How to Choose a Good Oral History Setting



ORAL HISTORY HOW-TO GUIDES

WHY IS THIS IMPORTANT? The oral history setting facilitates narrators freely sharing their stories.

WHAT TO KNOW. Find a location with minimal background noise and distractions to facilitate the overall comfort of the narrator.

ADDITIONAL RESOURCES

 Introduction to Oral History by the Baylor University Institute for Oral History

START



ASK narrators where they would like to record their oral histories. Preference should be given, where possible, to the narrator's chosen location.

VISIT the location before conducting the oral history.



CHECK for sound interference, lighting conditions, and adequate physical space.



FIND the quietest room or area so the oral history can be recorded without interruptions and distractions.



SUCCESS



PLAN an alternative location (for example, a meetinghouse, institute building, and so on).



Narrators comfortably share their stories with little or no distractions or interruptions.

