

Applying to the Mayflower Society

Kristi Leigh Schkade, Library and Research Services Coordinator of the General Society of Mayflower Descendants

THE BRUE FAMILY LEARNING CENTER



American Ancestors®
by NEW ENGLAND HISTORIC GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY

Meet today's presenter



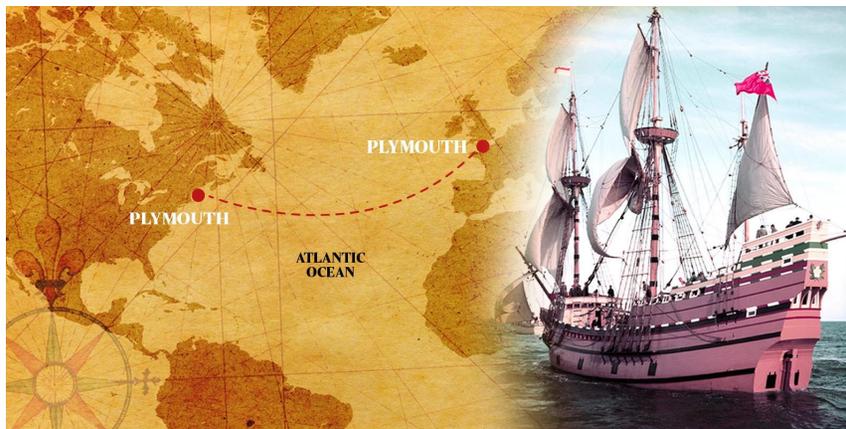
Kristi Leigh Schkade

Library and Research Services Coordinator
General Society of Mayflower Descendants

OVERVIEW

- **Presentation (60 mins.)**
 - Why Join the Mayflower Society?
 - Beginning an Application
 - Becoming a Member
- **Q&A (30 mins.)**

What is the Mayflower Society?



- ❖ Lineage society whose members have proven direct descent from one or more Mayflower passengers
- ❖ Over 30,000 Active Members
- ❖ Over 106,000 Members accepted since 1897
- ❖ Dedicated to research & education about the Mayflower's 1620 journey, her passengers, and their descendants

History of the Mayflower Society

1894

New York

1896

Conn., Mass., Penn.

1897

General Society

2020

Australia

2024

54 Member Societies



General Society of Mayflower Descendants (GSMD)

- ❖ International headquarters in Plymouth, Mass.
- ❖ Governed by Executive Committee & Member Society Representatives
- ❖ Membership in both GSMD & Member Society



Why should you join?

- ❖ Professional verification of research
 - ❖ Preservation of family history
 - ❖ Organized trips to Pilgrim sites
 - ❖ Scholarships
 - ❖ Mayflower Quarterly Magazine
 - ❖ GSMD Research Center Library
 - ❖ Members-only merchandise
 - ❖ GSMD & Member Society events
- ❖ Discounts!
 - Plymouth-area attractions
 - GSMD Research Services
 - American Ancestors membership
 - Mayflower Descendant



How to Apply

- ❖ 54 Member Societies
- ❖ Application prepared by Member Society Historian
- ❖ Submitted to GSMD for approval



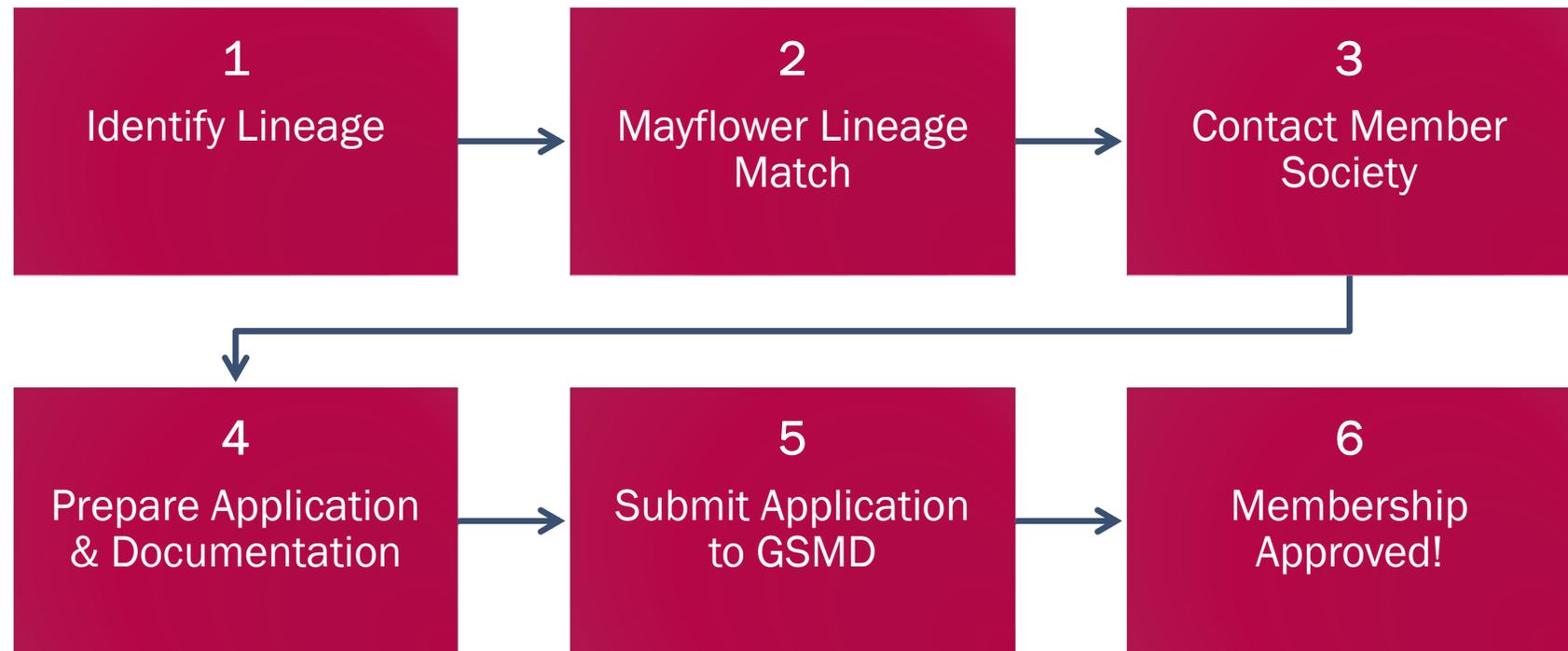
How much does it cost to join?

- ❖ Fees set by Member Societies
- ❖ Fees paid to Member Societies
- ❖ Due dates vary by Member Society
- ❖ Application Fees: \$150 to \$400
- ❖ Annual Dues: \$35 to \$150



QUESTIONS?

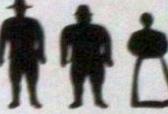
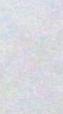
Membership Application Process





1

IDENTIFY YOUR LINEAGE

 ALDEN John (21)	 ALLERTON Remember Bartholomew Isaac Mary Mary (7 or 8) (34) (30) (1 or 4)	 (servants) John William Hooker Latham (12 or 13) (11 or 12)	 ALLEKTON John (Adult)	 BILLINGTON Francis John Ellen John (14) (18) (23) (16)	 BRADFORD Dorothy William (21) (30)	 BREWSTER Wrestling William Mary Love (5-9) (74) (40) (9-13)	 (wards) Richard Mary More More (6) (4)	 BRITTERIDGE/ BROWNE/ BROWN Richard (Adult) Peter (Adult)	 CARVER Catherine John (30) (18)	 (wards) Jasper Desire More Minter (7) (Child)	 (servants) John Roger Howland Wilder (28) (Adult)	 Dorothy (last name unknown) (18)
 CHILTON James & his wife Mary (64) (unnamed) (11) (28)	 CLARKE/ CLARK Richard (Adult)	 COOKE/ COOK Francis John (37) (11)	 CRACKSTON/ CRAXTON John John, Jr. (45) (10-20)	 EATON Francis Sarah Samuel (25) (21) (1)	 ELY [Unknown first name] (Adult)	 ENGLISH Thomas (Adult)	 FLETCHER Moses (22)	 FULLER Edward & his wife Samuel (45) (unnamed) (12) (35)	 FULLER (servant) Samuel (40) William Button (17, died during voyage)	 GARDINER Richard (Adult)	 GOODMAN John (Adult)	
 HOPKINS Damaris Elizabeth Oceanus Stephen Constance Giles (1) (15) (18 or 19) (18) (14) (12)	 (servants) Edward Edward Doty/Doten Lester/Licster (21) (21)	 MARGESSON/ MARGESON Edmond/Edmond (Adult)	 MARTIN Christopher Mary Solomon (38) Prower Prower (32) (14-20)	 (servant) John Langmore (Adult)	 MULLINS William Alice Joseph Priscilla (21) (48) (18-20) (17 or 18)	 (servant) Robert Carter (Adult)	 PRIEST Digrey/Digery (41)	 RIGSDALE/ RIDGDALE John Alice (Adult) (Adult)	 ROGERS Thomas Joseph (48) (17)	 STANDISH Rose Miles (21) (27)	 TILLEY/ TILLY Edward Ann (31) (17)	 (wards) Humility Henry Cooper Sampson (1) (14)
 TILLEY/ TILLY John Joan Elizabeth (42) (71) (11)	 TINKER Thomas & his wife [Young Master Tinker] (Adult) (unnamed) (2) (Adult)	 TREVOR William (Adult)	 TURNER John [Young Master Turner] (30) (1-10) (1-10)	 WARREN Richard (44)	 WHITE William Susanna Revolved (30) (25) (5)	 (servants) William Edward Holbeck Thompson (Adult) (Adult)	 WILLIAMS Thomas (Adult)	 WINSLOW Elizabeth Edward (21) (25)	 (ward) Ellen Moore (8)	 (servants) George Elias Sonic Story (21) (Adult)	 WINSLOW Gilbert (20)	

Who is your ancestor?

51 Mayflower Passengers with Proven Descendants

Your Mayflower Lineage

- ❖ Generation 1:
Mayflower Passenger
- ❖ Line of Direct Descent
- ❖ Fill in each generation down
to Applicant
- ❖ Include all
Spouses/Partners



Proposed Mayflower Lineage

1. Passenger	_____	Spouse/Partner	_____
2. Son/Daughter	_____	Spouse/Partner	_____
3. Son/Daughter	_____	Spouse/Partner	_____
4. Son/Daughter	_____	Spouse/Partner	_____
5. Son/Daughter	_____	Spouse/Partner	_____
6. Son/Daughter	_____	Spouse/Partner	_____
7. Son/Daughter	_____	Spouse/Partner	_____
8. Son/Daughter	_____	Spouse/Partner	_____
9. Son/Daughter	_____	Spouse/Partner	_____
10. Son/Daughter	_____	Spouse/Partner	_____
11. Son/Daughter	_____	Spouse/Partner	_____
12. Son/Daughter	_____	Spouse/Partner	_____
13. Son/Daughter	_____	Spouse/Partner	_____
14. Son/Daughter	_____	Spouse/Partner	_____
15. Son/Daughter	_____	Spouse/Partner	_____
16. Son/Daughter	_____	Spouse/Partner	_____
17. Son/Daughter	_____	Spouse/Partner	_____
18. Son/Daughter	_____	Spouse/Partner	_____

Notes:



2

COMPLETE A MAYFLOWER LINEAGE MATCH

What is a Mayflower Lineage Match?

- ❖ Compare your lineage to EVERY lineage approved by GSMD since 1897
- ❖ Up-to-date & accurate information
- ❖ Complete on GSMD Website for \$75
- ❖ Results emailed to you and Member Society Historian
- ❖ NOT an application



Proposed Mayflower Lineage

1. Passenger	<u>William Bradford</u>	Spouse/Partner	<u>Alice Carpenter</u>
2. Son/Daughter	<u>William Bradford</u>	Spouse/Partner	<u>Alice Richards</u>
3. Son/Daughter	<u>Alice Bradford</u>	Spouse/Partner	<u>William Adams</u>
4. Son/Daughter	<u>Abiel Adams</u>	Spouse/Partner	<u>Joseph Metcalf</u>
5. Son/Daughter	<u>Elizabeth Metcalf</u>	Spouse/Partner	<u>Jonathan Lee</u>
6. Son/Daughter	<u>Elizabeth Lee</u>	Spouse/Partner	<u>Thomas Allen</u>
7. Son/Daughter	<u>William Allen</u>	Spouse/Partner	<u>Maria Wheelock</u>
8. Son/Daughter	<u>William Allen</u>	Spouse/Partner	<u>Prudence Coon</u>
9. Son/Daughter	<u>James Allen</u>	Spouse/Partner	<u>Lavinia Brown</u>
10. Son/Daughter	<u>Adelaide Allen</u>	Spouse/Partner	<u>Lucius Randall</u>
11. Son/Daughter	_____	Spouse/Partner	_____
12. Son/Daughter	_____	Spouse/Partner	_____
13. Son/Daughter	_____	Spouse/Partner	_____
14. Son/Daughter	_____	Spouse/Partner	_____
15. Son/Daughter	_____	Spouse/Partner	_____

Mayflower Lineage Match Results

- ❖ Generations that were previously approved
 - Silver Books
 - GSMD Applications
- ❖ Generations that need documentation
- ❖ Missing generation or incorrect name
- ❖ Other possible Mayflower lineages
- ❖ Member Society contact information





3

CONTACT A MEMBER SOCIETY

Choose a Mayflower Member Society

- ❖ 54 Member Societies
 - 50 States
 - Washington, D.C.
 - Canada
 - Europe
 - Australia



Contact a Member Society

1. Find contact info. on GSMD website
2. Email Member Society Contact
OR visit Member Society website
3. Fill out Preliminary Application form
4. Share Mayflower Lineage Match results



GSMD Member Societies

The General Society of Mayflower Descendants is made up of 54 Member Societies representing all 50 states, the District of Columbia, Canada, Europe, and Australia. Member Societies are volunteer organizations that were authorized and granted a Charter by the General Board of Assistants (GBOA).

Each Member Society has its own Constitution and Bylaws and elects its own officers (Governor, Assistant Governor, Treasurer, Secretary, Historian, Elder, Counsellor, Captain, Surgeon). Additionally, Member Societies set their own dues and fees. Those applying to become a member of The Mayflower Society must apply for membership through a Member Society.

Alabama

- [Society Website](#)
- [Contact Governor: Mark Chesebrough](#)
- [AL Society Facebook](#)
- [Gulf Coast Colony Facebook](#)

Alaska

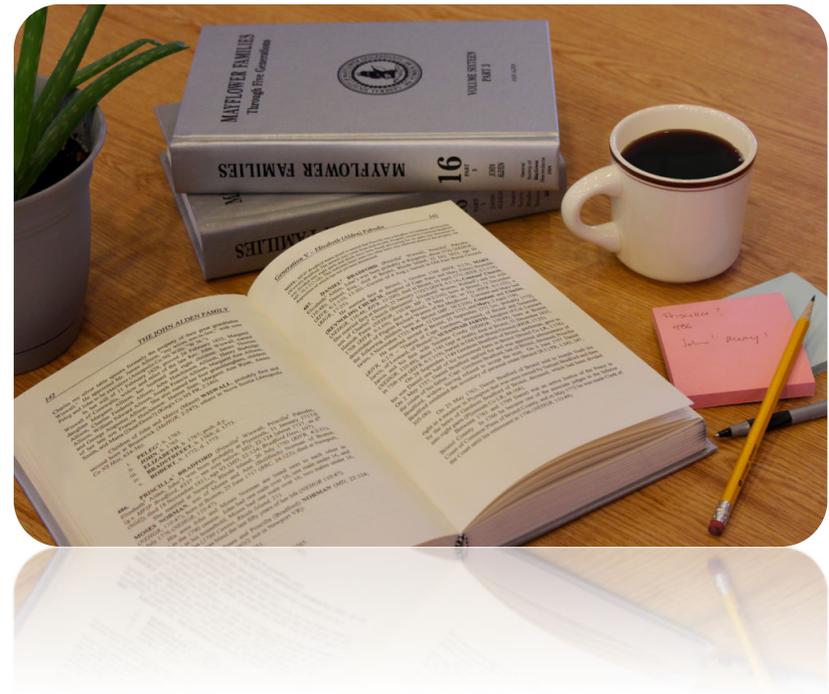
Arizona

Arkansas

Australia

Things to Remember

- ❖ Most Member Society Historians are volunteers
- ❖ Application Fees and Membership Dues vary
- ❖ Payment due dates vary
- ❖ Member Society Historians facilitate, but DO NOT research
- ❖ Member Society Historians are liaisons to GSMD





4

PREPARE YOUR APPLICATION & DOCUMENTATION

Application Worksheet

- ❖ Generation 1: Mayflower Passenger
- ❖ Line Carrier
- ❖ Non-Line Carrier
- ❖ Birth, Marriage, & Death



General Society No. _____ Member Society No. _____

APPLICATION FOR MEMBERSHIP

To the Society of Mayflower Descendants

in

I hereby apply for membership in this Society by right of bloodline descent in the _____th generation from _____ who was a passenger on the MAYFLOWER voyage that terminated at Plymouth, New England, December 1620.

Name of Applicant _____
Mailing Name

Street Address _____
Phone

City, State, Zip (+4) _____
E-mail

Occupation _____
Birthdate

Applicant Signature _____
Any information or evidence submitted to become a member becomes the property of the General Society of Mayflower Descendants. Do not alter application template.

MEMBER SOCIETY

Prepared By _____

Historian Name _____

Historian Signature _____

Date Approved _____

Date Elected _____

GSMD

Date Received _____

Date Approved _____

Historian General _____

Office Use Only	Passenger (Connection point)
Potential Silver Supplemental Lineages	
Potential Supplemental Lineages	

Name of Applicant:	Society Historian:
Generations to same as GS # : Society #	Date line run completed: Verifier:

STATEMENT OF LINE OF ELIGIBILITY FOR MEMBERSHIP

1. _____
2. _____ married
3. _____ married
4. _____ married
5. _____

Place	Date	References
b.		
d.		
m.		
married	[-]	
b.		
d.		
6. _____

b.		
d.		
m.		
married	[-]	
b.		
d.		
7. _____

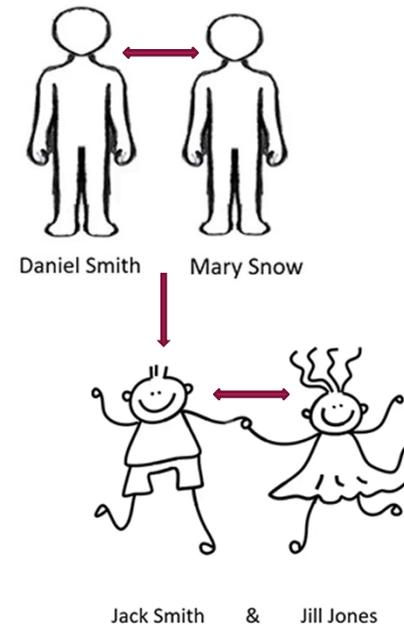
b.		
d.		
m.		
married	[-]	
b.		
d.		
8. _____

b.		
d.		
m.		
married	[-]	
b.		
d.		

What do you need to prove?

PROVE THE EVENTS AND RELATIONSHIPS WITHIN AND BETWEEN EACH GENERATION

- ❖ Line Carrier's connection to parents
- ❖ Line Carrier's connection to Non-Line Carrier
- ❖ "Proof of Same"
- ❖ Places & Dates of Vital Events





Application Worksheet

- ❖ First 5+ generations proven in Silver Book(s)
- ❖ All other generations must be proven with other documentation
- ❖ Some documentation is with previously approved applications

Name of Applicant:	Society Historian:
Generations 1 to 7 same as GS # 92,897; TX Society # 3,505	Date line run completed: 4/13/2024 Verifier:

STATEMENT OF LINE OF ELIGIBILITY FOR MEMBERSHIP

Previously Proven

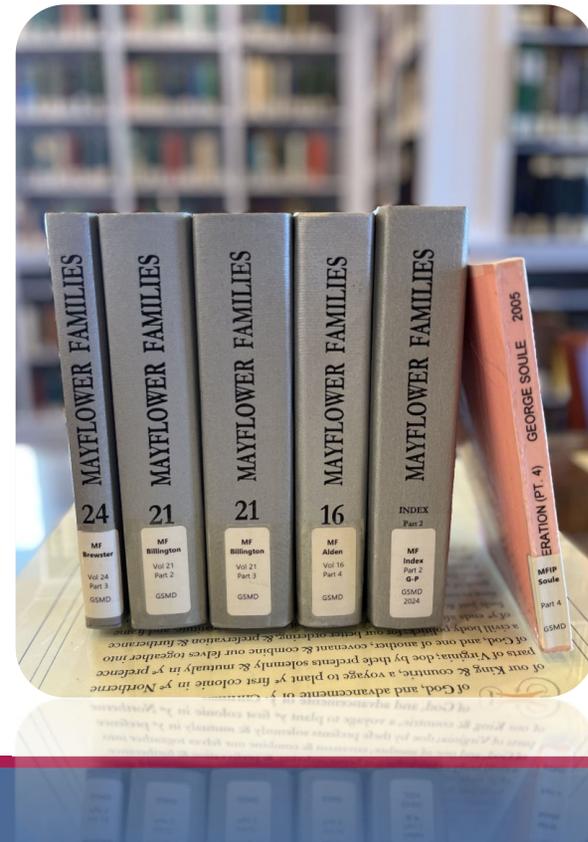
1.	JOHN ALDEN		
2.	JOSEPH ALDEN	married	Mary Simmons
3.	ISSAC ALDEN	married	Mehitable Allen
4.	MERCY ALDEN	married	Zaccheus Packard
5.	SIMEON PACKARD		
		Place	Date
	b.	Bridgewater MA	30 Mar 1736
			MF 16:1:333; 16:2:84, 85
	d.	bur North Bridgewater MA	23 Oct 1815
			MF 16:2:85
	m.	Bridgewater MA	6 Jul 1761
			MF 16:2:85
	married	Mary Perkins	[Mark Perkins - Dorothy Whipple]
	b.	Wenham MA	17 Feb 1739/40
			MF 16:2:85
	d.	bur North Bridgewater MA	22 Oct 1820
			MF 16:2:85
6.	ZENAS PACKARD		w/992,807
	b.	North Bridgewater MA	22 May 1771
			MF 16:2:86
	d.	North Bridgewater MA	21 Apr 1854
			D/C (nnmm)
	m.	[Braintree MA] mt Bridgewater MA	[28 Oct 1793] mt 12 Oct 1793
			VR 2:284, 363 (no pars); Hist N Bridgewater 591, 598 (pars)
	married	Deborah Thayer	
	b.	Braintree MA	25 May 1772
			B/C
	d.	North Bridgewater MA	1 Oct 1854
			D/C (82-4-6, no mo)
7.	CHARLOTTE PACKARD		w/992,897
	b.	Bridgewater MA	2 Oct 1796
			Thayer Mem 18; Tucker Gen 161 <i>Need Birth Record or Additional Proof of Parents</i>
	d.	North Bridgewater MA	28 May 1836
			Brockton VR 370 (in 40th yr, no pars)
	m.	Bridgewater MA	6 Nov 1817
			VR 2:274, 406 (no pars) <i>Need Proof of Parents</i>
	married	Joseph Wild	
	b.	Braintree MA	5 Apr 1794
			(D/R-nmmn)
	d.	North Bridgewater MA	19 Apr 1870
			D/R (76-0-13, nmmn)
8.	BENJAMIN ALLEN WILD/WILDS		
	b.		<i>Need Birth Record</i>
	d.		<i>Need Death Record</i>
	m.		<i>Need Marriage Record</i>
	married	Lucy Ann Ripley	[Chipman Ripley - Rhoda Wright]
	b.	Hanson MA	18 Nov 1833
			Plympton VR 169
	d.		<i>Need Death Record</i>

Needs More Proof

Documentation Needed

Mayflower Families through Five Generations “Silver Books”

- ❖ 22 Volumes
- ❖ First 5+ Generations of Descent
- ❖ Ongoing Project
- ❖ Mayflower Families in Progress “Pink Books”
- ❖ John Howland of the Mayflower (4 Volume Series)





Silver Books & Applications

- ❖ First 5+ generations cite Silver Books
- ❖ No additional documentation needed
- ❖ Check for additions and corrections
- ❖ Member Society Historians add Silver Book citations

Is this generation already documented?

- ❖ No need to repeat research that has already been completed!
- ❖ Previously approved applications can contain helpful documents
- ❖ Member Society Historian will cite these documents on your application



Previously Approved is NOT the same as Previously Proven

- ❖ Previously approved lineages often need additional documentation
- ❖ Standards of proof for GSMD membership have changed
- ❖ Member Society Historian will advise on which generations need additional documentation

STATE VOLUME AND PAGE OF REFERENCES TO AUTHORITIES.
The numbers below refer to the corresponding generations on opposite page.

GENERATION:
1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14

No reference is required for the first and second generations.

3.	Mayflower Index	# 27131
4.		# 14036
5.		# 13970
6.		# 13950
7.		# 14019
8.		# 52521
9.		# 58541
10.	Jennings, Davidson & Allied Families - Lillie Pauline White	pg. 19
11.	" " " " " "	pg. 51 & 52
12.	" " " " " "	pg. 52 & 97
13.	" " " " " "	pg. 97
14.		

DO NOT WRITE UPON THIS MARGIN



QUESTIONS?



4 Continued

PREPARE YOUR APPLICATION & DOCUMENTATION

What do you need to document?

WHAT IS ALREADY DOCUMENTED

- First 5+ generations cite Silver Books
- Additional generations may cite documentation with a previously approved application

YOU MAY NEED TO PROVIDE

- Documentation to update previously approved generations
- Documentation to prove each generation not previously approved by GSMD



Documentation Requirements

- ❖ All available vital records
- ❖ Letter of no record found
- ❖ If a vital record is not available:
 - Wills & Probates, Church Records, Military Records, Family Bibles, Censuses, Gravestone Photos, Land Records, etc.
 - Well-cited, published family histories, genealogies, or local histories

Documentation Examples

EXAMPLES OF ACCEPTED SOURCES

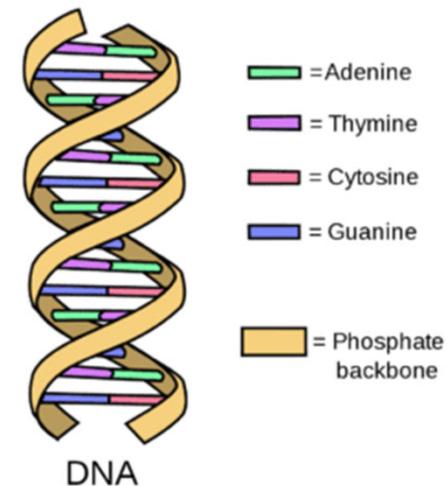
- ❖ Digitized images of original documents
- ❖ Photocopies of original documents
- ❖ Gravestone photographs
- ❖ Massachusetts vital record books by NEHGS
- ❖ Connecticut Barbour Collection
- ❖ Scholarly journals

EXAMPLES OF SOURCES NOT ACCEPTED

- ❖ Indexes
- ❖ Find A Grave biographies
- ❖ Other lineage society applications
- ❖ Mayflower Births & Deaths books
- ❖ Family group sheets/pedigree charts
- ❖ Unsourced family genealogies/histories

Proof Arguments & DNA Evidence

- ❖ When direct evidence cannot be found to prove a relationship, a Proof Argument may be submitted.
- ❖ DNA evidence may be used as part of a Proof Argument to help prove one generational connection.
- ❖ All Proof Arguments must show that exhaustive research has been conducted.



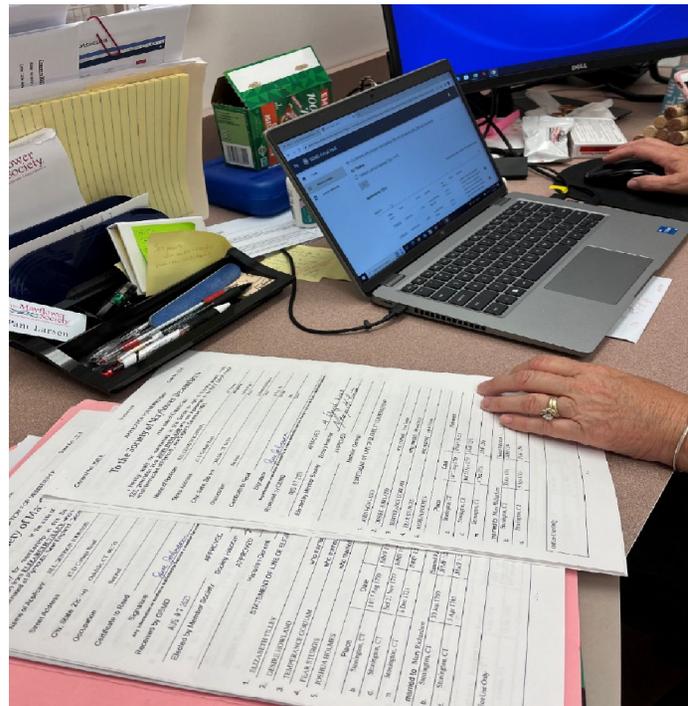


5

SUBMIT YOUR APPLICATION

Almost There....

- ❖ Proofreading
- ❖ Final Payment
- ❖ Submission to GSMD



Verification of Application by GSMD

- ❖ Review of lineage & documentation by Genealogical Verification Team
- ❖ Member Society Historian informed if additional documentation needed
- ❖ Official approval of application by Historian General
- ❖ Member Society Historian informed of application approval





6

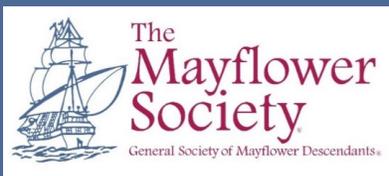
MEMBERSHIP APPROVAL



Congratulations on your new membership!

Now that you are a member, you can....

- ❖ File a Supplemental lineage
- ❖ Volunteer
- ❖ Attend GSMD & Member Society events
- ❖ Tour the Mayflower Society House
- ❖ Use the GSMD Research Center Library for free
- ❖ & much more!



GSMD Resources



- ❖ Research Services
- ❖ Research Center Library
- ❖ Mayflower Genealogy Webinars
- ❖ Detailed Guide to Silver Books

www.themayflowersociety.org



QUESTIONS?

Schedule a consultation
consultations@nehgs.org

Hire Research Services

American Ancestors - *research@nehgs.org*

The Mayflower Society - *researchservices@themayflowersociety.org*

The screenshot shows the top navigation bar of the American Ancestors website. The logo on the left reads "American Ancestors. by NEW ENGLAND HISTORIC GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY". To the right, it says "A National Center for Family History, Heritage & Culture". Further right are links for "Bookstore", "About Us", "Create a Tree", and a "LOG IN" button with a right-pointing arrow. Below the navigation bar is a horizontal menu with links for "Search", "Events", "Join", "Give", "10 Million Names", "Publications", "Expert Help", "Tools", "Signature Projects", and "Centers & Initiatives".

Researching & Verifying Mayflower Ancestry 2024

Thank you for registering for the online course, *Researching & Verifying Mayflower Ancestry!*

Four hundred years ago, the *Mayflower* landed on the shores of Massachusetts with 102 passengers aboard. Today, there is an estimated 35 million *Mayflower* descendants worldwide. Join experts from American Ancestors for a five-session online course that will explore the many resources, record collections, and research strategies for verifying your connection to the *Mayflower*. We will also include several case studies demonstrating ways to break down brick walls, including an examination of using DNA to confirm a hypothesis. Finally, we'll discuss how to take your research further by contributing your finding to ongoing *Mayflower* scholarship.

This course includes five 90-minute classes and exclusive access to handouts and recordings of each presentation. These recordings and all course materials will be available for the foreseeable future.

JOIN THE LIVE BROADCAST

Click here to join the live sessions: <https://zoom.us/j/99461147188>

Tuesdays, October 29, November 5, 12, 19, and 26, 6:00 – 7:30 PM ET

If you are unable to attend the live session, you will be able to view a recording on this webpage.

COURSE SCHEDULE

AmericanAncestors.org/researching-verifying-mayflower-ancestry-2024



THANK YOU!

AmericanAncestors.org