



Sons of the Revolution in the State of North Carolina

Organized 21 Nov 1893, Raleigh

Re-chartered 04 Dec 1984, Southern Pines

APPLICATION INSTRUCTIONS

ELIGIBLE SERVICE OF REVOLUTIONARY WAR ANCESTOR

Any male person of good character, and lineal descendant of one who, as a military, naval or marine officer, soldier, sailor, or marine, in actual service, under the authority of any of the thirteen Colonies or States or of the Continental Congress, and remaining always loyal to such authority, or a lineal descendant of one who signed the Declaration of Independence, or of one who, as a member of the Continental Congress, or of the Congress of any of the Colonies or States, or as an official appointed by or under the authority of any such legislative bodies, actually assisted in the establishment of American Independence by services rendered during the War of the Revolution, becoming thereby liable to conviction of treason against the Government of Great Britain, but remaining always loyal to the authority of the Colonies or States, or, who served honorably in a military or naval expedition against the British during the War of the Revolution under the authority of the French or Spanish Governments shall be eligible to membership in the Society. Both Senior and Junior (the latter under the age of eighteen years) memberships are available.

Provided,

That when the claim of eligibility is based on the service of an ancestor in the "minute-men" or "militia", it must be satisfactorily shown that such an ancestor was actually called into service of the State or United States, and performed garrison or field duty; and

Provided further,

That when the claim of eligibility is based on the service of an ancestor as a "sailor" or "marine", it must in like manner be shown that such service was other than shore duty and regularly performed in the Continental Navy, or the navy of one of the original thirteen states, or on an armed vessel, other than a merchant ship, which sailed under letters of marque and reprisal, and that such ancestor of the applicant was duly enrolled in the ship's company, either as an officer, seaman or otherwise than as a passenger; and

Provided further,

That when the claim of eligibility is based on the service of an ancestor as an "official," such service must have been performed in the civil service of the United States, or one of the thirteen original States, and must have been sufficiently important in character to have rendered the official liable to arrest and imprisonment, the same as a combatant, if captured by the enemy, as well as liable to conviction of treason against the Government of Great Britain.

Service in the ordinary duties of civil office, the performance of which did not particularly and effectively aid the American Cause shall not constitute eligibility.

In the construction of this article, the volunteer Aides-de-Camp of General Officers in Continental Service, who were duly announced as such and who actually served in the field during a campaign, shall be comprehended as having performed qualifying service.

The civil officials and military forces of the State of Vermont, during the War of the Revolution, shall also be comprehended in the same manner as if they had belonged to one of the thirteen original States.

No service of an ancestor shall be deemed as qualifying service for membership in the "Sons of the Revolution" where such ancestor, after assisting in the cause of American Independence, shall have subsequently either adhered to the enemy, or failed to maintain an honorable record throughout the War of the Revolution. No person shall be admitted unless he be eligible under one of the provisions of this article, nor unless he be of good moral character and be judged worthy of becoming a member.

CANDIDACY FOR MEMBERSHIP

Candidates for membership are required to present properly prepared Lineage Claims in the form currently prescribed by the General Society Sons of the Revolution showing the descent from a qualifying ancestor in full details with citations. The completed, type-written, and signed application (**two copies**), one copy of the documentation proving the claimed descent, and the Application fee of **\$65.00** and annual dues of **\$75.00** (\$140.00 total) payable to "SRNC" must be included in the final application packet sent to the Registrar.

Two current members of the North Carolina Society must serve as a proposer and endorser for the application; in cases where an applicant is unknown to the members of the Society, alternative arrangements may be made to secure sponsorship.

The Registrar will make the determination concerning all lineage claims and will forward approved application to the General Society, Sons of the Revolution for the final approval and registration. New members are elected by the Board of Directors of the Society as an item of business at their meetings.

THE DOCUMENTATION

- Data should be as complete as possible to the best knowledge of the applicant. Names of all persons should be in full (not initials, unless the name is unknown) and ladies given by maiden name.
- Dates are to be shown with the day of the month, then the month, then the year (e.g., 01 Jan 1999).
- Reliable sources must be cited for ALL facts given, names/dates/locations/familial connection.
- Title page/copyright should be included for all published works.
- Each generation MUST link to the next generation. References are to be cited which will PROVE the applicant's claim for each generation (including the applicant).
- Where proof is found in unpublished records such as birth certificates (BC), baptism/christening certificates (CC), marriage certificates (MC) or death certificates (DC), records in family Bibles, wills, deeds, census records, tombstone photographs, sworn statements of parents, grandparents, etc., each shall be listed in the references for the generation to which it pertains. On each such photocopy the name(s), date(s), etc. should be underlined in red and the generation for which it is submitted as proof shown as Gen. 1, etc.
- Sources should be both properly cited and specific; for example, vital records should state the individual to whom they pertain, and give the location and page numbers for Federal census records.
- Difficult-to-read records should be transcribed. The transcription should be attached to a copy of the original document.
- Published records are to be described by the (Author) Last Name, First name; (Book Title in italics or quotes) "Full Title of Book" (Place of Publication: Publisher, Year) volume, page (i. e. Doe, John, *The Gorilla*. Kenedy, TX: Brooks, Inc., 1940. I:24). You may use *ibid.* and *op. cit.* when applicable.
- The approved record copies of this Society may be used in lieu of original proof documentation in most cases where a close relative has joined the Society. Record copies must bear the membership number and signature of the pertinent officers of the Society; it may also be possible and desirable to utilize the short form application in certain cases where a close relative has joined the Society.

- In general, we prefer NOT to use the approved applications of other organizations such as the DAR, SAR, etc. Exceptions may be made on a case-by-case basis, particularly if the record copy uses primary source citations as the basis for the claim rather than relying on other record copies itself.

SOURCES

Primary sources are the preferable sources. They include:

- Vital Records (births, deaths, marriages; permits and licenses issued; census pages (the actual image of the census page, NOT [ancestry.com transcripts](#)); etc.)
- Court Records (recorded deeds, wills, probate files, court minutes, etc.) Originals are preferable but transcripts are usually acceptable.
- Diaries, journals, speeches, interviews, letters, memos, manuscripts and other papers in which individuals describe events in which they were participants or observers.
- Signed affidavits of memoirs and autobiographies. These may be less reliable than diaries or letters since they are usually written long after events occurred and may be distorted by bias, dimming memory or the revised perspective that may come with hindsight. On the other hand, they are sometimes the only source for certain information.
- Records of organizations (Minutes, reports, correspondence, etc.)
- Published materials (books, magazine and journal articles, newspaper articles, county histories) written at the time about a particular event. While these are sometimes accounts by participants, in most cases they are written by journalists or other observers. The important thing is to distinguish between material written at the time of an event as a kind of report, and material written much later, as historical analysis.
- Photographs of Tombstones (include name and location of cemetery); do NOT print findagrave.com webpages, though photographs of the gravestone obtained there may be used.
- Obituaries (include masthead of newspaper, including name, date published, and page).
- Images of payrolls, muster rolls, bounty land grants, pension applications (available on [fold3.com](#) or other sources).
- URLs/web addresses are not adequate sources; please cite the original, hard-copy source.

Secondary Sources

- Published materials citing primary source material for the assertions made therein.

The Registrar will gladly answer questions related to the application process in general or relating to specific proofs, and assist the candidate in preparing the application to a high genealogical standard.

Send the completed applications (two copies), copy of proof materials (one copy), and application fees to:

John R. Harman, Jr.
Registrar - SRNC
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Raleigh, NC 27608-1452
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