

# Lineage Societies

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## Common Types of Lineage Societies

- Occupation
- Military
- Founding or Immigration Event
- Ethnicity
- Family Associations
- Single Person of Significance
- Historical Event

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## Online Lists of Societies

- Lineage Society of America:
  - <http://lineagesocietyofamerica.com/list-of-lineage-societies.html>
- Lineage Societies on Cyndi's List:
  - <https://www.cyndislist.com/societies/lineage/>
- List of Hereditary and Lineage Organizations on Wikipedia:
  - [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/List\\_of\\_hereditary\\_and\\_lineage\\_organizations](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/List_of_hereditary_and_lineage_organizations)
- The Hereditary Society Community of the United States of America:
  - <http://hereditary.us>

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## Society Records

Here are just some suggestions:

- Try visiting a Society's website to see if they have a library, online digital collections, an ancestor list, etc.
- Try to Google search the Society's name along with "applications," "magazine," "membership lists," "newsletter," etc. to see what may come up.
- On Ancestry.com (\$), try searching the card catalog for the Society's name in the title search area, and/or doing a Keyword Search for "application" or "membership." You can also try narrowing down the results using the Filters for USA, then Directories & Member Lists, and then Society & Employment Directories if desired.

## Society Records (cont.)

- NEHGS's AmericanAncestors.org (\$) site has recently released a searchable database for the General Society of Mayflower Descendants Membership Applications, 1620-1920: <https://mayflower.americanancestors.org/mayflower-research-databases>
  - You can search built trees from this collection on FamilySearch for free ([FamilySearch.org/Mayflower](https://familysearch.org/Mayflower)), but you can only look at the actual applications with an AmericanAncestors.org subscription.

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## Getting Started Tips

- Research your direct family lines and collect sources proving birth, marriage, death along with connecting generations to each other.
- Order/obtain civil vital records for the most recent generations.
- Explore various Societies to see which might be a good fit for you and become familiar with their application process.

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## Further Education

If you'd like to watch/listen some more webinars/podcasts on Lineage Societies, please check out the following YouTube Channels:

- AmericanAncestors, The New York Genealogical and Biographical Society, Ancestral Findings, Family Locket, Ancestry, Lineage Society Genealogy, BYU Family History Library, and many more.

The National Genealogical Society Magazine had a nice feature on Lineage Societies:

- Volume 45, Number 2, April-June 2019.

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## Notes