| a. | e. |
| b. | f. |
| c. | g. |

d. _____ h. _____

8. The said _____ was
 the child of _____
 born on _____ at [city, county, state] _____
 died on _____ at [city, county, state] _____
 and spouse _____
 born on _____ at [city, county, state] _____
 died on _____ at [city, county, state] _____
 wed on _____ at [city, county, state] _____

Supporting Documentation: 8

a. _____ e. _____
 b. _____ f. _____
 c. _____ g. _____
 d. _____ h. _____

9. The said _____ was
 the child of _____
 born on _____ at [city, county, state] _____
 died on _____ at [city, county, state] _____
 and spouse _____
 born on _____ at [city, county, state] _____
 died on _____ at [city, county, state] _____
 wed on _____ at [city, county, state] _____

Supporting Documentation: 9

a. _____ e. _____
 b. _____ f. _____
 c. _____ g. _____
 d. _____ h. _____

10. The said _____
 settled in Mercer County on _____
 at [village - lot # / Range # - Township # - Section # - description] _____

Supporting Documentation: 10

a. _____ c. _____
 b. _____ d. _____



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

Signature of Applicant: _____ Date: _____



Pedigree Chart

