

HOME SOURCES for GENEALOGY INFORMATION

This checklist is a list of possible items in the home that can provide valuable genealogical information. At home is the best place to start. The genealogy process is to start with the known and work to the unknown. Check off the items as you complete your search for them.

PERSONAL RECORDS

- Journal
- Diary
- Biography
- Letters
- Photographs
- Autograph Album
- Personal Knowledge
- Baby Book
- Wedding Book
- Scrapbooks
- Funeral Book
- Guest register
- Travel Account/Log
- Bookplates

CERTIFICATES

- Birth
- Marriage
- Death
- Divorce
- Adoption
- Graduation
- Christening / Blessing
- Baptism
- Confirmation
- Ordination
- Ministerial / Missionary
- Membership
- Apprenticeship
- Achievements/Awards

FAMILY RECORDS

- Bible
- Pedigrees
- Family Group Sheets
- Genealogies
- Books of Remembrance
- Family Bulletins / Letters
- Family Histories
- Printed Histories
- Manuscript Histories
- Local Histories
- Family Traditions
- Letters & Postcards

MILITARY RECORDS

- Military Service
- Pension
- Disability
- Discharge
- National Guard
- Selective Service
- Bounty Award
- Service Medals
- Ribbons / Sword
- Firearms
- Uniform
- Citations
- Separation papers
- War Rosters/Memorials

LEGAL PAPERS

- Wills
- Deeds
- Land Grants
- Water Rights
- Mortgages
- Leases
- Bonds
- Loans
- Contracts
- Summons / Subpoenas
- Tax Notices
- Guardian Papers
- Abstracts of Title
- Adoption Papers

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- Wedding
- Birth
- Death
- Funeral
- Graduation
- Divorce
- Anniversary
- Memorial Cards
- New Job / Promotion
- Travel
- New Home
- Birthday Celebration
- Professional
- Engagement

MEMBERSHIP RECORDS

- Member ID Cards
- Publications
- Programs
- Uniforms
- Awards

HEALTH RECORDS

- X-rays
- Insurance Reports
- Hospital Records
- Medical Records
- Immunizations

SCHOOL RECORDS

- Diplomas / Transcripts
- Report Cards
- Awards / Honor Roll
- Yearbooks / Publications
- Alumni Lists / Frats/Sororities

CITIZENSHIP PAPERS

- Naturalization
- Denegation / Denials
- Alien Registration
- Deportment
- Passport

NEWSPAPER CLIPPINGS

- Announcements
- Obituaries
- Special Events
- Vital Statistics
- Home Town Newspapers

LICENSES

- Business
- Occupation
- Professional
- Hunting
- Firearms

HOME SOURCES for GENEALOGY INFORMATION

- Visa
- Vaccination

- Professional / Trade
- Human Interest

- Drivers
- Motor Vehicle Registration

EMPLOYMENT RECORDS

- Apprenticeship / Graduation
- Awards / Citations
- Severance papers
- Social Security
- Retirement papers
- Pension / IRA / 401k
- Union / Professional Assoc.
- Income tax

FINANCIAL RECORDS

- Accounts / Receipts
- Bills / Check Stubs
- Estate records

HOUSEHOLD ITEMS

- Silverware
- Needlework
- Sampler
- Tapestries
- Dishes
- Friendship Quilt
- Coat of Arms
- Insignias
- Souvenirs
- Clothing
- Tools
- Plaques
- Engraved Jewelry

BOOKS

- Atlases
- Yearbooks
- Test books
- Prizes
- Treasured Volumes
- Vocational
- Foreign Language
- Inscriptions
- Bibles
- Journals
- Baby book

When valuable information is found carefully document the source of that information. This procedure allows both you and others to return to original sources. Moreover, you can evaluate the quality of the source material if conflicting information arises from other sources. Keep a log of resources consulted. Note briefly what was found. If you didn't locate the information you were seeking, note that also. You will save yourself hours of unnecessary rechecking