

# Kent County Pioneer Certificates

Kent County, Michigan, Pioneer Certificates  
Western Michigan Genealogical Society (WMGS)  
C/O Grand Rapids Public Library, 60 Library St NE, Grand Rapids, MI 49503  
<http://wmgs.org>

## Eligibility:

To qualify for a Pioneer Certificate, an applicant must be directly descended from an ancestor who settled in Kent County as follows:

- Pioneers (Prior to 1841) Gold Seal
- Settlers (Prior to 1881) Silver Seal
- Early Family (Prior to 1921) Blue Seal

Each ancestor in the direct line must be proved. Anyone may apply. Applicants need not have ever been residents of Kent County. After proof of direct descent has been submitted and eligibility has been determined, we will mail the appropriate certificate. Separate certificates will be issued for each ancestor properly submitted. The fee for each application is \$10.

## Purpose:

In cooperation with the Secchia Millennium Commission and to honor our pioneer forefathers, Western Michigan Genealogical Society, (WMGS), is promoting a Pioneer Certificate Program. Our threefold objects are as follows:

- 1) We hope to recognize pioneers and early residents who otherwise would go unnoticed in our county's history. Each builder and craftsman brought us one step closer to the county we know today.
- 2) We encourage a basic knowledge of genealogical research by asking any direct descendant to put together their family history and apply for a certificate. We will provide easy instructions and help in researching early Kent County residents.
- 3) We know the recorded information will become a valuable addition to the history of early Kent County citizens providing a source of genealogical information for future research.

Linking oneself to the past is an excellent way of building family pride and self-esteem. We hope you will join in our effort to record and preserve our early Kent County history. Proudly display your Kent County Pioneer Millennium Centennial Certificate.

To receive your packet, please remit the \$10 application fee to WMGS - Certificates, c/o Kaye Fish, 2886 Montreat Dr NE, Grand Rapids, MI 49525-3162.