

## The Ohio Genealogical Society

### **Rules and Application Procedures for The Society of Families of the Old Northwest Territory**

Applicants must submit an application form, the application fee, and full documentation proving their descent from the ancestor(s) qualifying for membership. All documentation is independent of other lineage societies sponsored by The Ohio Genealogical Society (OGS).

#### **Membership Requirements and General Information**

Applicants, eighteen (18) years or older, who can prove satisfactory lineal descent of one who lived in the Old Northwest Territory, according to the Society's rules and guidelines, shall be eligible to join this Society. Applicants do not have to be members of the OGS.

OGS members will be able to join this Society for a fee of \$40. Non-OGS members will have an application fee of \$60. Application fees are non-refundable. All files and documentation submitted in the application become the property of The Ohio Genealogical Society.

The Old Northwest Territory shall be defined as the area currently known as Ohio, Indiana, Illinois, Michigan, Wisconsin, and the portion of Minnesota east of the Mississippi River and north to the Canadian border.



Current OGS members who have been awarded the First Families of Ohio (FFO) with the 1803 pin do not automatically become members of this Society. FFO members are not required to join this Society. OGS members can be elected to be a member of either FFO or this Society, or be a member of both societies.

Applicants must prove:

A. Your ancestor must have lived in what is now Indiana, Illinois, Wisconsin or eastern Minnesota (east of the Mississippi River) between 13 July 1787 and 7 May 1800 (Indiana Territory created).

or

B. Your ancestor must have lived in what is now Ohio or Michigan between 13 July 1787 and 3 March 1803 (Ohio Statehood).

or

C. Your ancestor must have lived in what is now Ohio, Michigan, Indiana, Illinois, Wisconsin or eastern Minnesota prior to 13 Jul 1787 as a citizen of either France or Great Britain, or as a Native American.

### **Candidates also eligible for admission**

A native American who is a legal member of an existing Indian tribe which once lived within the boundaries of the Old Northwest Territory prior to 3 March 1803.

A citizen of France who lived within the boundaries of the Old Northwest Territory prior to 10 February 1763 (Treaty of Paris)

A citizen of Great Britain who lived within the boundaries of the Old Northwest Territory prior to 29 February 1796 (Jay Treaty)

A citizen of the State of Virginia who lived in the County of Illinois between October 1778 and 1 March 1784.

A soldier from the armies of either France or Great Britain who was stationed within the boundaries of the Old Northwest Territory prior to 10 February 1763 for a French veteran and prior to 1 March 1796 for a British veteran.

A soldier from the United States Army who was stationed within the boundaries of the Old Northwest Territory prior to 3 March 1803.

An American who illegally settled within the Old Northwest Territory and who later took up legal residence. These settlers are commonly called “squatters.”

A descendant of one of the following men who were civil officers in the Old Northwest Territory:

Arthur St. Clair – Territorial Governor  
John Cleves Symmes – Supreme Court member

James Mitchell Varnum – Supreme Court member  
Samuel Holden Parsons – Supreme Court member  
Winthrop Sargent – Secretary  
William Henry Harrison – Secretary and later a non-voting delegate to the U.S. Congress  
Charles Willing Byrd – Secretary  
William McMillan – non-voting delegate to the U.S. Congress  
Paul Fearing – non-voting delegate to the U.S. Congress

Supplemental applications may be submitted after the original application has been approved for the original applicant only.

Approved applicants will receive a certificate and a medal at an annual banquet to be held in conjunction with the yearly OGS conference. Only one pin will be issued to each approved member. You are encouraged to attend the banquet to receive your recognition.

Deadline for applications is 31 December of each year. Applications must be delivered to OGS or be postmarked by that date.

Applicants who are not accepted during the year in which they apply will have their applications filed at OGS headquarters for a five-year period. Applicants will have five years in which to submit sufficient documentation for acceptance. After this five-year period, a new application and application fee must be submitted.

All applications must be signed by the applicant or by a person who compiled the application for the applicant. Unsigned applications will not be reviewed.

Final acceptance is up to the committee chair.

Illegitimacy is not grounds for denial. However, only blood lines are eligible. Adoptive lines are not eligible.