Getting Started

Genealogical research in Eastern Europe is actually easier than American research. This is because Europe has a strong tradition of record keeping. Civil and ecclesiastical laws required that all births, marriages, and deaths be recorded. Thus Eastern Europe has a far greater pool of resources to draw from for research. To successfully do your research you must answer several Key questions. The basic steps of research in Eastern Europe are:

► Who was the emigrant ancestor? Do the American part of your research first to learn as much about your heritage as possible, including who actually came from the old country.
► Where was he from? Because records were kept on a local basis you must determine where your ancestor was from. Some of the best sources to do this are where he settled, including such things as marriage records, death records, obituaries, naturalization, etc. Passenger lists of arrivals may give a birthplace. Many eastern Europeans sailed from Hamburg. The passenger departure records of Hamburg still exist, are indexed and are available on microfilm through the Family History Library.
► Where is that? Once you determine where your ancestor was from you must verify the spelling, determine where it is now (eastern Europe has had a lot of border changes), and where the records were kept. Gazetteers are the best way to solve these problems along with maps. The Family History Library has an excellent collection of eastern European gazetteers. The most significant gazetteers for eastern Europe are listed at the end of this section.
► Where are the records? This can be the toughest question of all. For some of the eastern European nations it is very difficult to get access to the records. Others are accessible by writing or in person. In many cases the records are easily accessible on microfilm through the Family History Library. Available records are listed in the Family History Library Catalog and may be ordered at the Family History Library or family history centers. Not all records are in the permanent collection at the main library. All newly acquired films must be ordered which can sometimes take several weeks. It is best to call ahead (801) 240-2334 to order needed films a few weeks before your visit. When records have not been microfilmed you will need to write for information. The following pages give details about microfilming and writing for each country.

Sources for Genealogical Research

Europe has many excellent sources for research. Researchers accustomed to genealogical research in the U.S. and Canada often rely heavily on census records, land records, wills and probates to build a pedigree of their families in North America. This is because there often is nothing better available. But in Europe the availability of vital records greatly improves the research climate.

Church Records and Civil Registration: These are records of births, christenings, marriages, deaths, and burials made by church priests and pastors and government officials. They are excellent sources of accurate information on names, dates, and places of births, marriages, and deaths. They are the single, most significant source of genealogical information in the eastern European countries and are essential for genealogical research. In most cases civil registration did not begin until the late 1800s.

The earliest Catholic church records begin in the late 1500s. In general, church records began to be kept on a consistent basis in the mid to late 1600s. By the 1800s laws were enacted in most areas requiring the churches to keep church records in a specified format and to make transcripts of the records for the benefit of the civil government. In
many cases these laws required that people of other faiths be recorded in the Catholic church records. Jews were also required to keep birth, marriage and death records in a manner similar to civil church record transcripts. These are referred to as Jewish Records.

The information recorded in churchbooks and Jewish records varied over time. The later records generally give more complete information than the earlier ones.

Availability of Records and Writing for Genealogical Information

Many records of eastern Europe are available through the microfilming efforts of the Family History Library. Records, when they become available are listed in the Family History Library Catalog. Until records appear in the catalog they are not available for use.

The Family History Library is presently microfilming records from Albania and Bulgaria, though the process is slow.

Czech Republic: The Family History Library has few records from Bohemia and Moravia on microfilm. Essentially the only way to do research is in the archives there. All records of genealogical value in the Czech republic have been consolidated. Records from before 1900 are kept in state regional archives [stany oblastni archivy]. These records are accessible for genealogical research by writing or by personally visiting the archives there. It is also possible to hire a private researcher if you can find one you can trust. The Ministry of the Interior and Environment is responsible for the administration of archives.

Their archival administration department processes genealogical research requests. This same agency can grant permission for you to visit the archives in person.

If your ancestor was from the Czech republic (the area formerly governed by Austria; Bohemia, Moravia, Silesia), send your application directly to:

Czech Ministry of Interior and Environment
Archivy Sprava
Dr. Milady Horakove 133
166 21 Praha 6
CZECH REPUBLIC

The archival administration will arrange for searches of records (such as birth, marriage, and death registers) before 1900. They will send your request for research to the appropriate archive. Qualified archival researchers will do the actual research and they will send you a report of the research done. With rare exceptions, the only records available for genealogical research by mail are parish registers [matriky] of births, marriages, and deaths. Other records such as land records and census records exist and you can use them for research if you visit the archives yourself, but they are difficult to access by writing.

Czech Republic: The Family History Library has few records from Bohemia and Moravia on microfilm. Essentially the only way to do research is in the archives there. All records of genealogical value in the Czech republic have been consolidated. Records from before 1900 are kept in state regional archives [stany oblastni archivy]. These records are accessible for genealogical research by writing or by personally visiting the archives there. It is also possible to hire a private researcher if you can find one you can trust. The Ministry of the Interior and Environment is responsible for the administration of archives.

Their archival administration department processes genealogical research requests. This same agency can grant permission for you to visit the archives in person.

If your ancestor was from the Czech republic (the area formerly governed by Austria; Bohemia, Moravia, Silesia), send your application directly to:

Czech Ministry of Interior and Environment
Archivy Sprava
Dr. Milady Horakove 133
166 21 Praha 6
CZECH REPUBLIC

The archival administration will arrange for searches of records (such as birth, marriage, and death registers) before 1900. They will send your request for research to the appropriate archive. Qualified archival researchers will do the actual research and they will send you a report of the research done. With rare exceptions, the only records available for genealogical research by mail are parish registers [matriky] of births, marriages, and deaths. Other records such as land records and census records exist and you can use them for research if you visit the archives yourself, but they are difficult to access by writing.

Czech Republic: The Family History Library has few records from Bohemia and Moravia on microfilm. Essentially the only way to do research is in the archives there. All records of genealogical value in the Czech republic have been consolidated. Records from before 1900 are kept in state regional archives [stany oblastni archivy]. These records are accessible for genealogical research by writing or by personally visiting the archives there. It is also possible to hire a private researcher if you can find one you can trust. The Ministry of the Interior and Environment is responsible for the administration of archives.

Their archival administration department processes genealogical research requests. This same agency can grant permission for you to visit the archives in person.

If your ancestor was from the Czech republic (the area formerly governed by Austria; Bohemia, Moravia, Silesia), send your application directly to:

Czech Ministry of Interior and Environment
Archivy Sprava
Dr. Milady Horakove 133
166 21 Praha 6
CZECH REPUBLIC

The archival administration will arrange for searches of records (such as birth, marriage, and death registers) before 1900. They will send your request for research to the appropriate archive. Qualified archival researchers will do the actual research and they will send you a report of the research done. With rare exceptions, the only records available for genealogical research by mail are parish registers [matriky] of births, marriages, and deaths. Other records such as land records and census records exist and you can use them for research if you visit the archives yourself, but they are difficult to access by writing.
certificate and it takes 2 to 3 months. Write to:

The Embassy of the Hungarian Republic
3910 Shoemaker Street N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20008

Slovakia: The Family History Library is presently microfilming the church records of Slovakia. Most of eastern Slovakia is already filmed and in the Family History Library Catalog. The collection continues to grow, but until records are listed in the catalog they are not available. The Slovak archives also provides a research service which is especially helpful when the records you need haven't yet been filmed. All records of genealogical value in the Slovakia were nationalized. Records from before 1900 are kept in state regional archives [státní oblastní archivy]. These records are accessible by writing or in person. The Ministry of the Interior and Environment is responsible for the administration of archives. Their archival administration department processes genealogical research requests. This same agency can grant permission for you to visit the archives in person.

If your ancestor was from Slovakia (formerly by Hungary), send your application directly to:

Slovak Ministry of Interior and Environment
Archívna Správa
Križková 7
811 04 Bratislava
SLOVAKIA

The archival administration will arrange for searches of records (such as birth, marriage, and death registers) before 1900. They will send your request for research to the appropriate archive in Slovakia. Qualified archival researchers there will do the actual research and they will send you a report of the research done. With rare exceptions, the only records available for genealogical research by mail are parish registers [matriky] of births, marriages, and deaths. Other records such as land records and census records exist and you can use them for research if you visit the archives yourself, but they are difficult to access by writing.

Republiks of the Former Soviet Union: The acquisition of records from these republics varies considerably from republic to republic. In most cases the process is proceeding very slowly. Records filmed by the Family History Library are not available from these republics until they appear in the Family History Library Catalog. Look for the specific place for which you need records. In some cases it is possible to do research in person but this is no simple matter and not recommended unless you have considerable experience and have clear assurances that you will be allowed in the archives. Until such time as records have been microfilmed the only practical ways to get information is through one of the several genealogical research organizations that have been formed. The most best known of these are:

RAGAS - The Russian American Genealogical Archive Service: This organization was formerly with the National Archives Volunteer service in Washington D.C. It is now an independent self-supporting (for profit) organization. They work with archivists in Russia, Belarus, and Ukraine.

RAGAS
1929 18th Street NW
Suite 1112
Washington, DC 20009

PROBAND - This is a new self-supporting organization which assists people in tracing ancestry in the former USSR (especially Russia, Belarus, Ukraine, and Moldova). For more information contact:

PROBAND-GENEALOGICAL BUREAU
ul. Bekhtereva 35/2, 128
115516 Moscow
RUSSIA

FAST - This is a private firm with connections in Lithuania, Latvia and Belarus. Contrary to the implications of the name this company is not any faster than any other research company. All companies that do research in the former Soviet Union are painfully slow because the sources are very difficult to find and use.

FAST Genealogy Service
8510 Wild Olive Drive
Potomac, MD 20854

Other genealogical organizations and firms are emerging and many advertize or are referred to on the pages of various Jewish genealogical periodicals. One of the leading Jewish
genealogical periodicals is:

Avotaynu
155 North Washington Avenue
Bergenfield, NJ 07621

Russia: The Russian Republic is vast. Microfilming began several years ago, but it will be many years before many areas are represented in the collection of the Family History Library. There are as yet no significant Jewish records in the collection. Many genealogical researchers are interested in the records of German colonists who settled in Russia and the Ukraine. No records are yet available from the Volga. Transcripts of the records of Protestant communities in the Ukraine (Black Sea and Volhynia), Belarus and the vicinity of St. Petersburg were stored at the Lutheran Consistory in St. Petersburg; and these records have been microfilmed. Localities and film numbers for this set of records are listed in The Lutherans of Russia; Vol. 1 Parish index to the churchbooks of the Evangelical Lutherans Consistory of St. Petersburg compiled by Tom Edlund, published 1995 by the Germanic Genealogical Society, P.O. Box 16312 St. Paul, Minnesota 55116. Not yet microfilmed.

Belarus: The Family History Library is presently acquiring microfilmed records from archives in Grodno and Minsk.

National Archives of Belarus
22038 Minsk
vul. Kozlova, 26
BELARUS

Central State Historical Archive of Belarus
23023 Grodno
pl. Lenina, 2
BELARUS

Baltic States: Most records of Estonia have been microfilmed and are available through the Family History Library. Many Latvian protestant records have been filmed. A few Lithuanian records are being microfilmed. For records not yet filmed contact FAST or write directly to the Lithuanian State Archives:

Lietuvos Valstybinis Archyvas
Geruoss Vilties, 10
2015 Vilnius
LITHUANIA

Poland: Many church records and civil transcripts of church records from Poland have been microfilmed. In many cases however, they are filmed only up through the 1880s. Later records and records of communities that are not filmed can be obtained by writing. You can often get information by writing in Polish directly to the Catholic parish [parafia Rzymsko-katolicka] in the town where your ancestor lived. For non-Catholics or when you receive no response from the church you can write to Polish state archives.

Moldova: Microfilming recently began in this republic which has close cultural ties with Romania. For records not yet filmed try writing directly to the Moldovan State Archives:

Central State Archives of Moldova
27028 Kishinev
Georgi Assaki Str. 67B
MOLDOVA

Ukraine: The Family History Library is presently acquiring microfilms of records from Ukraine but the process will take many years. Presently filming is ongoing at archives in Kiev, L'viv, and Chernigov. For records not yet filmed contact RAGAS or write directly to the archives in Ukraine.

Central State Historical Archive of Ukraine
252601 Kiev - 110
Solomianskaya vul. 24
Ukraine

Central State Historical Archive of Ukraine
290008 L'viv
pl. Vozziednannya 3A
UKRAINE

State Archive of Transcarpathian Oblast
294008 Beregovo
vul. Geroev 4A
UKRAINE

The Family History Library is also acquiring records from the former Soviet republics of Armenia and Georgia.
Major Gazetteers for Eastern Europe

### Gazetteer of Austria

*Gemeindelexikon der in Reichsrat vertretenen Königreiche und Länder* [Gazetteer of the crownlands and territories represented in the imperial council]. Vienna: K.K. Statistisches Zentralkommission, 1903-1908. (Family History Library call number: European Collection Ref Q 943.6 E5g; also on microfilm).

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Item</th>
<th>Volume</th>
<th>Province</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1187925</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>Vol 1 Niederösterreich</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1187925</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>Vol 2 Oberösterreich</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1187925</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>Vol 3 Salzburg</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1187926</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>Vol 4 Steiermark</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1187926</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>Vol 5 Kärnten</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1187926</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>Vol 6 Krain</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1187926</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>Vol 7 Küstenland</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1187926</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>Vol 8 Tirol und Vorarlberg</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1187927</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>Vol 9 Böhmen</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>924736</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>Vol 10 Mähren</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1187927</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>Vol 11 Schlesien</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1187928</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>Vol 12 Galizien</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1187928</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>Vol 13 Bukowina</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1187928</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>Vol 14 Dalmatien</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Based on the 1900 census. The volume for each province is arranged by district with an index to both German and local place names. If you do not find the town on the page listed in the index check the footnotes. The parish or synagogue location is not listed in the main text but is given in an appendix, located between the main text and the index of each volume. The appendix is arranged alphabetically by district and sub-district. The parish and synagogue are given in the last column: Standort der röm.-kath., gr.-kath. und isr. Matrikelstellen.

### Gazetteer of Hungary


Volume I includes a 610 page index. It lists all place names in alphabetical order. Entries in the index are followed by the name of the old Hungarian county, and a set of numbers. These numbers refer to the gazetteer entry in Volume II. The first number is the sequential number of the county; the second is the consecutive number of the district; the last is the number of the locality.

Volume II has more details. Volume II is arranged by county and districts. Use the numbers from the index to find the entry for your town. Additional names the locality was known by are listed in parentheses. Population figures are given according to religion. The following abbreviations are used:

- rk. - Római Katholikus - Roman Catholic
- gk. - Görög Katholikus - Greek Catholic
- kg. - Keleti Görög - Greek Orthodox
- ag. - ágostai - Augsburg Evangelical Lutheran
- ref. - Reformatus - Reformed
- un. - Unitarius - Unitarian
- izr. - Izraelita - Jewish

If the village had its own parish church (or synagogue, for Jews), the abbreviation for the religion will be in **boldface** capital letters. The diocese will follow, also in **boldface** type. If the people attended church elsewhere, the abbreviation of the religion will be in lower case.
The name of the parish location follows the population figure. If a dash (22) follows the population figure, it means members of that religion belong to no particular parish.

Gazetter of the German Empire

Uetrecht, E., comp. *Meyers Orts- und Verkehrs- Lexikon des Deutschen Reichs* [Meyer's gazetteer and directory of the German Empire]. Leipzig: Bibliographisches Institut, 1912. (Family History Library call number: European Collection Ref. 943 E5mo; also on microfilm, Film 496640 - for places A-K, Film 496641 - for places L-Z; also on Fiche 6,000,001-6,000029).

Towns are listed alphabetically. This gazetteer is written in the old Gothic script. This gazetteer gives the 1871-1918 political jurisdictions and indicates whether the locality had its own parish or synagogue. The following abbreviations are used:


Gazetteer of Prussia

*Gemeindelexikon für das Königreich Preussen* [Gazetteer for the Kingdom of Prussia]. Berlin: Verlag des Königlichen statistischen Landesamts, 1907-1909. (Family History Library call number: European Collection Ref 943 E5kp; also on microfilms listed below).

Vol 1 Ostpreussen (Film 1186701 item 3) Vol 4 Pommern (Film 806634 item 4)
Vol 2 Westpreussen(Film 1186701 item 4) Vol 5 Posen (Film 806635 item 3)
Vol 3 Brandenburg(Film 806635 item 1) Vol 6 Schlesien (Film 806633 item 4)

Each volume has an index at the end listing in alphabetical order all localities in the province. In the index, there are two numbers given after each place-name. The first number refers to the "Kreis" (district) to which the locality belonged. These numbers can be found at the top of the page in the body of the book. The second number refers to the town. Thus "21 17" refers to the 17th town listed in district 21. The parish is given in the columns marked as "Kirchspiel"; "Evangelisch" (Lutheran) in column 25 and "Katolisch" (Catholic) in column 26. Note: If the town in question is not listed in column two, refer to the footnotes in the gazetteer.

Gazetteer of the Russian Empire

**European Gazetteers**

Record keeping in Europe was actually much better than in some areas of the world. If a patron has ancestors who emigrated from Europe, the patron should first look for a place of origin in records where the ancestors settled. (For more detailed information, see *Tracing Your Immigrant Ancestor;* 34111.) The patron then goes to a European gazetteer to try to identify the exact locality. (European records were kept on a local basis, so the patron must determine the exact parish or locality the ancestor came from.)

Two problems in doing Eastern European research include:

- Places are often misspelled in records where the immigrants settled. Ask your patron what record the spelling came from. Find the place in the gazetteer. If you cannot find the place, look for places that sound similar. Try one of the gazetteers in this article, or call the Family History Library International Reference Consultants for help (1-800-453-3860, extension 2-3433).

- Language is a challenge, but you do not need to know the language in order to use the gazetteer. Word lists may help with vocabulary. The Family History Library has produced many word lists and other helps. Order these helps from the distribution center (online at familysearch.org or call 1-800-537-5971).

The most significant genealogical sources for Eastern Europe are church records and civil registration. Many areas also kept civil transcripts of church records, so there are often two copies of the same record. Other useful records include census, land, and military records. Not all record types exist for all countries.

Often gazetteers will indicate where various records are kept. For example, the gazetteer may tell you the parish for your ancestor's birthplace and also which town kept the parish records.

Gazetteers vary in content. Before you look for a place in a gazetteer, make sure you understand what information is given and the order in which it is given. (Most gazetteers include a section describing information and organization.)

The following gazetteers may be helpful. Film numbers are listed for your convenience.

**Gazetteer of Austria**

*Gemeindelexikon der in Reichsrat vertretenen Königreiche und Länder* (Gazetteer of the Crownlands and Territories Represented in the Imperial Council). This gazetteer is based on the 1900 census. The volume for each province is arranged by district with an index to both German and local place names. If you do not find the town on the page listed in the index, check the footnotes. The parish or synagogue location is not listed in the main text but is given in an appendix, located between the main text and the index of each volume. The appendix is arranged alphabetically by district and subdistrict. The parish and synagogue are given in the last column labelled, Standort der röm.-kath., gr.-kath. und isr. Matrikelstellen.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Film Number</th>
<th>Volume</th>
<th>Place Name</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1187925 item 2</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>Niederösterreich</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1187925 item 3</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>Oberösterreich</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1187925 item 4</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>Salzburg</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1187926 item 1</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>Steiermark</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1187926 item 2</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>Kärnten</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1187926 item 3</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>Kärnten</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1187926 item 4</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>Kärnten</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1187926 item 5</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>Tirol und Vorarlberg</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1187927 item 1</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>Böhmen</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>0924736 item 1</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>Mähren</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1187927 item 1</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>Schlesien</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1187928 item 1</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>Galizien</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1187928 item 2</td>
<td>13</td>
<td>Bukowina</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1187928 item 3</td>
<td>14</td>
<td>Dalmatien</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Gazetteer of Austro-Hungarian Empire**

*Allgemeines geographisches statistisches Lexikon aller österreichischen Staaten* [General Gazetteer of all Austro-Hungary]. Published from 1845 to 1853. Place names are listed alphabetically.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Film Number</th>
<th>Place Name</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1186708</td>
<td>A-G</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1186709</td>
<td>H-M</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1186710</td>
<td>N-Serti</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1186711</td>
<td>Serto-Z</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Gazetteer of the German Empire

*Meyers Orts- und Verkehrs- Lexikon des Deutschen Reichs* [Meyer's gazetteer and directory of the German Empire]. Published in 1912.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Film Number</th>
<th>Place Name</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>496640</td>
<td>A-K</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>496641</td>
<td>L-Z</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Also on microfiche 6000001-6000029.

Towns are listed alphabetically. This gazetteer is written in the old Gothic script. This gazetteer gives the 1871–1918 political jurisdictions and indicates whether the locality had its own parish or synagogue. The following abbreviations are used:

- Evangelical parish: *Ev*.  
- Catholic parish: *K*.  
- Jewish synagogue: *Je*.  

Gazetteer of Prussia

*Gemeindelexikon für das Königreich Preussen* [Gazetteer for the Kingdom of Prussia]. Published in 1907–1909.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Film Number</th>
<th>Volume</th>
<th>Place Name</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1186701 item 3</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>Ostpreussen</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1186701 item 4</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>Westpreussen</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>806635 item 1</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>Brandenburg</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>806634 item 4</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>Pommern</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>806635 item 3</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>Posen</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>806633 item 4</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>Schlesien</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The end of each volume has an index of places in the province. In the index, there are two numbers given after each place. The first number refers to the “reč” (district) to which the locality belonged. Find these numbers at the top of the page. The second number refers to the town. Thus “21 17” refers to the 17th town listed in district 21. The parish is given in the columns marked as “Ev” (Lutheran) in column 25 and “K” (Catholic) in column 26. If the town in question is not listed in column two, refer to the footnotes in the gazetteer.

Gazetteer of Hungary

*Magyarország Helységnévtár* [Gazetteer of Hungary]. Published in 1877.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Film Number</th>
<th>Volume</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>599564</td>
<td>I</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>973041</td>
<td>II</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Volume I is a 610-page index to Volume II. It lists all place names in alphabetical order. Entries in the index are followed by the name of the old Hungarian county and a set of numbers. These numbers refer to the gazetteer entry in Volume II. The first number is the sequential number of the county; the second is the consecutive number of the district; the last is the number of the locality.

Volume II is arranged by county and districts and provides more detail. Use the numbers from the index to find the entry for your town. Additional names for the town are listed in parentheses. Population figures are given according to religion. The following abbreviations are used:

- ag.  ágostai (Augsburg Evangelical Lutheran)  
- gk.  Görgös Katholikus (Greek Catholic)  
- izr.  Izraelita (Jewish)  
- kg.  Keleti Görög (Greek Orthodox)  
- ref.  Reformatus (Reformed)  
- rk.  Római Katholikus (Roman Catholic)  
- un.  Unitarius (Unitarian)  

If the village had its own parish church (or synagogue, for Jews), the abbreviation for the religion will be in bold capital letters. The diocese will follow, also in bold. If the people attended church elsewhere, the abbreviation of the religion will be in lower case. The name of the parish location follows the population figure. If a dash (—) follows the population figure, it means members of that religion belong to no particular parish.
MAJOR GAZETTEERS FOR EASTERN EUROPE

German Empire

Uetrecht, E., comp. Meyers Orts- und Verkehrs- Lexikon des Deutschen Reichs [Meyer's gazetteer and directory of the German Empire]. Leipzig: Bibliographisches Institut, 1912. (Genealogical Library call number: European Collection Ref. 943 E5mo; also on microfilm, Film 496640 - for places A-K, Film 496641 - for places L-Z; also on Fiche 6,000,001-6,000029).

Towns are listed alphabetically. This gazetteer is written in the old Gothic script. If the locality had its own parish or synagogue, it will be indicated in the Meyers gazetteer. The following abbreviations are used:

- Evangelical parish: EvPfk.
- Catholic parish: KPfk.
- Jewish synagogue: Syn.

If the locality did not have its own parish, then the parish can be determined using the following gazetteer, which is based on the census of 1905:

Gemeindelexikon für das Königreich Preussen [Gazetteer for the Kingdom of Prussia]. Berlin: Verlag des Königlichen statistischen Landesamts, 1907-1909. (Genealogical Library call number: European Collection Ref 943 E5kp; also on microfilm).

Vol 1 Ostpreußen (Film 1186701 item 3) 
Vol 2 Westpreußen (Film 1186701 item 4) 
Vol 3 Brandenburg (Film 806635 item 1) 
Vol 4 Pommern (Film 806634 item 4) 
Vol 5 Posen (Film 806635 item 3) 
Vol 6 Schlesien (Film 806633 item 4)

Each volume has an index at the end listing in alphabetical order all localities in the province. In the index, there are two numbers given after each place-name. The first number refers to the “Kreis” (district) to which the locality belonged. These numbers can be found at the top of the page in the body of the book. The second number refers to the town. Thus “21 17” refers to the 17th town listed in district 21. The parish is given in the columns marked as "Kirchspiel"; "Evangelisch" (Lutheran) in column 25 and "Katolisch" (Catholic) in column 26. Note: If the town in question is not listed in column two, refer to the footnotes in the gazetteer.

Russian Empire

Sulimierski, Filip, ed. Słownik geograficzny królestwa polskiego i innych krajów słowiańskich [Geographical dictionary of the Kingdom of Poland and other Slavic countries]. 15 Vol. Warsaw: Sulimierski i Walewski, 1880-1902. (Genealogical Library call number: European Collection 943.8 E5c; also on microfilm).

Film numbers are as follows:

(Addendum)

Arranged alphabetically with text in Polish.

Arranged alphabetically by the Russian alphabet. Most entries are in the Russian alphabet with some Polish and German entries. The non-Russian entries are still alphabetized by Russian alphabetical order. The descriptive information is in German.

**Austro-Hungarian Empire**

**Allgemeines geographisches statistisches Lexikon aller österreichischen Staaten** [General Gazetteer of all Austro-Hungary]. Vienna: Franz Raffelsperger, 1845-1853. (Genealogical Library call number: European Collection 943.6 E5r; also on microfilm).

A-G - 1186708  N-Serti - 1186710  Serto-Z - 1186711
H-M - 1186709

**Gazetteer of Austria**

**Gemeindelexikon der in Reichsrat vertretenen Königreiche und Länder** [Gazetteer of the crownlands and territories represented in the imperial council]. Vienna: K.K. Statistisches Zentralkommission, 1903-1908. (Genealogical Library call number: European Collection Ref Q 943.6 E5g; also on microfilm).

1187925 item 2 Vol. I Niederösterreich
1187925 item 3 Vol. 2 Oberösterreich
1187925 item 4 Vol 3 Salzburg
1187926 item 1 Vol 4 Steiermark
1187926 item 2 Vol 5 Kärnten
1187926 item 3 Vol 6 Krain
1187926 item 4 Vol 7 Küstenland
1187926 item 5 Vol 8 Tirol und Vorarlberg
1187927 item 1 Vol 9 Böhmen
924736 item 1 Vol 10 Mähren
1187927 item 2 Vol 11 Schlesien
1187928 item 1 Vol 12 Galizien
1187928 item 2 Vol 13 Bukowina
1187928 item 3 Vol 14 Dalmatien

Based on the 1900 census. The volume for each province is arranged by district with an index to both German and local place names. If you do not find the town on the page listed in the index check the footnotes. The parish or synagogue location is not listed in the main text but is given in an appendix, located between the main text and the index of each volume. The appendix is arranged alphabetically by district and sub-district. The parish and synagogue are given in the last column: Standort der röm.-kath., gr.-kath. und isr. Matrikelstellen.

**Gazetteer of Hungary**


Volume I includes a 610 page index. It lists all place names in alphabetical order. Entries in the index are followed by the name of the old Hungarian county, and a set of numbers. These numbers refer to the gazetteer entry in Volume II. The first number is the sequential number of the county; the second is the consecutive number of the district; the last is the number of the locality.
Volume II has more details. Volume II is arranged by county and districts. Use the numbers from the index to find the entry for your town. Additional names the locality was known by are listed in parentheses. Population figures are given according to religion. The following abbreviations are used:

- rk. - Rómáit Katholikus - Roman Catholic  
- ref. - Református - Reformed  
- gk. - Görög Katholikus - Greek Catholic  
- un. - Unitarius - Unitarian  
- kg. - Keleti Görög - Greek Orthodox  
- izr. - Izraelita - Jewish  
- ag. - Ágostai - Augsburg Evangelical Lutheran

If the village had its own parish church (or synagogue, for Jews), the abbreviation for the religion will be in boldface capital letters. The diocese will follow, also in boldface type. If the people attended church elsewhere, the abbreviation of the religion will be in lowercase. The name of the parish location follows the population figure. If a dash (—) follows the population figure, it means members of that religion belong to no particular parish.

Modern Countries

Czechoslovakia

Administratives Gemeindelexikon der Čechoslovakischen Republik [Administrative Gazetteer of the Czechoslovak Republic]. Prague: Statistischen Staatsamte, 1927-1928. (Genealogical Library call number: European Collection Ref 943.7 E5a; also on microfilm, vol. I on Film 496719 and vol. II on Film 496720).

To use this gazetteer look up your place name in the main index in Volume II, pages 257-321. The index gives a volume and page number.

For areas of Hungary now in Czechoslovakia, use:

Majtán, Milan. Názvy obcí na Slovensku za ostatných dviesto rokov [Place names in Slovakia during the last 200 years]. Bratislava: Slovenská Akadémie Vied, 1972. (Genealogical Library call number: European Collection Ref 943.73 E2m; also on microfilm, Film 1181569 item 1).

Poland

Spis Miejscowości Polskiej Rzeczypospolitej Ludowej [Gazetteer of Polish People’s Republic Localities]. Warsaw: Wydawnictwa komunikacji i łączności, 1968. (Genealogical Library call number: European Collection Ref 943.8 E5s; also on microfilm, Film 844922).

Localities are listed alphabetically down the page in the first column. Township, district, province (voivodship), post office, railway station and vital records office for the locality are listed in successive columns to the right.

© 1985 Daniel M. Schlyter  
Prepared for National Genealogical Society Conference 1985  
Used for Genealogical Library branch librarian training by permission
Gazetteers for Austria

I. Gemeindelexikon der in Reichsrat vertretenen Königreiche und Länder

(Gazetteer of the Crownlands and territories represented in the Imperial Council/ (Ref Q 943.6 E5g)

Vol. I Gemeindelexikon von Niederösterreich /Lower Austria: now in Austria/ (Film no. 1187925 item 2)

Vol. II Gemeindelexikon von Oberösterreich /Upper Austria: now in Austria/ (Film no. 1187925 item 3)

Vol. III Gemeindelexikon von Salzburg /Salzburg: now in Austria/ (Film no. 1187925 item 4)

Vol. IV Gemeindelexikon von Steiermark /Styria: now in Austria and Yugoslavia/ (Film no. 1187926 item 1)

Vol. V Gemeindelexikon von Kärnten /Carinthia: now in Austria, Italy and Yugoslavia/ (Film no. 1187926 item 2)

Vol. VI Gemeindelexikon von Kärnten /Carniola: now in Yugoslavia/ (Film no. 1187926 item 3)

Vol. VII Gemeindelexikon von Kärnten /Istria, Görz and Trieste: now in Italy and Yugoslavia/ (Film no. 1187926 item 4)

Vol. VIII Gemeindelexikon von Tirol und Vorarlberg /Tyrol: now in Austria and Italy/ (Film no. 1187926 item 5)

Vol. IX Gemeindelexikon von Böhmen /Bohemia: now in Czechoslovakia/ (Film no. 1187927 item 1)

Vol. X Gemeindelexikon von Mähren /Moravia: now in Czechoslovakia/ (Film no. 924736 item 1)

Vol. XI Gemeindelexikon von Schlesien /Silesia: now in Czechoslovakia and Poland/ (Film no. 1187927 item 2)

Vol. XII Gemeindelexikon von Galizien /Galicia: now in Poland and Ukraine/ (Film no. 1187928 item 1)

Vol. XIII Gemeindelexikon von Bukowina /Bukovina: now in Ukraine and Romania/ (Film no. 1187928 item 2)

Vol. XIV Gemeindelexikon von Dalmatien /Dalmatia: now in Yugoslavia/ (Film no. 1187928 item 3)

This series of gazetteers is based on the Austrian census of 1900. The gazetteer for each province is organized by political district with an index to both German and Czech place-names according to standard alphabetical order. Vol. X, for Moravia, is a bilingual gazetteer with separate sections, each with its own index; the first section is in German, the second in Czech.

To use this gazetteer you must know in which province your locality was located. Use the index to find the locality you want. When you turn to the page indicated in the index, be aware that all localities are not listed in the second column. Some may be so small as to appear only in the footnotes as hamlets subordinate to larger villages or towns.

The gazetteer is arranged with information continuing across two pages. The left hand includes population and religion figures; the right hand page gives land and agricultural figures for tax purposes. Important headings are translated for the sample shown on back of this page.

The parish is not noted in the main text but is given in an appendix, located between the main gazetteer and index of each volume. The appendix has political districts in alphabetical order, each divided into court districts as in the main gazetteer. The parish is given in the last column. (See example).
Genealogical research for German ancestors often involves parts of the modern Republic of Poland. Boundary changes at the end of the First and Second World Wars returned territory to Poland which had been administered by Prussia and the German Empire. Most of this territory had been occupied, colonized and administered by Prussia since the partitions of Poland, 1772 through 1795. Most of East Prussia had been under Germanic rule as early as 1370.

The International Genealogical Library has microfilmed many records throughout Poland; from Germanic areas as well as Slavic. These are predominantly vital records of birth, marriage and death; handwritten in German, Polish or Latin, depending on the area from which they originate.

The new Genealogical Library Catalog (IGLC) is a computer system which provides access to these records by listing them with description and film numbers. The IGLC lists records from the Prussian/Polish area in both a Poland file and a Germany file. The Germany file lists records according to the old German place-names and jurisdictions; the Poland file lists the same localities according to modern Polish place-names and jurisdictions.

Prior to January of 1979 records were cataloged manually in the Dictionary Card Catalog (DCC). This system provided for the listing of Prussian/Polish records only according to the modern Polish place-names and jurisdictions. These previously cataloged records are being converted to the IGLC system but it will be several years before all records are filed by both German and Polish place-names.

A gazetteer is a geographical dictionary. The effective use of the Library's two catalog systems often requires the usage of several gazetteers. The following is a step-by-step explanation of how to use the gazetteers and catalogs to locate the Prussian/Polish records you need.