# How to Complete Your Lineage Application
### *A guide to filling out our Old World Hereditary Societies applications*

## Qualified Immigrant Ancestor

What is an immigrant ancestor? Your immigrant ancestor is a person in your family, descended from a Magna Charta Baron, who was born in Europe and moved to America (usually in the 17th or 18th century). Many of these ancestors have been documented and investigated thoroughly to confirm their claim of royal ancestry. A list of these qualified immigrant ancestors can be found on our website. With the lineage application provided, you will trace your ancestry back 10-15 generations to show your connection to one of these immigrant ancestors, thus proving your descent from a Magna Charta Baron.

Sometimes people have immigrant ancestors who are not well known or whose heritage hasn't been confirmed. If we receive your packet and are unfamiliar with your ancestor, you will be asked to complete another lineage form to connect your immigrant ancestor to a Magna Charta Baron. Many people are descended from more than 1 qualified immigrant ancestor and more than 1 Magna Charta Baron. If you can't find much information on the immigrant ancestor you have chosen, you may have a second or third eligible ancestor in your line whose information is more readily available.

## My Relative is a Member

Many of our members have one or more relatives who have already submitted their genealogical papers and have been accepted into the society. If you have a relative in the society, you only have to trace your lineage back to the common ancestor that you and your relative share. Use the same format, guidelines, and acceptable source material as outlined in this guide.

## Filling out the Lineage Form

The lineage form you received will be used to connect you, the candidate, to your immigrant ancestor. You are Generation 1. Your parents are generation 2, and soforth. For each generation, you must fill out the name, birth date/location, marriage date/location, and death date/location for both people. A fillable PDF version of the lineage form is also available on the website.
Example:

### *Mrs. Jane Brown's Application*

|  |  | *References to be placed in this column* |
|---|---|---|
| 1st Gen | Jane Anne Smith | |
| b. at | Philadelphia, PA | Jane's birth certificate |
| on | June 3rd 1963 | "     " |
| d. at | N/A | |
| on | N/A | |
| m. at | Wilmington, DE | John & Jane's marriage certificate |
| on | August 15th 1987 | "     " |
| to | John Brown | "     " |
| b. at | Springfield, IL | John's birth certificate |
| on | October 25th 1958 | "     " |
| d. at | Chicago, IL | John's death certificate |
| on | April 9th, 2013 | "     " |

Copies of your references and source material **<u>MUST</u>** be included in your packet. In the previous example, we would expect to see certified copies of birth/death/marriage certificates for both John and Jane. For the first several generations these certificates will be available. But for older generations, you will need to find other sources.

## Examples of Accepted Source Material

Your source material is the most important part of your packet. This material is your proof and what the society will look through to verify your ancestry. We accept the following types of source material:

| | |
|---|---|
| Birth, death, & marriage certificates | Wills/deeds |
| Federal Census reports | Military service records |
| Photograph of headstone | Newspaper clippings |
| Family bibles* & baptism records | Lineage/genealogy books** |
| *with other source material to support it | **with references to original source material |

You may have noticed that no internet sources are listed. Many internet sources are created without oversight and do not cite reliable sources (if any). However, sites such as Ancestry.com and Find-A-Grave.com can be used to find photographs of census reports, military records, and headstones. We accept these photographs because they are primary sources, but we do NOT accept printouts of Ancestry.com pages. Another good source is books.google.com, which has a variety of digitized family history and genealogy publications. Note that all of these accepted "internet sources" are actually primary/secondary sources uploaded onto the internet. Please be aware that someone's homemade website on their family history is NOT a reliable source.

## Organizing and Marking Your Sources

For books and other multi-page materials, you must include a copy of the title page and publication page along with the pages that you are sourcing.

On every source you provide you must underline in red ink the relevant parts of the page. This will make your application easier to read. It will take much more time to find your ancestor's information if it isn't underlined. This is most helpful with sources such as a long, handwritten wills or census reports with hundreds of names. We also ask that you attach a typed copy for every handwritten source, as handwriting can be difficult to decipher.

To organize your sources, please paperclip sources together by generation. You will have 10-15 of these groupings and must label each group with the generation it refers to.

## Completed Packet Checklist

- ❑ Complete lineage form (typed or printed legibly) with names, dates, locations, and sources referenced.
- ❑ Photocopies of acceptable source material (listed above). Make copies for yourself as well; the information you send us will be kept in closed filing and will be inaccessible after joining.
- ❑ Names, dates, and important information on your sources are underlined in red ink.
- ❑ Handwritten documents have a typed version attached to them.
- ❑ Books have the title and publication page along with the pages relevant to your ancestry.
- ❑ Sources are organized by generation, each generation is paper-clipped together.
- ❑ The generation number is written on the front page of each generation's packet.
- ❑ Compile packet and send in mailing envelope to the Society.