

First Families of Franklin

In 1984 the Tipton-Haynes Historical Association, Inc. began a four-year bicentennial celebration of the State of Franklin. The board of the Association with the Executive Director, Faith Stahl, created the First Families of Franklin certificate program to honor and recognize the descendants of the families who lived in what was then Washington County, North Carolina and later Northeast Tennessee. The first certificates were issued in May, 1984. The original certificate was signed by Gertrude B. Deakins, Organizing President 1965-1968 and Howard W. Burnette, M.D., First Chairman of the FFF Committee. The image shown behind the writing on the certificate was drawn by the well-known artist John Alan Maxwell. The original artwork is located in the Mary Hardin McCown Archives at the Tipton-Haynes State Historic Site in Johnson City, Tennessee. Certificates are offered to those with proven documentation that their families settled in East Tennessee during the years 1769-1788.

Applications for certification will include the cover applicant's name, ancestor's name, lineage, and source material (both primary and secondary). All applications will be evaluated by staff of the Tipton-Haynes Historical Association. An incomplete or incorrect application will be returned for correction and re-submission. Accepted applications will be kept in the Mary Hardin McCown Archives and open to the public for research.

ELIGIBILITY: To qualify for the First Families of Franklin certificate, the applicant must directly descend from an ancestor who lived in the counties that made up what is now Tennessee from 1769 to 1788. Present day counties considered to be part of the State of Franklin include Sullivan, Washington, Greene, Unicoi, Carter, Johnson, Hawkins, Sevier, Blount, Knox, and Hamblen Counties. Required is proven descent from the ancestor (male or female) by an official record or records for each generation, including proof for the applicant.

TO APPLY: Complete the three pages. Page 1 asks for information about the applicant and the FFF ancestor. Pages two and three are the line of descent chart. Complete to the best of your ability. If you have more than one ancestor, a second application is necessary. Only one ancestor will be inscribed on a certificate.

PROOFS: Credible genealogical research is necessary. **Primary Sources** include: birth & death records; marriage records; census records; wills and estate records; land records and plats; tax records; military records; church records; and court records. **Secondary Sources** include: published families and counties histories; Bible records; obituaries; newspaper clippings; published biographical sketches; unpublished personal papers; tombstone inscriptions; funeral home records; and lineage organizations (DAR, SOR, & others).

First Families of Franklin Application

Please type or print all information. A check or money order for \$15.00 must accompany the application

A. Applicant's Name

_____ (as it will appear on the certificate)

_____ (street address)

_____ (city, state, zip)

_____ (to whom should the certificate be mailed?)

B. Name of ANCESTOR

_____ (name of qualifying ancestor who was in the State of Franklin between 1769-1789, *as it will appear on the certificate*)

Birth _____ (date) _____ (place) Death _____ (date) _____ (place)

Married _____ (date) _____ (place) (by: Rev., J.P., & name)

ANCESTOR'S SPOUSE _____ (name) _____ (maiden, when applicable)

Spouse's birth _____ (date) _____ (place) Death _____ (date) _____ (place)

C. County in Tennessee where ancestor first settled? _____

Where did ancestor live before coming to Tennessee? (if known)

_____ (county) _____ (state, providence/country)

Earliest date of Tennessee residence: _____

Source of proof for residence: _____

THHA Use only

NAME _____
Ancestor _____
Date Rec'd _____
Date Completed _____
Date Certificate Issued _____
Notes _____

LINE OF DESCENT CHART

PLEASE READ: The Lineage Chart must be filled in for all generations, beginning with you as #1 and working back to the 1769-1789 ancestor. For each generation, the direct line (whether male or female) should be listed to the left. If more room is needed please feel free to attach a separate sheet listing the lineage.

1. I (name) _____ was born on (date) _____
at (place) _____ (county) _____ (state) _____
married to (spouse) _____
2. Child of _____ married to _____
Born *Place*
Married *Place*
Died *Place*
3. Child of _____ married to _____
Born *Place*
Married *Place*
Died *Place*
4. Child of _____ married to _____
Born *Place*
Married *Place*
Died *Place*
5. Child of _____ married to _____
Born *Place*
Married *Place*
Died *Place*
6. Child of _____ married to _____
Born *Place*
Married *Place*
Died *Place*
7. Child of _____ married to _____
Born *Place*
Married *Place*
Died *Place*
8. Child of _____ married to _____
Born *Place*
Married *Place*
Died *Place*
9. Child of _____ married to _____
Born *Place*
Married *Place*
Died *Place*

IMPORTANT: EACH STEP MUST BE PROVEN! List sources of proof as to descent by generation and include photocopies of proofs numbered corresponding to correct generational number. Certified copies not required.

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____
5. _____
6. _____
7. _____
8. _____
9. _____

(signature of applicant/submitter) *(date)*

(address if different from page 1)