

GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY OF WASHINGTON COUNTY OREGON

PIONEER and EARLY SETTLER CERTIFICATION PROGRAM

APPLICATION

Applicant's Name _____

Name of **Pioneer or Early Settler** _____

SUPPORTING DOCUMENT No. *

1. My ancestor resided in Washington County on _____ 18__ 1. _____
2. I am the son/daughter of _____ 2. _____
3. Who was the son/daughter of _____ 3. _____
4. Who was the son/daughter of _____ 4. _____
5. Who was the son/daughter of _____ 5. _____
6. Who was the son/daughter of _____ 6. _____

Name of Ancestor (As you would like it to appear on the Certificate)

Earliest Date Proved in Washington County _____

Name of Recipient (As you would like it to appear on the Certificate)

Signature of Applicant _____ Date _____

Address _____ City: _____ State _____ ZIP _____

e-mail _____ Phone _____

Application and Fee Received: Date _____ by GSWCO _____

Certificate Approved : Date _____ by GSWCO _____

Certificate Issued: Date _____ by GSWCO _____

* Number all supporting documents in upper right corner and attach them in numerical order to this form. Each line requires one primary source or two secondary sources.

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APPLICATION INSTRUCTIONS

The applicant is required to prove his/her relationship to a Washington County **PIONEER** who settled in Washington County before February 14, 1859 or to an **EARLY SETTLER** who established residence in Washington County between February 14, 1859 and January 1, 1900. The applicant must use generally accepted standards of genealogical documentation. **The parent/child relationship must be a natural blood relationship.**

Primary sources are considered to be the most robust form of documentary proof. **Only one primary source** is required to validate a relationship. Primary Sources are:

Vital records – birth, death, marriage and divorce certificates.

Court records – wills, probate decrees, naturalization certification, tax and voter registrations and records.

Federal, State or Territorial Census which show census year, state, county or enumeration district, page number, and family member.

Donation Land Claim Records and Land Deeds that include State, County, Deed Book and Page No.

Military, School, and Church records.

Secondary sources may support a relationship claim but, by their nature, are not as compelling as primary sources. Each relationship in this application requires **at least two mutually confirming secondary sources** which include but are not limited to the following:

Dated newspaper accounts including obituaries – show title, date and repository where the newspaper can be found.

County and city histories, directories and biographies – include copy of title page and relevant material. List name and location of depository where book is located.

Cemetery, mausoleum and mortuary records including photographs of tombstones – list addresses or physical location of cited item.

Original journals, diaries, Bibles – list name and address of individual or institution that possesses the cited item.

Supporting Documentation:

1. Submit **only copies** of original documents.
2. In the upper right corner of the copy of each document, write the number corresponding to the relationship or event being supported as shown on the application form.
3. Type or print using a black ink pen.
4. Capitalize all surnames: John Truman WILLIAMS, Sarah Anne HATCH
5. Use full maiden name for all females: Sarah Anne Hatch (not Sarah Anne Williams or Mrs. John T. Williams)
6. Write dates in DAY MON YEAR format: 15 Mar 1887, 21 Oct 1896.

Additional Information:

The applicant is free to submit printed reports, graphs, or lists from any of the several genealogical computer programs in common use. Such additional information may enhance the overall usefulness and appeal of the application. For example, a family group sheet for each generation showing siblings and their vital dates, spouses etc. would undoubtedly add to the overall scope of the presentation. However, the applicant is cautioned that such printouts, even when source citations are listed, do not serve as the source requirement for this application. The **printed citation of the existence** of an original document is not the same as a **copy** of the original.

Application Fees:

GSWCO members and nonmembers are welcome to apply for Pioneer or Early Settler certification. The date of Washington County residency as proved in the application will determine which certificate will be issued. The non-refundable application fee is \$15.00 and must be submitted with the application. Children and/or grandchildren of an applicant, who has successfully completed certification, are eligible for auxiliary certificates for a fee of \$5.00 each provided they submit primary source proof of their relationship to the original applicant.

Make checks payable to: **Genealogical Society of Washington County Oregon**

Send or Deliver the completed application to: Robert W. Coffin, 65 SW 93rd Avenue, Portland, OR 97225 or any GSWCO Officer or Board Member.