**Family Research**

**Dear Researcher**

According to valid legal provisions, archives do not do any document research for customers, only supply specific data at their request. Apart from this, you can only have research of larger scope or greater depth carried out if commissioned by family research companies.

Private research, if you wish to carry it out yourself, will be duly assisted by our staff. according to the valid legal provisions on archives and data protection, any person can carry out research as long as they keep to the research rules.

When carrying out family research, it is important to know that in accordance with the provisions set in Act CXII of 2011 on Informational autonomy and the freedom of information archives can usually only supply personal data older than 60-90 years. This also implies that the researcher must be in possession of reliable and specific data from a time earlier than this to be able to start research.

Fruitful research can be carried out in the archival material of the county archive pertinent by place of residence of the person(s) to be searched for, which in our case means that in our archives it is only possible to find data on persons who lived or worked in what is today Greater Budapest, and even those are rather incomplete.

Exempt from this rule are only birth and death registers, to some extent. Church registers created in the territory of present-day Hungary before 30 September 1895 and surviving are kept on microfilm copies at the Hungarian National Archives (314-324 Bécsi út, Budapest), which can be researched on the spot. To commence research, the researcher must have approximate knowledge of the settlement, denomination and the registered event (birth, marriage or death). The microfilm copies made from registers kept in present-day Budapest are also accessible from the Budapest City Archives.

In general the ’place of origin’-oriented research as outlined above is valid for non-register types of data as well: official documents, conscription lists, etc. can be researched in the archives for the given territory, thus knowing the exact settlement and time period is essential.

In Hungary there is no central office or register for family research – there are private entrepreneurs or associations involved in this kind of activity , with exactly the same terms as private persons like you.

The above data and facts are only valid for the territory of present-day Hungary, as for the territories annexed to neighbouring countries in 1919, it is their legal provisions for archival research that can be of assistance.

If you wish to carry out research personally in our archives, you can do so in our research room.