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*****ALL DOCUMENTS SHOULD BE STORED IN CONSERVATION/PRESERVATION
CONTAINERS*****

ALBUM ITEMS

While organizing research, experienced family historians gather documents and ephemeral materials as part of the process. In addition to the usual items collected, photographs, vitals, religious, court records, DNA results, etc., here are suggestions for some non-traditional items to include in your personal family album. Become the family anthropologist, if you will, and care for everything carefully, make copies of old newspapers on acid free paper, and store everything in a safe, preservation environment.

1. Bank statement and/or blank, voided check
2. Old love letters/letters of any kind
3. Receipts from markets, department or discount stores (dated)
4. Vehicle registrations
5. ALL types of legal papers: court, land, tax, etc.
6. Catalog page(s) to show what was "in" during your lifetime
7. Old tax returns
8. Animals registration certificates/vet bills
9. Raffle/lottery tickets
10. Warranty booklets
11. Newspaper headlines and articles (be sure to cite name, date, page #)
12. Coin or stamp collection information (sheet from an appraisal book)
13. Diplomas, degrees, certificates, tassels, etc.
14. Union membership book, club membership card(s) and/or a list/include offices held
15. Maps and historical data from all places in which you lived
16. Vacation information including maps
17. Calendars and/or old date books (just a few pages are enough)
18. Prom bids and/or invites to special events
19. Videotape of family
20. Audio or CD of family history
21. Political memorabilia from all parties
22. Baby books, birth announcements, lock of baby hair, etc.
23. List of friends and family/business partners
24. TV Guide/page from newspaper
25. List of books you read that you liked
26. List of books you read you DID NOT like
27. Likes and dislikes in music/art/movies/clothing
28. Holiday cards with handwritten notes
29. Funeral handouts
30. Internet/E-mail information
31. DNA Results
32. Something personal to only YOU...