

## Writing about Family Heirlooms and Other Artifacts

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### Melvin Roen's Feed Sack



#### Questions for Writing about Family Heirlooms or Other Artifacts

1. What is the heirloom?
2. What are the physical characteristics of the heirloom?
3. Which of your five senses—sight, sound, touch, taste, and smell— do you use to experience this heirloom?
4. Where is this heirloom usually kept? Why is it kept there?
5. Who used it in the past?
6. Where and how was it used in the past?
7. What is/was the function of the artifact?
8. Why is the heirloom significant to you?
9. What memories does the heirloom evoke for you?
10. What emotions does the heirloom evoke in you or in others?
11. What stories do you associate with this heirloom?
12. So that family members understand why this object is an heirloom, what will you write about it?

#### A Few Resources

NPR, [“What Precious Object is Part of Your Family Story?”](#)

“9 Inspiring Stories about Family Heirlooms”

<https://www.familysearch.org/blog/en/9-stories-family-heirlooms/>

“Write the History of Your Heirloom”

<https://thefamilycurator.com/treasure-chest-thursday-writing-the-history-of-your-heirloom/>

“Family Heirloom Project”: <http://bycarolfertig.blogspot.com/2013/03/family-heirloom-project.html>

“When All of Your Family Heirlooms are Stories”

<https://lithub.com/when-all-of-your-family-heirlooms-are-stories/>

“How to Make Sure the Stories of Your Family Heirlooms Don’t Get Lost”

<https://ancestralfindings.com/family-heirlooms/>