



Family History Collection Guide

PRESERVE STORIES, PHOTOGRAPHS, TRADITIONS, AND MILESTONES

The goal is not to build a perfect genealogy in one reunion. Start by preserving what the family already knows and identifying the stories that should not be lost.

What to Collect

- Names and relationships
- Birthplaces and hometowns
- Family photographs
- Military service
- Schools and careers
- Businesses and community service
- Recipes and traditions
- Migration stories
- Faith and cultural traditions, when relatives choose to share them
- Family sayings, songs, celebrations, and customs
- Major family milestones

Interview Prompts

- What is one of your earliest family memories?
- Who influenced you most growing up?
- What family tradition should never disappear?
- What was your neighborhood or hometown like?
- What challenge did your generation overcome?
- What accomplishment are you most proud of?
- What do you want younger relatives to know?

Preservation Plan

Material	Who Has It?	Where Will It Be Stored?
Photographs		
Recorded interviews		
Family tree		
Recipes		
Documents		
Reunion photos		

Ask permission before recording, publishing, or widely sharing another relative's story, photograph, or personal information.