

## **TEXAS STATE GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY**

**To: Applicants for Texas First Families Certificate**

**From: Wanda L. Donaldson, Chairman of Texas First Families Certificate**

Enclosed is a set of Application Papers for the Texas First Families Certificate. A Supplementary family group sheet is also included. You may make copies for each generation. If you need more than one application, please make copies of the enclosed papers or send a SASE (63 cents postage and legal size) for each set of papers in your request. A separate application must be completed for each Texas ancestor (except in the case of a husband and wife) for which a certificate is desired. The \$ 25.00 fee must accompany each application. Applicants do not have to be members of TSGS nor residents of Texas.

To qualify for the certificate, applicants must prove direct or collateral descent from an ancestor who settled in Texas before February 19, 1846, the day of the ceremony on which the Republic of Texas turned the government over to the State of Texas. A collateral ancestor would be a brother, sister, uncle, or aunt of your Texas ancestor who was in Texas by this date. The relationship would have to be explained on the Line of Descent Chart. Applicants should complete a Family Group Sheet for the early ancestor, if possible, and are encouraged to complete a FGS for each generation of descendency. Please try to prove all dates on the Line of Descent page.

All members of SRT, DRT, and CRT are eligible for this certificate, but **MUST SUBMIT A COMPLETE APPLICATION WITH DOCUMENTED PROOF** of descendency. TSGS plans to publish a book from this project and it will be necessary to have each application complete. Records from these societies are not readily available to TSGS nor do members of the committee have time to search these records for proof of an applicant's ancestor.

Please follow directions on the application. A \$25.00 fee made payable to the Texas State Genealogical Society must accompany each application. This fee is non-refundable. If you have questions about the application, please send these to me with a SASE.

Sincerely,

**Wanda L. Donaldson  
3219 Meadow Oaks Drive  
Temple, TX 76502-1752**

**25 August 2006**

# TEXAS STATE GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY

## TEXAS FIRST FAMILIES CERTIFICATE

On February 19, 1996 the State of Texas will be celebrating its 150<sup>th</sup> anniversary as a state in the United States of America. The Texas State Genealogical Society proudly offers a commemorative TEXAS FIRST FAMILIES CERTIFICATE to eligible persons. Anyone directly or collaterally descended from a Texas resident of February 19, 1846, or before, may apply for this permanent remembrance of his or her family history. Collateral descent must be through a brother or sister of the early Texan. The information that applicants provide as proof of lineage will be a valuable addition to the history of Texas and a source of information for future generations.

**ELIGIBILITY:** To qualify for a TEXAS FIRST FAMILIES CERTIFICATE, the applicant must directly or collaterally descend from an ancestor who settled in Texas prior to February 19, 1846. The applicant must be able to prove descent from the ancestor (male or female) by an official record or records from each generation, including proof for the applicant. Proof that the ancestor was in Texas by this date should also be provided by an official document. Current Texas residency or TSGS membership is not necessary.

**INSTRUCTIONS:** Complete to the best of your ability the lineage chart (line of descent) on the enclosed application. If you have more than one early Texas ancestor, complete a separate application for each ancestor. Only one ancestor will be inscribed on a certificate, except when the ancestor and spouse both qualify. Family group records on the supplementary forms including names of children, dates and places of birth, marriage and death, and names of spouses, including the applicant's family, may be attached to the application if desired. This would be an excellent way in which to preserve information.

**PROOFS OF DESCENT:** To ensure that the certificate is the result of credible genealogical research, the following PRIMARY SOURCES are deemed acceptable: Vital records (birth, marriage, and death); probate records; all census records (local, state, and federal); and Bible and baptismal records. The following sources may be cited as circumstantial evidence but must be supported by an explanation: land; tax; military service; church, cemetery, and tombstone records; obituaries; and court records.

The inclusion of the following supplemental resources is encouraged but **MAY NOT BE ACCEPTED** as proof of lineage: newspaper clippings; published family histories; published county histories; published biographical records; and city and county directories. Private papers and personal records such as letters, diaries, journals, and reminiscences may be evaluated on an individual basis.

**SUBMITTED MATERIALS:** All applications and verifying material becomes the property of the Texas State Genealogical Society. The Society plans to publish a book of all qualifying applications. No original documents should be submitted. Seal a photocopy or other facsimile copy of pertinent materials. Applicants are encouraged to include biographical information on their early Texas ancestor.

Eligibility shall be determined by a committee appointed by the Texas State Genealogical Society. The committee's decision shall be final.

Incorrect or incomplete applications will be returned for corrections or additions and the applicant will be encouraged to resubmit the application.

Applications and photocopied proof of descent along with a \$25.00 check or money order, which is not refundable, payable to the Texas State Genealogical Society should be mailed to:

TEXAS FIRST FAMILIES CERTIFICATE  
c/o Wanda L. Donaldson  
3219 Meadow Oaks Drive  
Temple, TX 76502-1752

# TEXAS STATE GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY

## TEXAS FIRST FAMILIES CERTIFICATE APPLICATION

**Instructions to Applicant:** Fill in all blanks, beginning with yourself as the first generation. TYPE OR PRINT ALL INFORMATION. A check or money order for \$25.00 must accompany the application. This fee is not refundable.

**1. Applicant**

\_\_\_\_\_  
(Name of Applicant as it will appear on certificate)

\_\_\_\_\_  
(Address of Applicant)

\_\_\_\_\_  
(City, state and zip code)

**2. Name of ANCESTOR** \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
(Date of Birth)                      (Place of Birth)

\_\_\_\_\_  
(Date of Death)                      (Place of Death)

\_\_\_\_\_  
(Date of Marriage)                      (Place of Marriage)

\_\_\_\_\_  
(Name of Spouse)

\_\_\_\_\_  
(Ancestor emigrated form)

TSGS use only	
File Number	_____
Name	_____
	(Ancestor)
Date Received	_____
Date Completed	_____
Date	_____
Comments	_____
	_____
	_____
	_____
	_____

**3. Biography of Ancestor – This should include occupation, military service, religious preference, and other known information**

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

**TEXAS FIRST FAMILIES CERTIFICATE  
LINE OF DESCENT CHART**

1. Full Name of Applicant \_\_\_\_\_

Date and Place of Birth \_\_\_\_\_

(Day, month, year)

(Town, County, State)

Name of Spouse \_\_\_\_\_ Date of Marriage \_\_\_\_\_

2. I am the child of (Father)

\_\_\_\_\_ born on \_\_\_\_\_ at \_\_\_\_\_  
died at \_\_\_\_\_ on \_\_\_\_\_ and his ( ) wife

\_\_\_\_\_ born on \_\_\_\_\_ at \_\_\_\_\_  
died at \_\_\_\_\_ on \_\_\_\_\_ married on \_\_\_\_\_

3. The said \_\_\_\_\_ was the child of

\_\_\_\_\_ born on \_\_\_\_\_ at \_\_\_\_\_  
died at \_\_\_\_\_ on \_\_\_\_\_ and his ( ) wife

\_\_\_\_\_ born on \_\_\_\_\_ at \_\_\_\_\_  
died at \_\_\_\_\_ on \_\_\_\_\_ married on \_\_\_\_\_

4. The said \_\_\_\_\_ was the child of

\_\_\_\_\_ born on \_\_\_\_\_ at \_\_\_\_\_  
died at \_\_\_\_\_ on \_\_\_\_\_ and his ( ) wife

\_\_\_\_\_ born on \_\_\_\_\_ at \_\_\_\_\_  
died at \_\_\_\_\_ on \_\_\_\_\_ married on \_\_\_\_\_

5. The said \_\_\_\_\_ was the child of

\_\_\_\_\_ born on \_\_\_\_\_ at \_\_\_\_\_  
died at \_\_\_\_\_ on \_\_\_\_\_ and his ( ) wife

\_\_\_\_\_ born on \_\_\_\_\_ at \_\_\_\_\_  
died at \_\_\_\_\_ on \_\_\_\_\_ married on \_\_\_\_\_

6. The said \_\_\_\_\_ was the child of

\_\_\_\_\_ born on \_\_\_\_\_ at \_\_\_\_\_  
died at \_\_\_\_\_ on \_\_\_\_\_ and his ( ) wife

\_\_\_\_\_ born on \_\_\_\_\_ at \_\_\_\_\_  
died at \_\_\_\_\_ on \_\_\_\_\_ married on \_\_\_\_\_

7. The said \_\_\_\_\_ was the child of

\_\_\_\_\_ born on \_\_\_\_\_ at \_\_\_\_\_  
died at \_\_\_\_\_ on \_\_\_\_\_ and his ( ) wife

\_\_\_\_\_ born on \_\_\_\_\_ at \_\_\_\_\_  
died at \_\_\_\_\_ on \_\_\_\_\_ married on \_\_\_\_\_

8. The said \_\_\_\_\_ was the child of

\_\_\_\_\_ born on \_\_\_\_\_ at \_\_\_\_\_  
died at \_\_\_\_\_ on \_\_\_\_\_ and his ( ) wife

\_\_\_\_\_ born on \_\_\_\_\_ at \_\_\_\_\_  
died at \_\_\_\_\_ on \_\_\_\_\_ married on \_\_\_\_\_

9. The said \_\_\_\_\_ was the child of

\_\_\_\_\_ born on \_\_\_\_\_ at \_\_\_\_\_  
died at \_\_\_\_\_ on \_\_\_\_\_ and his ( ) wife

\_\_\_\_\_ born on \_\_\_\_\_ at \_\_\_\_\_  
died at \_\_\_\_\_ on \_\_\_\_\_ married on \_\_\_\_\_

**PROOF OF DESCENT  
TEXAS FIRST FAMILIES CERTIFICATE**

List Sources of proof by generation. Number photocopied proofs to correspond to generation numbers. The applicant's name should be placed on the back of each photocopied proof.

**Generation 1.** \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

**Generation 2.** \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

**Generation 3.** \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

**Generation 4.** \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

**Generation 5.** \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

**Generation 6.** \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

**Generation 7.** \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

**Generation 8.** \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

**Generation 9.** \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

The information included in this application is true and accurate according to the best of my knowledge.

\_\_\_\_\_  
**Signature of Applicant**

\_\_\_\_\_  
**Date submitted**





[Return to TSGS Home](#)