

# Preparation for a Consultation Checklist

## THINGS TO LOOK FOR IN A HOME SEARCH:

- ∇ Awards, trophies, honorary distinctions
- ∇ Business licenses, Union Cards
- ∇ Citizenship papers, “green cards,” naturalization papers, passports, visas, work permits,
- ∇ Church records baptismal, confirmation, marriage or death records, burial cards
- ∇ Diaries, letters, bibles, family histories and biographies
- ∇ Land sale documents, deeds,
- ∇ Legal records, guardianship, adoption, civil or criminal suits
- ∇ Medical records
- ∇ Military records, distinctions, medals
- ∇ Newspaper clippings, invitations and announcements
- ∇ Obituaries
- ∇ Photographs
- ∇ School records, diplomas, report cards, yearbooks
- ∇ Vital records, birth, marriage, or death certificates
- ∇ Volunteer work, civic, political, and social groups
- ∇ Wills, probate records

## INTERVIEW OLDER FAMILY MEMBERS, COUSINS, SIBLINGS, AND LONGTIME NEIGHBORS & FRIENDS

- ∇ Reconnecting with these people is a great way to learn more about events from the past.
- ∇ It will most likely take more than a spontaneous conversation
- ∇ Showing interest can often trigger many forgotten memories
- ∇ Think about events, places, or periods you want to know about.
- ∇ Family recipes or gatherings often connect with the most vibrant memories
- ∇ Plan a way to record the conversation. Either use a recording device or phone or ask a younger relative to help.
- ∇ Perspectives on an event will vary depending on the teller’s age, gender, or even relationship. Ask more than one person’s recount of an event.
- ∇ Be careful how you phrase your questions and be mindful of stirred emotions.
- ∇ Most of all, show interest and gratitude for the interaction.

