## **HEIRS' PROPERTY**

## HOW TO CREATE YOUR FAMILY TREE

Creating a family tree for heirs' property involves documenting the descent and relationships of family members with a claim to the property.

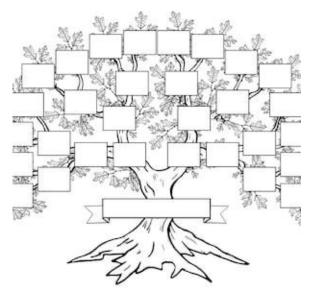
- 1. Determine the property's history: Research the history of the heirs' property to understand its origins and any associated legal documents. This may include deeds, wills, or other property ownership and inheritance records.
- 2. Gather information: Start your tree with the ancestor(s) who originally bought the land. This is often the original ancestor with a deed solely in their name (or with their spouse). Collect as much information as possible about their descendants and family members, including their names, birth, death dates (if applicable), spouses, and other significant details. This information can be obtained through family records, interviews with relatives, or online genealogy databases.
- 3. Identify other potential heirs with a legal interest. Include legally adopted children and children born to any ancestor out of wedlock in your family tree. Depending on your state, these children may be entitled to inherit under your state's intestacy laws.
- 4. Create a visual representation: Use a family tree template, genealogy software, or an old-fashioned pencil and paper to create the family tree, starting with the original ancestor who bought or received the land.
- 5. Include relevant information: For each individual on the family tree, include their full name, date of birth, date of death (if applicable), whether they died with a Last Will and Testament, the name of any spouse who survived them, the spouse's date of death (if applicable), and their legally adopted and biological children.
- 6. Verify information: Double-check the accuracy of the information you have gathered by cross-referencing it with other sources and consulting with family members. Ensuring the family tree is as accurate and complete as possible is important.
- 7. Share and update the family tree: Once it is complete, share it with other family members interested in the property. This can help facilitate discussions and decision-making regarding the property's management and future ownership. Additionally, update the family tree as new information becomes available and people divorce and die.





8. Seek legal guidance: Depending on the situation's complexity, it may be advisable to seek legal advice to ensure that the family tree and related documentation comply with the laws and regulations of the state.

Creating an heirs' property family tree can be complex, especially if multiple branches and generations are involved. It may be helpful to consult with a professional genealogist or attorney specializing in property law to ensure the family tree is accurate and legally sound.



Family Tree

## COMMONLY USED IN GENEALOGY.

- admon or admin = letters of administration
- a. about, age, acre, ante
- a.a.r. against all risks
- **ab.** about; abbey
- **abbr.** abbreviation
- abd. abandoned
- adm. administration
- **b**. born
- **bur.** buried
- **C.** circa (approximately)
- d. died
- dau. daughter
- col. = colored
- **Decedent** A person who has died.
- **Dower** Share of the husband's real estate to which the widow is entitled.
- **Estate** The total property held by an individual and available after death.

- et al. and others
- **FGRA** Family Group Record Archives
- **FGS** Federation of Genealogical Societies
- **Grantee** Recipient of property either through purchase, gift, or request.
- **Grantor** Individual who sells or gives property to another person.
- h/o husband of
- **Ibid** Same location. Identifies a document that has already been quoted.
- inf. infant (Infant A person below the age designated as adulthood).
- m. married
- **ob.** obituary
- SSDI Social Security Death Index
- unm. unmarried
- wf/o = wife of



