The most public of all history: family history and heritage albums in the transmission of records

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APPENDIX

QUESTIONNAIRES

I. Questions for Family Historians

A. Background of the Participant
   1. Please tell me your name.
   2. Please tell me where and when you were born.
   3. Please tell me where you have lived and where you now live.
   4. Please tell me about your education.
   5. What other kinds of work do you do? How do you see these other kinds of work as fitting with family history?

B. General Questions about Work with Family History
   6. How much of your week is spent doing family history?
   7. How and when did you decide to begin pursuing family history?
   8. Describe what you first did to get started. (Probe: What books did you first use? What software programs, if any did you first use? Who offered you advice? From whom did you seek advice?)
   9. Did you read any of the suggestions for beginning that are found online? (Where were these beginning suggestions found?)
   10. What individuals or experiences had the strongest effect in beginning and continuing with family history?
   11. What did you know about your ancestors before you began researching them?
   12. What sorts of written or photographic documents existed about your ancestors?
   13. Who had these documents? Where did they keep them?
   14. How did you learn about these documents?
   15. In general, some of the publications on family history that I have seen begin with the statement that every family has its own historian, someone who keeps family records. Can you tell me what you think about this statement and also how this plays out in your own family? (If necessary, probe for both extended family and interviewee’s immediate family. Ask, if not answered, In general, is this person more likely to be a woman or a man?)
   16. Tell me what is important to you about knowing your ancestors and finding documents about them. (Probe: Describe your reactions when you have found records. What’s your typical reaction when you find someone for whom you’ve searched?)
17. What sort of projects are you currently working on? (If not included in answer ask, Can you tell me about a typical problem you had with family history and how you resolved it? Tell me how the project came into being and what you did, or are doing, to complete the project.)

18. How do you feel about the results you achieved with various projects? How do you think others perceived the results? What did you do with the final product?

19. When do you consider a project finished? When it is finished, what is the next step? How many people are involved in this step?

C. Processes and Practices

20. How would you describe the process of beginning family history particularly the locating of sources? What did you know about sources before you began? What have you learned recently about sources that surprised you? How do you verify the information you find?

21. How would you describe the process of documenting what you find? What does this documenting involve for you?

22. How would you describe the way you present information you have found on your family to others?

23. At what points in the process do you interact with others? Who are these others? (Probe for family members, who they are, what sex, other genealogical researchers and also professionals, librarians, archivists, and genealogists).

24. How do you communicate with them?

25. What happens when you cannot find a document you need?

26. Do you use the Internet in your work? In what ways?

27. Do you visit libraries, archives, and courthouses in your work? Tell me about a visit to one of these that stands out in your mind.

28. Tell me about any travel you have done in association with family history.

29. Do you scan materials and if so, what sorts? What do you do with scanned materials?

30. Tell me about use of a flash drive or memory stick? Do you use an external hard drive?

31. What sort of software do you use now to help with family history work?

32. What family history materials do you take with you when you evacuate for a hurricane?

33. What do you do with the materials you leave behind?

34. Do you ever give materials to others? If so, to whom do you give them?

35. Tell me what you know about giving family history materials to a library or archives? Have you considered giving materials to a library or archives?

36. Have you made arrangements for your materials when you can no longer keep them?

37. How would you say that your ideas about and practices of keeping memories about families has evolved over the past ten years?

38. Have these changes affected the sorts of family history you do or the products you make?

39. How do you feel that the transition to electronic documents and digitization of materials will affect records on families and family history?
39. Tell me (or show me) how your family history materials are organized now?
40. What kinds of family history activities do you engage in? (Tell me about any work you have done with others active in genealogy.)
41. What do you see as the role of library and archives in your work?
42. What do you see as the role of the Internet in your work?
43. Can you tell me what you know about the rules governing access to documents? Can you tell me about different rules of access? What do you think about these rules?
44. Tell me about your understanding of DNA testing in learning about family history.

D. Purpose and Vocabulary
45. What part do you feel family history plays in society?
46. What would you say is your primary mission in doing family history?
47. How does education about materials fit into this mission?
48. When you have all the information you need on one particular family completed, would you describe that collection of materials as a document or a record? Why would you describe it this way? (How do you define document? How do you define records?)
49. What records should be kept by each family?
50. How would you define records that should be kept within a library or archives?
51. What do you see as the most important aspects of the materials you collect?
52. What do you value most in the materials you collect?
53. How do you decide what to keep and what not to keep?
54. How do you decide what to give to other family members?
55. How do you decide what materials should be donated to a library or archives?
What records about families do you think should remain only private? Are there records that shouldn’t be in libraries or archives?
56. How do you decide what materials should be added to a website?
57. How would you say that ideas about family history have evolved over the past ten years?
58. Have these changes affected the sorts of projects you undertake?
59. What types of situations make family history difficult?
60. What types of situations make family history rewarding?

II. Questions for Heritage Album Makers

A. Background of the Participant
1. Please tell me your name.
2. Please tell me where and when you were born.
3. Please tell me where you have lived and where you now live.
4. Please tell me about your education.
5. What other kinds of work do you do? How do you see these other kinds of work as fitting with family history?
B. General Questions about Work with Albums

6. How much of your week is spent making scrapbooks?
7. How and when did you decide to begin making scrapbooks?
8. Describe what you first did to get started. (Probe: What books did you first use? What software programs, if any, did you first use? Who offered you advice? From whom did you seek advice?)
9. Did you read any of the suggestions for beginning that are found online? (Where were these beginning suggestions found?)
10. What individuals or experiences had the strongest effect in beginning and continuing with scrapbook making, especially in making heritage albums?
11. What did you know about your ancestors before you began researching them?
12. What sorts of written or photographic documents existed about your ancestors?
13. Who had these documents? Where did they keep them?
14. How did you learn about these documents?
15. In general, some of the publications on family history that I have seen begin with the statement that every family has its own historian, someone who keeps family records. Can you tell me what you think about this statement and also how this plays out in your own family? (If necessary, probe for both extended family and interviewee’s immediate family. Ask, if not answered, In general is this person more likely to be a woman or a man?)
16. Tell me what is important to you about knowing your ancestors and finding documents or memories about them. (Probe: Describe your reactions when you have found records or heard stories. What’s your typical reaction when you find someone for whom you’ve searched?)
17. What sort of projects are you currently working on? (If not included in answer ask, Can you tell me about a typical problem you had with family history or album making and how you resolved it? Tell me how the project came into being and what you did, or are doing, to complete the project).
18. How do you feel about the results you achieved with various projects? How do you think others perceived the results? What did you do with the final product?
19. When do you consider a project finished? When it is finished, what is the next step? How many people are involved in this step?

C. Processes and Practices

20. How would you to describe the process of beginning a heritage album particularly the locating of sources? What did you know about sources before you began? What have you learned recently about sources that surprised you? How do you verify the information you find?
21. How would you describe the process of documenting what your find? What does this documenting involve for you?
22. How would you describe the way you present information you have found on your family to others?
23. At what points in the process do you interact with others? Who are these others? (Probe for family members, who they are, what sex, other album makers or
family historian (who they are and their sex) and also professionals (librarians, archivists, and genealogists)).

23. How do you communicate with them?
24. What happens when you cannot find a document you need?
25. Do you use the Internet in your work? In what ways?
26. Do you visit libraries, archives, and courthouses in your work? Tell me about a visit to one of these that stands out in your mind.
27. Tell me about any travel you have done in association with family history.
28. Do you scan materials and if so, what sorts? What do you do with scanned materials?
29. Tell me about use of a flash drive or memory stick? Do you use an external hard drive?
30. What sort of software do you use now to help with family history work?
31. What do you take with you when you evacuate for a hurricane?
32. What do you do with the materials you leave behind?
33. Do you ever give materials to others? If so, to whom do you give them?
34. Tell me what you know about giving family history materials to a library or archives? Have you considered giving materials to a library or archives?
35. Have you made arrangements for your materials when you can no longer keep them?
36. How would you say that your ideas about and practices of keeping memories about families has evolved over the past ten years?
37. Have these changes affected the sorts of family history albums you make?
38. How do you feel that the transition to electronic documents and digitization of materials will affect records on families and family history?
39. Tell me (or show me) how your family history materials are organized now?
40. What kinds of family history activities do you engage in? (Tell me about any work you have done with others active in genealogy.)
41. What do you see as the role of library and archives in your work?
42. What do you see as the role of the Internet in your work?
43. Can you tell me what you know about the rules governing access to documents? Can you tell me about different rules of access? What do you think about these rules?
44. Tell me about your understanding of DNA testing in learning about family history.

D. Purpose and Vocabulary

45. What part do you feel making albums about your family plays in society?
46. What would you say is your primary mission in making family albums?
47. How does education about materials fit into this mission?
48. When you have your heritage album completed, would you describe what you have as a document of a record? Why would you describe it this way? (How do you define document? How do you define records?
49. What records should be kept by each family?
50. How would you define records that should be kept within a library or archives?
51. What do you see as the most important aspects of the materials you collect?
52. What do you value most in the materials you collect?
53. How do you decide what to keep and what not to keep?
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What records about families do you think should remain only private? Are there records that shouldn’t be in libraries or archives?
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59. What types of situations make heritage album making difficult?
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