FAMILYSEARCH.
UNITING FAMILIES

Poland

CONTENTS

This outline can help you find information about people who lived in Poland. It gives information about records of genealogical value for Poland and helps you decide which types of records to search.

HELPS FOR USING THIS RESEARCH OUTLINE

Before using this outline, choose the information you would like to know about one of your **ancestors, such as a birth date or a maiden name.** After you have decided what information you want to learn, use the records selection table (see page 4) in this outline to find the best types of records for locating that information.

There is a section in the outline for each type of record listed in columns 2 and 3 of the records selection table. The sections give more information about these records and how to find them. The sections are in alphabetical order.

References to the Family History Library Catalog

The Family History Library Catalog (see page 2) lists all the records available at the Family History Library. The catalog is available at the Family History Library and at each family history center. Staff there can help you learn to use the catalog.

This outline gives instructions for finding information in the catalog. For example, in the section of this outline called "Census," you may find the following statement:

For more information about census records look in the "Locality" search section of the Family History Library Catalog under:

    POLAND-CENSUS
    POLAND, (PROVINCE)-CENSUS
    POLAND, (PROVINCE), (CITY)-CENSDS

This tells you to look in the catalog under:

- Poland and then "Census."

- A province in Poland and then "Census."

- A city in a province in Poland and then **"Census./I**

This outline includes many references to specific records. The references include call numbers listed in parentheses, which are used to find records in the Family History Library (FHL). Each book, film, fiche, or map is assigned a call **number.**

For additional information on using the catalog, see *How to Use the Family History Library Catalog* (30966).

References to Other Family History Library Publications

The Family History Library has many other publications that may help you in your research. Some are referred to in this outline. Their titles **are in italics, and their item numbers are in** parentheses. They are available at the Family History Library and at Distribution Services:

Distribution Services
1999 West 1700 South
Salt Lake City, UT 84104-4233
Tel.: 800-537-5971 (U.S. and Canada)
Fax: 801-240-3685

www.ldscatalog.com

THE FAMILY HISTORY LIBRARY CATALOG

The key to finding a record in the Family History Library's collection is the Family History Library Catalog. The catalog describes each record in the library and lists the call numbers. It is available on microfiche and on compact disc as part of FamilySearch™, a computer program available at the Family History Library, family history centers, and on the following Internet site:

www.familysearch.org

The catalog generally uses the native language that the records are written in to describe the records. The description includes a brief English summary of the content.

The catalog is based on the Poland's province structure as it was in 1967. For additional information about localities in Poland, see **"Gazetteers," "Historical Geography," "History,"** and "Maps" in this outline.

This outline also provides some of the library's call numbers. These are preceded by FHL, the abbreviation for Family History Library.

If you need more information on using the Family History Library Catalog, a short video program How *to Use the Family History Library Catalog* (53191), written instructions, and librarians are available to help you.

Polish Records Listed under Other Countries

For records of Germans who lived in areas that are now part of Poland, you should refer to the *Research Outline: Germany* (34061). Localities that were part of Poland but 'are now part of Belarus, Ukraine, and other countries are listed under the old town name as well as the modern town name in the Family History Library Catalog.

For more information, see "Historical Geography" in this outline.

INTERNET

The Internet, certain computer bulletin boards, **news groups, and commercial online services can** help you:

- **Locate other researchers.**
- Post queries.
- Send and receive e-mail.
- Search large databases.
- **Search directories.**
- Search library catalogs.
- Join in computer chat and lecture sessions.

Researching by computer can be very rewarding, but it also has its limitations. It takes time and practice to learn how to navigate the Internet. And some of the documents you need may not yet be available on the Internet.

Local genealogical societies often have computer **interest groups or members who are familiar** with computer genealogical research. Following are some general Internet sites which will lead you to other interesting Polish Internet **resources:**

- Cyndi's List of Polish Genealogical Sites:

www.cyndislist.com/poland.htm

Catalog of genealogical sites on the Internet by topic and country. Includes references to other Internet sites, mailing lists, people and families, news groups, publications, transcriptions of **records, societies, villages, and colonies.**

- The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints genealogical Web address is:

www.familysearch.org

Access the Family History Library Catalog, Ancestral File, International Genealogical Index, SourceGuide, lists of family history centers, family history-related Websites, and lists of researchers interested in similar genealogical topics. Learn

about and order Family History Library publications.

- WoridGenWeb page for Poland:

    www.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~polwgw/polandgen.html

Contains tools for researching in Poland.

- Federation of Eastern European Family History Societies:

    www.feefhs.org

Includes links to many Polish or Polish-American Family History Societies' home pages.

Other useful genealogical research sites are **discussed under specific sections in this outline.**

Records Selection **Table**

The following table can help you decide which records to search. In column 1 find the goal you selected. In column 2 find the types of records that are most likely to have the information you need. Then tum to that section of this outline. Additional records that may be useful are listed in column 3.

The terms used in columns 2 and 3 are the same **as the topic headings used in this outline and in** the "Locality" section of the Family History Library Catalog.

Records containing previous research (genealogy, biography, history, periodicals, and societies) could provide information for nearly all the goals.

These have not been repeatedly listed unless they are especially helpful for the goal.

RECORDS SELECTION TABLE: Poland		
1. If You Need	2. Look First In	3. Then Search
Age	Church Records, Civil Registration Records	Census, Naturalizations and Jewish Citizenship
Birth date	Church Records, Civil Registration, Jewish Records	Census, Naturalizations and Citizenship
City or parish of foreign birth	Emigration and Immigration, Naturalizations and Citizenship	Church Records, Obituaries, Schools
Country of foreign birth	Census, Emigration and Immigration, Naturalizations and Citizenship	Church Records, Military Records
Province origins and boundaries	Atlases	**Maps, Gazetteers**
Customs	History	Encyclopedias
Death	Church Records, Civil Registration	**Cemeteries**
Divorce	Civil Registration, Court Records	
Ethnicity	Minorities, Jewish Records	History
Historical background	History, Church History	Societies
Immigration date	Census (U.s. 1900, 1910, 1920), Emigration and Immigration	Naturalizations and Citizenship
Living relatives	Directories, Internet	
Maiden name	Church Records, Civil Registration	Obituaries
Marriage	Church Records, Civil Registration	Genealogy, Newspapers
Occupation	Church Records, Civil Registration, **Occupations, Directories**	Population
Parents, children, and other family members	Church Records, Civil Registration	Cemeteries, Obituaries, Probate Records
Physical description	Military Records, Biography	Genealogy
Place-finding aids	Atlases, Gazetteers, Maps	Historical Geography
Place of residence	Church Records, Civil Registration	Population, Directories, Census, Land and Property
Previous research (compiled genealogy)	Genealogy, Periodicals, Biography, Nobility	Societies
Record-finding aids	Church Directories, Archives and Libraries	Societies, Periodicals
Religion	Church Records, Civil Registration, Jewish Records	Obituaries

The borders of Poland have changed many times over the years. The modern borders are highlighted on the maps shown below, giving a point of comparison for each of the maps.
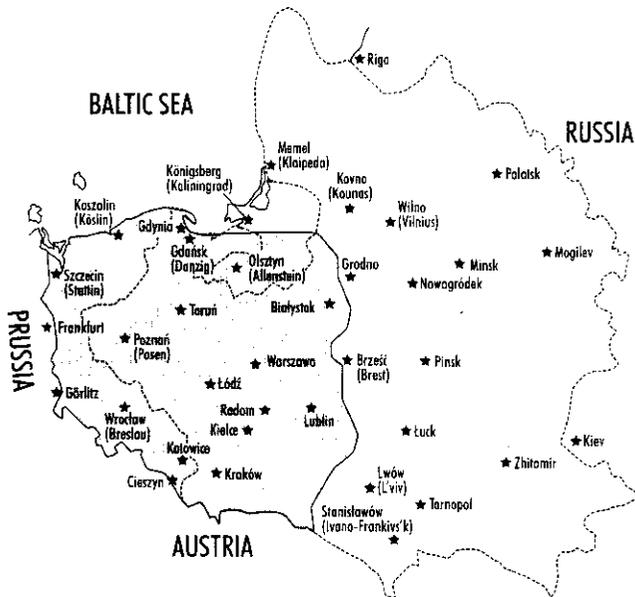
Polish-Lithuanian Commonwealth prior to Partitioning in 1772

Poland 1772—1st Partition

Poland 1793—2nd Partition


Poland 1795—3rd Partition
Poland was divided between Prussia, Austria, and Russia.

Map 1 — Duchy of Warsaw

BALTIC SEA
Memel (Klaipeda)
Kovno (Kaunas)
Gdynia
Königsberg (Kaliningrad)
Koszalin (Köslin)
Gdańsk (Danzig)
Olsztyn (Allenstein)
Szczecin (Stettin)
PRUSSIA
Toruń
Grodno
Frankfurt
Poznań (Posen)
Białystok
Warszawa
RUSSIA
Görlitz
Łódź
Brześć (Brest)
Wrocław (Breslau)
Radom
Lublin
Katowice
Kielce
Kraków
Cieszyn
AUSTRIA

Duchy of Warsaw, 1807–1813 (Napoleon)

Map 2 — Congress Poland

Kurland
Vitebsk
Kovno
Baltic Sea
Vilna
Pomerania
West Prussia
East Prussia
Suwałki
Prussia
Płock
Łomża
Grodno
Minsk
Brandenburg
Posen
Kalisz
Warszawa
Siedlce
Russia
Piotrków
Silesia
Radom
Lublin
Volhynia
Kielce
Silesia
Galicia
Podolia
Austria
Hungary
Bessarabia
Bukovina
Romania

Congress Poland or kingdom of Poland was part of the Russian Empire, west of the dotted line 1815–1921.

Map 3 — Independent Poland

BALTIC SEA
Memel (Klaipeda)
Kovno (Kaunas)
Gdynia
Königsberg (Kaliningrad)
Wilno (Vilnius)
Koszalin (Käslin)
Gdańsk (Danzig)
Olsztyn (Allenstein)
Grodno
Szczecin (Stettin)
GERMANY
Toruń
Nowogródek
Białystok
RUSSIA
Frankfurt
Poznań (Posen)
Warszawa
Pinsk
Łódź
Brześć (Brest)
Görlitz
Wrocław (Breslau)
Radom
Lublin
Kielce
Łuck
Katowice
Cieszyn
Kraków
Lwów (L'viv)
Tarnopol
CZECHOSLOVAKIA
Stanisławów (Ivano-Frankivs'k)

Independent Poland, 1921–1939. After World War II, the borders of Poland shifted west, taking parts of Pommern and Brandenburg and giving up parts of Grodno, Volhynia, and Vilna to Russia.

ARCHIVES AND LIBRARIES

Archives collect and preserve original documents **of organizations such as governments or churches.** Libraries generally collect published sources such as books, maps, and microfilm. This section describes the major repositories of genealogical and historical records and sources for Poland. When one of these institutions is referred to **elsewhere in this outline, return to this section** to obtain the address.

If you plan to visit a repository in Poland, contact **the organization and ask for information about its collection, hours, services, and fees.**

Poland has two major types of genealogical **repositories: government archives and offices! and** church archives.

Government Archives

The Polish government archives collect records relating to Polish history, culture, and people. These include records of genealogical value such **as:**

Birth, marriage, and death records.

- Some church records

- Transcripts of church records

- **Jewish records**

- Church records no longer in the possession of the church. This includes many Protestant church records

- Civil registration turned in by local civil **registration offices**

Census returns (when available).

Court records.

Military records.

Emigration lists.

Land records.

The Polish State Archives are under the direction of the Central Directorate of State Archives *INaczelna Dyrekcja Archiwow Panstwowych).*

- The Central Archives of Historical Documents *IArchiwum Glowne Akt Dawnych!* maintains a substantial collection of records on a national level.

- The regional State Archives .0 is a system of 29 regional State Archives (and their branches). They collect records pertaining to their regional areas including civil registration records and civil transcripts (copies) of

church records (vital records of births, marriages, and deaths). Recent vital records, generally those less than 100 years old, are kept at local civil registration offices.

- The local civil registry offices *IUrzqdy Stanu Cywilnego!* create civil registrations of births, marriages, and deaths for their community. These records are available to the public. For **more information about these offices (which** are comparable to county courthouses and town halls in the U.s.) and their records, see "Civil Registration" in this outline. These civil registration offices also hold civil transcripts of church records which are generally transferred to State Archives after 100 years.

 You can get information about records kept at local civil offices by writing to them. See *Letter-Writing Guide: Polish (36339).*

The Central Directorate of State Archives has published helpful guides about the holdings of the Polish State Archival System which are listed below:

Biernata, Andrzeja and Anna Laszuk. *Archiwa panstwowe w Polsce, Przewodnik po zasobach* (State Archives in Poland, Guide to Resources). Warszawa: "DiG", 2000. (FHL book 943.8 J53k 2000.)

Laszuk, Anna. *Ksiegi metrykalne* i *stanu cywilnego w archiwach Panstwowych w Polsce, Informator* (Parish and Civil Registration Records at State Archives in Poland, Directory). Warszawa: Naczelna Dyrekcja Archiw6w Panstwowych, 1998. (FHL book 943.8 J53k.)

Archiwa w Polsce: Informator adresowy (Archives in Poland: Informant of Addresses). Warszawa: Naczelna Dyrekcja Archiw6w Panstwowych, 1996. (FHL book 943.8 J54ap.) This guide describes the services of the archives and libraries in Poland as well as some limited information for major archives and libraries in other areas of the world.

"Po miezu i po kadzieli." CD ROM. Warszawa. 2001. This CD ROM consists of five databases that contain information useful for demographic and genealogical studies. These databases refer to the holdings of Polish State Archives, the Archdiocesan Archives in Poznan, as well as to the public (civil) registry offices which have at their disposal materials produced by the former Prussian-German civil registry offices.

Many Polish state archival holdings are inventoried on fhe Internet at www.archiwa.gov.pl Select "English" and then click on "Sezam." This site also has locations and addresses of all local state archives and their branches, which can be

accessed by clicking on "State Archives."

Research in Polish State Archives is free of charge and can take place on the premises during the days and times specified by the individual **archive. Permission of the local archivist is** required to conduct research at his facility. It is no **longer necessary to obtain permission of the** Central Directorate of State Archives for **foreigners who want to use records pertaining to** genealogical and property matters kept in the **state archives.**

Archival records are available to the public 30 years after the date of their origin. In justified **cases the local archivist can grant permission for** access before the end of the required period. A charge is required for copies of archival materials (microfilms, photocopies, or xerox copies).

Many records at the Polish State Archives have been filmed and are available at the Family History Library. But there are still many records that have not been filmed. If the records you need are not in the Family History Library collection, the State Archives can conduct genealogical research for you. Personal genealogical inquiries and requests for photocopies are subject to payment according to a standard price list that is used by all state archives. To do this, write to the Central Directorate of the Polish State Archives *(Naczelna Dyrekcja!.* They will forward your request to the State Archives of the appropriate **region.**

> Naczeina Dyrekcja Archiw6w Panstwowych
> 00-950 Warszawa
> skr. poczt. 1005
> ul. Dluga 6
> POLAND
> Tel.: 48-22-831-95-84
> Fax: 48-22-831-75-63
>
> www.archiwa.gov.pl
> e-mail: ndap@archiwa.gov.pl

Church Archives

Church archives collect records generated by the church, such as parish registers. Each diocese has its own policies regarding gathering records into the archive of the diocese. Generally, older **records are found in the diocesan archives; more** recent records are found at the local parish.

Some Catholic dioceses have gathered older **records into a diocesan archive. You can write to** these archives and request brief searches of their records. See "Church Records" in this outline.

Protestant church records are often difficult to locate in Poland; many have been lost due to wars and boundary changes. But some records have been filmed and are listed in the Family

History Library Catalog. For a complete listing of Protestant church archives and repositories, see **references in the "Church Directories" section** of this guide.

Many church records are kept by local parishes, **which may also have earlier records. You can** write to local parishes and church archives for information. See "Church Records" in this outline.

Other Libraries

Some useful sources-such as local histories, city directories, maps, newspapers, and genealogies- are available in major libraries in Poland and the United States. Contact these libraries and ask **about their collection, hours, services, and fees.**

Historical and Genealogical Societies

Very few historical and genealogical societies **exist in Poland, Such societies may maintain** libraries that collect genealogical records. For **more information, including addresses of some societies, see "Societies" in this outline,**

Inventories, Registers, and Catalogs

Many archives have catalogs, inventories, guides, or periodicals that describe their records and how to use them. If possible, study these guides before **you visit an archive so that you can use your time more effectively.**

The Family History Library has copies of several **published inventories, catalogs, directories, and** guides of other libraries. These records are listed in the Family History Library Catalog under:

> POLAND-ARCHIVES AND LIBRARIES
> POLAND, (PROVINCE)-ARCHIVES AND
>   LIBRARIES

BIOGRAPHY

A biography is a history of a person's life. In a biography you may find the individual's birth, marriage, and death information and the names of parents, children, or other family members. Use the information carefully because there may be inaccuracies. There are a few biographical sources for Poland, but these include only the **most notable citizens.**

Some brief biographies have been published in collective biographies, sometimes called biographical encyclopedias or dictionaries. Usually these include biographies of only well- known citizens of Poland. Others feature biographies of specific groups of people, such as Protestant pastors.

A significant collection of Polish biographies

compiled from the many biographical works that have been published is:

Polskie archiwU/ll biograficzne. (Polish biographical archive). Munchen: K. G. Saur 199-. (FHL fiche 6109252-75.)

Collective biographies at the Family History Library are generally listed in the "Locality" section of the Family History Library Catalog **under:**

> POLAND-BIOGRAPHY
> POLAND, (PROVINCE)-BIOGRAPHY
> POLAND, (PROVINCE), (CITY)-
>   BIOGRAPHY

You will also find some biographical information in Polish encyclopedias. See "Encyclopedias and **Dictionaries" in this outline.**

CENSUS

Censuses (counts and descriptions of populations) have been taken by the various governments of Poland, primarily for population studies, taxation, or military purposes.

The prime value of census records is for grouping families together. Poland has better sources for **researching names and dates, such as church records and civil registration.**

The different types of population counts in Polish history have been lustrums *(lustracje* 1552, 1563, 1629), household tax registers *(rejestry podatkowe:* 1675), Prussian population surveys *(przeglqdy:* 1789,1793,1797), and municipal revisions *(spisy ludnosci:* 1619,1765,1792). TIle Russian area of Poland, called kingdom of Poland, had a government statistical institution called the Statistical Department with the General Administration Department *(Oddzial Statystyczny przy Wydziale Administracji Ogolnej),* which was founded in 1847 to oversee the collection of statistical reports.

Contents vary according to the censuses and their purposes. For example, the census of 1793 for the region of South Prussia (area taken by Prussia in the 1793 partition) includes names of adult males and widows, number of people in each household, and professions of the householders, but no ages.

The census of 1790-92 for areas of Poznan (Posen) and Krakow includes school-age children as well as adults and has dates of birth, marriage, and **death. Later census records are more standard** and include names of heads of families and their children in chronological order, sex, ages or dates and places of birth, civil status, occupations, **duration of reSidency, and so on.**

Many original census returns were destroyed, and only compiled information remains. Some **census records still exist in archives but are** usually not available to researchers. Some **censuses are in the Main Archives of Ancient** Documents *(Archiwllm Glowne Akt Dawl1ych-AGAD)* in Warsaw; various district and municipal archives, such as Plock and Krakow; or **even local parishes. It is uncertain where most** Polish census records are kept. To find them you **may have to contact various archives in the** vicinity of the town where your ancestor lived.

The Family History Library has copies of census records for very few towns in Poland. These are listed in the Family History Library Catalog **under:**

> POLAND, (PROVINCE), (TOWN)-CENSUS

Census records can provide information when **other records are missing. Use the information with caution, however, since it may have been** given to a census·taker by any member of the family or a neighbor and could be incorrect.

Finding your ancestor in the census records of a large city, and learning the street where the family lived, will help you search records such as church records and civil registration. Sources that give street addresses for large cities in Poland include:

- City, occupational, or business directories.

- **Civil certificates of births, marriages, and** deaths.

- Church records of christenings, burials, and **marriages.**

- **Taxation records.**

CHURCH DIRECTORIES

A church directory lists church officials, dioceses, and parishes. The following are some of the many genealogical uses for church directories:

- They list all the parishes in a diocese, so you can determine if your ancestor's village had a parish church. Many directories list all villages belonging to a parish.

- They usually provide the earliest date the parish existed.

- They may include historical information about each parish.

- They group parishes by clerical district, so you can easily determine all neighboring parishes.

- They provide the complete address (phone numbers may be outdated) of parishes and the address of the diocese headquarters.

Church directories exist for all of the dioceses in Poland. The Family History Library has copies of directories for many of the dioceses. Depending on the date of publication, information such as the priest's name may be out-of-date. The addresses and parish histories are usually still valid.

Church directories are listed in the Family History Library Catalog under:

POLAND-CHURCH DIRECTORIES
POLAND, (PROVINCE), (CITY OF DIOCESE)- CHURCH DIRECTORIES

To determine which Roman Catholic diocese has jurisdiction over the parish your ancestor **lived in, use:**

Miillerowa, Lidia. *Siec parafiaina Kosciola katolickiego w Polsce w 1970-72 r.* (Network of Parishes of the Roman Catholic Church in Poland for the years *1970-72).* Lublin: Towarzystwo Naukowe Katolickiego Uniwersytetu Lubelskiego, 1975. (FHL book 943.8 K24m; FHL film 1045455.) Beginning on page 66, all Catholic parishes in Poland are listed in alphabetical order with the diocese and deanery to which they belong.

There is a directory for the Protestant parishes that still existed in 1979. To find which towns still have Evangelical Lutheran parishes, see:

Kalendarz ewangelicki, 1992. (Evangelical Yearbook, 1992). Warszawa: Zwiastun, 1991. (FHL book 943.8 K24ke [1992]; film 1183508 item 4 [1979]). Yearbook of the list of evangelical parishes with addresses is found on pages 279-97.

Kosci6! Ewangelicko-Augsburski (Luteranski) w Polsce

http://pgsca.org/Polish_Research_Gazetteers_

Information.pdf

Most Catholic dioceses have sites on the Internet where you can obtain information about parishes. For Catholics see:

www.opoka.org.pl/struktury_kosciola/
 diecezje/ index.html

CHURCH HISTORY

Research procedures and genealogical sources are different for each religion. It is helpful to understand the historical events that led to the creation of records your family was listed in, such as parish registers.

Roman Catholic *(rzymsko-katolicki)*

The Roman Catholic faith was accepted in Poland in A.D. 966 (the date considered to be the founding of Poland) and became the predominant faith in Poland by 1573. Although Protestantism made some inroads in the 17005, Catholicism has remained the dominant religion of Poland.

Greek **Catholic** *(grecko-katolicki)*

Orthodox Ukrainians in 1595 were formally brought into union with the Roman Catholic Church. They retained their orthodox liturgy and doctrine but recognized the authority of the Roman Catholic pope. This church is generally found in the southeast area of Poland. Many Greek Catholics affiliated with either the Russian Orthodox or the Roman Catholic church after they emigrated to the United States.

Orthodox *(prawoslawny)*

The Russian Orthodox faith stems from the Byzantine Church, which split with the Roman Catholic CR̄ussia'n 1054. Russian Orthodoxy gained a limited foothold in Congress Poland during   s control. Its members in Poland were predominantly of Russian or Belorussian ethnic background.

Protestant *(ewangelicki)*

Because Poland is predominantly Catholic, many religious groups were severely persecuted until the Warsaw Confederation in 1573, when **toleration laws were passed and the various Christian denominations were assured protection** by the state. Thereafter, Poland became a haven for people who were persecuted elsewhere. Many persecuted Protestant groups were offered safe shelter in Poland, including Anabaptists, Bohemian Brethren, and others. Mennonites, Baptists, Brethren, Calvinists, and other groups have existed in Poland since the mid-1500s.

Calvinism, or the Evangelical Reformed Church, gained some followers among the Polish gentry. A few Calvinist Swiss refugees settled in Poland quite early. Most Calvinists in Poland were limited to ethnic Swiss Germans and were far fewer in number than the Lutherans.

Although Lutheranism (the Augsburg Confession or Evangelical Church) had only a small following in Poland, it did become firmly established among the German population. The Prussian provinces of Pomerania, Brandenburg, and East Prussia were settled by Germans from the eleventh through the thirteenth centuries, and by 1880 Lutherans comprised 94 percent of the population of Brandenburg, 97 percent of Pomerania, and 86 percent of East Prussia.

At the partitions of Poland in 1772-95, Prussia gained the provinces of Silesia, Posen, and West

Prussia, and German Lutherans began colonizing these previously Polish territories. By 1880 just under half of the population of Silesia and West Prussia and a third of the population of Posen were Lutheran. When parts or all of these Prussian territories became part of Poland at the end of World Wars I and II, most of the German Lutherans moved west into Germany.

Lutheran Germans also settled in other Polish territory taken by Prussia in 1795. This area of central Poland was for a time called South Prussia. It was incorporated into the Duchy of Warsaw from 1806-15 and became part of Congress Poland in 1815. Some of the Germans in this area remained in the Russian-held parts of Poland, and others moved further east to Volhynia in western Ukraine. In the late 1800s, when conditions· worsened for these German colonists, many moved to German settlements near the Black Sea, to Germany, or to the United States.

For more information on Germans who lived in Prussia, see the *Research Outline: Germany* (34061). Histories of the German Lutheran communities that remained in parts of the former Congress Poland and Prussian territories that became part of the post-World War II era are **given in:**

Kneifel, Eduard. Die *evangelisch-augsburgischen Gemeinden* in *Poland* 1555-1939 (The Evangelical-Augsburg Parishes in Poland 1555-1939). Miinchen: Eduard Kneifel, 1972. (FHL book 943.8 K2ka; fiche 6000812.)

For more information about the history of the Lutherans, Calvinists, Mennonites, and other **minorities, see:**

Klassen Peter J. *A Homeland for Strangers: an Introduction to Mennonites in Poland and Prussia.* Fresno, CA: Center for Mennonite Brethren Studies, 1989. (FHL book 943.8 F2k.)

Kneifel, Eduard. *Geschichte der Evangelisch-Augsburgischen Kirche in Polen* (History of the Evangelical-Augsburg Church in Poland). Niedermarschacht iiber Winsen/Luhe: Eduard Kneifel, 1964. (FHL book 943.8 K2k.)

Kupsch, Eduard. *Geschichte der Baptisten in Polen·* 1852-1932 (History of the Baptists in Poland 1852-1932). Zdunska-Wola: Eduard Kupsch, 1932. (FHL book 943.8 K2ke; film 1183574 item 8.)

Schrag, Martin H. *The European History of the Swiss Mennonites from Volhynia.* North Newton, Kansas: Mennonite Press, 1974. (FHL book 940 F2s; film 1045361 item 5.)

Tazbir, Janusz. *A State Without Stakes: Polish Religious Toleration in the Sixteenth and Seventeenth Centuries.* (The Library of Polish BR 955 .T313 Studies.) Chicago: Kosciusko Foundation, 1973. (943.8 H2Lp v. 3.)

Wandering Volhynians: A Magazine for the Descendants of Germans from Volhynia and . Poland. Vancouver, B. C.: Ewald Wuschke, 1989-. (FHL book 947.718 D25w.)

CHURCH RECORDS

Church records *(ksiegi metrykalne!* are excellent **sources for accurate information on names; dates;** and places of births, marriages, and deaths. Virtually all Christian people who lived in Poland were recorded in a church record Oewish names can also be found in them occasionally).

Records of births, marriages, and deaths are called vital records because events in a person's life are recorded in them. Church records, called parish **records or church books, are vital records made** by church officials, pastors, or priests. They include records of births and christenings, marriages, and deaths and burials. In addition, church records may include account books, confirmations, and lists of members.

Church records are crucial for research in Poland. They are often the only source of family information. Civil authorities did not begin registering vital statistics until after 1874 in the former German areas and not until after 1918 in the rest of Poland. For these later records, see "Civil Registration" in this outline.

All the Catholic Dioceses in Poland with links to the sites of each diocese are listed at: www.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~polwgw/ dioceses.html While all dioceses have Websites, there are several that have detailed information about parishes, **boundaries, church records, etc.**

General Historical Background

In general, church records in Poland have been kept since the mid-1600s, although a few parishes have records dating from the 1590s. The efficient recording of baptisms, marriages, and deaths developed slowly. Record-keeping requirements were limited at first to baptisms, marriages, and confession registers. The amount of information **increased over time. For example, early records** often failed to provide the mother's full name. Catholics were the first to maintain church vital records, but Protestants followed soon after. . Most parishes have records dating from at least the early 1700s. Sometimes Catholic parishes also kept records of people of other faiths. For more information about the churches in Poland, see "Church History" in this outline.

The following chart shows important dates concerning church record-keeping in Poland:

1563	The Roman Catholic Council of Trent required Catholic parishes throughout Europe to record baptisms and marriages. Few Polish parishes compiled until the 1590s.
1614	A revised church proclamation repeated the order to keep church books and added a requirement to **maintain death registers. Many more** parishes complied.
1772	First partition of Poland. Polish territory was divided between Austria, **Prussia, and Russia, creating** differences in record-keeping styles. More partitions in 1793 and 1795.
1781	The Austrian Empire recognized the religious rights of non-Catholics with the Edict of Toleration.
1784	The Austrian Empire began requiring civil transcripts of church records under Catholic supervision.
1794	Prussia introduced civil transcripts of church records.
1807	Duchy of Warsaw was established under the jurisdiction of Napoleon's French Empire. Expanded to the Grand Duchy of Warsaw in 1809. In 1808 Napoleon's civil code was introduced. Civil registration of births, marriages, and deaths were to be kept in the Duchy of Warsaw written in Polish. It was accomplished by civil transcripts. Catholic clergy were generally responsible for making transcripts of their church records for the state and for including records of Protestants and Jews.
1815	The Congress of Vienna settled the distribution of territory after the defeat of Napoleon. The borders with Russia, Prussia, and Austria were realigned. Most of the Duchy of Warsaw was awarded to Russia and designated Congress Poland or the kingdom of Poland. Napoleonic-style civil transcripts of church records continued there.
1827	Revision of the civil transcript law of Congress Poland let Protestants and Jews keep their own vital records.
1830s	Protestants and Jews in Austria, including those of the Polish area of Galicia, were allowed to keep their **own civil transcripts of vital records.** The practice was standardized by 1840. Russian law in 1868 required civil transcripts throughout Congress Poland be kept in the Russian language.
1918	The Republic of Poland was created, reuniting Polish territory. Laws regarding keeping vital records were gradually standardized throughout the republic.

Civil Transcripts

Some Polish church records were destroyed in the wars of the 1600s. Others were destroyed as parish houses burned. In 1704, because of **concerns about such destruction, some parishes** began making copies (transcripts) of their church books.

Because of the needs of government, civil transcripts were made of most church records in Poland starting at different times in Austria, **Russia, and Prussia. These records were a form of** civil registration and included non-Catholic entries. You can use these duplicates where available to supplement parish registers that are missing or illegible.

Austria

Austrian civil transcripts started in 1784. They were kept in a standardized columnar format, usually in Latin.

In 1808, the Duchy of Warsaw, most of which later constituted the Russian territory of Poland, required Catholic clergy to prepare civil transcripts of vital records.

Russia

Russian civil transcripts were kept in a standardized format in accordance with the Napoleonic code in Polish. This format continued with minor modifications until 1868. After 1868, the law required that all records be kept in Russian. These records usually have yearly indexes.

Jews were to be recorded in the Catholic transcripts. Many Jews complied and subjected

themselves to registration by the Catholics, and many did not. After 1826, the Jews of Russian Poland were permitted to maintain their own separate Jewish records and many more Jews complied with the registration laws. 1\ is not uncommon for whole families to be recorded all at once when the family decided to register, rather than in the years when the births and marriages actually occurred.

Prussia

In Prussia, civil transcript laws were enacted and enforced at various times from 1794 to 1804. These were usually columnar but not so standardized as in Austria and Russia.

Information Recorded in Church Registers

The information recorded in church books varies over time. The later records generally give more complete information than the earlier ones.

The most important church records for genealogical research are christening, marriage, and burial registers. Some church books include confirmation records.

Catholic records were generally kept in Latin, Protestant records in German, Orthodox records in Russian. Greek Catholic (Uniate) records were kept in Latin, Ukrainian, or sometimes Polish. Local dialects may have affected the spelling of some names and other words in the church records. Minority groups such as Mennonites, Baptists, Presbyterians, Methodists, Orthodox Schismatics, Independents, and others often did not keep church registers unless required by law to do so. Their birth, marriage, and death records would be with those of recognized churches, such as the Catholic or Lutheran Church, until they started keeping their own transcripts of vital records.

Records of Birth and Baptism (akta urodzen i chrztow)

Children were generally christened within a few days of birth. Christening registers usually give the infant's and parents' names, legitimacy, names of witnesses or godparents, and the christening date. You may also find the child's birth date, father's occupation, and the family's place of residence. Death information has sometimes been added as a note.

Earlier registers typically give less information, sometimes only the child's and father's names and the date of the christening. Until the 1790s the pastors of many communities failed to give the name of the mother in the birth records or may

have written only her given name. Occasionally the child's name is omitted, in which case the child was probably named after the godparent. Some Orthodox records do not even give the names of the parents. At first only the christening date was recorded, but in later years the birth date was given as well.

Marriage Intentions (zapowiedzi)

Marriage intentions (banns) were announced a few weeks before a couple planned to marry. The couple were required to announce their intentions two or three times so other community members could raise any objections to the marriage. This was a requirement in Poland probably since the time marriage records were first kept. Marriage registers sometimes give the two or three dates on which the marriage intentions were announced in addition to the marriage date.

Marriage Records (akta malzenstw)

Marriage registers give the date of the marriage and the names of the bride and groom. They also indicate whether they were single or widowed and give the names of witnesses. They often include other information about the bride and groom such as their ages, residences, occupations, names of parents, and sometimes birthplaces. In cases of second and later marriages, they may include the names of previous partners and their death dates.

Early marriage records give little information about the couples' parents. In most cases before the beginning of the nineteenth century, marriage registers recorded only the names of the bride's parents. Some later marriage registers give the birthplaces of the groom and bride. Couples were often married in the home parish of the bride.

Records of Deaths and Burials (akta zgonow i pogrzebow)

Burials were recorded in the church record of the parish where the person was buried. The burial usually took place within a few days of the death.

Burial registers give the name of the deceased person and the date and place of death or burial. Often the age, place of residence, cause of death, and names of survivors are given. Occasionally the date and place of birth and the parents' names are included. Early death registers usually do not indicate the date and place of birth. The birth date and place of the deceased person and information about parents in a burial record may not be accurate.

Burial records may exist for individuals who were born before birth and marriage records were kept. Burial records often start later than christening and marriage records of the saIne parish.

Locating Church Records

Original Catholic records are usually found in individual parish or diocesan archives. Protestant records are often in state archives; some are in the possession of Evangelical Church archives or officials. Civil transcripts are generally kept in the local civil registration offices *(Urzqd Stan" Cywilnego!* for 100 years; then they are transferred to state archives.

To use church records, you must know the town and religion of your ancestor. You must also determine the parish that your ancestor's town belonged to so that you will know which parish registers to search.

Your ancestor may have lived in a village that was part of a parish located in a nearby larger town. Over time, some villages may have belonged to more than one parish as jurisdictions changed. Some gazetteers indicate parish jurisdictions. For help identifying parish boundaries, see "Gazetteers" and "Maps" in this outline and the following section on church record inver..tories.

The town where the church building was located is considered the parish headquarters. Although the church building was often named for a saint, the Family History Library Catalog refers to a parish by the name of the town where the parish church was located. In large cities where there may be many parishes for each religion, the catalog uses the parish name (such as Saint John's) to distinguish records of different parishes.

Church Record Inventories

An inventory is a list of available church records, their location, and what years they cover. Sometimes they include information on which parishes served which towns at different periods of time. For example, the village of Kuzie may have belonged to the parish in Nowogr6d before 1743 and to the parish in Maly Plock after that date. See also "Church Directories" in this outline.

Church record inventories are available for some areas in Poland, and the Family History Library has copies of several of these for different counties and provinces. For areas of Poland that were formerly part of Prussia, the library has created the following inventories showing which records are included and not included in the library's collection:

> *Brandenburg* (FHL book INTL Ref 943 D27c, Vol. 9)

POlllemnia (FHL book INTL Ref 943 D27c, Vol. 6)
Posell (FHL book INTL Ref 943 D27c, Vol. 7)
Silesia (FHL book INTL Ref 943 D27c, Vol. 5)
West Prussia (FHL book INTL Ref 943 D27c, Vol. 3)

Manv other inventories and lists of archive holdings for Poland are available at the Family History Library. Inventories of church records are listed in the Family History Library Catalog under:

> POLAND-CHURCH RECORDS-INVENTORIES, REGISTERS, CATALOGS
> POLAND, (PROVINCE)-CHURCH RECORDS-INVENTORIES, REGISTERS, CATALOGS

Records at the Family History Library

The Family History Library has church records and civil transcripts of church records on microfilm from many parishes throughout Poland-some to 1875, some to the 1880s, and a few as late as the 1960s. The library does not have copies of records that were destroyed, have not been microfilmed, or are restricted from public access by the archivist or by law.

The Family History Library has microfilmed records at state archives and in the diocesan archives of several dioceses. The library continues to acquire film copies of additional records. This is a major, ongoing project. The Family History Catalog is where you can determine the specific holdings of the library under the tracing "Church Records." In some cases, however, civil transcripts of church records may be listed under "Civil Registration."

The catalog tracing "Civil Registration" may also include some civil transcripts of church records, especially when the record looked particularly "civil" to the person who cataloged it. The specific holdings of the Family History Library of church registration civil are listed in the "Locality" section of the Family History Library Catalog. Look in the catalog under the name of the town where the parish was, not necessarily the town where your ancestor li*ved:*

> POLAND, (PROVINCE), (TOWN)-CHURCH RECORDS

New records are continually added to the library's collection from several sources. Do not give up if records are not available yet. Check the Family History Library Catalog regularly for the records you need.

Records Not at the Family History Library

Although the Family History Library is a convenient way to access records, sometimes the

records you need are not available there. You can often obtain needed information in other ways.

Poland has no single repository of church records. The present location of records depends on nationality, religion, and local history. Church **records are available at:**

- *Local parishes.* Most Catholic church records are still maintained by the parish, which will generally answer correspondence in Polish. You can write directly to the parish with a nonspecific address (Catholic parish, Town name with postal code, Poland), but using the specific parish address is better. For specific addresses, consult a church directory (see "Church Directories" in this outline). If the records you need have been moved to a **diocese or state archive, your request may** be forwarded to that archive.

- *Church diocesan archives.* Some parish registers are collected in diocesan archives. Generally the very old records (before 1800) are in **diocesan archives. Some dioceses require** parishes to send their records into the diocese after 100 years. Protestants also maintain church archives, although many of their **records are in state archives. Church archives** are often unable to handle genealogical requests, but they can tell you if specific records are available.

- *State Archives.* Many parish records and transcripts are in State Archives. Most of these records have been microfilmed and are available at the Family History Library. For **more recent records and for those not yet** microfilmed, write to the Central Directorate of the Polish State Archives and request searches of the records. See "Archives and Libraries" in this outline for that address.

- *Civil registration offices.* Transcripts (copies) and sometimes originals of church records or Jewish records may be deposited in local civil registration offices. These are generally sent to state archives after 100 years. See "Civil Registration" in this outline.

You may be able to find baptism, marriage, and burial records by contacting or visiting local parishes or archives in Poland. Write your request in Polish whenever possible. Information about how to write to local parishes in Poland is given in *Letter-Writing Guide: Polis*h (36339). In your letter include the following:

- Full name and the sex of the person sought.
- Names of the parents, if known.
- Approximate date and place of the event.
- Your relationship to the person.

- Reason for the request (family history, medical, and so on).
- Whether you want a photocopy of the complete original record.
- International Reply Coupons, available from your local post office.
- Money for the search fee (usually about U.s.$10.00 or equivalent in Polish currency).

If your request is unsuccessful, write for duplicate records that may have been filed in other archives **or in civil registration offices.**

Search Strategies

Effective use of church records includes the following strategies:

1. Search for the relative or ancestor you have selected. When you find the ancestor's birth record, search for the birth records of brothers and sisters.

2. Search for the marriage of the ancestor's parents. The marriage record will often give clues for locating their birth records.

3. Estimate the ages of the parents and search for their birth records, repeating the process for both the father and mother.

4. If earlier generations are not in the parish records, search the records of neighboring parishes.

5. Search the death registers for all family **members.**

CIVIL REGISTRATION

Civil registration is the vital records made by the government. Records of births, marriages, and deaths are commonly referred to as vital records because they refer to events in a person's life. Civil registration records *(zapisy cywilne!* are an **excellent source for information on names, dates,** and places of births, marriages, and deaths.

Often a separate civil register was kept for the Jews in the community. In these "Jewish Civil Registers" it is not uncommon for whole families to be recorded all at once, rather than in the years when the births or marriages actually occurred.

General Historical Background

The earliest form of civil registration was conducted by clergy who were required to make civil copies of birth, marriage, and death records. These are known as civil transcripts of church records (see "Church Records" in this outline). Because the

church was involved in early civil registration, it is difficult to clearly distinguish between civil registration and church records.

Starting in the late nineteenth century and early twentieth century, Polish churches quit making civil transcripts, and the people were required to report all births, marriages, and deaths to a civil registration office (Standcsarnt, Matrikclstelle, urzqd stanu cywilnego!. Civil authorities in the German territories of Poland began registering births, marriages, and deaths in 1874. After this date all individuals who lived in Prussian-Gerrnan territories were to be listed in civil records, while churches continued to keep records as well. For birth, death, and marriage records in these areas before 1874, see "Church Records" in this outline. In the former Russian and Austrian territories] conventional civil registration did not begin until after the establishment of the Republic of Poland in 1918.

Information Recorded in Civil Registers

Information recorded in Prussian civil registration records was quite standardized. German forms were used, which required specific details.

The following descriptions pertain mostly to Prussian records. Civil registration in the Republic of Poland, introduced after 1918, followed the civil transcript format (in Polish) of the former controlling government and was gradually standardized to a format similar to the Napoleonic records of Congress Poland.

In the headings below, the translated terms in parentheses are given in German and Polish.

Birth Records *(Geburten, akta urodzen)*

Birth records usually give the child's name, sex, date and place of birth, and parents' names. They sometimes give additional details, such as the age of the parents, occupation of the father, and marital status of mother. Births were generally registered within a day of the child's birth by the father, a neighbor of the family, or the midwife. Corrections to a birth record may have been added as a marginal note, sometimes years later.

Marriage Records *(Heiraten, akta malzenstw)*

Marriages were often recorded in the parish where the bride lived. After 1874 Prussian law required a civil marriage ceremony in addition to a church ceremony. There may be records for both. Civil marriage records may include more information than the church records. When church and civil records are available, search both.

Marriage registers give the date of the marriage, the names of the bride and groom, and the names of witnesses. They often include the bride's and groom's ages, birthplaces, residences, occupations, and parents' names. In cases of second and later marriages, the records may include names of previous partners and their death dates. Often a note is made whether a parent or other party gave permission for the marriage.

Supporting documents were often filed by the bride or groom in support of their request to be married. Records proving their birth may have been required at the time, although these papers were probably not kept in the marriage register. Information obtained from supporting documents was often written into the actual marriage record. These documents are usually not microfilmed but might be obtained from a civil registration office.

Divorce Records *(Ehescheidungen, akta rozwodowe)*

Divorces before the mid-twentieth century were uncommon. The Catholic Church did not allow divorces, and divorces were discouraged in protestant religions, although some marriages may have been annulled. Civil officials began keeping divorce records with the beginning of civil registration. Records of divorces may contain information on family members, marital history, property, residences, and dates of other important events such as the children's births. Often a record of divorce was inserted later as a marginal note in the marriage register.

The Family History Library has almost no divorce records in its Polish collection. You may be able to obtain information from divorce records by contacting the courthouse of the town where the divorce took place or the archives serving the area.

Death Records *(Tote, akta zgon6w)*

Death records are especially helpful because they may provide important information on a person's birth, spouse, and parents. Civil death records may exist for individuals for whom there are no birth or marriage records. Deaths were usually registered within a few days of the death in the town or city where the person died.

Early death records generally give the name, date, and place of death. After 1874 they usually included the age or date of birth and sometimes the birthplace, residence, occupation, cause of death, burial information, informant's name (often a relative), and the name of a spouse or parents. Information about parents and birthplace and date of the deceased and other information in a death record may be inaccurate because the informant may not have had complete information.

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Registration Records

Most civil registration records older than 100 years may be located in state archives. The majority of more recent civil registration records are kept at the local civil registration office *(Urząd Stanu Cywilnego!* in each town or city. You must therefore determine the town where your ancestor lived before you can find the records.

Your ancestor may have lived in a village that was part of the civil district of a nearby larger town. In large cities there may be many civil districts. You may need to use gazetteers and other geographic references to identify the place your ancestor lived and the civil registration office that served it (see "Gazetteers" in this outline). In addition to the town, you need to know at least an approximate year in which the birth, marriage, divorce, or death occurred.

Records at the Family History Library

The Family History Library has microfilmed the civil registration records of many towns in the former Prussian areas of Poland. They are rarely available more recently than about 1890 because the microfilming of more recent records was restricted. The specific holdings of the Family History Library are listed in the Family History Library Catalog. To find civil registration records in the Family History Library, search in the "Locality" section under:

> POLAND-CIVIL REGISTRATION
> POLAND, (PROVINCE)-CIVIL
>   REGISTRATION
> POLAND, (PROVINCE), (CITY)-CIVIL
>   REGISTRATION

The library's collection continues to grow. Do not give up if records are not available yet. The Family History Library Catalog is updated regularly.

Locating Records Not at the Family History Library

Birth, marriage, divorce, and death records may be found by contacting local civil registration offices or State Archives in Poland. To protect the rights of privacy of living persons, most modem **records have restrictions on their use and access.**

The present location of records depends on the age of the record book. Records older than 100 years are generally in local civil registration offices, and older ones are in state archives. If you write to the Central Directorate of the Polish State Archives, they will forward your request to the appropriate

State Archive or civil registration office. When writing to the Polish State Archives, do not send money. They will bill you for services.

Search Strategies

The strategies for using civil registration records are essentially the same as for church records. Since civil registration began quite late in Poland, research in civil records will usually lead back to church registers within one or two generations.

DIRECTORIES, SECULAR

Directories are alphabetical lists of names and addresses. These often list all adult residents or tradesmen of a city or area. Telephone books are a type of directory.

The most helpful directories for genealogical research are city directories of local residents and businesses. These are usually published annually and may include an individual's name, address, occupation, and spouse's name. An individual's address can be helpful when searching in a large city with several parishes. Directories sometimes have maps and may have addresses of churches, cemeteries, and civil registration offices.

A good source for finding which surnames are prominent in which areas of Poland is a database made from directories throughout Poland in 1990:

Rymut, Kazimierz. *Slownik nazwisk wsp61czesnie w Polsce utywanych* (Dictionary of Names used in Contemporary Poland). 10 vols. Krakow: Polska Akademia Nauk-Instytut Języka Polskiego, 1992-94. (FHL book 943.8 D4rk.)

Telephone numbers and addresses for businesses in Poland can be found on the Internet at:

> www.teldir.com/eng/euro/pl

The Family History Library has some directories for Poland. These are listed in the "Locality" section of the Family History Library Catalog under:

> POLAND, (PROVINCE)-DIRECTORIES
> POLAND, (PROVINCE), (CITY)-
>   DIRECTORIES

Directories of tradesmen or businesses are listed in the "Locality"section of the Family History Library Catalog under:

> POLAND, (PROVINCE)-OCCUPATIONS

There are also special directories that can help you find church dioceses and parishes. See "Church Directories" in this outline.

EMIGRATION AND IMMIGRATION

Emigration and immigration sources list the names of people leaving (emigration) or coming into (immigration) Poland. These lists include passenger lists, permissions to emigrate, and records of passports issued. The information in **these records may include the name, age,** occupation, destination, and place of origin or birthplace of the emigrant. These sources can help you determine where in Poland your ancestor **came from and can also help in constructing** family groups. Unfortunately, there are few emigration records from Poland, but there are some useful records of Polish immigrants into **America.**

This section discusses:

*   Emigration from Poland, including the historical background of Polish emigration

*   Finding an emigrant's town of origin

*   Passenger lists

*   Other records of departure

*   Records of Polish emigrants in their **destination countries**

Emigration from Poland

People emigrated from Poland to places such as the United States, Canada, Australia, and South America beginning in the 1820s. Most early **emigrants came from areas under Prussian** (German) rule to the United States and, to a lesser degree, France. These included both ethnic Poles and ethnic Germans. The earliest emigrants from Russian-governed Poland were from the districts of Suwalki and Lomia. A great many of these people were jewish.

Most of the early emigrants to the United States settled in Texas; Hamtramck, Michigan; and the Chicago area. Emigration was minimal until 1854, when Poles from Silesia began settling in Texas. A great wave of Polish emigration started in the 1870s. Most later emigrants left from Austrian-governed southern Poland (Galicia) and Russian Poland, destined largely for Illinois, Wisconsin, New York, Michigan, and other areas of the United States. From 1900-15, many Poles settled in Chicago, New York City, Connecticut, New York State, Pennsylvania, New jersey, and Massachusetts. From 1870-1914, 3.6 million Poles left from the three empires that controlled Poland. The Russian Poles constituted 53 percent, those from Galicia 43 percent, and the Prussian Poles 4 percent of the total Polish immigration from 1895-1911.

If you cannot find your ancestor, you may find **emigration information on neighbors of your** ancestor. People who lived near each other in Poland may have settled together in the country they immigrated to.

Finding an Emigrant's Town of Origin

Once you have found your emigrant ancestor, you must determine the city or town the ancestor was from. Poland has no nationwide index to birth, marriage, or death records or other records needed for genealogical research.

Several sources may give your ancestor's place of origin. Family members or a library may have documents that name the city or town, such as:

*   Birth, marriage, and death certificates
*   **Obituaries**
*   journals
*   Photographs
*   **Letters**
*   Family Bibles
*   Church certificates or records
*   Naturalization applications and petitions
*   Passenger lists
*   Passports
*   Family heirlooms

Additional information about finding the origins of immigrant ancestors is given in *Tracing Your Immigrant Ancestor (34111).*

Passenger Lists

A small number of emigrants left for the USA from the port of Stettin (today called Szczecin in Poland). The surviving passenger departure lists are presently only available in the Vorpommersches Landesarchiv in Greifswald, Germany. They cover the period from 1869-92. You may write to the archive for more information about researching these lists at this address:

> Vorpommersches Landesarchiv Greifswald
> Postfach 33 23
> D-17463 Greifswald
> GERMANY

The Polish port of Gdansk (DanZig) was primarily a freight port. Not many passengers sailed from this port. Most emigrants went by train to Germany and then embarked from a German port. The major ports of departure for emigrants from Poland were Hamburg and Bremen, but because Hamburg had more agents and advertising in Eastern Europe, it served more Polish emigrants than Bremen did. The passenger lists of Bremen have not been preserved, but those of Hamburg from 1850 to

1934 are preserved and accessible for research. Information in these lists varies but usually includes names, ages, occupations, and destinations. In addition, relationships and last residence or birthplace may be given.

The Family History Library has microfilm copies of the original records from the port of Hamburg. The film numbers of these records are listed in the "Locality" section of the Family History Library Catalog under:

GERMANY, HAMBURG, HAMBURG-EMIGRATION AND IMMIGRATION

The Family History Library has produced a guide for using these records: *The Hamburg Passenger Lists 1850-1934* (34047). In addition, you may wish to check the following Website in locating your ancestors who left Hamburg between 1850 and 1934:

www.hamburg.de/fhh/behoerden/staatsarchiv/ link_to_your_roots/ english/index.htm

Other Records of Departure

Emigrating from Poland potentially gave rise to several types of records, including passport applications, police reports, and registrations, newspaper announcements, and annotations in church records or civil registration. Such records, if preserved, are in municipal and district archives. The Family History Library has not microfilmed any such records for Poland, and they are not easily accessible to the public.

Records of Polish Emigrants in Their Destination Countries

Sometimes the best sources for information about your immigrant ancestor are found in the country he or she immigrated to. You should search the records of the place where your ancestor settled, such as passenger arrival records and naturalization records. These sometimes provide the town of origin and other information. To learn about these records, use handbooks, manuals, and research outlines, if available, for that country.

Most Polish immigrants to the United States arrived in New York, Baltimore, Galveston, or New Orleans. The Family History Library has microfilm copies of arrival records for these and other U.s. ports. Most are indexed. See the *Research Outline: United States* (30972) for more information about u.s. emigration and immigration records. Canada, Australia, and other nations kept similar records of arrivals. The research outlines for the country where your ancestor went should provide information about that country's immigration records.

A bibliography of over 2,500 published lists of emigrants and immigrants is:

Filby, P. William. *Passenger and Immigration Lists Bibliography,* 1538-1900. 2nd ed. Detroit: Gale Research, 1988. (FHL book 973 W33p 1988.)

More than 1,000 of these passenger and immigration lists are indexed in:

Filby, P. William, and others. *Passenger and Immigration Lists Index.* 9 vols. Detroit: Gale Research, QI981-. (FHL book 973 W33p.) This does not index official U.S. arrival lists. Many of the names are from post-1820 published sources.

There are several immigration lists directed specifically toward persons who emigrated from Poland. These include:

Surname Index. Houston, TX: The Polish Genealogical Society of Texas, 1988-. (FHL book 976.4144 F25p.)

Moser, Geraldine D. *Hamburg Passengers From the Kingdom of Poland and the Russian Empire.* Washington, D.C.: Landmen Press, 1996. (FHL book 943.8 W2m.)

Immigration into Poland

Significant numbers of immigrants moved to Poland from 1770-1850. Most of these came from Germany, but others came from the Netherlands, France, and even Scotland. This wave of immigration was caused by offers to settle new lands in Russia. Many of these immigrants had suffered economic losses or religious persecution in their homelands.

ENCYCLOPEDIAS AND DICTIONARIES

Encyclopedias can have information on all branches of knowledge or treat a specific topic comprehensively, usually in articles arranged alphabetically. They often contain information of interest for genealogical research, including articles about towns and places, prominent people, minorities, and religions. They can give information about topics such as record-keeping practices, laws, customs, commerce, costumes, occupations, and archaic terminology.

The library has general knowledge encyclopedias in Polish and encyclopedias that address specific topics, such as *Encyclopedia of Warsaw,* which are often in English. Both types of encyclopedias are listed in the Family History Library Catalog under:

POLAND-ENCYCLOPEDIAS AND DICTIONARIES

The following encyclopedias and dictionaries may be particularly helpful in your research:

Polish Encyclopedia. 3 vol., N.Y. Times: Arno Press, 1972. (FHL book 943.8 H6p.) A collection of monographs on various social sciences related to Poland, including language, literature, history, demography, geography, economics, and so on. Not alphabetically arranged.

Encyklopedia Warszawy (Encyclopedia of Warsaw). Warszawa: Panstwowe Wydawnictwo Naukowe, 1975. (FHL book 943.84(W1 A5.) Contains entries on prominent people of Warsaw, local economy, streets, buildings, churches, and so on.

Orgelbrand, Samuel. *Encyklopedia powszechna.* (General Encyclopedia). Warszawa: [n.p.], 1898-1912. (FHL films 0997501-18.) From the end of the nineteenth century. Excellent source of information about places, religions, old occupations, and old Polish terminology.

For information on language dictionaries, see "Language and Languages" in this outline.

GAZETTEERS

Gazetteers are dictionaries of place-names. They describe towns, villages, counties, provinces, and population sizes; parishes; and rivers, mountains, and other geographical features. They usually include only places that existed at the time of publication. The place-names are generally listed in alphabetical order.

Gazetteers may also provide the following information about towns**:**

• Local religious denominations and parishes

• 'Postal facilities and other communication facilities (telephone, telegraph, and so on)

• Local commerce, agriculture, manufacturing works, canals, docks, and railroad stations

• Schools, colleges, and universities

You can use gazetteers to locate places where your family lived and determine the civil and church jurisdictions over those places. For example, Sarn6w in Gliwice Province is a small village that belongs to the Catholic parish of Toszek.

Because many places in Poland have the same or similar names, you will need to use a gazetteer to identify the specific town your ancestor lived in, the civil district it was in, and the jurisdictions where records about your ancestor were kept.

Gazetteers can also help you determine the province jurisdictions used in the Family History Library Catalog.

Finding Place-Names in the Family History Library Catalog

The Family History Library Catalog lists place-names under province (wojewodzstwo) jurisdictions used in the 1960s and 1970s. Names are also listed under the German-Prussian province *(Provinz)* as of 1871-1914 or the Austrian province *(Provinz)* as of 1850-1915. To find the province that a town is filed under in the Family History Library Catalog, use the "see" references on the catalog's first locality microfiche of each state. If you have the catalog on compact disc, use the "Locality Browse" search. Each town is listed in the catalog with its district *(powiat* or *Kreis)* jurisdiction to distinguish it from other places of the same name.

Because of the many changes in place-names, the Family History Library uses one gazetteer as the standard guide for listing places in the Family History Library Catalog. Regardless of the names a place may have had at various times, all Polish places are listed in the catalog by the name they are listed under in:

Spis miejscowosci Polskiej Rzeczypospoiitej Ludowej (Gazetteer of the Polish People's Republic). Warsaw: Wydawnictwa Komunikacji 1 Lacznosci, 1967. (FHL book INTL Ref 943.8E5s; film 0844922.) This gazetteer lists locality names as they existed from the *1950s* to the 1980s. Locality names are listed alphabetically in column 1; column 3 indicates district; column 4, province; column 5, post office location; and column 7 the location of the current vital records office. For former Polish towns that are now part of Russia, see the 1934 *Skorowidz miejscowosci rzeczypospolitej Polskiej* by Bystrzyckiego, listed on this page.

Modern Place-Names

For research purposes such as correspondence, learn which jurisdictions your ancestral town was under at various times. Current jurisdictions can help you find the ancestral town on modern maps. The following modern gazetteers are at most large libraries and archives:

Wykaz Urzedowuch nazw miejscowosci w Polsce (List of Official Place-Names in Poland). Warszawa: Wydawnictwo Akcydensowe, 1980. (FHL book 943.8 E5wu; fiche 6053522.) This gazetteer lists the jurisdictions as they were from the 1980s to 1998. Towns are listed alphabetically, giving the district and province they are located in and the post office location. No parish jurisdictions are listed.

Bystrzyckiego, Tadeusza. *Skorowidz miejscowosci rzeczypospolitej Polskiej* (Listing of Localities of

the Polish Republic). 3 vols. Przemysl: Wydawnictwo Ksiaznicy Naukowej, 1934. (FHL book 943.8 E5sm; film 11343868.) This gazetteer, of the republic of Poland from 1918-39, is the most accurate gazetteer for the territory. It is arranged alphabetically in the first column. Other columns include townships, districts, provinces, post offices, and railways. The last column gives parish jurisdictions but not synagogues. It does not include towns in western Poland that were part of Prussia in 1934 (for these towns, see the 1967 gazetteer mentioned previously).

Similar national sources are listed in the Family History Library Catalog under:

POLAND-POSTAL AND SHIPPING GUIDES

Historical Place-Names

With changes in national boundaries and governments, many place-names and jurisdictions in Poland have changed. The following gazetteers identify Polish localities as they existed under Austrian, German, and Russian administrations:

Austria

"Gemeindelexikon von Galizien" (Gazetteer of Galicia) *Gemeindelexikon der in Reichsrate vertretenen Konigreiche und Lander* (Gazetteer of the crown lands and territories represented in the imperial council). Vol. 12. Vienna: K. K. Statistischen Zentralkommission, 1907. (FHL book 943.6 E5g; film 1187928.) To use, find the village in the index, which gives the page number in the gazetteer. This will help locate the district given at the top of the page. In the appendix section, using the name of the district and the village, you can determine the parish town where the church records were kept for your village.

Lenius, Brian J. *Genealogical Gazetteer of Galicia.* Anoia, Manitoba, Canada, [www.lenius.ca] 1999. (FHL book 943.86 E5l.)

Germany

Uetrecht, Erich and Raymond Wright. *Meyers Orts- und Verkehrs-Lexiko1J des Deutschen Reichs* (Meyer's gazetteer and directory of the German Empire). Leipzig: Bibliographisches Institut, 1912-13. (FHL book 943 E5mo; film 496640-41; fiche 6000001-29.) This gazetteer lists places alphabetically, gives their former German province, and states whether a place has its own parish or synagogue. It also indicates the location of the vital records office.

Gemeindelexikon fiir das Konigreich Preussen (Gazetteer for the kingdom of Prussia). 13 vols. Berlin: Verlag des Kiiniglichen Statistischen Landesamts, 1907-9. (FHL book 943.E5kp; film 1186701, 0806633-35.) Volumes for each Prussian province are arranged by district with an index at the end. The gazetteer is in German Gothic print. Information is given in columns and includes population figures as well as civil and ecclesiastical jurisdictions.

Russia (and many places in Austria and Germany)

Sulimierski, Filip, ed. *Stownik geograficzny krolestwa polskiego iinnych krajow slowianiskych* (Geographical dictionary of the kingdom of Poland and other Slavic countries). 15 vols. Warsaw: Sulimierski i Walewski, 1880-1902. (FHL book 943.8 ESc; film 920957-72.) These locations are listed alphabetically with Polish text.

The following book gives name changes after World War I:

Kredel, Otto, and Franz Thierfelder. *Deutsch-fremdsprachiges Ortnamenverzeichnis* (German-foreign gazetteer). 3 vols. Berlin: Deutsche Verlagsgesellschaft, 1931. (FHL book 940 E5kt; film 0950387.) The purpose of this gazetteer is to locate place-name changes after World War I.

These sources are listed in the Family History Library Catalog under:

POLAND—GAZETTEERS

GENEALOGY

The term *genealogy* is used in this outline and in the Family History Library Catalog to describe a variety of records containing family information gathered by individuals, other researchers, societies, or archives. These records may include pedigree charts, compiled information on families, correspondence, ancestor lists, research exchange files, record abstracts, and collections of original or copied documents. These can be excellent sources of information that can save you valuable time. Because they are compiled from other sources of information, they must be carefully evaluated for accuracy.

Additional genealogical sources for Polish nobility are described in "Nobility" in this outline.

Major Collections and Databases

The Family History Library has several sources that contain previous research or can lead you to other people who are interested in sharing family information. These sources include:

International Genealogical Index (IGI). The index
has names and vital information for thousands
of people (deceased) who lived in Poland. It lists
birth, christening, or marriage dates, as well as
Latter-day Saint temple ordinance information.
The index for Poland has names extracted from
parish registers by volunteers (mostly from places
formerly under Germany) and names submitted
by other researchers.

The IGI is available on microfiche, on compact
disc as part of FamilySearch, and on the
Internet. If you are using microfiche, you need to
know which province to search. If you are using
the compact disc edition, the computer will search
the entire country for any name.

Ancestral File. Part of FamilySearch, this file
contains family history information, linked
in family groups and pedigrees, that has
been contributed since 1979. You can print
pedigree charts, family group records, and
individual summary sheets for any person in
Ancestral File.

Family Group Records Collection. More than
8 million family group record forms have
been microfilmed in the Family Group Records
Collection, including many Polish families.
There are two major sections: the Archive
Section and the Patrons Section. The film
numbers for both sections are listed in the
"Author/Title" section of the Family History
Library Catalog under:

> FAMILY GROUP RECORDS COLLECTION

Family Histories

A few Polish families have produced histories
or newsletters that may include genealogical
information, biographies, photographs, and other
information. These usually include several
generations of the family.

The Family History Library has only a limited
number of published Polish family histories and
newsletters. Copies are listed in the "Surname"
section of the catalog, but not every name found
in a family history will be listed. Only the major
surnames discussed in the family history are
included in the catalog.

Unpublished family histories, usually of Polish
nobility and their descendants, are sometimes in
the possession of private individuals in Poland.
These individuals may have collected a variety
of unpublished records pertaining to their own
families. Such materials are generally inaccessible
for research unless you can establish contact with
the appropriate individuals.

Genealogical Collections

The Family History Library has some collections
of genealogical material for Polish families.
These may include published and unpublished
collections of family histories and lineages. Some
of the major genealogical collections are:

Borchert, Reinhard. *Die Karte! Quassowski* (The
Quassowski Index). Hamburg: Verein fur
Familienforschung in Ost- und WestpreuBen
e.v., 1992. (FHL book 943.8 D22k.) This work is
arranged alphabetically by the main surname
of the family. Incidental names are indexed in
a separate index.

Schles!sche AhneJ1/isten (Silesia Ancestor Lists).
Breslau: Der Schlesische Familienforscher,
1938-. (FHL book 943.82 B2sf.) This lists
ancestors from the former Prussian territory
of Silesia, now in Poland.

Genealogical collections are listed in the Family
History Library Catalog under:

> POLAND--GENEALOGY
> POLAND, (PROVINCE)-GENEALOGY
> POLAND, (PROVINCE), (TOWN)-
> GENEALOGY

If you find your surname in any of the sources
described in this section, determine whether the
entry actually pertains to your family. People with
the same surname are not necessarily related. You
might have to do some original research before
you can connect your ancestry to families listed in
these sources.

The catalog also lists books about how to do
genealogical research in Poland. Examples are:

Gnacinski, Jan and Len. *Polish and Proud: Tracing
Your Polish Ancestry.* Revised ed. Indianapolis,
IN: Ye Olde Genealogie Shoppe, 1995. (FHL
book 943.8 D27g.)

Chorzempa, Rosernary. *Korzenze polskie: Polish
Roots.* Baltimore: Genealogical Publishing Co.,
1993. (FHL book 943.8 D27gr.)

Genealogical instructional books are listed in the
Family History Library Catalog under:

> POLAND--GENEALOGY-HANDBOOKS,
> MANUALS, ETC.
> POLAND, (PROVINCE)-GENEALOGY-
> HANDBOOKS, MANUALS, ETC.

HERALDRY

In Poland the noble class was entitled to bear
armorial signs. Signs were acquired differently
in Poland than in other areas of Europe. Polish
arms belong to groups or clans, not related

by blood, who share a common armorial shield *(herb)*. Originally Polish kings rewarded people who distinguished themselves in battle, performed a heroic deed or notable achievement, or held a prominent position in government by granting them a noble title and the right to use an armorial shield (often called a coat of arms). In the era of elected kings, people could be admitted to a shield either by election by nobles assembled in the parliament *(sejm)* or by adoption to a noble family. Only with rare exceptions could an elected Polish king grant nobility and a coat of arms to anyone other than a foreigner.

Each Polish armorial shield has its own individual name, which is different from the family names associated with it. Many different families, with different surnames, may have shared the same armorial shield.

A higher proportion of Poles possessed noble status than was the case in western Europe. Once obtained, an armorial shield was handed down through the generations. Arms and nobility status were inherited by all family members, not just the first son. For this reason, the noble class in Poland encompassed even the least country squire and the poorest knight.

Documentation for armorial shields is published in works called armorials *(herbarz).* An armorial is a collection of descriptions of coats of arms and the families that bear them. Poland has produced **numerous armorials prepared by various authors** dealing with the genealogy and armorial shields of Polish knights and nobility. The armorials describe each family's entitlement to the arms. They may also note early bearers of that coat of arms, sometimes with relationships, birth dates, and other genealogical information.

Each armorial differs from others, depending on the research of the author. No one armorial includes all Polish nobility though significant families are included in all of them. Some minor noble families are not included in any armorial. Polish armorials generally contain genealogical information as well as illustrations of the heraldic arms. They are a good place to start a study of genealogy and heraldry for noble families because they list family members and descendants from one arms-bearing ancestor in the distant past. The following is an easily accessible popular Polish armorial:

Herbarz Polski Kaspra Niesieckiego. (Kaspar Niesiecki's Polish Armorial). 10 vols. Lipsko: Breitkopfa i Hertela, 1839-46. (FHL book 943.8 D5n; film 0865225-33.)

The Family History Library has collected many armorials. These are listed in the Family History Library Catalog under:

POLAND-HERALDRY

Sources with information about noble ancestors may also be listed in the catalog under:

POLAND-NOBILITY

In addition, such families are often subjects of published genealogical books or articles. See the "Genealogy" and "Nobility" section in this outline.

HISTORICAL GEOGRAPHY

The name of the place your ancestor came from, the province, or the country may have changed several times. This section describes the changes that have taken place in Poland. This information will help you find records in the Family History Library Catalog for the place your ancestors lived. This section will describe the jurisdictions used in the catalog.

Poland was formerly part of Prussia, Austria, and Russia until 1918, when it became an independent nation. Record-keeping practices and political jurisdictions were determined by the country controlling the specific area of Poland. Over time administrative districts have been reorganized, their names and boundaries changed, and local place-names changed. You may need to determine previous boundaries and jurisdictions to locate **your ancestors' records. Gazetteers and histories** are helpful sources of information about these changes. The Polish partitions and the two world wars contributed greatly to the administrative changes that took place in Poland. After World War II, and Germany's occupation of Poland, ended in 1945, Poland's borders shifted considerably. The Soviet Union took territory in the east, and Poland gained territory from Germany in the west.

In 1975 Poland changed its administrative system, increasing the number of provinces from 22 to 49. In 1999 the provinces were again rearranged from 49 to 16. Most records refer to the older provinces and place-names. After a strike at the Gdansk shipyard in the 1980s, a solidarity movement began, and for the first time a labor organization was recognized. The events that took place following the strike eventually led to the fall of the Communist government in Poland.

Sources about boundary changes are found in the Family History Library Catalog under:

POLAND-HISTORICAL GEOGRAPHY
POLAND-HISTORY
POLAND, (PROVINCE)-HISTORICAL
   GEOGRAPHY
POLAND, (PROVINCE)-HISTORY

The historical atlases described in "Maps" in this outline contain maps depicting boundary changes, migration and settlement patterns, military actions, and ethnic and religious distribution.

HISTORY

Effective family research requires a knowledge of major historical events that may have affected your family and the records about them. Learning **about wars, governments, laws, migrations,** and religious trends may help you understand political boundaries, family movements, and settlement patterns. These events may have led to the creation of records such as land and military documents that mention your family. Your ancestors will become more interesting to you if you also use histories to learn about the events they may have participated in. For example, by using a history you might learn about the events that occurred in the year your great-grandparents **were married.**

The following are some key dates and events in the history of Poland'

500	Slavic tribes settled in the area that is now Poland.
966-1795	The Polish Kingdom existed. The Polish state emerged in the tenth century when several tribes united. Christianity was accepted in A.D. 966, and Poland became a kingdom.
1569	Poland reached its greatest territorial expansion. At that time it included Lithuania, Borussia (Prussia), Volhynia, Podolia, and the Ukraine.
1582	The kingdom of Poland adopted the Gregorian calendar.
1772	First Partition. Russia, Austria, and Prussia each seized one-third of Polish territory (see maps).
1793	Second Partition. Russia obtained one-half of the remaining territory of Poland, and Prussia took Posen.
1795	Third Partition. Polish resistance was overwhelmed, and the remaining Polish territory was divided among Russia, Austria, and Prussia. The kingdom of Poland ceased to exist.

1806-1813	Napoleonic Era. Napoleon created the Duchy of Warsaw (1806) and the Grand Duchy of Warsaw (1809) from. **territories previously seized from Prussia and Austria.**
1813	Napoleon's armies were defeated at Waterloo, bringing an end to the French Empire.
1815	The Congress of Vienna reassigned Polish territory to Russia, Austria, and Prussia. Krakow was established as a free city republic. The kingdom of Poland waS established within the Russian Empire with the czar as king. This kingdom was often referred to as "Congress Poland" because of its origin at the Congress of Vienna.
1846	Austria took over the Republic of Krakow, and it was incorporated into the province of Galicia.
1864	January uprising resulted from Russia's efforts to Russianize the kingdom of Poland.
1918-1939	The Republic of Poland. At the end of World War I Poland reappeared as an independent state after 126 years of foreign rule. The Treaty of Versailles in 1919 established Danzig/Gdansk as a free city, nominally independent of both Germany and Poland.
1939-1945	German Occupation. The invasion of Poland by the Nazis in 1939 marked the onset of World War **II.** After the war, Poland ceded her eastern territories to the Soviet Union, and her **western borders were moved west to** the Oder and Neisse Rivers, thus establishing her present borders. A provisional government was set up under Soviet auspices in 1945.
1947	The Communist party gained full control of the Polish government in state-controlled elections.
1952	Poland became a people's republic on the Soviet modeL
1989	The fall of the Communist regime. Lech Wałęsa was elected president in 1989 in Poland's first free election.

The Family History Library has several published national, provincial, and local histories for Poland. You can find histories in the Family History Library Catalog under:

EUROPE-HISTORY
POLAND-HISTORY
POLAND, (PROVINCE)-HISTORY
POLAND, (PROVINCE), (CITY)-HISTORY

The following historical sources are only a few of the many that are available. Books with film numbers can be ordered through local family history centers. Some may be found in major **research libraries.**

Cwik, Wladyslaw. *Miasta kr6lewskie Lubelszczyzny w drugiej p%wie XVIII wieku* (Life in the Royal Cities of the Lublin Region of Poland in the Second Half of the 18th Century). Lublin: Wydawnictwo Lubelskie, 1968. (FHL book 943.84 H2c; film 1183619.)

Gieysztor, Aleksander. *History of Poland.* Warszawa: Polish Scientific Publishers, 1979. 'FHL book 943.8 H2gk, FHL film 1181701.)

Leslie, R. F. *The* History *of Poland since* 1863. New York: Cambridge University Press, 1980. (FHL book 943.8 H2hp.) Includes a bibliography.

Topolski, Jerzy. *An Outline History of Poland.* Warszawa: Interpress Publishers, 1986. (FHL book 943.8 H2tj.)

Wandycz, Piotr S. *The Lands of Partitioned Poland,* 1795-1918. Vol. 7 in series: A History of East Central Europe. Seattle: University of Washington Press, 1974. (FHL book 940 H2ho.) Includes maps.

Local Histories

Some of the most valuable sources for family history research are local histories. They describe the settlement of the area and the founding of churches, schools, and businesses. You can also find lists of citizens, soldiers, and civil officials. Even if your ancestor is not listed, information on other relatives may be included that will provide clues. A local history may also give you ideas of **other records to search.**

In addition, local histories can provide information about your family's lifestyle and the community and environment your family lived in.

Although relatively few local histories have been published for towns or regions in Poland, a careful search for available histories for your ancestor's locality is worthwhile. You might want to write to the village mayor to see if these histories are available for your town when they are not available at the Family History Library.

Sometimes local histories are available at major public and university libraries and archives.

Calendar Changes

The Gregorian calendar is the calendar in **common use in the world today. It is a correction** of the Julian calendar that had been in use since 46 B.C. Leap years had been miscalculated in the Julian calendar, so by 1582 the calendar was 10 days behind the solar year. Most Catholic countries, including the kingdom of Poland, began using the Gregorian calendar in 1582. In Protestant areas of western Poland, the switch from the Julian to the Gregorian calendar took place in 1700.

In Congress Poland, where Russian administra-tion affected record keeping, the Julian calendar was generally used. Often both the Gregorian and the Julian dates were used on documents, the Julian date being listed first, thus making the **records confusing to novice researchers. When** both dates are given, use the Gregorian date for your record keeping. The Julian calendar was no longer used after 1918. By then the two calendars were 12 days apart.

JEWISH RECORDS

Historians estimate that during the nineteenth century more than 85 percent of the worlds Jews lived in Europe. Most of these lived in Poland and Russia. Many books have been written about Jews in Poland. You can often find these in a public or university library and information on the Internet.

The term "Jewish Records" generally applies to the registration of Jewish births, marriages, and deaths, but can apply to records of Jewish congregations or other records kept by Jews. There are a few records of Jewish marriages and circumcisions from the eighteenth century, but Jews generally did not keep records of this sort unless the law required it. In 1787, Austria (which included southern Poland) required that births, marriages, and deaths of Jews be recorded in Catholic civil transcripts. Later, Jews were permitted to keep their own records of these events, but only under the supervision of the Catholic clergy. Austria finally permitted independent Jewish vital record keeping in the 1840s, but did not recognize them as valid public documents until much later.

The Duchy of Warsaw (which later constituted the Russian territory of Poland) enacted civil registration laws in 1808. In areas of Prussian rule, Jews were required to prepare transcripts of vital records beginning in the early 1800s.

Family History Library has microfilmed ,any Jewish records in Poland and is continually adding to the collection. There are extensive **records from the former Russian and German** areas of Poland, but fewer for the Austrian areas of Poland. Microfilmed civil records are usually available to 1875. For those areas not yet microfilmed, you may write to the local civil registration office or to the Central Directorate of Polish State Archives. (See "Archives and Libraries" section.)

For further information about Jewish research see **these Internet sites:**

www.jewishgen.org

www.jewishgen.org/jri-pl

Also see the *Jewish Genealogy Research Outline* (36383).

For information regarding locations of Polish Jewish records, see:

Weiner, Miriam. *Jewish Roots in Poland: Pages from the Past and Archival Inventories.* New York: Yivo Institute for Jewish Research, 1997. (FHL book 943.8 F2wm.)

LAND AND PROPERTY

Land records are primarily used to learn where an individual lived and when he or she lived *there.* They often reveal family information such as a **spouse's name, heir, other relatives, or neighbors.** You may learn where a person lived, occupations, and other clues for further research.

In the former Austrian-controlled territories of Poland, land records named not only the property owners but also the landholders and land lease titles. These records indicate the obligations of the landholder to the estate owner. As peasants gained freedom from the estate owners (serfdom was officially abolished in 1848), land books listed the landholders and described transfers of title from parent to child and outright sales of land. In some instances the land records provide exact family relationships. These records, if accessible, could supplement the use of church registers. In other areas of Poland **where land records are more associated with** actual land ownership, land records are of lesser value because only a very small percentage of the population owned land.

The Family History Library has very few land records from Poland. Because of the availability of better genealogical sources, such as church records and civil registration, land records are seldom used in Polish research. In addition, land records in Poland are not easily accessible. The

existing records are now found at various·state archives. You might be able to use land records **for your research if you can visit the Polish archives in person or hire a local research agent.**

LANGUAGE AND LANGUAGES

Most materials used in Polish research are written in Polish. You do not need to speak or read Polish to do research in Polish records, but you should know some key words and phrases to understand the records. Because the Roman Catholic Church was the predominant religion in Poland, many records are in Latin. Other languages in Polish records include Polish, German, and Russian.

Polish grammar may affect the way names appear in genealogical records. For example, names of your ancestors will vary from record to record in Polish. For help in understanding name **variations, see "Names, Personal" in this outline.**

Language Aids

The Family History Library has *Genealogical Word Lists* for: *Polish* (34098), *German* (34067), and *Latin* (34077). The follOWing books and English-Polish **dictionaries can also aid you in your research.** You can find these and similar material at many **research libraries:**

Kierst, W. *English-Polish/Polish-English Dictionary.* New York: Saphograph Co., 1956. (FHL book 491.85321 K847e.)

Pogonowski, Iwo Cyprian. *Practical Polish-English, English-Polish Dictionary.* New York: Hippocrene Books, 1985. (FHL book 491.85321 P751p.)

Another valuable research tool for reading records of the former Russian territories of Poland is:

Frazin, Judith R. *A Translation Guide to 19th-Century Polish-Language Civil-Registration Documents: (Birth, Marriage and Death Records).* 2nd ed. Northbrook: The Jewish Genealogical Society of Illinois, 1989. (FHL book 943.8 V27.)

To read the Russian language records of this same area after 1868, use:

Shea, Jonathan D. *Russian Language Documents from Russian Poland: A Translation Manual for Genealogists.* 2nd ed. Buffalo Grove, Ill.: Genun, 1989. (FHL book 943.8 027.)

MAPS

Maps are an important source for locating places where your ancestors lived. They help you see the neighboring towns, transportation routes, and

geographic features of the area your ancestor came from. Historical maps are especially useful for understanding boundary changes.

Maps are published individually or as an atlas (a bound collection of maps). They may be included in gazetteers, guidebooks, local histories, and history texts.

Different types of maps will help you in different ways. Historical atlases describe the growth and development of countries. They show boundaries, migration routes, settlement patterns, military campaigns, and other historical information. Road atlases are useful because of their detail, and they include an alphabetical index. Other types of maps include parish maps, province atlases, topographical maps, and military maps. Maps can show· townships in great detail (to 1/2" to the mile). City maps are extremely helpful when researching in large cities such as Warszawa (Warsaw).

Using Maps

Maps must be used carefully for several reasons:

1. There are often several places with the same name. For example, there are nine towns called Dęba in present-day Poland.

2. The spelling and even names of some towns may have changed since your ancestors lived there. Some localities have different names in different languages. For example, the town now known as Toszek was Tost before 1918.

3. Place-names are often misspelled in American sources. Difficult names may have been shortened and important diacritic marks omitted. For example, Warszawa may be found as Warsaw on some maps.

4. Political boundaries are not clearly indicated on all maps.

Finding the Specific Town on the Map

To do successful research in Poland, you must identify the town where your ancestor lived. Because many towns have the same name, you may need some additional information before you can locate the correct town on a map. You will be more successful if you have some information about the town. You may search gazetteers, histories, family records, and other sources to learn about the following:

- The state or province the ancestor came from

- Name of the parish where your ancestor was baptized or married

- Towns where related ancestors lived

- The size of the town

- The occupation of your ancestor (this may indicate the size or industries of the town)

- Nearby localities, such as large cities

- Nearby features, such as rivers and mountains

- Industries of the area

- Dates when the town was renamed

- Dates the town existed

- Other names the town was known by

Use gazetteers to identify the district the town you want was located in. This will distinguish it from other towns of the same name and help you locate it on a map. (See "Gazetteers" in this outline.)

Finding Maps and Atlases

Collections of maps and atlases are available at numerous historical societies and at public and university libraries. The Family History Library has a good collection of Polish maps and atlases. These are listed in the Family History Library Catalog under:

POLAND-MAPS

Some maps at the Family History Library are:

Karte des Deutschen Reiches (Map of the German Empire). Scale 1:100.000. Berlin: Kartographische Abteilung der Kiiniglichen Preußischen Landesaufnahme, 1914-17. (FHL film 0068814.)

Mapa Polski (taktyczna) (Tactical Maps of Poland). Warszawa: Wojskowy Instytut Geograficzny, 1926-38. (FHL fiche 6312622.) A set of 483 microfiche maps of Poland as it existed· between World War I and World War II.

Modern road atlases for Poland are for sale at various genealogical booksellers and many online bookstores through the Internet. The following is an easy-to-use, well-produced road atlas that is typical of what is available.

Euro-Reismtlas Polen (Euro-Travel Atlas Poland). Scale 1:300,000. Berlin: RV Reise und Verkehrsverlag, 1993. (FHL book 943.8 E7er.)

PL Atlas Drogowy: Road Atlas, Strassentalas, Atlas Routier (Polish Road Atlas). Scale 1:200,000, 1:100,000,1:20,000. Warszawa: RV Reise- u. Verkehrsverlag, 1997. (FHL book 943.8 E7ad.)

Two excellent national historical atlases are:

Atlas geograficzny illustrowany kr6lestwa polskiego (An illustrated geographical atlas of the

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Kingdom of Poland). Scale 1:420,000. Warszawa: j. M. Bazewicz, 1907. (FHL book 943.8 E3b; film 0873665 item 3; fiche 6000827.)

Pogonowski, Iwo Cyprian. *Poland: A Historical Atlas.* New York, NY: Hippocrene Books, Inc., 1987. (FHL book 943.8 E7p.)

MILITARY RECORDS

Military records identify individuals who served in the military or who were eligible for service. **Most young men were required to serve in or register for military service in Poland. Evidence** that an ancestor actually served may be found in biographies (or family), census, probate, civil **registration, or church records.**

Military records of Poland exist as early as the 1500s. After the partitions, each area of Poland had its own distinctive system of keeping military records pertaining to the Austrian, Russian, or Prussian government. The Family History Library has very little in the way of military records from the Russian and Prussian territories but does have records from the former **Austrian areas.**

Military records include muster rolls, conscription lists, and draft registers. For officers, these records provide information about soldiers' military **careers, such as promotions, places served,** pensions, and conduct. In addition, these records usually include information about age, birthplace, residence, occupation, physical description, and family members. For regular soldiers, however, the information provided is not nearly so detailed.

The records available at the Family History Library were acquired from the War Archives *(Kriegsarchiv!* in Vienna. They include records for soldiers from Galicia, which is now the southern part of Poland.

Muster roUs and foundation books are personnel files on all Austrian soldiers. They provide names, birthplaces and dates, religions, personal descriptions, dates of induction, and remarks. The archive in Vienna has these records through 1869, and these are the only records that have been microfilmed. The records are arranged by regiment or unit and time period.

You must determine the military unit your ancestor belonged to. If the records of your ancestor do not provide this information, it may be possible to learn which units were inducted in the area where he lived. To do this, you must know at least the town where he was liVing when he was of age to serve in the military.

For the most part, foundation books of Polish soldiers after 1869 have been turned over to the Polish government. These later records are in Polish military archives and are not accessible **to genealogical researchers.**

Qualification lists of officers are arranged alphabeticaUy for the whole Austrian empire for 1828-1918. They provide names of officers, personal descriptions, dates and places of birth, **religions, and service records, including units served in, commands, and decorations.**

Military records in Vienna are being microfilmed by the Family History Department. More **information on these records is found in:**

Blodgett, Steven W. *Great-Grandfather was in the Imperial Cavalry: Using Austrian Military Records as an Aid to Writing Family History.* Salt Lake City, Utah: Corporation of the President, 1980. (FHL book 929.1 W893 1980 v. 7 pt. 4; fiche 6085770.)

Military records can be of great genealogical value but are not generally practical for research. They are difficult to access, organized poorly, and not indexed. Other sources, such as church **records and civil registration, are more accessible** and contain much of the same information.

MINORITIES

Poland has had many minorities, including Jews, Gypsies, Brethren, Calvinists, and Mennonites. You should learn the *history* of the ethnic, racial, and religious groups your ancestors belonged to. This historical background can help you identify where your ancestors lived and when they lived there, where they migrated, the types of records they might be listed in, and other information to help you understand your family's history.

For some minorities in Poland there are unique resources available, such as histories, gazetteers, biographical sources, settlement patterns, and handbooks. The Family History Library collects records of these groups, especially published histories. These are listed in the Family History Library Catalog "Locality" section under:

POLAND-MINORITIES
POLAND, (PROVINCE)-MINORITIES
POLAND-JEWISH HISTORY

Other sources are also in the subject section of the catalog under the name of the minority, such as **Jews, Germans, or Mennonites. Some sources are** listed under:

JEWS-POLAND

An example of the type of book you might find is:

Hagen, William W. *Germans, Poles and Jews: The Nationality Conflict in the Prussian East,*

1772-1914. Chicago: University of Chicago Press, 1980. (FHL book 943 F2hw.)

The Family History Library also has several books about Poles in other countries. These are listed in the locality and topic sections of the Family History Library Catalog under:

(COUNTRY NAME)-MINORITIES
POLES-(COUNTRY NAME)

In the United States, Germany, and other countries where members of these ethnic groups migrated, various local and national societies have been organized to gather, preserve, and share the cultural contributions and histories of Polish minority groups.

NAMES, PERSONAL

Understanding surnames and given names can help you find and identify ancestors in records.

Surnames

Before record keeping began, most people had only one name, such as John. As the population increased, it became necessary to distinguish between individuals with the same name. The problem was usually solved by adding descriptive information. John became John the smith, John the son of Matthew, John the short, or John from Breslau. At first "surnames" applied only to one person and not to the whole family. After a few generations, these names became hereditary and were used from father to son.

Polish surnames developed from four major sources:

- Occupational, based on the person's trade, such as Kowalski (Smith)

- Descriptive or nickname, based on a unique quality of the person, such as Mlody (Young)

- Geographical, based on a person's residence, such as Podleski (Underwood)

- Patronymic, based on a person's father's given name, such as Janowicz (son of Jan, that is, Johnson)

Surnames were first used by the nobility and wealthy landowners. Later the custom was followed by merchants and townspeople and eventually by the rural population. This process took two or three centuries. In Poland the practice was well established by the 1500s. It is not possible to determine the exact year or even the century when a particular family name was taken.

Alias Surnames. In some areas of Poland people may have taken a second surname. In the records this may be preceded by the word *alias, vulgo, vel,* or *genannt.* This practice is rare and was done mainly because of property ownership. It can be found in certain parts of Silesia.

Jewish Naming Customs. Before 1808 the use of a family name by Jews was left to the discretion of the individual. Jews in Poland usually used only a given name and the name of their father, such as Isaac, son of Abraham. Most Jews did not adopt hereditary family names until required to do so by law. Jews in the Austrian territory of Galicia were required to adopt surnames in 1785. In 1808 Napoleon made a similar decree for all the Jews of his empire, including the Duchy of Warsaw. In 1844 Jews were again required to adopt surnames because of noncompliance.

Language Effects on Polish Names

Polish genealogical records may be in Polish, Latin, Russian, or German. Your ancestor's name could be in Latin on his birth record, Polish on his marriage record, and German on his death record. Surnames or given names are often very different when translated into different languages.

Polish	Latin	German
Elizbieta	Elisabetha	Elisabethe
Katarzyna	Catharina	Katharine
Jan	Joannes	Johann
Wojciech	Adalbertus	Albrecht
Wawrzyniec	Laurentius	Lorentz
Franciszek	Franciscus	Franz

A book showing given names in 23 different European languages, including English, is:

Janowowa, Wanda, and others. *Siownik imion* (Dictionary of Names). Wroclaw: Ossolinski, 1975. (FHL book 940 D4si; film 1181578 item 2; fiche 6000839.)

Grammatical Effects on Polish Names

Polish grammar affects given names, surnames, and place-names. Surnames are affected by gender endings, such as the following example:

family name (masculine) = Grala
unmarried woman = Gra16wna
a married woman = Gralowa

In the case of the family name of Kowalski, the male name would be written as Kowalski and the female as Kowalska. Although these endings can be confusing, it is important to note that these changes do not indicate different families.

The Polish language uses grammatical endings to indicate such things as possession, objects of a verb, or objects of a preposition. To one unfamiliar **with Polish this could cause confusion. Always record names and places in their nominative case.**

The following is an example of how case endings change surnames in a typical birth entry:

> Josef, syn Antona Grabowskiego i Anny z Nowak6w Grabowskich w Warszawie

> Josef, son of Anton Grabowski and Anna (maiden name Nowak) Grabowska in Warszawa (Warsaw).

A good book about Polish surnames is:

Hoffman, William F. *Polish Surnames: Origins and Meanings.* Chicago: Polish Genealogical Society of America, 1997. (FHL book 943.8 D46h.)

Given Names

Most Polish given names are derived from biblical names, such as Jozef (Joseph); from the names of saints, such as Jan (John); or from Old Slavic names, such as Wladislaw.

When baptized, children were usually given only one, or possibly two, given names. Some of these may be the names of parents or other relatives or possibly the names of the godparents.

In Poland the child was usually called by the name given at baptism. However, if the baptism record shows a Latin given name of Adalbertus, this is not what that child would be called. Rather, he would be called by the Polish version of his name, which would be Wojciech.

No particular naming pattern for given names **was used in Poland as was common in other** European countries. In Poland each day of the year is assigned a saint's name and it is often. noted in the church records that on that given day every girl and boy was named for that particular saint. Thus it appeared that each parent had chosen the same name as everyone else for their child.   .

Some books are available that discuss names in Poland and their meanings. One book that provides meanings, variations, and dates when a particular given name was first recorded is:

Bubak, Jozef, *Ksiega naszych imion* (Book of Given Names). Wroclaw: Zaklad Narodowy im, Ossolmski, 1993. (FHL book 943.8 D4b.)

NOBILITY

Many family traditions of descent from a noble **ancestor turn out, on investigation, to have little** foundation in fact. Members of the nobility did **not emigrate in as large numbers as other social classes. Their emigration was generally caused** by political events, such as the partitions and unsuccessful uprisings, in contrast to the **emigration of others, whose motivations were usually economic.**

Also, contrary to prevailing opinion, it was not customary to disown members of noble families for unacceptable behavior. Thus, traditions of an ancestot, being erased from all records are unfounded. lllegitimate children, while not entitled to noble status, were often recorded (although the father may not have been named) and can be found in the vital records.

All nobles were equal before the law. The nobility comprised over 10 percent of the Polish population. Membership in the nobility was mainly hereditary, although members of the middle class were occasionally ennobled and some foreign nobles joined Polish ranks.

Authorizations of nobility underwent major reforms after the Polish partitions. The three partitioning countries each introduced new rules. All three required nobles to own land, and Russia and Austria distinguished between lords and knights (Austria conferred the titles of prince and count on nobles and baron on knights). In 1782 Austrian Poland established the "register of proven noble ancestry" in Lemberg (Lw6w), which granted noble status and enforced nobility regulations. In Prussia Polish heraldic affairs were under the jurisdiction of governmental agencies in Berlin. From 1855 verification of nobility was handled by the *Heroldsaml.*

After 1815, during the period of Congress Poland, there were some reversals. Privileges of the nobles that had been in force before the partition were partially restored. In 1836 a heraldic office was established to prepare an armorial of coats of arms proven to be legitimate, but the project was never completed. In 1870 all heraldic affairs were transferred to Saint Petersburg. In 1921 the constitution of the Republic of Poland abolished the noble class and its titles.

Because of frequent false claims to nobility, families had to legitimize (provide documentary proof of) their nobility. Rich sources of information about nobility include judicial court proceedings and land records. Information is also available from some private archival collections at the Archiwum Akt Glownych, Archiwum Akt Nowych in

LWarsaw; the provincial archive of Krakow; and **many other provincial archives.**

If your research in the original records of Poland indicates that your ancestor was actually of the noble class, there are additional records that will be helpful in your research. Although some original records (such as the grant of nobility) are still in existence, you can adequately accomplish **most nobility research in secondary sources,** including published or manuscript genealogies of noble families. Members of the noble class have wanted to preserve their identity. This desire has led to the publication of many noble lines of Poland. Several publications are available to help you trace a noble family. Some of the most **important are:**

Leitgeber, Slawomir. *Polska szlachta i jej herbi* (Heraldry and Genealogy of Noble Families of Poland). [n.p.], 1970–73. (FHL book 943.8 061; film 0897006, 0873838-9, 1181536.) This series **consists of 41 sections in 5 volumes.**

Korwin, Ludwik. *Szlachta Polska pochodzenia tydolVskiego* (Polish Nobility of Jewish Extraction). London: [n.p.], 1975 (FHL film 1045233.)

Frank zu D6fering, Karl Friedrich von. *AU osterreichisches Adds Lexikoll* (Lexicon of Old Austrian Noble Families). Wien: Frank zu Dofering, 1928. (FHL book 943.6 D56f; film 1440774 item 1.) This book provides old Austrian noble families for areas of Poland, Austria, and Hungary.

See also "Heraldry" and "Genealogy" in this outline. The Family History Library has collected many records of noble families, which are listed in the Family History Library Catalog under:

POLAND-NOBILITY
POLAND, (PROVINCE)-NOBILITY
POLAND, (PROVINCE), (TOWN)-
    NOBILITY

PERIODICALS

Some societies and organizations in Poland publish genealogical periodicals in Polish. Many other genealogical and historical societies and organizations with interest in Poland publish English-speaking periodicals. Much of their content is devoted to research helps, indexes, and compiled genealogies. The articles often include:

- Family genealogies and pedigrees.

- **Transcripts of church records, migration lists,** and cemetery records.

- Helpful articles on research methodology.

- **Information about local records, archives, and services.**

- **Book advertisements and book reviews.**

- **Research advertisements.**

- **Queries or requests for information about specific ancestors that can help you contact other interested researchers.**

Obtaining Periodicals

Copies of periodicals are available from the local societies that publish them. Archives with major genealogical collections will have copies of many periodicals, particularly those representing the **area they serve.**

Although not many Polish genealogical periodicals have been published, many good periodicals have been published by Polish-**American societies. Of particular note are the** publications of the Polish Genealogical Society in Chicago and the Federation of East European Family History Centers:

Rodziny: The Journal of the Polish Genealogical Society of America. Chicago: Polish Genealogical Society, 1992-. (FHL book 943.8 D25p.) Previously called Polish Genealogical Society Newsletter (1979-92). The society also produced a bulletin (FHL book 943.8 D25pb).

Newsletter of the Federation of Eastern European Family History Societies (FEEFHS). (FHL book 940 C4f.)

Some excellent publications that are centered on immigrants from Galicia are:

Galicia: The Galician Genealogical Magazine. Wroclaw: Alleum, 1996-. (FHL book 943.86 D25gg.)

The Galitzioner. Chevy Chase, Md.: Gesher Galicia, 1993-. (FHL book 943.86 F25g.) Information on Jews from Galicia, Austria (now part of Poland and Ukraine).

Galitzien German Descendants. Kent, Wash.: Galizien German Descendants, 1995-. (FHL book 943.86 D25g.) Dedicated to family history research of German descendants from Galicia. Includes how-to articles on doing genealogical **research in Galicia.**

Many other Polish-American genealogical societies publish periodicals and newsletters. These contain many useful articles about research in Poland, archives in Poland, and local Polish-American communities and people. Two good examples are:

The Polish Eaglet. Detroit: Polish Genealogical Society of Michigan, 1995-. (FHL book 977.4 D25p.) Called *The* Eaglet 1981-95.

Pathways & *Passages.* New Britain, Conn.: Polish Genealogical Society of Connecticut, 1984-. (FHL book 974.6 F25p.)

There are many other genealogical periodicals. Try to learn if there is a society in the area where your Polish ancestors settled. Polish societies with **newsletters exist in Minnesota, Texas, Wisconsin,** and many other states.

The Family History Library subscribes to the newsletters of most Polish genealogical societies as well as other journals and magazines relating to Poland. These are listed in the Family History Library Catalog several ways. 11 you know the title of a periodical, search the "Author/Title" section. To find periodicals in the locality section of the catalog, use the following approaches:

> POLAND--GENEALOGY-PERIODICALS
> POLAND-HISTORY-PERIODICALS
> POLAND-PERIODICALS
> POLAND-SOCIETIES-PERIODICALS
> POLAND, (PROVINCE)-[SAME HEADINGS AS ABOVE]
> POLAND, (PROVINCE), (CITY)-[SAME HEADINGS AS ABOVE]
> (STATE)-[SAME HEADINGS AS ABOVE]

See also "Societies" in this outline.

PROBATE RECORDS

Probate records are court records that describe the distribution of a person's estate after he or she dies. Information in the records may include the death date, names of heirs and guardians, relationships, residences, an inventory of the **estate, and names of witnesses.**

Probate records are not useful in Polish research. Other sources, such as church records and civil registration, cover more of the population, and probate records are difficult to access. Very few probate records have been microfilmed.

Usually only people who owned property and their relatives are mentioned in probate records. In Poland these included only a small percent of the population. Most farmers, merchants, and artisans did not own their own farms or shops.

The Family History Library does not have copies of the probate records for Poland. These records may still be found in local probate offices or local courts or archives.If you think probate records could be helpful to your research, write to the Central Directorate of the Polish State Archives to inquire about access to these records. See the *Letter-Writing Guide: Polish (36339).*

SOCIAL LIFE AND CUSTOMS

Knowing about the society your ancestor lived in can help you in your research. Learning about everyday life, religious practices, customs, and traditions is particularly helpful if you choose to write a history of your family. Research procedures and genealogical sources are different for each area and time period and are affected by the local customs and traditions.

The Family History Library does not have many books related to the social life and customs in Poland. You will probably find more books of this sort through a public or university library. The sources that are available at the Family History Library are listed in the catalog under:

> POLAND-SOCIAL LIFE AND CUSTOMS
> POLAND, (PROVINCE)-SOCIAL LIFE AND CUSTOMS

SOCIETIES

Many societies and organizations have information that would help you in your genealogical research. There are only a few such societies in Poland, but there are numerous societies dedicated to Polish genealogy in the countries Poles immigrated to, especially the United States. You may find it helpful to join one of these societies and support its efforts.

Most of these societies have Websites on the Internet. Most are also members of the Federation of East European Family History Societies (FEEFHS). Individuals may also join FEEFHS and receive its journal. This organization has a Web **site, with links to its member societies, at:**

> www.feefhs.org

Genealogical Societies

Several genealogical societies emphasize Polish research. Most of these societies publish helpful periodicals, transcripts, and compiled genealogies and may have special indexes, collections, and projects. Many publish queries about Polish **ancestors or maintain a list of members' research interests. Some specialize in the immigrants to a specific area.**

The following societies may be of interest:

> Polish Genealogical Society of America
> 984 North Milwaukee Ave.
> Chicago, IL 60622
>
> www.pgsa.org
>
> Polish Genealogical Society of Michigan
> c/o Burton Historical Collection

Detroit Public Library
5201 Woodward Ave.
Detroit, MI 48202-4007

http://pgsm.org

Polish Genealogical Society of Texas
Route 1, Box 475-S
Navasota, TX 77068

www.pgsl.org

Polish Genealogical Society of California
P.O. Box 713
Midway City, CA 92655-0713

http://feefhs.org/pol/pgsca

Historical Societies

Historical societies can be valuable sources of
information on Poland. Similar societies exist in
countries where Polish emigrants settled. These
societies often collect information about Polish
immigrants. Some may have information about
specific Polish individuals. Many societies have
special collections of books and manuscript
material for Poland that may be difficult to find
in libraries and archives. You may be interested
in the services, activities, and collections of the
following historical societies:

Immigration History Research Center
University of Minnesota
311 Andersen Library
222-21st Ave. S.
Minneapolis, MN 55455-0439

www.umn.edu/ihrc

Connecticut Polish American Archives
Elihu Burritt Library
1615 Stanley SI.
New Britain, CT 06050

h

Fraternal Societies

Your ancestor or relative may have belonged
to an association, lodge, or fraternal society
whose membership is based on common
interests, religion, or ethnicity. These societies
were involved in political, social, and financial
activities, including life insurance and burial
insurance.

Several sources, such as local histories,
biographies, obituaries, tombstones, family
records, and artifacts, may give you clues that
an ancestor belonged to a fraternal society.
Examples of these societies include:

Alliance of Poles of America (1895)
6966 Broadway Ave.
Cleveland, OH 44105

w

Polish University Club of New Jersey
7526 Broadway Ave.
Cleveland, OH 44105

www.njcommunity.org/puc

Association of Sons of Poland
333 Hackensack St.
Carlstadt, New Jersey 07072

w

Polish National Alliance of the United States
    of North America
6100 North Cicero Ave.
Chicago, IL 60646

w

Polish Roman Catholic Union of America
984 North Milwaukee Ave.
Chicago, IL 60622-4101

www.prcua.org

For more information about fraternal societies in
North America, see:

Chorzempa, Rosemary A. *Polish Roots.* Baltimore,
    MD: Genealogical Publishing Co., 1993. (FHL
    book 943.8 D27c.)

You may be able to get genealogical information
from fraternal organizations by writing to them.

Locating Records at the Family History
Library

Records of these societies are usually described in
the "Author/Title" section of the Family History
Library Catalog under the name of the society.
They are also listed in the "Locality" section of
the catalog under:

POLAND-SOCIETIES
POLAND, (PROVINCE)-SOCIETIES
POLAND-GENEALOGY
POLAND, (PROVINCE)-GENEALOGY

Some records gathered by societies are listed in
the locality section of the Family History Library
Catalog under the type of record. For example,
cemetery transcripts gathered by a genealogical
society are listed in the catalog under:

POLAND, (PROVINCE)-eEMETERIES

Lists and guides that describe the collections of
societies are listed in the locality section of the

Family History Library Catalog under:

POLAND-ARCHIVES AND LIBRARIES-
INVENTORIES, REGISTERS, CATALOGS
POLAND, (PROVINCE)-ARCHIVES AND
LIBRARIES-INVENTORIES, REGISTERS,
CATALOGS
POLAND, (PROVINCE), (TOWN)-
ARCHIVES AND LIBRARIES-
INVENTORIES, RFGTSTERS, CATALOGS

OTHER RECORDS

The topics listed below can be found in the
locality section of the Family History Library
Catalog after the locality. For example:

POLAND-(TOPIC)
POLAND, (PROVINCE)-(TOPIC)
POLAND, (PROVINCE), (TOWN)-(TOPIC)

Though not discussed in this outline, the
following catalog topics may be useful to your
research:

bibliography
business records and commerce
cemeteries
description and travel
directories
ethnology
handwriting
Jewish history
law and legislation
migration, internal
military history
names, geographical
newspapers
obituaries
occupations
officials and employees
population
postal and shipping guides
public records
religion and religious life
schools

FOR FURTHER READING

More detailed information about researching
Polish records can be found in:

Chorzempa, Rosemary A. *Polish Roots.* Baltimore,
MD: Genealogical Publishing Co., Inc. 1993.
(FHL book 943.8 D27c.)

Gnacinski, Jan and Len. *Polish and Proud: Tracing
Your Polish Ancestry.* Indianapolis, IN: Ye Olde
Genealogie Shoppe, 1983. (FHL book 943.8
D27g.)

Hoskins, Janina W. *Polish Genealogy and Heraldry.*
Washington D.C.: Library of Congress, 1987.
(FHL book 943.8 D27h.)

COMMENTS AND SUGGESTIONS

The Family History Library welcomes additions
and corrections that will improve future editions
of this outline. Please send your suggestions to:

Publications Coordination
Family History Library
35 North West Temple
Salt Lake City, UT 84150
USA

We appreciate the archivists, librarians, and
others who have reviewed this outline and shared
helpful information.

Polish
Genealogical Word List

Table of Contents

`1 A B C D E F G H I J K L M N O P Q R S T U V W X Y Z`

This list contains Polish words with their English translations. The words included here are those that you are likely to find in genealogical sources. If the word you are looking for is not on this list, please consult a Polish-English dictionary. (See the "Additional Resources" section.)

Polish is a Slavic language related to Russian and Czech. It is used in genealogical sources throughout Poland. Before 1918, Polish-speaking territories were divided between Russia, Germany, and Austria. Records written before 1918 may be in German, Russian, Latin, or Polish.

- In Russian Poland, Polish was the official language for vital records from 1808 to 1868. From 1868 to 1917, Russian was the official language.

- In German Poland, most records were kept in German or Latin, though some were kept in Polish.

- In Austrian Poland, most records were kept in Latin. Some records were kept in German and some in Polish.

Polish is also used in the records kept in some Polish communities in the United States.

Polish records often contain Latin and German words. See the *German Genealogical Word List* (34067) and the *Latin Genealogical Word List* (34077).

LANGUAGE CHARACTERISTICS

Polish words for persons, places, and things (nouns) are classified as masculine, feminine, or neuter. Adjectives used to describe them must have the proper masculine, feminine, or neuter endings, for example:

stary maz	old man
stara kobieta	old woman
stare miasto	old city

The endings of past tense verbs also change depending on the gender of the person or thing being described or performing the action. For example:

umarl	he died
umarla	she died
umarlo	it [the child] died

Variant Forms of Words

In Polish, as in English, the forms of some words will vary according to how they are used in a sentence. *Who-whose-whom* or *marry-marries- married* are examples of words in English with variant forms. In Polish any word may change, depending on usage. This word list gives the standard form of each Polish word. As you read Polish records, you will need to be aware that most words vary with usage.

The endings of words in a document will often differ from what you find in this list. For example, the document may use the word *starego* (old), but you will find it in this word list as *stary* (old).

Certain endings, called genitive, give the meaning "of" to a word. The following endings are typical:

Nouns	Endings	Adjectives
-a	(masculine)	*-ego*
-y or *-i*	(feminine)	*-ej*
-ów	(plural)	*-ich* or *-ych*

Thus, *ojciec zmarlego* means "father of the deceased."

Plural forms of Polish words usually change the singular word as follows:

Words ending in *-a* change to *-y*
Words ending in *-o* change to *-a*
A *-y* or *-i* is added to form the plural

The plural form may change the basic word, for example:

zona	wife	*zony*	wives
miasto	city	*miasta*	cities
powiat	district	*powiaty*	districts
brat	brother	*bracia*	brothers

ADDITIONAL RESOURCES

This word list includes words *most commonly found in genealogical sources*. For further help, use a Polish-English dictionary. Several Polish-English dictionaries are available at

the Family History Library   in the European collection. Their call numbers begin with 491.85321.

The following dictionary is available on microfilm for use in Family History Centers: Stanislawski, Jan. *English-Polish and Polish-English Dictionary*, Philadelphia: David McKay, 1946. (FHL film 1,045,473, item 1)

Additional dictionaries are listed in the Subject section of the Family History Library Catalog   under POLISH LANGUAGE - DICTIONARIES. Other dictionaries and language helps, such as Polish grammar books, are listed in the Locality section under POLAND - LANGUAGE AND LANGUAGES.

KEY WORDS

To find and use specific types of Polish records, you will need to know some key words in Polish. This section gives key genealogical terms in English and the Polish words with the same or similar meanings.

For example, in the first column you will find the English word *marriage*. In the second column you will find Polish words with meanings such as *marry, marriage, wedding, wedlock, unite, legitimate, joined,* and other words used to indicate marriage.

English	Polish
birth	urodzin, urodzony, urodzil, sie, zrodzony
burial	pochowanie, pogrzeb
Catholic	rzymsko-katolicki
child	dziecie, dziecko
christening	chrzest, chrzciny, ochrzczone
death(s)	zgon(ów), zejsc, umarl, zmarl, smierci
father	ojciec
husband	maz, malzonek
index	indeks, skorowidz, register, spis
Jewish	zydowski, starozakonny, izraelici, mojzeszowy
marriage	malzenstw(o), slub(ów), zaslubionych
marriage banns	zapowiedzi
mother	matka
name, given	imie, imion
name, surname	nazwisko
parents	rodzice
parish	parafia
Protestant	ewangelicki, reformowany, protestancki, luteranski

wife	zona, malzonka, zamezna, kobieta
year	rok, lat

GENERAL WORD LIST

This general word list includes words commonly seen in genealogical sources. Numbers, months, and days of the week are listed both here and in separate sections that follow this list.

In this list, optional versions of Polish words or variable endings (such as some plural or feminine endings) are given in parentheses. Some Polish phrases and their translations are listed [in brackets] under the most significant Polish word, not the first word, of the phrase. Words in parentheses in the English column clarify the definition.

A

aby	so that
adoptowany	adopted
akatolicki	non-Catholic
akt	an entry in a register, record
akta malzenstw, akta slubów	marriage records
akta urodzin	birth records
akta zapowiedzi	banns records
akta zejsc	death records
akta zgonów	death records
akuszerka	midwife
albo	or
ale	but
archiwum	archive
asystencya	assistance
austriacki	Austrian

B

babka	grandmother
bakalarz	teacher, bachelor
baltycki	Baltic
beda	they will
bedzie	he/she/it will
bez	without
bezdzietny	childless
bezimienny	unnamed, nameless
bialoruski	Belorussian
bialy	white
biegunka	diarrhea, dysentery
bierzmowanie	confirmation
biezacy	current
[roku biezacego]	[of the current year]
biskup	bishop
bliski	near
bliznieta	twins
blogoslawil	blessed
blogoslawiony	blessed, the late
bo	because
Bóg	the Lord
bólu	of pain
boznica	synagogue
Bozy	the Lord's
bracia	brothers
brak	lack of, is missing
brat	brother
bratanek	nephew
bratanica	niece
bratowa	sister-in-law
brzemienna	pregnant
burmistrz	mayor
byc	to be
byl (byli)	was (were)

C

caly	entire

ceglarz	brick maker
cesarski	imperial
cesarstwo	empire
chalupnik	cottager, poor peasant
chce	he wants
chlop	peasant, country fellow
chlopiec	boy
choroba	disease
chrzczony	christened
chrzest	christening
chrzestna, chrzestny	godparent(s)
chwilowo	temporarily
ciocia (ciotka)	aunt
cmentarz	cemetery, churchyard
co	what
córka	daughter
cudzoziemski	foreign
cukrzyca	diabetes
cyrkul	district (of a city), ward
cyrulnik	barber-surgeon
czarny	black
czas	time
czasopismo	magazine, periodical
czasowo	temporarily
czemu	why
czerwca	of June
czerwony	red
czesc	part, portion
czeski	Czech
czesto	often
czlonek	member
czterdziesci	forty
czterdziesty	fortieth
czterechsetny	four hundredth
czternascie	fourteen
czternasty	fourteenth
cztery	four
czterysetny	four hundredth

czterysta	four hundred
czwartek	Thursday
czwarty	fourth
czy	whether (introduces a question)
czyli	or
czynszownik	renter

D

data	date
dawniej	formerly
dekanat	deanery, division of a diocese
diecezja	diocese
difteria	diphtheria
dla	for
dlugi	long
dnia	on the day
doba	time period of 24 hours
dobra	estate
dobry	good
dodatek	supplement, addition
dolina	valley
dom	house
[z domu]	[maiden name, from the house of]
dotad	until now, still
dowód	proof
drobny	minor, small
drugi	second
drugiego	on the second
drzewo genealogiczne	family tree
duzy	great, big
dwa	two
dwadziescia	twenty
dwadziescia dziewiec	twenty-nine
dwadziescia cztery	twenty-four
dwadziescia dwa	twenty-two
dwadziescia jeden	twenty-one

dwadziescia osiem	twenty-eight
dwadziescia piec	twenty-five
dwadziescia siedem	twenty-seven
dwadziescia szesc	twenty-six
dwadziescia trzy	twenty-three
dwanascie	twelve
dwiescie	two hundred
dwóch imion	having two given names
dwódziesty	twentieth
dwór	estate
dwudziesty	twentieth
dwudziesty czwarty	twenty-fourth
dwudziesty drugi	twenty-second
dwudziesty ósmy	twenty-eighth
dwudziesty piaty	twenty-fifth
dwudziesty pierwszy	twenty-first
dwudziesty siódmy	twenty-seventh
dwudziesty szósty	twenty-sixth
dwudziesty trzeci	twenty-third
dwunasty	twelfth
dwusetny (dwóchsetny)	two hundredth
dyarya	diarrhea
dziad (dziadek)	grandfather, old man, beggar
dzial	portion, share
dzieciatko	infant
dziecie (dziecko)	child
dziedzic	heir, country gentleman
dziedzictwo	heritage, inheritance
dziedzieczenie	inheritance
dzien	day
dziesiaty	tenth
dziesiec	ten
dziewcze (dziewczyna)	girl
dziewiaty	ninth
dziewie dziewiaty	twenty-ninth
dziewiec	nine

dziewiecdziesiat(y)	ninety (ninetieth)
dziewiecset(ny)	nine hundred(th)
dziewietnascie	nineteen
dziewietnasty	nineteenth
dzis (dzisiaj)	today
dzisiejszy	today's

E

emigracja	emigration
ewangelicki	Evangelical, Lutheran

F

familia	family
farbiarz	dyer
febra	fever
felczer	medical assistant
folwark	manor farm
fornal	farm wagon driver
fryzjer	barber

G

garbarz	tanner
gdy	when
gdzie	where
glisty	intestinal worms
główny	main
gmina	township, community
godny	worthy
godzina	hour
golarz	barber
góra	mountain, hill
goraczka	fever
górny	upper
gorzelnia	distillery

gospodarz	farmer (self-sustaining)
granica	border
grecko-katolicki	Greek-Catholic, Uniate (Greek rite, but under a Roman Pope)
gromada	group, cluster, hamlet, community
grudnia	of December
grunt	land, property
gubernia	Russian province

H

handlarz	peddler, merchant
herb	coat of arms
historia	history

I

i	and
ich	their
imie (imiona)	given name(s)
imigracja	immigration
inaczej	otherwise, alias
inny	other
itd.	and so forth
iz	that (know that he died)
izraelici	Jews

J

jak	how, as
jak duzo	as much
jaki	what kind of
jeden	one
jedenascie	eleven

jedenasty	eleventh
jedna	one
jednak	but
jego	his
jej	her
jest	is
jestescie	you are
jestesmy	we are
jeszcze	still, yet
jezioro	lake
jezyk	language
jutro	morning, tomorrow
juz	already

K

karta	page
kaszel	cough
katolicki	Catholic
kawaler	bachelor
kazdy	each, every
kiedy	when
kilometr	kilometer
kobieta	woman, wife
kogo	whom
kolek	of cramps
kolki	colic
kolo	around, near, by
kolonista	colonist, settler
komornik	tenant, poor peasant
koncowy	final, last
konfirmacja	confirmation
koniec	end
konsumpcja ciala	consumption, tuberculosis
konto	account
konwulsje	convulsions
korcarz	grain merchant
kosciól	church

kowal	smith
kraj	region, area, country
krajowy	local
kramarz	stall keeper, merchant
krawiec	tailor
krewny	blood-relative
król	king
królestwo	kingdom
królewski	royal
krolowa	queen
krwotek	bleeding, hemorrhage
ksiadz	priest
ksiega	book
ksiestwo	principality, duchy
kto	who
który	which, who
kum	godfather
kuma	godmother
kunszt	trade, occupation
kupiec	shopkeeper, merchant
kupil	he bought
kuzyn	cousin (male)
kuzynka	cousin (female)
kwartal	quarter (of a year or city)
kwietnia	of April

L

lacinski	Latin
las	forest, woods
lata	years
lecz	but
lesnik	forester
lewy	left
liczacy	counting
[lat ... liczacy]	[... years old]
linia	line, lineage
lipca	of July

listopada	of November
litewski	Lithuanian
lotewski	Latvian
loze	status of legitimacy, bed
[nieprawego loza]	[illegitimate]
lub	or
lud	people
ludnosc	population
lutego	of February

M

ma	has
macocha	stepmother
maczarz	miller
madziarski	Hungarian
maja	of May
maja	they have
majacy	having
[lat ... majacy]	[... years old]
majatek	property
majetny	wealthy, property-owning
majster	master craftsman
malarz	painter
maloletni	not of legal age
maly	small, little
malzenstwo	marriage
malzonek	husband
malzonka	wife
malzonków	of the married couple
[malzonków Kowalskich]	[the Kowalski married couple]
mapa	map
marca	of March
martwo urodzony	stillborn
matka	mother
maz	husband, man
menonici	Mennonites

meski	male
metryka	certificate, record
meza	of the husband
mial	he had
miano	name
mianowicie	that means, namely
miasteczko	small town
miasto	city
miec	to have
miedzy	between
miejsce	place, locality
miejscowosc	locality
miescie	town
miesiac	month
mieszkajacy	residing
mieszkanie	residence
mieszkaniec	inhabitant, resident, citizen
mleczarz	dairyman
mlodszy	younger
mlody	young
[pan mlody]	[bridegroom]
[panna mloda]	[bride]
mlodzian (mlodziniec)	young man
mlyn	mill
mlynarz	miller
mniejszy	lesser, smaller, shorter
modlitwa	prayer
[dom modlitwy]	[house of prayer, synagogue]
mojzeszowy	Jewish
mórg	morg (1.2 acres)
most	bridge
	maybe
mumoze	to him
mularz, murarz	mason (bricklayer)
mylnie	mistakenly, erroneously
mysliwy	hunter

N

na	on, at, around
nad	above, upon
nadac	to give
nadane	was given
najemnik	day laborer
najmlodszy	youngest
najstarszy	oldest, eldest
nalezal	belonged to
nalezy	belongs
nam	to us
naocznie	by eyewitness
naoczny swiadek	eyewitness
naprzód	in front of
narodzony	born
narzeczona	betrothed, bride
narzeczony	betrothed, groom
nas	us
nastepny	next
nasz	our
na teraz	temporarily
naturalny	illegitimate
natychmiast	immediately
nauczyciel	schoolteacher, teacher
nawiazanie	reference
nazwana	named
nazwisko	surname
nerwowa goraczka	typhoid fever
nic	nothing
nich	them
nie	not, no
niedaleko	not far from
niedziela	Sunday, week
niegdy (niegdys)	deceased, former, the late
niemiecki	German
niemowle	infant

niepielnoletni	not of legal age, minor
nieprawy	illegitimate
nieslubny	unmarried, illegitimate
nie teraz	not yet
niewiadomy	unknown
niezamezna	unmarried woman
nieznajomy	unknown
niezonaty	unmarried man
niezyjacy	deceased, not living
nigdy	never
nim	him
niniejszy	this, the present
niski	low, short
nizszy	lower
noc	night
nowozaslubiona	newlywed bride
nowozaslubiony	newlywed groom
nowozency	newlyweds
nowy	new
numer	number

O

o	about, concerning
ob.	see
obecnosc	presence
oberzysta	tavern keeper
obrzed	rite, ceremony
obrzezanie	circumcision
obszar	area
obydwaj	both
obywatel	inhabitant, citizen
ochrzczony	christened, baptized
od	from, since
odbyty	performed
odmienny	various
odpowiadac	to reply
odra	measles

odwrócenie	conversion
oglasal	announced, published
ogrodnik	poor peasant, crofter, gardener
ojciec	father
ojczym	stepfather
okazal	showed
okolo	about, around
okreg	precinct, district
okupnik	local resident
olejów	of oil
on	he
ona	she
onegdajszy	day before yesterday
oni	they
opatrzony	provided
opiekun	guardian
opis	description
oplata	fee, cost
opuchlizna	dropsy, edema, swelling
oraz	and, also
osada	large settlement
osiadly	settled (at), residing (at)
osiem	eight
osiemdziesiat(y)	eighty (eightieth)
osiemnascie	eighteen
osiemnasty	eighteenth
osiemset(ny)	eight hundred(th)
oslabienie	weakness
ósmy	eighth
osoba	person
ospa	of smallpox
ostatni	last, recent
oswiadczenie	statement
oswiadczyl	declared, testified
otrzymal	received
owdowiala	widowed
owdowialy	widowered
ozenil sie	married a wife

ozeniony	married

P

pan	sir, Mr., Lord
pani	lady, Mrs.
panna	maiden, Miss
panski	Lord's
[roku panskiego]	[in the year of our Lord]
panstwowy	state, of the state
parafia	parish
parobek	farmworker
pasierb	stepchild
pasterz	herdsman
pazdziernika	of October
pelnoletnosc	age of consent, legal age
piatek	Friday
piaty	fifth
piec	five
piecdziesiat(y)	fifty (fiftieth)
piecset(ny)	five hundred(th)
piekarz	baker
pierwszego	on the first
pierwszy	first
pietnascie	fifteen
pietnasty	fifteenth
pisac	to write
pismo	letter, correspondence
plci meskiej	male
plci zenskiej	female
plec	gender, sex
po	after
pochowanie	burial
pod	under
podatek	tax
podlug	according to
podobny	similar
podpis	signature

podpisany	signed
podrzutek	foundling
podwójny	duplicate
pogrzeb	burial
pogrzebany	buried
pól	half
pólnoc	midnight, north
pológ	childbirth, labor
polski	Polish
poludnie	noon, south
pomorski	Pomeranian
poniedzialek	Monday
poniewaz	because
poprzedni	previous
poprzedzil	preceded
posiada	has, is in possession of
poslubil	married
poszukiwanie	research, search of
potem	after
potok	stream
pow. (powiat)	district
powinowaty	relative
powyzsze	previously mentioned
pozostaly	left behind, surviving
pozostawil	left behind, was survived by
pozwolenie	permission
prababa (prababka)	great-grandmother
pracowity	diligent, hard-working
pradziadek	great-grandfather
prawdopodobnie	in all likelihood, probably
prawego loza	legitimate
prawny	legal
prawo	law, right
prawoslawny	orthodox
prawowity	legitimate
prawy	right, true
proboszcz	parish priest
prosba	request

prosimy	we request
protestancki	Protestant
pruski	Prussian
przed	in front of, before
przedtem	before
przekonal	convinced
przeslany	sent
przeszly	preceding
[roku przeszlego]	[of the preceding year]
przez	by
przodem	before
przodków	of ancestors
przy	by, with, during
przyczyna	cause, reason
przyjaciel	friend
przypadek	circumstance, occurrence, case
[z bojazni przypadku]	[for fear of the circumstance (i.e., baptized on an emergency basis because the child was in danger of dying)]
przyrodni	step-, half-, (as in stepbrother, half brother)
przytomnosc	presence
przyzwolenie	consent
puchlina	dropsy, edema, swellling

R

r. (roku)	in the year
rabin	rabbi
rak	cancer
rano	in the morning
raz	once, time
[drugi raz]	[second time]
razem	together
reformowany	Reformed Protestant, Calvinist
religia	religion
religijny	religious, of the church
robotnik	worker
rocznik	yearbook
roczny	annual

ród	family, clan, descent
rodowód	genealogy, pedigree
rodzenstwo	sibling
rodzice	parents
rodzice chrzestni	godparents
rodzina	family
rok	year
rolnik	tenant farmer, husbandman, farmer
rosyjski	Russian
równiez	also, too
rozwiedziony	divorced
rozwód	divorce
ruski	Russian, Ruthenian, Ukrainian
rybak	fisherman
rynek	marketplace
rzadowy	governmental
rzeka	river
rzezak, rzeznik	butcher, circumciser (mohel)
rzymsko-katolicki	Roman Catholic

S

sa	they are
sad	court
samy	same
sasiad	neighbor
setny	one hundredth
sie	self
siedem	seven
siedemdziesiat	seventy
siedemnascie	seventeen
siedemnasty	seventeenth
siedemset(ny)	seven hundred(th)
sierota	orphan
sierpnia	of August
siódmy	seventh
siolo	village
siostra	sister

siostrzenica	niece
siostrzeniec	nephew
skladal	submitted, presented
skonczyl	completed
skorowidz	index
skurcze	cramps
skutek	cause
slabosc	weakness, sickness
slaby	weak
slaski	Silesian
slawetny	renowned
slawny	famous
slowacki	Slovak
slownik	dictionary
slub	marriage, wedding
slubny	married, wedded, legitimate
sluga	servant
sluzaca	servant girl
sluzacy	serving
smierc	death
snac	perhaps
sobie	self
sobota	Saturday
spazenie	burn
spis	list, census, index
splodzone	begotten, born
spoleczenstwo	society
sprzedarz	merchant, dealer
sredni	cental, middle, average
sroda	Wednesday
srodek	middle
stan	status, condition
starosc	old age
starosta	perfect
starozakonny	Jew (Orthodox)
starszy	older, elder
stary	old
stawiajacy sie	the one presenting himself

stawil sie	presented himself, appeared
stelmach	cart maker, wheel maker
sto	hundred
stolarz	cabinetmaker
stolica	capital city
strona	page
stryj	uncle (paternal)
stulecie	century
stycznia	of January
suchoty	consumption, tuberculosis
sukiennik	cloth-maker
swiadectwo	certificate
swiadek	witness
swiety	holy
swój (swego)	his, her own
swója (swojei)	his, her own
syn	son
synagoga	synagogue
synowa	daughter-in-law
synowie	sons
szesc	six
szescdziesiat(y)	sixty (sixtieth)
szescset(ny)	six hundred(th)
szesnascie	sixteen
szesnasty	sixteenth
szewc	shoemaker
szkarlatyna	scarlet fever
szkola	school
szkolnik	rabbi's assistant, teacher
szlachecki (szlachety)	noble
szlachta	nobility
szlub	see slub
szósty	sixth
szwagier	brother-in-law
szwagierka	sister-in-law
szynkarz	tavern keeper

T

t. (tom)	volume
taki	such as
takze	also
tam	there
tamowanie	opposition, objection
tamtejszy	of that place
tamze	in the same place
targownik	peddler
tego (tegoz)	this, the same
tej (tejze)	this, the same
ten (ta, tez)	this, the same
tesc	father-in-law
tezec	tetanus
tkacz	weaver
to	it, this
tom	volume
towarzystwo	society
trudniacy sie	earning a living
trzeci	third
trzy	three
trzydziesci	thirty
trzydziesty	thirtieth
trzymal	held, kept
[trzymal do chrztu]	[stood as godparents]
trzynascie	thirteen
trzynasty	thirteenth
trzysetny (trzechsetny)	three hundredth
trzysta	three hundred
tu	here
tudziez	also, likewise
tutaj	here
tutejszy	of this place
twierdza	fortress
tydzien	week
tygodnie	weeks

tylko	only
tysiac	thousand
tysieczny	one thousandth
tytul	title, name

U

ubogi	poor
ukraijnski	Ukrainian
ul. (ulica)	street, road
umarl	died
umieja	they know how
umowa	contract, agreement
umrzec	to die
uprzejmie	politely
urodzenie	birth
urodzil sie	was born
urodzin	of births
urodzony	born, wellborn (noble)
urzad	office
urzad stanu cywilnego	civil registration office
urzednik	registrar, officer, clerk
ustny	verbal, oral
utrzymajacy sie	supporting self (by)
uwagi	remarks

W

w	in
w. (wieku)	century
waleczny	courageous, gallant
was	you
wasz	your
wczesnie	early
wczoraj	yesterday
wczorajszy	yesterday's

wdowa	widow
[wdowa po Józefie]	[widow of Józef]
wdowiec	widower
we	in
wedlug	according to
wegierski	Hungarian
wiadomo	it is known
wiadomosc	knowledge
wiadomy	known
wieczorem	in the evening
wiek	age, century
wielki	great, large
wielmozny	powerful noble, magnate
wielu	many, much
wierzchni	upper
wies	village
wikarjusz (wikary)	vicar, priest
wiorst (wierst)	a measurement of distance (1067 meters)
wioska	little village
wlasciciel	proprietor, owner
wlóka	30 morgs (36 acres)
wloscianin	peasant
wloski	Italian
wnuczek	grandson
wnuczka	granddaughter
wnuk	grandchild
woda	water
wodna puchlina	dropsy, edema
wojenny	military
województwo	province
wojskowy	military
wolny	free, not a serf, unmarried
wraz	together with, with
wrzesnia	of September
wschód	east
wsi	of the village
wsród	in the midst of
wstepnie	initially, temporarily

wszakze	but
wszystko	all
wtedy	at that time
wtorek	Tuesday
wuj (wujek)	uncle (maternal)
wyciag	extract
wydany	published
wykonal	performed, did, accomplished
wyrazenie	statement
wyrobnik	dayworker, laborer
wysoki	high
wyznania	religion
wyzszy	upper
wzgórze	hill
wzmianki	remarks

X

xiadz	priest
xiega	book

Z

z	with, from
[z (Surname +ending)]	[maiden name]
za	to
zachód	west
zaden (zadna)	none
zadna	none
zagrodnik	peasant, farmer who has his farmhouse
zamek	palace, castle
zamezna	wife, a married woman, married
zamieszkaly	residing at
zamieszkanie	residence
zapalenie pluc	pneumonia

zapowiedz	marriage proclamations, banns
zareczona	engaged
zareczyny	engagement, betrothal
zarwarli	they agreed
zarzad	administration
zaslubiac	to marry
zaslubiony	married
zasluzony	in servitude, serf
zastepca	assistance
zaszlo	happened, occurred
zatem	then, therefore
zatrudnienie	occupation, profession
zawarli	they agreed, contracted
zawarte	agreed
zawartosc	content
zawarty	agreed, contracted
zawód	occupation, profession
zawsze	always
zdrój	spring, spa
ze	with, from
[ze (surname+ending]	[maiden name]
ze	that (know that he died)
zebrak	beggar
zejsc	death
zenska	female
zeszly	preceding
zezwolenie (zgoda)	permission
zgon	death
zgromadzony	gathered, collected
ziec	son-in-law
zielony	green
ziemia	earth
zloty	gold, unit of money
zmarl	died, deceased
zniszczenie	destruction
znowu	again
zobacz	see

zolnierz	soldier
zona	wife
zostajacy	residing, staying
zostal	was, accomplished, remained, left
zostawil	left behind
zrobiony	written (in a document)
zrodzony	born
zwany	called, known as
zwrot	application, remark
zycie	life, age
zyczenie	desire, wish
zydowski	Jewish
zyjacy	living

NUMBERS

In many genealogical records, numbers— especially dates—are spelled out. The following list gives the cardinal (1, 2, 3) and ordinal (1st, 2nd, 3rd) numbers. Dates are written in ordinal form. In dates, ordinal numbers usually end with *-ego*, for example:

pierwszy	the first
pierwszego	on the first (of the month)

Cardinal		**Ordinal**	
1	jeden, jedna	1st	pierwszy
2	dwa	2nd	drugi
3	trzy	3rd	trzeci
4	cztery	4th	czwarty
5	piec	5th	piaty
6	szesc	6th	szósty
7	siedem	7th	siódmy
8	osiem	8th	ósmy
9	dziewiec	9th	dziewiaty
10	dziesiec	10th	dziesiaty
11	jedenascie	11th	jedenasty
12	dwanascie	12th	dwunasty
13	trzynascie	13th	trzynasty
14	czternascie	14th	czternasty
15	pietnascie	15th	pietnasty
16	szesnascie	16th	szesnasty

17	siedemnascie	17th	siedemnasty
18	osiemnascie	18th	osiemnasty
19	dziewietnascie	19th	dziewietnasty
20	dwadziescia	20th	dwudziesty, dwódziesty
21	dwadziescia jeden	21st	dwudziesty pierwszy
22	dwadziescia dwa	22nd	dwudziesty drugi
23	dwadziescia trzy	23rd	dwudziesty trzeci
24	dwadziescia cztery	24th	dwudziesty czwarty
25	dwadziescia piec	25th	dwudziesty piaty
26	dwadziescia szesc	16th	dwudziesty szósty
27	dwadziescia siedem	27th	dwudziesty siódmy
28	dwadziescia osiem	28th	dwudziesty ósmy
29	dwadziescia dziewiec	29th	dwudziesty dziewiaty
30	trzydziesci	30th	trzydziesty
40	czterdziesci	40th	czterdziesty
50	piecdziesiat	50th	piecdziesiaty
60	szescdziesiat	60th	szescdziesiaty
70	siedemdziesiat	70th	siedemdziesiaty
80	osiemdziesiat	80th	osiemdziesiaty
90	dziewiecdziesiat	90th	dziewiecdziesiaty
-100	sto	100th	setny
-200	dwiescie	200th	dwóchsetny
-300	trzysta	300th	trzysetny, trzechsetny
-400	czterysta	400th	czterysetny, czterechsetny
-500	piecset	500th	piecsetny
-600	szescset	600th	szescsetny
-700	siedemset	700th	siedemsetny
-800	osiemset	800th	osiemsetny
-900	dziewiecset	900th	dziewiecsetny
1000	tysiac	1000th	tysieczny

DATES AND TIME

In Polish records, dates are usually written out, for example:
roku tysiac osemset trzydziestego szóstego dnia dwódziestego trzeciego marca [in the year one thousand eight hundredth thirtieth and sixth on the day twentieth third of March (23 March 1836)]

In some records, two dates are recorded:
dnia piatego/siedemnastego Maja [on the day 5th/17th of May]
The two dates are usually 12 days apart. The first date is based on the Julian calendar (used by the Russian Empire). The second date is based on the present-day Gregorian calendar.
To understand Polish dates, use the following lists as well as the preceding "Numbers" section.

Months

Polish often abbreviates dates by using a Roman numeral for the month. For example, 13 June 1864 could be written as *13.VI.1864* instead of *13.czerwca.1864*.

	English	Polish
I.	January	stycznia
II.	February	lutego
III.	March	marca
IV.	April	kwietnia
V.	May	maja
VI.	June	czerwca
VII	July	lipca
VIII.	August	sierpnia
IX	September	wrzesnia
X.	October	pazdziernika
XI.	November	listopada
XII.	December	grudnia

Days of the Week

English	Polish
Sunday	niedziela
Monday	poniedzialek
Tuesday	wtorek
Wednesday	sroda
Thursday	czwartek
Friday	piatek
Saturday	sobota

Times of the Day

Polish birth and death records often indicate the exact time of day when the birth or death occurred. This is usually written out.

Polish	English
o godzinie drugiej	at the 2nd hour
o godzinie siódmej	at the 7th hour
w nocy	at night
poludnie/w poludnie	noon
popoludniu/z poludnia	afternoon
przed poludniem	forenoon
pólnocna godzina	midnight
rano/z rana	in the morning
wieczorem/w wieczór	in the evening

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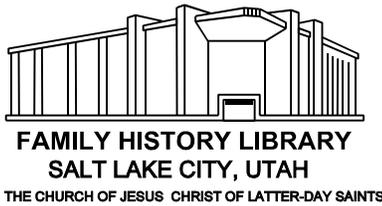
Polish

INTRODUCTION

This guide is for researchers who do not speak Polish but must write to Poland for genealogical records. It includes a list of sentences you would use in a letter about genealogical records and Polish translations of these sentences.

The best sources of genealogical information in Poland are records of births, marriages, and deaths kept by churches and civil registration offices. The Family History Library has microfilm copies of these records for many, but not all, localities. Use the Family History Library Catalog to determine what records are available through the library and the Family History Centers. If records are available from the library it is usually faster and more productive to search these records first. If the records you want are not available through the library, you can use this guide to help you write to Poland for information.

BEFORE YOU WRITE

Before you write to Poland for family history information, you should do three things:

- **Determine exactly where your ancestor was born, was married, lived, or died.** Because most genealogical sources were recorded locally, you will need to know the specific locality where your ancestor was born, was married, lived, or died. See the library's publication *Tracing Immigrant Origins* (34111) for help in finding hometowns.

- **Determine your ancestor's religion.** Because most early records were kept by churches or synagogues rather than civil registration offices, you may need to write to the church your ancestor attended in his or her hometown. If you are not sure what your ancestor's religion was in Europe, determine what religion he or she practiced after immigrating. People usually did not change religions when they moved from Europe to their new home.

- **Determine where records from your ancestor's home parish are stored today.** When you have a locality name, use a gazetteer to determine which parish or civil jurisdiction served your ancestor's locality.

RESEARCH BY MAIL

Church records are obtained from parishes, and civil records are obtained from civil registration offices. Both kinds of records may be stored in archives. In 1874 civil registration became mandatory in Poland, yet it started at different times throughout the country. If the dates you need precede 1874, you will need to write for church records.

If you address your letter to a parish or local civil registration office, you must write the letter in Polish. Letters written in Polish have a greater chance of receiving a reply than those written in English. You may write in English to the Directorate of State Archives.

How to Address the Envelope

For a *Roman Catholic Parish:*

> Parafia Rzymsko-Katolicka
> (postal code) (name of locality)
> POLAND

For a *Protestant Parish:*

> Parafia Ewangelicka
> (postal code) (name of locality)
> POLAND

Very few Protestant parishes still exist in modern-day Poland. Some records formerly found in such parishes may be housed in local Catholic parishes. For a list of the Protestant parishes in Poland and their addresses, see:

> *Kalendarz ewangelicki* (Yearbook of the Augsburg Evangelical [Lutheran] church of Poland). (FHL book 943.8 K24ke; film 1183508 item 4.)

For an *Orthodox Parish*:

Parafia Prawosławna
(postal code) (name of locality)
POLAND

For a *Civil Registration Office:*

Urząd Stanu Cywilnego'
(postal code) (name of locality)
POLAND

For the *Directorate of State Archives:*

Naczelna Dyrekcja
Archiwów Państwowych
ul. Długa 6, skr. poczt. 1005
00-950 Warszawa
POLAND
Fax: 011-48-22-31-75-63

Postal Codes

When addressing your letter you will need to write the postal (zip) code *in front* of the name of the town you are writing to. For help finding postal codes for Poland, see:

Oficjalny spis pocztowych numerów adresowych (Official zip code directory for Poland). (FHL book Ref Area 943.8 E8o.)

If your town is not listed, use the following gazetteer to determine where the closest post office is located:

Spis miejscowości Polskiej Rzeczypospolitej Ludowej (Gazetteer of Localities of the Polish People's Republic). (FHL book Ref Area 943.8 E5s, film 2037058 item 2.)

Towns in Poland are listed alphabetically. The post office is given in the fifth column, under the heading "Poczta."

How to Send Payments

Writing to a Parish. When writing to a parish it is a good idea to send a donation of $5.00 to $10.00 as a courtesy. Do not send a personal check, which is difficult and expensive to exchange in Europe. Cash is better since it is most easily converted to European currency, but be aware of the risks in sending it.

Writing to a Civil Registration Office. When writing to the local civil registration office enclose $10.00 in your first letter. The office may bill you

in addition to that for its services. You may be asked to make the check payable to its account number.

Writing to Government Organizations. When writing to the Directorate of State Archives, *do not send money* in your first letter. The staff will bill you for their services. You may be asked to make the check payable to the archive's account number. If you wish, you may write first to determine its fees before making a request. However, this will significantly increase the time it takes to get information.

WHAT TO EXPECT

It may take six months or longer for you to receive a reply to your request for information. Airmail improves the response time. The results of writing to parishes or civil registration offices can vary greatly. You may get a great deal of information, or you may get no answer at all. Some clergy and civil registrars are willing and able to provide considerable information while others are not.

When you receive a reply, send the requested payment and a note of thanks or acknowledgment. If you need to request further information, refer to your earlier letters and their return letters by date. You may want to include photocopies of any previous correspondence. If the archive assigned you a reference number, include that number as well.

Use Polish-English dictionaries to help you understand the reply. Sometimes you can hire accredited genealogists to translate for you. The Family History Library also has published *Genealogical Word List in Polish* (34098), which may be helpful.

If you do not receive an answer, write again, sending a copy of your first letter. Do not send more money unless you verify that your first letter did not arrive.

HOW TO WRITE A LETTER IN POLISH

Your letter should include:

- the date (at the top).
- the name and address of the addressee.
- a greeting.
- a brief introduction.
- biographical information about your ancestor.
- a short, specific genealogical request.
- referral request(s).
- a comment about payment.
- closing remarks.
- your signature.
- your return address (including your country).

Be brief and simple. Do not ask for too much at one time.

The English-to-Polish translations found below will help you compose your letter. Read the sentences in English, and choose those that best express what you want to say. Be sure to arrange your sentences logically. You may want to use the following English sentences to write your letter and then replace the sentences with their Polish translations. However you proceed, make sure you type or neatly print your letter and, when necessary, add any diacritical marks and special characters (such as ą, ć, ę, ł, ń, ó, ś, ż, ź) with a pen.

Do not use this guide as the letter itself! That might insult the recipient and lessen the chance of a reply.

Writing Dates

Write dates in the European style: day-month-year. Write the full name of the month or use a Roman numeral. Write the year in full (1845, not '45). For example, April 7, 1890 should be written as *7. IV. 1890* or *7 kwietnia 1890*.

The following names of the months are shown in their possessive form, which is used in writing dates:

January	stycznia
February	lutego
March	marca
April	kwietnia
May	maja
June	czerwca
July	lipca
August	sierpnia
September	września
October	października
November	listopada
December	grudnia

English	**Polish**

Greetings

Depending on whom your letter is addressed to, you will choose one of the following greetings. This will also affect some of your later sentences. The following sentences were written in the format of the first greeting. When addressing a priest or pastor, use the appropriate word indicated in parentheses.

1. Dear Sir (Civil, Government):	1. Szanowny Panie,
2. Dear Priest (Catholic or Orthodox):	2. Drogi Księże,
3. Dear Pastor (Protestant):	3. Drogi Pastorze,

Introductions

4. I live in the United States, but my ancestry is from Poland, and I would like to know more about my Polish ancestors.	4. Mieszkam w Stanach Zjednoczonych, ale moi przodkowie są polskiego pochodzenia. Chciałbym (chciałabym, if you are a female) dowiedzieć się więcej o moich polskich przodkach.
5. I am preparing a history of my ancestors in Poland and need information from your vital records.	5. Przygotowuję historię moich przodków z Polski, dlatego potrzebne są mi pewne dane z ksiąg metrykalnych.
6. My ancestors come from Poland. I would like to know more about them.	6. Moi przodkowie pochodzą z Polski. Chciałbym (Chciałabym, if you are a female) więcej o nich wiedzieć.
7. The following person is my ancestor who was born in Poland. I will give you all the vital data I have for this person.	7. Następująca osoba jest moim przodkiem urodzonym w Polsce. Podaję wszystkie dane, jakie mam o niej.
8. The following persons are my ancestors who were born in Poland. I will give all the vital data about them that I have.	8. Następujące osoby są moimi przodkami urodzonymi w Polsce. Podaję wszystkie dane jakie mam o nich.

English	Polish

Biographical Information

Give as much pertinent information as possible. Use only those items below for which you can give accurate information that is relevant to your request. Do not give information about events that occurred after the ancestor left Poland.

English	Polish
9. a. Given name and surname:	9. a. Imię i nazwisko:
b. Date of birth (approximate):	b. Data urodzenia (w przybliżeniu):
c. Place of birth:	c. Miejsce urodzenia:
d. Date of christening:	d. Data chrztu:
e. Place of christening:	e. Miejsce chrztu:
f. Father's given name and surname:	f. Imię i nazwisko ojca:
g. Mother's given name and maiden surname:	g. Imię i nazwisko panieńskie matki:
h. Husband's given name and surname:	h. Imię i nazwisko męża:
i. Wife's given name and maiden surname:	i. Imię i nazwisko panieńskie żony:
j. Date of marriage:	j. Data ślubu:
k. Place of marriage:	k. Miejsce ślubu:
l. Date of death:	l. Data zgonu:
m. Place of death:	m. Miejsce zgonu:
n. Date of emigration:	n. Data emigracji:
o. Religion: Roman Catholic Greek Catholic Orthodox Protestant Jewish	o. Wyznanie: rzymsko katolickie grecko katolickie prawosławne ewangelickie żydowskie

Genealogical Requests

English	Polish
10. Could you please check your birth registers from (year) to (year) for the birth record of this person?	10. Czy mógłby Pan (Ksiądz, Pastor) znaleźć świadectwo urodzenia tej osoby w przedziale lat od (year) do (year)?
11. Please send me a complete extract of the birth or christening record of (1) this person. (2) these persons.	11. Proszę o przesłanie mi pełnego odpisu świadectwa urodzenia albo chrztu (1) tej osoby. (2) tych osób.
12. Please send me a complete extract of the marriage record of (1) this person. (2) this person's parents.	12. Proszę o przesłanie mi pełnego odpisu świadectwa ślubu (1) tej osoby. (2) jego (jej, if the ancestor is a female) rodziców
13. I believe that (name) died in your locality about (year). I would like a complete extract of the death record.	13. Przypuszczam, że (name) zmarł (zmarła, if the deceased ancestor is a female) w tej miejscowości około roku (year). Proszę o przesłanie mi pełnego odpisu świadectwa zgonu tej osoby..

English	Polish
14. I would like to know more about the family of this person. I would be grateful if you would provide the names and birth dates of the brothers and sisters and a copy of the marriage record of the parents.	14. Chciałbym (Chciałabym, if you are a female) wiedzieć więcej o rodzinie tej osoby. Byłbym wdzięczny (Byłabym wdzięczna, if you are a female) za podanie nazwisk i dat urodzenia braci i sióstr oraz kopię świadectwa ślubu rodziców.
15. I would like to locate any relatives who may be living in your area. My ancestor was (name). He (she) left for the United States in the year (year). He (she) resided in (town) before his (her) departure. If you know of any persons of this name or relatives of the family, I would be grateful if you would give this letter to them so that they can contact me.	15. Chciałbym (Chciałabym, if you are a female) znaleźć członka mojej rodziny, który (która, if the ancestor is a female) prawdopodobnie żyje w Pana (Księdza, if addressing a priest; Pastora, if addressing a pastor) okolicy. Nazwisko mojego przodka jest (name). Wyjechał on (Wyjechała ona, if the ancestor is a female) do Stanów Zjednoczonych w roku (year). Przed wyjazdem mieszkał on (mieszkała ona, if the ancestor is a female) w miejscowości o nazwie (town). Gdyby Pan (Ksiądz, if addressing a priest; Pastor, if addressing a pastor) znał kogoś o tym nazwisku albo krewnych jego (jej, if the ancestor is a female) rodziny, byłbym wdzięczny (byłabym wdzięczna, if you are a female) za przekazanie im tego listu, aby mogli oni skontaktować się ze mną.
16. I have searched the records for your parish covering the time period from (date) to (date). However, I need records for the years (year) to (year). Could you please inform me as to where these records can be found?	16. Prowadziłem badania (prowadziłam, if you are a female) zapisów dokonywanych w tej parafii w okresie od (date) do (date). Chciałbym (Chciałabym, if you are a female) teraz otrzymać dane z przedziału lat od (year) do (year). Czy mógłby mnie Pan (Ksiądz, if addressing a priest; Pastor, if addressing a pastor) poinformować, gdzie mogę znaleźć te zapisy?
17. My relative worked as a (occupation) in (city). Do you have any information about this person?	17. Mój krewny pracował (pracowała, if the ancestor is a female) jako (occupation) w miejscowości o nazwie (city). Czy ma Pan (Ksiądz, if addressing a priest; Pastor, if addressing a pastor) jakiekolwiek informacje_ o nim (niej, if the ancestor is a female)?
18. I need information from the parish registers of the Protestant parish in (town); in German, (town). I will be most grateful if you would inform me where the records of this Protestant parish are presently found.	18. Potrzebne mi są dane z ksiąg parafialnych Kościoła Ewangelickiego z miejscowości (town); której niemiecka nazwa brzmiała (town). Byłbym bardzo wdzięczny (Byłabym bardzo wdzięczna, if you are a female) za informacje, gdzie są teraz te zapisy.

English	Polish
19. My ancestor was a Greek-Catholic. He (she) resided in (town). I would like to locate the christening and marriage records of the Greek-Catholic parish. Are these records available in your (1) parish office? (2) archive? If you do not have the records, could you provide the address where they may be found?	19. Mój przodek był Greko-Katolikiem (Greko-Katoliczką, if the ancestor is a female). Mieszkał on (Mieszkała ona, if the ancestor is a female) w miejscowości (town). Chciałbym (Chciałabym, if you are a female) znaleźć jego (jej, if the ancestor is a female) świadectwo urodzenia i ślubu. Czy są one dostępne w Pana (Księdza, if addressing a priest; Pastora, if addressing a pastor) (1) biurze? (2) archiwach? Jeśli Pan (Ksiądz, if addressing a priest; Pastor, if addressing a pastor) ich nie ma, czy mógłbym (mogłabym, if you are a female) dowiedzieć się, gdzie one są?
20. For my family research I need information from the Jewish records of births, marriages, and deaths from your community. Do you know where such records are presently located?	20. Do badań historii mojej rodziny, potrzebne są mi dane z żydowskich świadectw urodzin, ślubów oraz śmierci z Pana (Księdza, if addressing a priest; Pastora, if addressing a pastor) okolicy. Czy Pan wie, gdzie są obecnie takie zapisy?

Referral Requests

21. If you do not have the necessary records, I request that you provide the address of the place where such records can be found.	21. Jeśli Pan (Ksiądz, if addressing a priest; Pastor, if addressing a pastor) nie dysponuje informacjami, których potrzebuję, chciałbym (chciałabym, if you are a female) dowiedzieć się, gdzie mogę je znaleźć.
22. If you are unable to do this research for me, could you please recommend a local researcher that I could hire for this purpose—someone who speaks some English, if possible.	22. Jeśli otrzymanie powyższych informacji jest niemożliwe, czy mógłby Pan (Ksiądz, if addressing a priest; Pastor, if addressing a pastor) podać mi adres kogoś z tamtej okolicy, kto – za wynagrodzeniem – zechciałby mi pomóc i jeśli to możliwe, zna trochę język angielski.

Payment

23. Would you please inform me if it is possible to obtain photocopies from your records and the cost of such copies.	23. Czy można otrzymać kserokopie dokumentów i za jaką opłatą?
24. Please let me know how I can make an offering to your parish in gratitude for your help.	24. Czy wolno mi, jako wyraz wdzięczności za okazaną pomoc, złożyć ofiarę na kościół?
25. I have enclosed $ (amount) as a donation for your parish.	25. Załączam kwote (amount) dolarów jako ofiarę na kościół.
26. Thank you very much for your help. I have enclosed $ (amount).	26. Dziękuję bardzo za pomoc. Załączam kwotę (amount) dolarów.
27. Please let me know the cost of your help and how I can pay.	27. Proszę napisać do mnie, ile się należy za pomoc i w jaki sposób mogę za nią zapłacić.

English	Polish

Closing Remarks and Return Address

28. I thank you in advance for your assistance.

28. Z góry dziękuję za pomoc.

29. Respectfully,
    With regards,

29. Z szacunkiem,

30. Sincerely,

30. Z poważaniem,

31. My address is: (address)

31. Mój adres: (address)

Follow-up
Use these sentences in follow-up letters as needed.

32. Thank you for the information you have sent. It has helped me very much.

32. Dziękuję za nadesłane mi informacje. Bardzo mi one pomogły.

33. I need further information about one of the individuals you mentioned in your letter. This is (name).

33. Potrzebne mi są dalsze informacje o (name) wspomnianym (wspomnianej, if the ancestor is a female) w Pana (Księdza, if addressing a priest; Pastora, if addressing a pastor) liście.

34. I have already received from you the following information about this person:

34. Dotychczas otrzymałem (otrzymałam, if you are a female) od Pana (Księdza, if addressing a priest; Pastora, if addressing a pastor) następujące informacje o tej osobie:

35. I am enclosing a copy of a letter I sent you on (date). Please write and tell me if you can do this research.

35. Dotychczas otrzymałem (otrzymałam, if you are a female) od Pana (Księdza, if addressing a priest; Pastora, if addressing a pastor) następujące informacje o tej osobie:

EXAMPLE LETTER: Polish

Date　　28 sierpnia 1999

Addressee　　Parafia Rzymsko-Katolicka
32-720 Nowy Wiśnicz
POLAND

Greeting　　Drogi Księże,

Introduction　　Mieszkam w Stanach Zjednoczonych, ale moi przodkowie są polskiego pochodzenia. Chciałbym dowiedzieć się więcej o moich polskich przodkach.

Następująca osoba jest moim przodkiem urodzonym w Polsce. Podaję wszystkie dane, jakie mam o niej.

Biographical Information　　Imię i nazwisko: Joannes KRUPA
Data urodzenia: 15 maja 1877
Miejsce urodzenia: Połom Duży, Kraków, Polska
Wyznanie: rzymsko katolickie

Genealogical Request	Proszę o przesłanie mi pełnego odpisu świadectwa urodzenia albo chrztu tej osoby.
Referral Requests	Jeśli Ksiądz nie dysponuje informacjami, których potrzebuję, chciałbym dowiedzieć się, gdzie mogę je znaleźć.
Payment	Załączam kwotę $10 dolarów jako ofiarę na kościół.
Closing	Z góry dziękuję za pomoc.
	Z poważaniem,
Signature	
	Moj adres:
Return Address	John Doe 674 "Q" Street Salt Lake City, UT 84103 USA

COMMENTS AND SUGGESTIONS

The Family History Library welcomes additions and corrections that will improve future editions of this guide. Please send your suggestions to:

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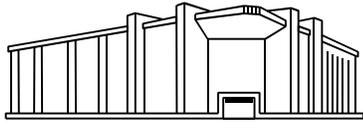
German

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INTRODUCTION

This guide is for researchers who do not speak German but must write to Germany, Austria, or parts of Switzerland to request genealogical records. It includes a list of sentences you would use in a letter about genealogical records and a German translation of these sentences.

The best sources of genealogical information in German-speaking countries are records of births, marriages, and deaths kept by churches and civil registration offices. The Family History Library has microfilmed copies of these records for many, but not all, localities. Use the Family History Library Catalog to determine what records are available through the Family History Library and Family History Centers. If records are available from the library, it is usually faster and more productive to search these records first. The library's *Germany Research Outline* (34061) explains how to research records at the library or at Family History Centers.

If the records you want are not available through the Family History Library, you can use this guide to help you write to a church or a civil registration office to obtain information. The *Germany Research Outline* can help you decide whether church or civil registration records will be most helpful to you.

BEFORE YOU WRITE

Before you write a letter in German to obtain family history information, you should do three things:

☐ **Determine exactly where your ancestor was born, married, or died.** Because most genealogical records were kept locally, you will need to know the specific town where your ancestor's records were kept. See the library's *Tracing Immigrant Origins* for help in finding hometowns.

☐ **Determine your ancestor's religion.** Because most early records were kept by churches or synagogues rather than civil registration offices, you may need to write to the church your ancestor attended in his or her hometown. If you are not sure what your ancestor's religion was in Europe, determine what religion he or she practiced after immigrating. Usually people did not change religions when they moved from Europe to their new home.

☐ **Determine where records from your ancestor's hometown are stored today.** Records for smaller localities may be at repositories in nearby larger villages. You can use a gazetteer to determine which parish or civil jurisdiction serves your ancestor's locality. You may also use the *Germany Research Outline* for help locating records.

RESEARCH BY MAIL

Church records are obtained from parishes, and civil records are obtained from civil registration offices. Both kinds of records may be stored in archives. Genealogical Societies may also be able to help you find some of the information you need.

Parishes. Most church records begin in the 1600s, and some begin even earlier. The records may be stored in a local parish or a regional archive. Request information from the local parish first. In your letter, ask where you can write to obtain records that are no longer stored locally.

Civil Registration Offices. Civil registration records begin in 1876 in most of Germany and as early as 1792 in some areas. They begin in 1876 in Switzerland and 1939 in Austria. They are generally deposited at local offices, but older records (especially those over one hundred years old) are sometimes in state or district archives. Write local offices first. Registrars may be able to tell you where to write to obtain records they no longer have.

Archives. If the records you need are deposited in an archive, you may ask the archivist to recommend a private researcher you can hire. Archivists usually do not have time to search records.

Societies. Genealogical societies usually collect genealogies, periodicals, and some original records from their area and recommend researchers you can hire to research local records.

How to Address the Envelope

For a *Catholic Parish:*

> An das katholische Pfarramt
> *(Insert street address, if known.)*
> *(Postal Code) (Name of Locality)*
> GERMANY
> AUSTRIA, or SWITZERLAND

For a *Protestant Parish:*

> An das evangelische Pfarramt
> *(Insert street address, if known.)*
> *(Postal Code) (Name of Locality)*
> GERMANY
> AUSTRIA, or SWITZERLAND

For a *Civil Registration Office:*

> An das Standesamt
> *(Insert street address, if known.)*
> *(Postal Code) (Name of Locality)*
> GERMANY
> or AUSTRIA

> An das Zivilstandsamt
> *(Insert street address, if known.)*
> *(Postal Code) (Name of Locality)*
> SWITZERLAND

Some archive and society addresses are listed in the *Germany Research Outline*, or you can call the Family History Library at 801-240-3433.

Postal Codes

When addressing your letter, you will need to write the postal (zip) code *in front* of the name of the town to which you are writing. For help finding postal codes, use the postal directory for the country or call the Family History Library at 801-240-3433.

On 1 July 1993 Germany revised its postal codes. Any address published prior to July 1993 must be updated to be correct.

Some towns do not have a post office. When writing to a town without one, put the name of the town at the end of the first line. Write the postal code and the nearest post office on the second line. For example, the German postal directory indicates that the post office for *Blersum* is at nearby *Wittmund*. A letter requesting information from a civil registration office in Blersum should be addressed:

> An das Standesamt **Blersum**
> 26409 **Wittmund**
> GERMANY

How to Send Return Postage and Money

When you write someone in Europe, send an international reply coupon (available at most large post offices) to pay for return postage. When writing to Germany, some people have had more success sending an international bank draft.

Ruesch International Bank Drafts. An easy and inexpensive way to send money to Europe from North America is to telephone Ruesch International Financial Services at 800-424-2923. Ask for an international bank draft for the equivalent of $15.00 (or another amount) in either German marks, Austrian schillings, or Swiss francs. There is a $3.00 service charge. Have the check made payable to the organization or to the *Pfarramt* (parish). Ruesch will give you a transaction number to write on your payment check. Send the payment to—

> Ruesch International Financial Services
> 700 11th St NW
> Washington, DC 20001-4507

When they receive your payment, Ruesch will promptly send you a foreign currency draft (check) you can mail to Europe.

Writing to a Parish. When writing to a parish, it is also a good idea to send a donation of $15.00 as a courtesy. Do not send a personal check, which is difficult and expensive to exchange in Europe. Cash is most easily converted to European currency, but there are always risks in sending cash.

Writing to Other Offices or Organizations. Some researchers do not send money when writing to a civil registration office, archive, or genealogical society for the first time. These organizations may prefer to bill you for their services. Some may ask you to make the check payable to their account (*Konto*) number. If you want, you may write an institution to determine their fees before making a request. However, this will significantly increase the time it takes to get information.

Checklist for Mailing a Letter to Europe

☐ Keep a photocopy of your letter.
☐ Enclose payment for the return postage.
☐ Convert funds to foreign currency.
☐ Mark the envelope "Air Mail."

WHAT TO EXPECT

It may take six months or longer for you to receive a reply to your request for information (airmail improves the response time). The results of writing to parishes or civil registration offices can vary greatly. You may get a great deal of information, or you may get no answer at all. Some pastors and civil registrars are willing to do considerable research. Others will not answer until money is sent or offered. Some may be unable to provide information.

Because some information is not easily obtained by writing directly to a pastor or registrar, you may need to hire a local private researcher. We suggest that you inquire about a competent local researcher when you write.

When you receive a reply, send a note of thanks or acknowledgement. You may wish to do this in a follow-up letter requesting further information. Refer to your earlier letters and their return letters by date. If they have assigned you a reference number, include that number as well.

Use German-English dictionaries to help you understand the reply. Sometimes you can hire accredited genealogists to translate for you.

If you do not receive an answer, write again sending a copy of your first letter. Do not send more money unless you verify that your first letter did not arrive.

HOW TO WRITE A LETTER IN GERMAN

Your letter should include:
- the date (at the top)
- the name and address of the addressee
- a greeting
- a brief introduction
- biographical information about your relative
- a short, specific, genealogical request
- referral request(s)
- a comment about payment
- closing remarks
- your signature
- your return address (including your country).

Be brief and simple. Do not ask for too much at one time.

The following English-to-German translations will help you compose your letter. Read the sentences in English and choose those that best express what you want to say. Be sure that your sentences are arranged logically. You may want to write your letter first in English using the following sentences, then replace the sentences with their German translations. However you proceed, make sure you type or neatly print your letter and, when necessary, add any diacritical marks and special characters (such as ä, ö, ü, ß) with a pen.

Do not use this guide as the letter itself! That might insult the recipient and lessen the chance of a reply.

Writing Dates

Write dates in the European style: day-month-year. Write the name of the month out and write the year in full. For example, write *10 Dezember 1889,* not *12-10-89* or even *10-12-1889.*

January	- Januar	July	- Juli
February	- Februar	August	- August
March	- März	September	- September
April	- April	October	- Oktober
May	- Mai	November	- November
June	- Juni	December	- Dezember

English	German

Greetings

1. Dear Sir or Madam:	1. Sehr geehrter Herr oder geehrte Dame,
2. Dear Pastor:	2. Sehr geehrter Herr Pfarrer,

Introductions

3. I am researching my ancestors and need information from your records.	3. Ich erforsche meine Vorfahren und benötige Angaben aus Ihren Registern.
4. My ancestors come from (*fill in **locality**). I would like to know more about them.	4. Meine Vorfahren stammen aus (*fill in **locality**). Ich möchte gerne mehr über dieselben erfahren.
5. The following individual is my ancestor. Below is all the information I have about this person:	5. Die nachstehend aufgeführte Person ist mein Vorfahr. Ich habe alle mir bekannten genealogischen Angaben über diese Person aufgeführt:

Biographical Information
(Give information about your ancestor using the terms from the following list.)

6. a. Given name and surname:	6. a. Vor- und Familienname:
b. Date of birth:	b. Geburtsdatum:
c. Place of birth:	c. Geburtsort:
d. Father's given name and surname:	d. Vor- und Familienname des Vaters:

e. Mother's given name and surname:	e. Vor- und Mädchenname der Mutter:
f. Husband's given name and surname:	f. Vor- und Familienname des Ehemannes:
g. Wife's given name and maiden surname:	g. Vor- und Mädchenname der Ehefrau:
h. Date of marriage:	h. Heiratsdatum:
i. Place of marriage:	i. Heiratsort:
j. Date of death:	j. Todestag:
k. Place of death:	k. Sterbeort:
l. Date of emigration:	l. Auswanderungsdatum:
m. Religion: 　　Roman Catholic 　　Protestant (Lutheran) 　　Reformed 　　Jewish	m. Religion: 　　römisch-katholisch 　　evangelisch-lutherisch 　　evangelisch-reformiert 　　jüdisch

Genealogical Requests

7. Could you please check your birth registers from (*fill in year*) to (*fill in year*) for the birth or christening record of this person?	7. Bitte suchen Sie in Ihren Geburtsregistern von (*fill in year*) bis (*fill in year*) nach dem Geburtseintrag dieser Person?
8. Please send me a complete extract of the birth or christening record (1) of this person. (2) of these persons.	8. Bitte schicken Sie mir einen vollständigen Auszug aus dem Geburts- oder Taufregister (1) für diese Person. (2) für diese Personen.
9. Please send me a complete extract of the marriage record (1) of this person. (2) of this person's parents.	9. Bitte schicken Sie mir einen vollständigen Auszug des Heiratsregisters (1) für diese Person. (2) für die Eltern dieser Person.
10. I believe that (*fill in name*) died in your locality about (*fill in year*). I would like a complete extract of the death record.	10. Ich glaube, daß (*fill in name*) ungefähr (*fill in year*) in Ihrem Ort starb. Ich möchte gerne einen vollständigen Auszug aus dem Todesregister für diese Person haben.
11. I would like to know more about the family of this person. I would be grateful if you would provide the names and birth dates of the brothers and sisters and an extract of the marriage record of the parents.	11. Ich möchte gerne mehr über die Familie dieser Person erfahren und wäre Ihnen sehr dankbar, wenn Sie mir die Namen und Geburtsdaten der Geschwister und einen Auszug aus dem Heiratsregister für die Eltern beschaffen könnten.
12. I would like to locate any relatives who may live in (*fill in town*). My ancestor was (*fill in name*). If you know any relatives of the family, I would be grateful if you would give this letter to them so that they can contact me.	12. Ich möchte meine Verwandten finden, die in (*fill in town*) wohnen. Der Name meines Vorfahren ist (*fill in name*). Wenn Sie Verwandte dieser Familie kennen, wäre ich Ihnen dankbar, wenn Sie ihnen diesen Brief geben könnten, damit sie mit mir Kontakt aufnehmen können.
13. Please send me a copy of the family information on (*fill in **husband's name***) and (*fill in **wife's name***). They were married (1) (*fill in date*). (2) approximately (*fill in date*).	13. Senden Sie mir bitte eine Abschrift über die Familie von (*fill in **husband's name***) und (*fill in **wife's name***). Sie heirateten (1) (*fill in date*). (2) ungefähr (*fill in date*).

14.	For my family research I need information from the Jewish records of births, marriages, and deaths from your community. Do you know where such records were kept and where they are presently located?	14. Für meine Ahnenforschung brauche ich Angaben aus den jüdischen Geburts-, Heirats-, und Todesregistern Ihres Ortes. Wissen Sie, wo diese Unterlagen aufbewahrt wurden und wo sie sich gegenwärtig befinden?
15.	Would you please inform me if it is possible to obtain photocopies from your records and tell me the cost of such copies?	15. Würden Sie mir bitte mitteilen, ob es möglich wäre, Fotokopien von Ihren Urkunden zu erhalten und was sie kosten?

<p align="center">Referral Requests</p>

16.	If you do not have the necessary records, could you provide the address of the place where the records can be found?	16. Wenn Sie die notwendigen Unterlagen nicht besitzen, könnten Sie mir die Anschrift der Dienststelle mitteilen, wo sich die betreffenden Unterlagen befinden?
17.	If you are unable to do this research for me, could you please recommend a local researcher that I could hire for this purpose—someone who speaks some English if possible?	17. Sollten Sie nicht in der Lage sein, mir bei dieser Forschung zu helfen, so bitte ich um den Namen eines Ahnenforschers, den ich beauftragen könnte—wenn möglich jemanden, der Englisch kann?

<p align="center">Payment</p>

18.	To cover your expenses, I am enclosing a donation to your parish as well as payment for the return postage.	18. Zur Deckung Ihrer Gebühren lege ich eine Spende zu Ihrem Pfarramt bei.
19.	Please let me know the cost of your help and how I can pay.	19. Bitte teilen Sie mir mit, was ich für Ihre Dienstleistung zu bezahlen habe und wie ich den Betrag überweisen kann.

<p align="center">Closing Remarks and Return Address</p>

20.	I thank you in advance for your help.	20. Ich danke Ihnen im Voraus für Ihre Hilfe.
21.	Sincerely,	21. Mit freundlichen Grüßen
22.	My address:	22. Meine Anschrift:

<p align="center">Follow-up
(Use these sentences in follow-up letters as needed.)</p>

23.	Thank you for the information you sent on (*fill in date*). It has helped me very much.	23. Vielen Dank für die Angaben, die Sie mir am (*fill in date*) geschickt haben. Die sind für mir eine große Hilfe!
24.	I need further information about one of the individuals you mentioned in your letter: (*fill in name*).	24. Ich brauche zusätzliche Angaben über eine Person, die Sie in Ihrem Brief erwähnt haben. Es handelt sich um (*fill in name*).
25.	I have already received from you the following information about this person:	25. Ich habe von Ihnen über diese Person schon die folgenden Angaben erhalten:
26.	I am enclosing a copy of a letter I sent you on (*fill in date*). Please write and tell me if you can do this research.	26. Ich lege eine Kopie von einem Brief bei, den ich Ihnen am (*fill in date*) geschickt habe. Bitte, schreiben Sie mir, ob Sie diesen Auftrag annehmen können!

EXAMPLE LETTER

Date   20 Juli 1993

Addressee   An das evangelische Pfarramt Seele
                  99799 Nirgendwo
                  GERMANY

Greeting   Sehr geehrter Herr Pfarrer,

Introduction Die nachstehend aufgeführte Person ist mein Vorfahr. Ich habe alle mir bekannten
                  genealogischen Angaben über diese Person aufgeführt:

Biographical Vor- und Familienname: Andreas NIEMAND
Information   Geburtsdatum: 28 Mai 1820
                  Geburtsort: Seele, Sachsen, Preußen
                  Vor- und Mädchenname der Ehefrau: Beatta CRILE
                  Heiratsdatum: 13 April 1857
                  Heiratsort: Jefferson County, Iowa, USA
                  Religion: evangelisch-lutherisch

Genealogical Bitte schicken Sie mir einen vollständigen Auszug aus dem Geburts- oder Taufregister für
Request   diese Person?

Referral   Wenn Sie die notwendigen Unterlagen nicht besitzen, könnten Sie mir die Anschrift der
Requests   Dienststelle mitteilen, wo sich die betreffenden Unterlagen befinden?

                  Sollten Sie nicht in der Lage sein, mir bei dieser Forschung zu helfen, so bitte ich um den
                  Namen eines Ahnenforschers, den ich beauftragen könnte—wenn möglich jemanden, der
                  Englisch kann?

Payment   Zur Deckung Ihrer Gebühren lege ich eine Spende zu Ihrem Pfarramt bei.

Closing   Ich danke Ihnen im Voraus für Ihre Hilfe.

                  Mit freundlichen Grüßen

Signature

Return   Meine Anschrift:
Address
                  Jane Doe
                  674 "Q" Street
                  Salt Lake City, UT 84103   USA

COMMENTS AND SUGGESTIONS

The Family History Library welcomes additions and corrections that will improve future editions of this guide. Please send your suggestions to—

Publications Coordination
Family History Library
35 North West Temple
Salt Lake City, Utah 84150   USA

File: Language Helps.

34066

ADMINISTRATIVE MAP OF THE POLISH PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC

Administrative provinces of Poland as indicated in the
gazetteer of modern Poland published in 1967.

BORDER CHANGES

The following areas belonged to the Russian Empire/Soviet Union:

Bessarabia/ Ottoman Empire   --1812--> Russian Empire
--1918--> Romania
--1945--> W--Moldavia, E--Ukraine

Bucovina/ Ottoman Empire   --1774--> Austria
--1918--> Romania
--1945--> N--Ukraine, S--Romania

Courland (Kurland)/ Russian Empire--1918--> Latvia

East Prussia/ Germany   --1945--> N--Kaliningrad, S--Poland

Estland/ Russian Empire   --1918--> Estonia

Galicia/ Poland   --1772--> Austria
--1918--> Poland
--1945--> E--Ukraine, W--Poland

Grodno/ Russia Empire   --1921--> Poland
--1945--> E--Belarus, W--Poland

Kovno/ Russia (Empire)   --1918--> Lithuania

Livland (Livonia)/ Russia (Empire)--1918--> N--Estonia, S--Latvia

Memel/ East Prussia   --1918--> Lithuania

Poland   --1772,1793,1795--> E--Russia (Empire), N--Prussia, S--Austria
--1918--> Poland
--1939--> NE--Belarus; SE--Ukraine

Suwalki/ Poland   --1918--> N--Lithuania, S--Poland

Ruthenia/ Hungary   --1918--> Czechoslovakia
--1945--> Ukraine

Vilna/ Russian Empire   --1921--> Poland
--1945--> N--Lithuania, S--Belarus

Vitebsk/ Russian Empire   --1918--> N--Latvia, S--Belarus, E--Russian Republic

Volhynia/ Poland   --1795--> Russian Empire
--1919--> Poland
--1945--> Ukraine

Vyborg/ Finland   --1939--> Russia (Republic)

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 gaz-etteer. 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 slowiańskich [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:

920,957	vol. 1	Aa–Dereneczna	920,967	vol. 11	Sochaczew–Szlurbowska Wola
920,958	vol. 2	Derenek–Gżack	920,968	vol. 12	Szlurpkiszki–Warłynka
920,959	vol. 3	Haag–Kepy	920,969	vol. 13	Warmbrunn–Worowo
920,960	vol. 4	Kęs–Kutno	920,970	vol. 14	Worowo–Żyżyn
920,961	vol. 5	Kutowa–Malczyce	920,971	vol. 15	Ababi–Januszowo
920,962	vol. 6	Malczyce–Netreba			(addendum)
920,963	vol. 7	Netreba–Perepiat	920,972	vol. 15	Januszpol–Sniatyn
920,964	vol. 8	Perepiatycha–Pożajście			(addendum)
920,965	vol. 9	Pożajście–Rukszenice			
920,966	vol. 10	Rukszenice–Sochaczew			

Arranged alphabetically with text in Polish.

Russisches Geographisches Namenbuch [Russian Geographic Name Book]. Wiesbaden: Otto Harrasowitz, 1964–1980. (Genealogical Library call number: European Collection Ref 947 E5r, 10 volumes; not microfilmed).

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

Allgemienes 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
H-M –	1186709		Serto-Z –	1186711

Gazetteer of Austria

Gemeindelexikon der in Reichsrate 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. 1	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

Magyarország Helységnévtára [Gazetteer of Hungary], János Dvorzák, comp. Budapest: "Havi Füzetek," 1877. (Genealogical Library call number: European Collection Ref. 943.9 E5d; also on microfilm, Vol. I on Film 599564 and Vol. II on Film 973041).

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	ref.	– Reformatus – 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 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.

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 dvesto 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 komunikacj 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.

THE CHANGING MAP OF EASTERN EUROPE

The maps shown here demonstrate the changes which have taken place in the boundaries of eastern Europe since the time our ancestors left.

Present boundaries since
the end of the second
world war (1945)

Sources of Genealogical Value

GAZETTEERS

A gazetteer is a geographical dictionary. Gazetteers are essential for finding and properly identifying localities in Poland. By indicating civil and ecclesiastical jurisdictions, gazetteers are helpful in locating where records were kept. (For a description of the major gazetteers for Poland, see the appendix.)

PASSENGER LISTS

Passenger lists are an excellent source of migration data. They provide dates of departure from Europe or arrival in the United States and often indicate the passenger's place of origin. There are two types of passenger lists: U.S. arrivals and European departures.

U.S. Arrivals (1800 to Present)

Most immigrants from the area of Poland arrived at New York, but other U.S. ports were also important. Arrival lists give names of passengers, their ages, occupations, and countries or provinces of origin. Until 1893 few arrival lists indicate specific places of origin; from the late 1890s on, many lists do. Lists are kept at the National Archives of the United States, and microfilms are available through the regional federal records centers. Many lists are available on microfilm at the Genealogical Library.

European Departures (1850 to Present)

The major ports of departure for emigrants from the area of Poland were Bremen and Hamburg. Bremen lists have not been preserved. The Hamburg passenger lists give names of passengers, their ages, occupations, and specific places of origin. The Hamburg lists have been preserved at the State Archives in Hamburg. Microfilmed lists from 1850 to 1934 are available at the Genealogical Library (see *The Hamburg Passenger Lists*, Genealogical Research Papers, series C, no. 30 [Salt Lake City: Genealogical Department of The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, 1976]; microfiche no. 6,000,034).

VITAL RECORDS

Vital records are the major source of genealogical information in Poland. There are two major types of vital records: (1) church registers of christenings, marriages, and burials maintained for ecclesiastical uses; and (2) civil registers of births, marriages, and deaths maintained by the state government. Civil registers often include civil transcripts (copies) of data recorded in church registers.

Church Registers

Church registers were kept from a much earlier date than civil registers. Record-keeping practices vary by religion and are detailed below.

Roman Catholic

The Roman Catholic faith was accepted in Poland in A.D. 966. The Council of Trent in 1563 issued the first mandate that Roman Catholic parishes keep records of christenings and marriages. A later directive, in 1614, required the keeping of death records. The Polish church quickly conformed to these requirements. Records were kept in Latin and in Polish.

Time periods covered: Polish Catholic registers may date from as early as the late sixteenth century. Unfortunately, many of the very early records have not been preserved. Because of record losses many parishes have gaps in their records, especially for the period before 1800.

Orthodox

The Russian Orthodox faith stems from the Byzantine Catholic church, which split with the Roman Catholic church in 1054. Its members in Poland are predominantly of Russian or Belorussian ethnic background. Orthodox records are often incomplete. In many cases christening records do not give names of parents. Records were kept in Old Church Slavonic or Russian.

Time period covered: Records were kept as early as the seventeenth century, but most Orthodox records from Poland begin in the late eighteenth century.

Greek Catholic (Uniate)

In 1595 Orthodox Ukrainians were formally brought into union with the Roman Catholic church. They retained their orthodox liturgy and doctrine. Records were kept in Old Church Slavonic, Polish, Latin, and Ukrainian.

Time period covered: Records were kept from the early 1600s.

Evangelical Augsburg (Lutheran) and Evangelical Reformed

Although Luther's teachings (the Augsburg Confession) had only a relatively small following among the Polish population, they did become firmly established in Poland among the German population. Those Protestants who accepted the creed of the Swiss Calvinist reformers were called Evangelical Reformed. They were predominantly Germans and were far fewer in number than the

Lutherans. Evangelical parish registers were usually written in German.

Time period covered: In Germanic areas Lutheran registers are often available from the early seventeenth century. Many parishes, however, started after 1795, when Germans colonized newly acquired Polish territory. Many of these congregations did not begin keeping records until the 1820s.

Christian Sects and Jews

Jews, Mennonites, Baptists, Brethren, and other groups, especially those that did not baptize infants, often did not keep church registers unless required by law. As a notable exception, some Mennonite congregations kept birth, baptismal, marriage, and burial registers as early as the seventeenth century. Some Jewish congregations may have kept records of circumcisions of male infants, marriage contracts, and congregational histories. In the early nineteenth century many of these groups were required by law to register with recognized Catholic or Lutheran clergy or to prepare their own civil transcripts of vital records.

Information Recorded in Church Registers

Christening registers: Infant's name, names of father and mother, names of witnesses, and christening date (most also give the child's birth date).

Circumcision registers ("mohel" books): Hebrew given names of male children, circumcision date (Hebrew calendar), father's given Hebrew name, and sometimes his surname.

Marriage registers: Names of bride and groom, date of announcements of marriage intention, date of marriage; often include ages, residences, occupations, names of parents, sometimes birthplaces; in cases of additional marriages, include names of previous partners and their death dates. Jewish marriage contracts include contractual agreements.

Burial registers: Name of the deceased, date and place of death and burial, age, place of residence; sometimes cause of death and names of survivors; occasionally date and place of birth.

Civil Registers

Accurate vital records are of great value to governments for conscription and taxation purposes. The governments of Poland required the keeping of records for civil purposes at various times. In each case the earliest responsibility for keeping such records belonged to the churches or synagogues, which were required to prepare civil transcripts (duplicate copies for civil purposes).

Because Poland was administered by three different governments, civil registration must be discussed separately for each.

Austrian Territory

Austria took possession of the southern part of Poland in 1772 and introduced civil registration in 1784. Catholic parish registers were designated as state records, and a standardized Latin columnar form was issued. The parish register thus became the civil register. A civil transcript was made for state purposes. Greek Catholic and Roman Catholic clergy were responsible for registering all vital events for all religions. In the mid 1800s non-Catholics, including Jews, were made responsible for their own vital records. The area of Kraków was affected by the civil registration of the Duchy of Warsaw (see "Russian Territory" below; see also the map on p. 3).

Time period covered: 1784 to World War I.

Russian Territory

Napoleon established the Duchy of Warsaw in 1807 and introduced universal civil registration in 1808. Most of the Duchy of Warsaw came under Russian administration after 1815, but civil registration was continued. Napoleonic-type civil registers are found in all of Russian Poland, in parts of Prussian Poznań, and in Kraków, all formerly under Napoleonic administration (see map on p. 3).

The clergy was appointed as civil registrars. Records of some religions were usually kept by the Catholic registrar until the non-Catholic community was allowed to keep its own separate civil register. After 1826 Evangelical Lutherans, Jews, and other non-Catholic religions usually maintained their own civil registers. In most cases these civil records were simply duplicates of the denominational registers. The records were kept in Polish before 1869 and usually in Russian after. The birth, marriage, and death registers usually have an index for each year.

Time period covered: 1808 to World War I.

Prussian Territory

Prussia gained a sizable portion of Poland in the Polish partitions. The settlement of the Napoleonic wars in 1815 reduced Prussia's share of Poland. Prussian law required church registration from the time of the partitions; in some cases civil transcripts were made. In accordance with this law, Mennonites, Jews, and other denominations that did not keep christening registers had their births, deaths, and marriages recorded by the Lutheran minister, although some congregations kept their own civil registers. A more universal civil registration was introduced in 1874. It was administered by civil authorities, who recorded

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persons of all denominations in one register. These civil records were generally kept in German, although some are in Polish.

Time period covered: Official civil registers, 1874 to World War I. Civil transcripts of church registers, late 1795 to 1874.

Information Recorded in Civil Registers

Birth records: Child's name, birth date, and sometimes christening date; names, residence, and religion of the father and mother; names and occupations of the witnesses. Austrian records often include the names of the child's grandparents.

Marriage records: Name, religion, age, residence, and sometimes birth date and birthplace of the bride and groom; marriage date; names of witnesses; sometimes the names of the parents of the bride and groom.

Death records: Name, age, residence, and religion of the deceased; dates of death and burial; names of witnesses; sometimes names of parents or spouse and surviving children.

Availability of Vital Records

The Genealogical Library in Salt Lake City has an extensive collection of vital records from throughout Poland, including many church registers and many civil records from each of the areas of Poland. Most were microfilmed at the Polish state archives and various church and state archives in Poland and Germany. Vital records after 1870 are rarely included in the library's collection, and for many localities the library has no vital records. If the Genealogical Library does not have the records you need, you may be able to obtain the information by writing to the parish or to one of the archives listed in this section.

Most church registers are still maintained by the church. Recent ones are at the parish, and older ones are at diocesan archives. Some church records are in state archives. Many parishes will answer correspondence (in Polish); church archives are often unable to handle genealogical requests but can determine whether specific records are available.

Recent civil registers and civil transcripts (those less than 100 years old or more recent than 1874 in German territory) are at local civil records offices (*Urzędy stanu cywilnego*). Older civil records are in state archives.

The Polish State Archival Administration has many records which have not yet been microfilmed. You may write to the state archives headquarters in Warsaw to determine whether any state archive or local civil records office has the records you need. The address is:

Naczelna Dyrekcja
Archiwów Państwowych
ul. Długa 6 skr. poczt. 1005
00–950 Warszawa
Poland

Some vital records from the former Polish territories ceded to the Soviet Union after the Second World War, especially those of the ethnic Polish population, are included in the so-called Zabużański collection. The older records of this collection are at the Main Archive of Ancient Documents (Archiwum Główne Akt Dawnych) in Warsaw:

Archiwum Główne Akt Dawnych
ul. Długa 7
00–950 Warszawa
Poland

The more recent vital records in the Zabużański collection (those less than 110 years old) are held by the presidium of the National Workers Council (Dzielnicowa Rada Narodowa) in Warsaw:

Urząd stanu cywilnego
Przezydium Dzielnicowej Rady Narodowej
Nowy Świat 18–20
Warszawa-Śródmiescie
Poland

Many records of the former German populace, especially Evangelical records, are scattered throughout Poland and East and West Germany in various church and state archives.

The Society of Eastern German Family Researchers has a "church-book information center" which may help you determine the present location of specific vital records:

Arbeitsgemeinschaft Ostdeutscher
Familienforscher e.V.
Kirchenbuchauskunftstelle
Sperlingstr. 11a
4236 Hamminkeln 4
West Germany

MILITARY RECORDS

The military records of the old Kingdom of Poland prior to the partitions include mostly account books and letters of deportment with few details on individuals, other than a few officers. These records are in the Main Archive of Ancient Documents (Archiwum Główne Akt Dawnych) in Warsaw. The military records of the partitioning powers—Russia, Prussia, and Austria—are of greater genealogical value. Unfortunately, the Russian and Prussian records are scattered among various archives in Poland, the Soviet Union, and East and West Germany, making them largely inaccessible to

genealogical researchers. The Austrian military records have been centralized in Vienna and include records for soldiers from Galicia, which is now the southern part of Poland.

The Austrian army kept personal files on all soldiers, called muster rolls or foundation books. The pre-1869 records are arranged by regiment or unit and time period; thus they are unusable unless you can determine the military unit to which your ancestor belonged. Personal files on officers were called qualification lists. These lists are arranged alphabetically for the whole empire for the years 1828 to 1918.

Content of Austrian Records

Qualification lists: Name of officer, personal description, date and place of birth, religion, and service record, including units served in, commands, and decorations.

Muster rolls and foundation books: Name of soldier, his birthplace and year of birth, his religion, personal description, date of induction, and remarks.

Availability

Austrian military records are at the War Archives (Kriegsarchiv) in Vienna. For the most part, foundation books of Polish soldiers after 1869 have been turned over to the Polish. Records in Vienna are being microfilmed by the Genealogical Department of The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints.

FAMILY ORIGINS IN EASTERN EUROPE: USING THE RECORDS
OF THE GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY OF UTAH
MODERN POLAND

Zdenka Kucera

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The turbulent history of Poland did not affect the form of vital records very much until about 1808. The churches started to keep extensive vital records at the beginning of the seventeenth century. There are very few records before the end of the sixteenth century, and that is about as far back as research for your Polish ancestors can go if you do not trace any nobility in your lines. Much depends in the part of modern Poland where your ancestors lived. To start on a solid base, you have to determine the correct locality, or you might never find your ancestors. The European Reference area of the Genealogical Society of Utah has excellent tools and instructions to help you with this problem.

In 1569 Poland included Lithuania, Prussia, Volhynia, Podolia, and the Ukraine—380,000 square miles and about fifteen million inhabitants. It was an electoral commonwealth until the "First Partition" when Russia, Austria, and Prussia divided among themselves a full one-third of Polish territory. In the "Second Partition" in 1793 Russia obtained half of the remaining territory, while Prussia received Posen with more than one million inhabitants. In 1795 the "Third Partition" erased the Polish state from the map of Europe for 123 years—the kingdom of Poland became part of Russia until 1918, the end of World War I. For an excellent study of Polish history, I recommend the Polish Encyclopedia, volume 1, "Polish History," by Professor Dr. Ladislas Konopczynski, published by Arno Press in 1972. The library call number is 943.8 H6p.

These historical facts did not change the church policy on keeping records. There were four main churches in the area which is now Poland: the Roman Catholic Church in part of former kingdom of Poland and Galicia; the Evangelic-Lutheran or Evangelical-Augsburg Church in East and West Prussia, Posen, Pomerania, and Silesia; the Eastern Orthodox Church in Polish eastern territories; and the Jewish congregations in all parts of Poland. The Roman Catholic and Eastern Orthodox churches kept their records mostly in Latin, in columns (sometimes even a column for the house no.). The Evangelical Churches kept their records in German, and the Jews kept their records in either Hebrew or Polish.

The main change occurred around 1808, when Napoleon established civil registration in the Russian part of Poland. After that the books were kept in Polish, with two copies. One copy remained at the parish, and the other went to the appropriate civil court. Most of the records filmed by the Genealogical Society are those civil register vital records from 1808-1875, but some are earlier.

The registration was an exact translation of civil register of France. It is all in prose-text stating that the father

introduces the child to the priest (since the priest was the civil recorder for the locality). A birth record (Ksiega urodzin) gives the father's name, age, residence, sometimes occupation, the name and age of his wife, names of their parents, name of the child, and information about the witnesses. A marriage record (Ksiega malzenstw) gives names, ages, parents of the couple, date of marriage, and places of residence--sometimes also the places of their births, if they are different from the place of marriage. A death record (Ksiega zmarlych) gives name of the deceased, his parents and/or his spouse, date of death, cause of death, names of all living children, and sometimes place of birth.

The handwriting is sometimes hard to read but, since the form is always the same, with the help of instructions available from the European Reference area, you may be able to read the records. However, you have to be aware of the different spelling, grammar, and particularity of the Polish language.

There are no other useful records for genealogical research in Poland except vital, church, or civil records. The other records you find, such as notarial records, land records, etc., deal almost exclusively with nobility.

In using the records of the Genealogical Society of Utah, the most important steps in searching for your ancestors originating in the territory of modern Poland--Poles, Germans, Ukrainians, or Jews--are:

1. Determine the correct modern Polish name for the place of origin. In case you are not sure about the correct spelling seek the help of an expert with a profound knowledge of German and Slavic languages. Just one different letter in the name of your locality may lead you to a wrong place.

2. Determine the parish or civil register office your ancestors belonged to.

3. Check the Dictionary Card Catalog of the Genealogical Society of Utah. Start with the indirect entry for your town (Poland, Bydgoszcz, Lipno--Vital records).

4. Extract the film numbers available for your research, noting also the years covered by the film, whether there is an index, and the church description--make notes. All information is in the catalog not only in Polish or German but also in English.

5. If you do not find your film in the library (third floor) you must order it from the storage vault in the mountains. The same procedure applies for Branch Libraries.

6. The spelling of your ancestor's name may be different in the records than it is spelled now. Sometimes it is hard to determine the original spelling, and you may need the help of an expert.

7. Check with the consultants in the European Reference area for instruction papers, sources, gazetteers, maps, etc.

No help will teach you how to have success in your research, or teach you the Polish language, but it will help you avoid unnecessary mistakes.

The Genealogical Society library has about 12,000 rolls of vital record films from Poland. The filming is still in process and will take a couple more years to be completed.

Try first to find if the library has records for your research or if the records will be filmed in the future. If no records are available there are three possibilities:

1. You may write to the Main Archives in Poland for information (you have to give them the correct locality), especially if you need a connection between 1870-1900.

2. If you know the Roman Catholic parish write to the priest. He may still have the original records in the parish. This does not apply for Evangelical Church.

3. Contact the appropriate institution in Germany, especially for Evangelical-Lutheran Church members. Addresses are in the library hand-out paper entitled "Gazetteers for Poland."

If you intend to visit the land of your ancestors, be aware that only very few people speak English there, the majority do not like to speak German so some basic knowledge of the Polish language will be very useful. Foreigners are not allowed to do research in the State Archives, but the archive personnel can do the research for you if you pay for it.

It will be a wonderful experience to see the beautiful, calm country; to visit the place where your roots are, and perhaps still find some relatives there. Nothing can replace such an experience. After visiting the homeland of your ancestors you will be ready to write your family history, which will be cherished by all your descendants.

FAMILY ORIGINS IN POLAND

Zdenka Kucera and Marta Hall

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Part 1: TRACING ROOTS AND RECONSTRUCTING FAMILY HISTORY.

Based on the statistic report on United States census, the immigration to the United States from 1820 through 1960 represents 34,574,632 immigrants from Europe. This number includes 432,311 immigrants from Poland. However, to this number we have to count also the immigrants from Austria-Hungary which included until 1918 Galicia (now belonging partly to Poland, partly to Ukraine), Germany, (East and West Prussia, Pommern, Posen, and Silesia is part of Poland now) and a small part of former Lithuania. Since the immigrants did not usually give the locality of origin for the census purposes but only country, e.g., Germany, Austria, or Poland, the statisitics cannot be accurate. After much effort to give some reliable account, we may assume that every fourth American has some Slavic ancestral line, the majority being of Polish ancestry. That means that 25 percent of Americans have Slavic or Slavic Polish blood.

How easy or difficult the search for your ancestors is will depend on the information you can start with. It is best to begin with an original document from the old country. The document has to give the place of origin. If this is known, your research has a good perspective, especially if it gives not only the locality but also the political jurisdiction (in the case when more localities by the same name were in existence) and in large towns, where many churches were in existence, like the city of Warsaw, also the name of the church, or at least the religious preference.

Unfortunately not many people in the third or fourth generation have such a document. In such a case your research has to start in the United States. It is not possible to do research in Poland without knowing the place of origin.

How do you obtain this vital information?

The Genealogical Library has prepared many instructions to help. The most useful steps are:

1. Interviewing relatives, searching for documents, pictures, notes, passports, and obituaries.

2. If you know the date or at least the approximate year your ancestors landed in the United States, check the Hamburg Passenger Lists (starting with the year 1850). Most of the Slavic immigrants came through the port of Hamburg, Germany.

3. Locate the place or district where your ancestors applied for naturalization by filing Intention of Declaration. When you find it, write to the clerk of the District Court and ask for the place of origin. For research after 1906, contact

the Immigration and Naturalization Office, Washington, D.C. Sometimes the document itself does not give the locality, but it may be in the application.

The results of your effort could bring you the name of a German locality. You will need the recent Polish name to find out if the records of your town have been filmed. For this information the Genealogical Library can provide you with instructions and give names and numbers of gazetteers you will have to check.

Provinces such as Posen, Schlesien, Ost- and Westpreussen, Pommern and part of Bradenburg as well as Galicia were forced several times to change their political allegiance and offical language. An example of such a change is the city of Olecko. In 1560 it was founded as Maggrabowa in the Kingdom of Poland. The city passed to Prussia in 1795, to Russia in 1807, and returned to Poland in 1921. During the non-Polish period, the name was changed to Oletzko. In 1938 Germany included Oletzko in Ostpreussen and changed the name to Treuburg. After 1945 the city was returned to Poland and is now Olecko in Białystok Province, Poland. To explain the reasons for changes of names of provinces and places, as well as to understand why the records were not kept all in the same manner, we will briefly trace some important events in Polish history. Slavic tribes were concentrated throughout East Central Europe. They were divided into three main areas: Eastern, which included Russians, White Russians, Ukrainians, and Ruthenians; Southern, which included Slovenians, Serbians, Croatians, and Bulgarians; and Western, which included Czechs (Bohemians), Moravians, Slovaks, and Poles.

Polish history proper begins in 962, when Polish tribes were united into one state. Christianity was accepted in 966 and the first bishopric was established in Poznań. The University of Kraków was founded in 1364. For the next few centuries the borders were in a constant state of flux. In 1370, the Polish king Casimir the Great was forced to yield territory to the Teutonic Order of Germany. This area later became West Prussia. Poland reached its greatest territorial expansion in 1569. Its borders encompassed 380,000 square miles with a population of fifteen million inhabitants (approximately the size of California, Nevada, and Arizona combined). Poland at this time included Lithuania, Bielorussia (Prussia), Volhynia, Podolia, and the Ukraine.

From 1577 to 1722, Poland was an electoral commonwealth. From 1772 to 1795, however, the country suffered three parititions which ultimately removed it from the map. As a result of the first parititian on August 5, 1772, Russia, Austria, and Prussia took from Poland a full one-third of its territory with the major portion going to Russia. Prussia obtained the province of West Prussia and Austria acquired most of Galicia. Through the second partition in 1793, Russia obtained one-half of the remaining territory of Poland, while Prussia claimed for itself Posen with more than one million inhabitants. The Polish resistance was overwhelmed and the third partition of Poland took place in 1795. The last of the Polish spoils were divided among Russia, Austria, and Prussia; the Kingdom of Poland was to be under Russian rule until the end of World War I. The Polish state was erased from the map of Europe for 123 years. The new state of Poland was born and its independence proclaimed in November 1918. Unfortunately it lasted only until 1939 when Germany invaded Poland, and that was the beginning of World War II.

Poland now covers 125,000 square miles and has thirty-three million inhabitants. Due to the turbulent Polish history, not all the records were kept the same way. Also, banishing the Germans from Poland after World War II changed the availability of Evangelical Lutheran (Evangelical-Augsburg) records. Many churches were destroyed and the vital records were either taken out of the country or

destroyed with the churches. The same applies to Jewish records. Most of the synagogues were burned during World War II and the records were destroyed.

However, many records are preserved at the State Archives, Roman Catholic Church Archives, and Evangelic Lutheran Church Repositories, and some were found in archives in East and West Germany. The Genealogical Society searches untiringly for the lost records with surprisingly good results. Two years ago my daughter and I discovered a small repository of the Evangelical Augsburg Church in Wałbrzych, city in Wrocław Province (formerly Waldenburg). In an apartment were hundreds of vital records books being randomly piled into three rooms. The house does not have any running water and in case of fire this treasure would certainly be destroyed. Since no inventory was made, we do not know exactly which books are there, but we were told that there are books for a large part of Silesia. The Genealogical Library has recently arranged with the Polish State Archives to film the records. This year I discovered the records of one Romanian town in the possession of a historian and chronicler in West Germany.

How far back you can trace your ancestors depends on the specific part of Poland, the locality, and the denomination, respectively. Roman Catholic parishes started to keep vital records in the third quarter of sixteenth century, the Evangelical parish at the end of the sixteenth century, and the Eastern Orthodox registers in the seventeenth century. Of course, those are the earliest records. Most of the parishes started later. Since the main sources for research of common people in Poland are vital records, there are not many possiblities, of tracing your ancestors beyond the beginning of parish registration.

The birth register (Liber natorum or Księga urodzin) includes name and surname of child, parents, and godparents,

child's date of birth and baptism, place of residence, and sometimes parents' ages and profession. Marriage registers (liber matrimonium or Księga małżeństw) give names and surnames of couples, their parents, witnesses, date of wedding, ages of bride and groom, place of their origin or residence, and sometimes their professions. Death registers (Liber mortuorum or Księgy zmarłych) include name and surname of the deceased, his parents and spouse, date and place of death, place of residence, sometimes the cause of death, and names of all living children.

The records were kept in Latin by the Catholic church, the information being recorded mostly in columns. Sometimes it gives a column with "No. domus" (the house no.). The Evangelical church kept the records in German. (Taufen, Trauungen, Begrabnisse.) After Napoleon's code of civil register, which took effect in Poland after 1808, the clergymen were instructed to keep a special "civil" registration. That means the parish priest (whether Evangelic, Catholic, or Jewish rabbi) became the civil recorder of vital statistics.

The records were kept in Polish, with two copies, one of which remained in the hands of the recorder, while the other was sent to the respective civil court. After 1867 the records were mostly kept in Russian. Church or civil registers (metriky) represent the chief genealogical source in Poland. The Genealogical Library filmed a majority of the records at the Provincial State Archives (Archiwum Państwowe), mostly duplicates from the year 1808 until 1870, and some earlier. The library also filmed records of Poland in Germany, especially records of the Evangelical Church.

The Genealogical Library now has about 12,000 rolls of film with vital records for Poland. The Roman Catholic Church Repository in Poznań is now being filmed, and also the Evangelical-Augsburg Church Repository in Wałbrzych. The Genealogical Library has an agreement with the Main

State Archive offices in Warsaw to film the vital records in their archives up to 1900. The permission was granted but it will take years to accomplish this big task. When the project is finished, the library may have twice as many films from Poland as it has now.

All these vital records are cataloged by recent Polish locality names. The "SEE" cards are helpful to identify your locality in case you do not have the Polish name. However, the European reference area is furnished with many various gazetteers, old and new, and skillful consultants are extremely knowledgeable no matter which language or part of Europe your question is about.

You may encounter many difficulties in your search for your ancestors. The one I have just described is to determine the place of origin. The next one may be your name! Are you sure that it is the original name your great-grandfather used in the old country? Or was he tired of repeating and spelling his name which sounded impossible to pronounce for the English-speaking people? Did he change just the given name like Franciszek to Frank or did he change the family name also, like from Kaczurowski to Cook? In such a case you will be in trouble, since he could have done it a long time ago and nobody will remember the original name now. He might have changed it at the same time he became an American citizen. You may be able to find the original name as the Cooks did in an old shoe box on a scrap of paper giving this short message: "If anybody will be interested, I changed my name from Kaczurowski to Cook." The possibilites are many: it could be either a translation of his old name as from Kowalski to Smith, or a phonetic spelling from Żółkowski to Shulkovski of Łukasik to Woukasik or it could be just a new name he liked.

Another problem is the Polish alphabet, which has nine more letters than the English alphabet. They are: ą, ć, ę, ł, ń, ó, ś, ż, and ż. These diacritic letters are alphabetized after the corresponding letter without the diacritic mark. For example, Rżaniec is alphabetized after Rzywno, Łąck after Łażany, and Kółko after Kożyno.

Because some town names appear many times in Poland, one must find the province and district for each town and even then identifying a particular locality may be extremely difficult. For instance, the name Dąbrowa appears in the Polish gazetteer 342 times. In the province of Poznań it appears twenty-four times and in Turek district in Poznań province, it appears four times. To identify the correct Dąbrowa, one must compare surrounding villages mentioned in filmed records with those appearing on map of the area.

Be careful to determine the right place and the correct translation, especially very common names like "Neudorf" etc. You should always work with a very detailed map in order to find all the surrounding villages where your ancestors might have gone in case they did not go to the parish to which their village belonged. For this reason we are cataloging records with more than three localities also under the name of the district and you should check all the places within the district. You should also check the map for nearest bigger locality, if no records are available from your place. The Genealogical Library could provide you with many gazetteers, parish directories, instructions, information about what tools to use, but if you are not familiar enough with the German and Polish languages, I suggest that you use the help of a person who works in this field. Once you or somebody else determines, the wrong locality, your search for your ancestor will be in vain. There could be just one letter different in the name of your village and it is another locality.

When you have the correct spelling and political jurisdiction of your locality, and when you have found the film number in the dictionary card catalog, the next step is to start reading the records.

Some patrons are surprised that the records are not in English, but the vital records are original parish registers as the priest kept them and in his handwriting which may create some problems for patrons not familiar with European, Gothic, or Old German handwriting (Fraktur). It is possible to learn it if you have enough patience. Also for this purpose the library has handouts with different types of writing and a genealogical vocabulary with words you will need in your research.

The records prior to 1808 are, in my opinion, easier to read, because the entries are in columns and once you know where things area you will not have too many difficulties. After 1808 the civil register is written in a prose-type text, all in Polish, and some registers are written in a very difficult handwriting.

Again, the European reference area has samples of the text used in recording births, marriages, and deaths. The form of the entries is always the same. It was introduced by Napoleon and it is exactly the same as in France, and it will not be difficult once you are familiar with the name, date, and place. However, you may find records like: vital records for the city Alexandrów Łódzki (film no. 766,346) is a civil register of a Jewish congregation, written in Russian writing (Azbuka), with Ukrainian spelling, but all the names are German. Those entries are signed by the parents, because the Jewish people knew how to write. Some records of Polish inhabitants have statements that the priest signed the entry for the parents, because they did not know how to write.

I always encourage patrons to try to do their research by themselves. It gives them much more satisfaction and it is very interesting. They are more excited if they find in the records their great-grandmother by themselves, sometimes even with the signature of parents, than if somebody else did it for them. However, if you are not able to do your research yourself, find a very

trustworthy researcher who specializes in Polish and German Polish research. It is not true what some of the "researchers" claim, that once you know the German language you know or understand all other languages. So many times it is just guessing instead of doing research.

The Genealogical Library has filmed most of the records from the provinces of the former Kingdom of Poland, also for the former Posen, Silesia, and West and East Prussia. Not many records are available from Pomerania, especially Evangelical church records. The library has a recent parish directory of the Evangelical Augsburg church in Poland, but there are very few parishes left compared to the number prior to World War II. In most cases, priests do not know where the previous records are. The Roman Catholic church collected many records from the parishes, but still some parishes have the originals of the vital records, having already sent the duplicate to the Archive.

If you visit Poland, you will have a wonderful time. The country is very pleasant, especially close to the mountains. The villages are very picturesque with old houses and not very much industrial progress, especially close to the Russian border. The people are very friendly and very religious. The churches are full on Sundays. The roads are sometimes not too good and certainly narrow, especially if you have to pass up a cart pulled by a horse going very slow. There is just one problem—the language barrier. Only very few people will speak German, even if they know how. After World War II, the bad experience with the Hitler occupation is still with them. If you visit a concentration camp as Majdanek, close to the city of Lublin, where 900,000 Slavic and Jewish people, including children, were exterminated, you will understand. The Nazis, taken by surprise by the Soviet Army did not have time to destroy either the gas chambers or the crematorium.

If your Polish is good enough, you can visit the parishes and try to read the

old vital records, but unfortunately no foreigner is allowed to do research in the State Archives. The Archive will do the research for you, if you will ask them and pay for it. That applies especially to the years 1875 to 1900, because the library still has not filmed these records and many times this information is vital to you to be able to link your direct line to the records the library has filmed already.

In this case you have to follow the instructions where to write. Some of the records from 1875 to 1944 may be at the Civil Register Office of the town (Urząd stanu cywilnego). You can obtain the form letter and address at the European reference area.

The Genelaogical Library is making a great effort to help you in any respect. I personally wish you good luck in your search for your roots and will be pleased to help you in searching for your ancestors.

Part 2: POLISH NOBILITY RESEARCH

Nobility research is very complicated and becomes a science if one wants to do it correctly. My presentation will barely touch the surface. Nevertheless, I believe that some of the elementary aspects of Polish nobility research are just as important as a deeper study and this part of the lecture has been designed with that in mind.

Almost everyone wonders at one point in his life whether he or she is a descendant of nobility or wished he would be. If you belong in this category of people and you are investigating or will investigate this possibility, perhaps my remarks and experiences on this subject will be helpful to you.

First of all, a very small percentage (5%) of patrons who come to the Genealogical Library thinking they are of noble descent and determined to prove it, actually succeed. The majority make wrong assumptions which might be based on one of the following myths:

1. A family tradition that their great-grandmother was a princess in Poland who fell in love with a poor commoner and had to elope with him to America. Another story I heard was about a Polish grandmother who came to America as a little girl and brought with her a basket full of gold coins, which is supposed to prove that she was from a rich and therefore noble family.

2. Quite often a patron makes a mistake in interpreting an entry in a parish record. The text might read: Witold de Jakubów, but the particle "de" in Polish records does not indicate a noble title but means "from" and Jakubów is a village (e.g., "de loco" signifies the person in from the local village).

3. Many Polish surnames are the same as or a derivation of a locality name in Poland; e.g., Walenty Czyżewski is not automatically the former owner of the village Czyżewo, neither is Stanislaw

Kuropatnik a nobleman who had an estate called Kuropatnik which later became a village of the same name, and was located by the patron on a map.

4. Just because someone's surname is Grabowski does not mean he is a descendant of the Grabowski noble family of Pommerania. In fact, it would not be unusual if his name means that he was their servant or just an inhabitant of their village Grabowo.

In the small percentage of cases where the patron is a descendant of Polish nobility, he will have a document proving it. For instance, a parish birth entry will read:

It came to pass. . . that His Highness Count. . .thirty-two years old, heir of the estate. . . and all villages belonging to this estate. . . showed us a child of the male sex who was born on . . . (begotten) of his wife Her Highness Countess. . . thirty years old. . . . To this child was Holy Christening administered by the priest of the Count. . . on this day. . .

Instead of the actual signature, the Count in his own hand signs as "the landowner."

Polish noble families, like in other countries, kept very careful records of te degree of relationship they had to the direct line.

Besides parish books, which started to be kept on a larger scale around the beginning of the seventeenth century, there are other records particular to nobility research extending further back. To mention a few:

1. Documents of educational institutions—first half of the fifteen century. the early formal education was often received primarily by nobility.

2. Military documents—beginning at the end of the fifteenth century. Memebers of

the nobility were quite prominent in the Polish military, e.g., the five-volume series by a Polish historian Marian Brandys entitled "Koniec świata swoleżerów" (the end of the light-cavalry soldier's world) describes Polish nobility engaged in military service during the Napoleonic era.

3. Documents granting nobility titles and coats of arms—sixteenth to the nineteenth centuries. Sometimes a heroic deed, a prominent position in the government, or a notable achievement were awarded by a title and the right to use a coat of arms.

4. Documents of nobility legitimizations—end of eighteenth to the nineteenth centuries. I worked on a case where the father was of a prominent Polish noble family, but the mother was not; besides, the patron did not have a proof of their marriage. It was recorded after some years in France and did supposedly take place in a church in Warsaw "as reported," quoting the French marriage record. "As reported" means that the witnesses did not have a document testifying to that. From this marriage a son was born, probably out of wedlock, but because he was the only son, the coat of arms would belong to him and thus the ancestry could be traced to the twelveth century.

Among sources on has to consider for nobility research are many books published in Poland and abroad in Polish, French, German, Spanish, and Russian. To mention a few:

Dunin — Borkowski: Genealogie żyjących utytulovanych rodów Polskich (Genealogy of living titled Polish families) in first vol. in film #865,222.

W. Dworzaczek: Genealogia (contains information on how to do Polish nobility genealogy, in second volume are pedigrees of noble, and important Polish families.) 1st vol., book #943.8 D2dw, 2nd vol. - film #232,852.

S. Konarski: Armorial de la noblesse Polonaise titrée. Book #943.8 D24ka film #897,006.

L. Korwin: Szlachta Polska pochodzenia żydowskiego (Polish nobility of Jewish extraction) Film # 1,045,233.

A. Boniecki: Herbarz Polski film #865,211-?18.

T. Żychliński: Złota Księga Szlachty Polskiej (Golden Book of Polish Nobility), in 28 volumes, containing monographs arranged alphabetically.

There are many armorials dealing with specific families, regions or religious denominations. Also, official registers and lists of ennobled Polish families can be very useful for research.

According to B. Klec-Pilewski, an expert on nobility who lived in England for many years, during the time of the Polish Commonwealth (1577-1722) when the territory extended to Lithuania, White Russia, Latvia, Ukraine West and East Prussia, Silesia and Pomerania, ten percent of the population formed the nobility class. There was no division between higher and lower nobility like in France or Germany. According to Polish law, all children of the nobility had their parents' status, which contributed to the enlargement of this class.

The inheritance of the title and coat of arms can be demonstrated on some designs of the coat of arms; e.g, bull's head pierced by a sword. The middle field represents the child, upper left belongs to his mother, upper right to the father. The lower field to his wife's parents.

Commoners, who emigrated in great numbers, usually, did so for economic reasons hoping to find better conditions in order to be able to support their families. Compared to the general pupulation very few members of Polish noble families emigrated and when they did it was for entirely different reasons: political reasons or educational

opportunities abroad with the idea of returning to Poland some day. Many Polish nobles now pride themselves on staying in Poland during the war and helping their country fight, and they are enduring the communist regime even though they certainly had the means and the opportunity to emigrate. In this day and age they are living in Poland stripped of their estates, servants, titles, and coats of arms. They are well-educated, able to speak several languages simultaneously, and proud of their inheritance, yet humble with unbroken spirits. Their beautiful estates were either destroyed during the war or are now converted to state schools, or have been completely abandoned and left to ruin because of the lack of interest and/or funds on the part of the Polish government.

Once a person has his noble descent documented, the genealogical research is relatively easy to do. Members of each "house" ("ród") know of branches of the family; e.g., Poznań branch, or Warsaw branch, etc., and they stay in touch. They also correspond with members who are living abroad.

It is not unusual for a noble family to have a historian or two from their own midst who keep memoirs, publish their family genealogy, and diligently keep track of all new decendants, filing data in their pedigrees going back to the eleventh or twelfth centuries.

Nobility families also have their special traditional burial places with chapels where the prominent members (ministers, writers, lawyers, politicians) are buried.

Marriages also were likely to occur in special places. The church was not especially built for the nobility, but there were certain churches where nobility was more likely to have a marriage performed. For instance, in central Warsaw there are about fifty churches in existence today. In the late 1800s there were only ten churches and out of the ten maybe three were popular with the nobility.

Even if you do not find noble blood in your ancestral line, the search will help you extend your pedigree further back and you will be proud of your brave, determined immigrant Polish ancestors who struggled with the English language as much as you would with Polish if you visited the country of your forefathers.
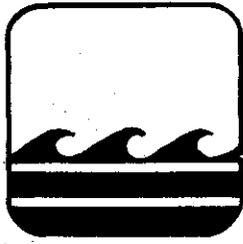
THE POLISH

AMERICAN COLLECTION

2nd Edition

THE POLISH AMERICAN COLLECTION

The Immigration History Research Center of the University of
Minnesota has built, since 1964, a unique collection of source mater-
ial and printed works dealing with American immigrant and ethnic
groups whose roots lie in Eastern, Central and Southern Europe. The
Center's holdings have grown to some 35,000 volumes of published mat-
erial (including over 2,100 serial titles), files of more than 600
ethnic newspapers (158 are received currently), 4,000 reels of micro-
film, and approximately 2,225 feet (2,225,000 items) of manuscripts.
They reflect the activities of every kind of ethnic organization and
the lives of persons of the most varied backgrounds and achievements.

Documentation for the study of Polish Americans is one of the
most important components of the Center's Holdings. Books and pamph-
lets on the Poles number about 4,000, more than half of them from the
library of the late Rev. Józef Zawistowski. They include the basic
printed scholarly studies of Polish American life as well as many of
the publications of the Paryski Company of Toledo, OH, the Czas
Company of Brooklyn and the Polish National Catholic Church. Every
aspect of American Polonia is represented, but the library is strong-
est in literature, cultural affairs and, above all, in religion in all
its dimensions--devotional, liturgical, controversial, institutional
and social service. The variety of histories written from the pers-
pective of the community are illustrated by such titles as Karol
Wachtl, *Polonia w Ameryce* (Philadelphia, PA, 1944); Wacław Kruszka,

Historia Polska w Ameryce (13 vols.; Milwaukee, WI, 1905-1908); Adam

Olszewski, <u>et al</u>., *Historia Związku Narodowego Polskiego* (6 vols.;

Chicago, IL, 1957); Arthur Waldo, *Sokolstwo: Przednia straż narodu*

(4 vols.; Pittsburgh, PA, 1953-1974); Jadwiga Karloviczowa, *Historia*

Związku Polek w Ameryce (Chicago, IL, 1938); and Mieczysław Haiman's

regional and biographical studies, among them, *Polacy wśród pionierów*

Ameryki (Chicago, IL, 1939). Polish American religious life is repre-

sented by the writings of Bishop Franciszek Hodur and Rev. Józef

Zawistowski as well as by such works as Rev. Paul Fox's *Polish National*

Catholic Church (Scranton, PA, n.d.) and Father Kruszka's *Siedm*

siedmioleci (Milwaukee, WI, and Poznań, 1924). Material bearing on

the local history of the Roman Catholic Church may be found in scores

of parish commemorative publications, notably those of St. Stanislaus

Kostka in Brooklyn, NY; St. Hedwig in South Bend, IN; Holy Trinity

and St. Stanislaus Kostka in Chicago, IL; Sacred Heart in Polonia,

WI; and St. Stanislaus, Bishop and Martyr, in New York City. The

literary achievements of Polish Americans are well represented by the

works of such writers as Antoni Jax, Victoria Janda, Monica Krawczyk,

Antoni Gronowicz, Edward Symans and Helen Bristol.

The library also has a strong collection of doctoral disserta-

tions, among them Caroline Golab's "Polish Communities of Philadelphia,

1870-1920..." (University of Pennsylvania, 1971), Joseph Parot's

"The American Faith and Persistence of Chicago Polonia, 1870-1920"

(Northern Illinois University, 1971); Paul Wrobel's, "An Ethnographic

Study of a Polish American Parish and Neighborhood" (Catholic Univer-

sity, 1975); and Helena Znaniecki-Lopata's "The Functions of Voluntary

Associations in an Ethnic Community: 'Polonia'" (University of

Chicago, 1954). There are also about 1,000 uncatalogued items--

souvenir booklets, commemorative pamphlets and organizational mater-

ial--arranged by region and institution.

The Center holds about 250 serial titles (24 are currently

received) reflecting Polish life in America since 1884. Some of the

strongest files, though they are not always complete, and their pub-

lishers are *Dzień Święty*, 1884-1909, and *Tygodnik Powieściowo Naukowy*,

1884-1899, Smulski Company of Chicago, IL; *Jaskółka*, 1927-1935,

Worzalla Company of Stevens Point, WI; *Kombatant w Ameryce*, 1956-

present, Polish Veterans of World War II; *Miesięcznik Franciszkański*,

1915-1973, and *Franciscan Message*, 1947-1969, Franciscan Fathers,

Pulaski, WI; *Patron*, 1943-present, St. Stanislaus Kostka Parish,

Brooklyn, NY; *Polish American Studies*, 1944-present, Polish American

Historical Association; *Polish Review*, 1956-present, Polish Institute

of Arts and Sciences; Polish Medical and Dental Association, *Bulletin*,

1929-1955; *Polka*, 1935-present, *Przebudzenie*, 1927-1933, 1935-1940,

1943-1951, 1953-1955, Polish National Catholic Church; *Posłaniec Matki*

Boskiej Saletyńskiej, 1925-1952, La Salette Fathers; *Posłaniec*, 1917-

1951, Society of Jesus; *Postęp*, 1916-1920, Advance Publishing Company;

Promień, 1944-present, Polish National Alliance Youth Division;

Przegląd Kościelny, 1920-1925, Association of Polish Clergy of America;

Róże Marji, 1950-1969, Marian Fathers, Stockbridge, MA; *Skarb Rodziny*,

1917-1955, Paulist Fathers, Erie, PA; *Tatrzański Orzeł*, 1950-present,

Polish Tatra Mountaineers Alliance; *Weteran*, 1926-present, Polish Army

Veterans Association. The serials collection includes a large number

of "kalendarze," notably long runs of those published by the Polish

National Alliance of the United States, the Paryski Company, the

Franciscan Fathers of Pulaski, WI, and the Salvatorian Fathers of Gary,

IN. Newspaper holdings number 65 original or microfilmed titles; 26 of

them are currently received. The Center has coordinated the Polish

Microfilm Project (PMP), a major effort to preserve the community's

press for research in collaboration with Polish American institutions

and the Center for Research Libraries. Positive copies of newspapers

filmed by the PMP are available on loan from the Center for Research

Libraries for use at the IHRC with a minimum of delay.

The sixty manuscript collections at the Center vary greatly in

size. They are particularly strong in the history of the Polish

National Catholic Church, Protestant mission and settlement work among

Poles, the operations of publishing houses and fraternals, concern with

Polish affairs and migration since 1940, literature and cultural

affairs. The papers of organizations which assisted immigrants are an

important complement to the Polish American material. They include the

American Council for Nationalities Service, the *American Council for*

Emigrés in the Professions, the *Assembly of Captive European Nations,*

and the *International Institutes of Minnesota, Boston and St. Louis.*

The University Library holds the microfilm edition of the papers of the

foreign language federations of the Socialist Party of America.

The creation of the Polish Collection has been made possible

through financial contributions and donations of materials by hundreds

of members of the Polish American community, and by major grants from

the National Endowment for the Humanities and The Rockefeller Foundation.

MANUSCRIPT COLLECTIONS

[Collections preceded by an * have undergone final processing,
and detailed inventories are available for use at the Center.]

Alecks, Joseph
> Papers, 1938-1976, 1 linear foot
> A former comptroller of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts,
> Alecks has long been active in the politics of his state and
> in the Polish American community. The collection includes per-
> sonal correspondence, clippings, pamphlets and photographs.

Alliance Publishing Company, Chicago, Illinois
> Papers, ca. 1939-1961, ca. 8 linear feet
> Alliance Publishing Company publishes two major Polish American
> newspapers: the daily, *Dziennik Związkowy* (1908-present) and
> the bi-weekly, *Zgoda* (1881-present). The collection consists
> of correspondence, editorial material, cartoons, clippings and
> photographs.

American Committee for Resettlement of Polish Displaced Persons
> Papers, ca. 1949-1968, ca. 2 linear feet
> The Committee assists in the selection, relocation and material
> support of displaced persons of Polish ethnic origin in Europe.
> The collection includes material on fund drives, correspondence,
> reports and financial records.

American Council of Polish Cultural Clubs
> Records, 1950-1976, 8 linear inches
> The ACPCC was established in 1948 to facilitate communications
> among Polish cultural clubs and to promote and encourage under-
> standing of Polish culture throughout the United States. The
> collection consists of the Council's official publications and
> convention records.

American Polish Civil War Centennial Commission
> Papers, 1961-1965, 1.5 linear feet
> The Commission, which was affiliated with the Polish American
> Historical Association, was established to stimulate research
> into, and public awareness of, Polish participation in the
> American Civil War. The collection contains the publications,
> records, correspondence and press releases of the Commission.

Archacki, Henry
> Papers, 1949-1952, 1 linear foot
> Archacki is a major Polish American journalist, illustrator,
> historian, publisher and printer. The collection consists of
> scrapbooks which describe his activities.

Barańska, Janina
> Papers, ca. 1920-1975, ca. 3 linear inches
> A social worker by profession, Barańska acted for many years

in the Polish theater of Buffalo. The collection consists of theatrical programs, clippings, scrapbooks, photographs and reminiscences.

Bristol, Helen Ogrodowska
Papers, 1937-1966, 2 linear inches
Helen Bristol, formerly a teacher of English at the Philadelphia High School for Girls, is the author of the long narrative poem *Let the Blackbird Sing* and the reminiscence *After Thirty Years; Poland Revisited.* The collection consists of her writings, both published and in manuscript.

Brya, Stanley Michael, 1887-
Papers, ca. 1930-   , 4 linear feet
Born near Nowy Targ, Poland, Brya immigrated to the United States in 1904 and resides in Minneapolis. A self-taught historian of the Polish people, he has helped to popularize the accomplishments of his countrymen in the American press. Clippings of his newspaper articles and his correspondence form the core of the collection.

Czas Publishing Company, Brooklyn, New York
Papers, ca. 1925-1975, ca. 2 linear feet
A large East Coast Polish American publishing company; former publisher of the weekly newpaper, *Czas* (1905-1975). The collection consists chiefly of recent editorial correspondence and published material.

Drzewieniecki, Walter M.
Papers, ca. 1970-1974, ca. 4 linear inches
University of Buffalo faculty member involved in Slavic and ethnic studies.

Fox, Reverend Paul J., 1874-1961
Papers, ca. 1891-1961, 20 linear feet
Clergyman, author of *The Poles in America* and the *Polish National Catholic Chruch,* and social worker, Fox was associated with St. Paul's Polish Presbyterian Church, Baltimore, Maryland, 1910-1924, and later with the Laird Community House in Chicago, Illinois. Information on his activities in the United States and Poland is included.

Golaski, Walter M., 1913-
Papers, ca. 1961-1972, 1 linear inch
Polish American scientist and inventor.

Gottwald, John
Papers, 1958-1976, ca. 4 linear inches
A veterinary doctor in South Bend, Indiana, Gottwald emigrated to the United States soon after World War II. The collection consists of correspondence with family and friends in Poland.

Janda, Victoria
Papers, ca. 1934-1961, ca. 6 linear inches
Writer and social worker, Janda published three books of poetry, served as president of the Polanie Club of the Twin Cities and was the first executive secretary of the International Institute of St. Paul, MN.

Jaskólska, Alexandra
Papers, 1954-1976, ca. 4.5 linear feet
Musician and music teacher, Jaskólska assisted in editing and managing Boston's Polish newspapers (*Kuryer Codzienny* and *Gazeta Polonii*) in the 1950's and 1960's. The collection documents her careers as musician and newspaperwoman.

Jaskólski, Karol T., 1908-1972
Papers, ca. 1939-1973, ca. 107 linear feet
Active in the business and political life of Poland before World War II, Jaskólski came to this country in 1949, having been in a German camp for officers. He edited *Kuryer Codzienny* and later *Gazeta Polonii,* directed the "Polish Variety Hour" on Boston radio, taped many programs for the Voice of America, and led many Polish organizations in New England. The collection reflects all of these activities.

Kiełkowski, Wiktor
Papers, 1949-1976, ca. 3 linear feet
An officer of the Polish Army prior to 1945 and of Polish units attached to the American Army in West Germany, Kiełkowski emigrated to the United States in 1949. He was active in the émigré and fraternal organizations of Chicago, IL. The collection consists of his personal papers, correspondence and writings.

Kowalski, John
Papers, ca. 1940-1970, ca. 2 linear feet
Member of the New York area Polonia and prominent in the Association of the Sons of Poland.

Nurczyński, Anthony
Papers, 1930-1946, ca. 1.5 linear feet
Nurczyński was a leader in the cultural life of Boston's Polish community for a generation, particularly as organizer and director of its musical groups. The collection consists primarily of published and mimeographed sheet music.

Nurczyński, Walter and Valeria
Papers, 1936-1968, ca. 3 linear feet
For a long time the Nurczyński's played a major role in the musical activities and radio programming of the Polish American community of Boston. The collection consists of clippings, correspondence, radio scripts and music.

Paryski Publishing Company, Toledo, Ohio
Papers, ca. 1930-1960, ca.210 linear feet
The Paryski Publishing Company, founded in 1889, was one of the most important Polish American publishing houses. Five million copies or more of books and pamphlets, primarily in Polish, and the popular newspaper, *Ameryka-Echo* (1887-1971) appeared under its imprint. The collection consists of the vast business and editorial papers of the publishing company.

Polish American Book Company, Chicago, Illinois
Papers, 1955-1972, ca. 2 linear feet
The collection consists of clippings, financial records, press releases, and correspondence dealing with the weekly newspaper *Polonia* and such institutions as the Polish American Congress.

Polish American Congress, Illinois Division
Papers, ca. 1944-   , ca. 8 linear feet
A Polish American organization active in ethnic affairs, most specifically in aiding recent Polish immigrants to the United States. The collection contains the organization's correspondence and files dealing with Polish immigration matters.

Polish Association of Ohio
Papers, 1907-1930, 1 reel of microfilm

Polish Canteen for Servicemen, New York
Papers, ca. 1943-1946, ca. 2 linear inches
A World War II service organization; also includes material on its successor, the Polish Women's Service Organization (1946-1948).

Polish Falcons of America (Sokół Polski)
Convention records, 1914-1920, 1 reel of microfilm
Athletic-fraternal societies trace their formal origins among Poles in the United States to 1887. The Polish Falcons of America, their headquarters now in Pittsburgh, were leaders in the movement to restore the Polish state in World War I. They have since adopted an insurance program for their members.

Polish National Aid Association, Grand Rapids, Michigan
Records, 1878-1976, ca. 3 linear feet
Minutes, financial records, inventories and membership records of the Association (formerly Lodge 57 of the Polish National Alliance).

Polish National Alliance, Council 12, Minneapolis, Minnesota
Minutes, 1911-1935, ca. 2 linear inches

Polish National Alliance, Council 23, Chicago, Illinois
Minutes, 1914-1918, 1 reel of microfilm

Polish National Alliance, Lodge 22, Minneapolis, Minnesota
Minute book, 1884-1909, 1916, ca. 1 linear inch

Polish National Alliance, Lodge 1042, Minneapolis, Minnesota
Minutes, 1936-1954, ca. 1 linear inch

Polish National Catholic Church, Central Diocese, Scranton, Pennsylvania
Life records, 1897-1974, 9 reels of microfilm
Baptism, confirmation, marriage and burial records of the Central Diocese.

Polish National Catholic Church, Western Diocese, Sacred Heart Church, Minneapolis, Minnesota
Baptism, marriage and death records, 1914-1965, photocopy, ca. 1 linear inch; parish committee minutes, 1914-1930, and financial reports, 1923-1934, 1 reel of microfilm

Polish National Department, Minneapolis, Minnesota
Minutes, 1931-1938, ca. 2 linear inches
The National Department coordinated the efforts of Polish Americans to aid the cause of Poland during World War I. The Minneapolis branch grew into an autonomous agency representing the community's major organizations.

Polish National Alliance Home, Minneapolis, Minnesota
Minutes, 1937-1954, ca. 2 linear inches
Leaders of the Northeast Minneapolis Polish community collaborated to incorporate, finance and manage an institution to house major neighborhood activities.

Polish Roman Catholic Union, Circuit No 22, St. Paul, Minnesota
Minute book, 1929-1939, ca. 1 linear inch

Polish Roman Catholic Union, St. James the Apostle Society, Lodge No. 445, St. Paul, Minnesota
Minute books, 1919-1941, ca. 2 linear inches

*Polish Union of the United States of North America, Wilkes Barre, Pennsylvania
Papers, 1939-1971, ca. 5 linear inches
A collection of organizational records of this fraternal society and especially of its Anthracite Relief Committee for Poland during World War II.

Rozanski, Clement
Papers, 1919-1969, 16 linear feet
A practicing attorney in New York and Brooklyn for nearly fifty years, Rozanski numbered among his clients hundreds of individual Polish Americans and many major local insitutions, e.g., the Polish National Alliance of Brooklyn and the Consulate General of Poland in New York. The collection consists of his legal files and business correspondence.

Różański, Edward C. and Loda
>Papers ca. 1940-   , ca. 43 linear feet
>Correspondence, programs, press releases and organizational
>publications relating to the activities of an important figure
>in Polish American organizational life and in immigrant and
>refugee relief work.

St. John Cantius Roman Catholic Church, Wilno, Minnesota
>Records, 1883-1976. 3 reels of microfilm
>The Church of St. John Cantius has been the center of one of
>Minnesota's oldest rural Polish settlements, founded about
>1880 through the efforts of Rev. R. Byżewski of Winona,
>Bishop Ireland of St. Paul and the Northwestern Railroad.
>The collection includes baptism, marriage and death registers,
>parish committee minutes, financial records, photographs and
>clippings. It also includes the research notes of parish
>historian, Rose Parulski.

St. Joseph Society, St. Paul, Minnesota
>Minute book, 1915-1919, ca. 1 linear inch

Sadowski, Roman J.
>Papers, ca. 1919-1960, ca. 3 linear inches
>Polish immigrant active in the Polish National Medical and
>Dental Association.

Śmietana, Walter
>Papers ca. 1970-1973, ca. 2 linear inches
>Chairman of the Department of Education and Psychology and
>acting president of Alliance College, Cambridge Springs,
>Pennsylvania.

Świerczyński, Jan
>Papers, ca. 1912-1970, ca. 3 linear inches
>A member of Chicago Polonia, active in Polish Falcons of
>America.

Symans, Edward Alan
>Papers, 1971-1976, 1 linear foot
>Symans served in Poland for many years in the United States
>Foreign Service. He has published three books of poetry and
>is a founder of the Polish Heritage Society of Grand Rapids,
>Michigan. The collection includes his correspondence, research
>notes, personal papers and scrapbooks.

Szczesniak, Boleslaw Boym
>Papers, 1948-1977, 1.2 linear feet
>Szczesniak, a medievalist and scholar of East Asian history,
>emigrated to the United States soon after World War II. He
>taught for many years in the Department of History of the Univer-
>sity of Notre Dame. The collection consists largely of his and
>his family's personal correspondence. It also includes the

>proceedings of the South Bend Polish Library (1914-1957) and a
>file dealing with the celebration of the Copernican Year (1973)
>in South Bend.

Szewc, Rose
>Papers, 1916-1919, 1 linear foot
>Szewc was Executive Secretary of the American Association for
>the Education of Foreign-Born Soldiers in the United States.
>The collection consists mainly of correspondence and clippings
>from 1916-1919 and a scattering of other material concerning
>her life in Indiana prior to 1918 and as secretary to the law
>firm of Clement Rozanski of New York and Brooklyn.

Szulak, Rev. Francis
>Journal, 1869-1903, 1 reel of microfilm
>As a member of the Jesuit mission in the Midwest, Szulak served
>Polish communities throughout the region in the last decades of
>the ninteenth century.

Tatra Production Company
>Papers, 1919-1920, 1 linear foot
>A motion picture production firm created in New York to produce
>a film based on the life of Paderewski. The collection consists
>of correspondence, minutes and stock certificates.

West Side Democratic and Civic Club, South Bend, Indiana
>Minutes, 1930-1935, 1946-1961, photocopy, ca. 2 linear inches

Wiewióra, Joseph
>Papers, 1976, ca. 1 linear inch
>Wiewióra, a journalist and writer, is presently editor of
>*Zgoda*, the official publication of the Polish National Alliance
>of the United States.

*Wolny, Wilhelm A.
>Papers, ca. 1930-   , 1 linear foot
>Correspondence, clippings and publications of an activist in
>Polish American affairs on the United States West Coast.

Wołodkowicz, Andrzej
>Papers, 1964-1967, ca. 0.5 linear feet
>Questionnaires, correspondence, and newspaper clippings used in
>compiling Wołodkowicz's book, *Polish Contribution to Arts and
>Sciences in Canada*.

Zawistowski, Rev. Józef Lebiedzik, 1884-1967
>Papers, ca. 1914-1967, 16.5 linear feet
>Born in the Polish area of Upper Silesia, Zawistowski immigrated
>to the United States in 1914 to become a priest of the Polish
>National Catholic Church. The collection consists of correspon-
>dence and clippings, and is especially rich in correspondence
>from Bishop Franciszek Hodur. Also included are the manuscripts
>of many books and pamphlets written by Zawistowski, often under
>various pen names.

Zielinski, Jaroslav de
Papers, 1871-1922, 1 linear foot
Zielinski's career as a pianist, composer, music teacher and
critic stretched from Poland, where he participated in the
uprising of 1863 to Grand Rapids, MI, Buffalo, NY, and Los
Angeles, CA in the United States. The collection consists of
letters, manuscripts, photographs, handbills and programs.
It also includes the research notes and correspondence of
Robert C. Bryant and Edward A. Symans (1970-1976) dealing with
Zielinski's life.

Zorn, Otylia Smocinska
Papers, 1956-1977, ca. 8 linear inches
Correspondence, clippings, photographs and memorabilia compiled
in three scrapbooks and dealing with the history of the Zorn
and Smocinski families and the American Polish Club of Lake
Worth, Florida.

NEWSPAPERS

* current issues received regularly

Newspapers which are part of the Polish Microfilm Project
(PMP) are available on loan from the Center for Research
Libraries for use at the IHRC and do not circulate.

Dates immediately following place of publication indicate
years of publication; other dates indicate holdings.

Ameryka-Echo. Toledo, Ohio, 1889-1971
Microfilm: 1889-1971

Am-Pol Eagle. Buffalo, New York, 1960-present
Original file: March 10, 1977-present

Czas. Brooklyn, New York, 1905-1975
Original file: 1948-1975
Microfilm: 1906-1929, 1931-1975 (PMP)

Czas. Winnipeg, Manitoba, 1915-present
Original file: 1968-present

Dziennik Chicagoski. Chicago, Illinois, 1890-1971
Original file: 1921, 1925, 1927-1932, 1938-1947, 1951-1970
Microfilm: Dec. 15, 1890-1895; 1897-1913; March 20, 1914-1942 (PMP)

Dziennik Polski. Detroit, Michigan, 1904-present
Original file: 1975-present
Microfilm: March 1904-June 1912, 1913-June 1923, 1924-April 1941

Dziennik Polski. London, England, 1940-present
Original file: 1968

Dziennik Zjednoczenia. Chicago, Illinois, 1921-1939
Microfilm: City edition--September 1921-November 1939; Country
edition--January-September 1922, January-June 1927 (PMP)

Dziennik Związkowy. Chicago, Illinois, 1908-present
Original file: 1950, 1970-present
Microfilm: 1908-1974 (PMP)

Echo. Buffalo, New York, 1889-1903
Microfilm: 1894-1898, 1903

Echo Polskie. Toledo, Ohio, 1912-1913
Microfilm: 1912-1913

Gazeta Polonii. Boston, Massachusetts, 1964-1972
Original file: 1964-1972

Gazeta Polska Narodowa. Chicago, Illinois, 1873-1917
    Microfilm: 1888, 1890, 1895, June 1905-1907, 1909-1910,
    1912-January 20, 1917 (PMP)

*Głos Ludowy. Detroit, Michigan, 1924-present
    Original file: 1966-present

Głos Polek. Chicago, Illinois, 1902-present
    Microfilm: 1902-1903, 1910-1973 (PMP)

Głos Polski. Toronto, Ontario, 1950-present
    Original file: 1965-1972

*God's Field (Rola Boża). Scranton, Pennsylvania, 1923-present
    Original file: 1923-1949, 1951-1959, 1962-present
    Microfilm: 1923-1975 (PMP)

Górnik. Wilkes-Barre, Pennsylvania, 1893-1948
    Original file: April 1, 1922-June 19, 1922
    Microfilm: April 1, 1922-June 19, 1922 (PMP)

*Gwiazda. Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, 1902-present
    Original file: June 3, 1964-present

*Gwiazda Polarna. Stevens Point, Wisconsin, 1908-present
    Original file: 1968-1969, 1973-present

*Jedność Polek. Cleveland, Ohio, 1924-present
    Original file: 1972-present

*Jutro Polski. Harrow, Middlesex, UK, 1943-present
    Original file: 1964-1965, 1969-present

Jutrzenka. Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, and Cleveland, Ohio, 1893-1923?
    Microfilm: September 13, 1893-December 19, 1894

Kronika Tygodniowa. Toronto, Ontario, 1941-present
    Original file: 1967, 1976

*Kurier Polski Kanadyjski. Toronto, Ontario
    Original file: 1976-present

Kurier Polski. Milwaukee, Wisconsin, 1966-1968
    Microfilm: 1966-1968

Kuryer Cleveland. Cleveland, Ohio, 1891-1892
    Microfilm: 1891-1892

Kuryer Katolicki. Toledo, Ohio
    Microfilm: 1924

Kuryer Toledoski. Toledo, Ohio
    Microfilm: 1925

Kuryer Polski. Milwaukee, Wisconsin, 1888-1963
    Microfilm: 1888-1962

*Kuryer Zjednoczenia. Cleveland, Ohio, 1924-present
    Original file: 1971-present

Na Antenie. München, Germany, 1963-present
    Original file: 1963-1971 (scattered issues)

Narodowiec. Cleveland, Ohio, 1910-1921
    Original file: 1912-1919 (scattered issues)
    Microfilm: 1912-1919 (scattered issues)

Naród Polski. Chicago, Illinois, 1897-present
    Original file: 1965-present
    Microfilm, 1897-1902, 1904-September 14, 1921; 1926-1928,
    1930-1971 (PMP)

Niedziela. Toledo, Ohio
    Microfilm: 1912-1913

Nowiny Minnesockie. St. Paul, Minnesota, 1915-present
    Original file: 1965-1977

Nowy Dziennik. Jersey City, New Jersey, 1971-present
    Original file: 1971-1974, 1977

Nowy Świat. New York, New York, 1919-1970
    Microfilm: 1920-1926, 1928-1952, March 1962, August-October,
    1962, April 1963-October 1969, January-June 1970 (PMP)

Ognisko. New York, New York, 1887-1889
    Microfilm: July 7-December 27, 1887; January 4-June 22, 1889 (PMP)

Ognisko Domowe. Detroit, Michigan, 1914-1939
    Microfilm: 1929-1930 (PMP)

Orzeł Polski. Washington and Kraków, Missouri, 1870-1872
    Microfilm: 1870-1872 (nearly complete)

*Pittsburczanin. Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, 1920-1976
    Original file: 1970-1976

*Pokój. Detroit, Michigan, 1971-present
    Original file: 1975-present

*Pol-Am Journal. Scranton, Pennsylvania, 1912-present
    Original file: 1970-present

*Polish American World. New York, New York, 1959-present
    Original file: 1973-1974 (scattered issues), 1975-present

Polish Courier (formerly *Kuryer Codzienny,* 1920-1960; *Kuryer Bostoński,*
1915-1919). Boston, Massachusetts, 1915-1963.
    Original file: 1949-1963

Polonia. Chicago, Illinois, 1970-1976
    Original file: 1971-1976

Polonia w Ameryce. Cleveland, Ohio, 1892-1923
    Microfilm: January 5-December 28, 1904

Post-Eagle. Clifton, New Jersey, 1963-present
    Original file: 1971-present

Przebudzenie. Chicago, Illinois, 1927-1955
    Microfilm: 1927-1933, 1935-1940, 1943-1951, 1953-1955 (PMP)

Robotnik Polski. New York, New York, 1896-1967
    Original file: 1961-1967
    Microfilm: 1903-1942

Rolnik. Stevens Point, Wisconsin, 1891-1960
    Microfilm: 1899, 1901, 1904-1960

Słońce. St. Paul, Minnesota, 1895-1905
    Microfilm: 1898-1900

Słowo Polskie. Utica, New York, 1911-present
    Microfilm: September 25, 1911-December 31, 1914, January 6,
1922-December 27, 1940

Sokół Polski. Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, 1909-present
    Original file: 1973, 1975-present
    Microfilm: 1910-1967

Straż. Scranton, Pennsylvania, 1897-present
    Original file: 1926, 1930, 1935-1946, 1949, 1951, 1956-1957,
1965-present
    Microfilm: 1897-1898, 1900-1907, 1910, 1913, 1917, 1919-
1922, 1923-1937

Sztandar Polski. Bay City, Michigan, 1910-1943
    Microfilm: April 1917-May 1925 (scattered issues)

Tydzień. Brooklyn, New York, 1976-present
    Original file: 1976-present

Wiadomości. London, England, 1946-present
    Original file: 1954-1972

Wiadomości Codzienne. Cleveland, Ohio, 1916-1966
    Microfilm: 1916-1928

Wiara i Ojczyzna. Chicago, Illinois, 1887-1897
    Microfilm: October 9-December 30, 1891; July 2-December 24,
1896 (PMP)

Wici. Chicago, Illinois, 1914-1921?
    Microfilm: 1916-1917 (PMP)

Zgoda. Chicago, Illinois, 1881-present
    Original file: 1969-present
    Microfilm: Regular edition--1887-1906, 1908-1974; Women's
edition--1900-June 1908, 1912-1913; Men's edition--August
1910-March 1911 (PMP)

Związkowiec. Cleveland, Ohio, 1913-present
    Original file: 1969-present

Związkowiec. Toronto, Ontario, 1933-present
    Original file: 1965-present

The IHRC houses a non-circulating reference collection, open to all scholars doing serious research in pertinent fields of study. Ample study space is available, and a reasonable amount of photocopying is allowed, provided copyrights and individual donor's agreements are not violated. The Center has published and makes available the following titles:

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IHRC Ethnic Bibliographies
Serbs in the United States and Canada, compiled by Robert P. Gakovich and Milan M. Radovich; edited by Joseph D. Dwyer, 1976.
Hungarians in the United States and Canada, compiled and edited by Joseph Szeplaki, 1977.
Slovenians in the United States and Canada (to be published)
Ukrainians in the United States and Canada (to be published)

IHRC Reprint Series
John Bodnar, "Immigration and Modernization: The Case of Slavic Peasants in Industrial America" (reprinted from *Journal of Social History,* Fall 1976)
John Bodnar, "Materialism and Morality: Slavic-American Immigrants and Education, 1890-1940" (reprinted from *Journal of Ethnic Studies,* Winter 1976)
Thaddeus Radzialowski, "The Competition for Jobs and Racial Stereotypes: Poles and Blacks in Chicago" (reprinted from *Polish American Studies,* Autumn 1976)

Spectrum, IHRC Newsletter (published three times yearly)

Guide to Manuscript Holdings, edited by Joseph D. Dwyer

Guide to Newspapers and Periodicals on Microform

Ukrainian American Brochure

The Finnish Experience in the Western Great Lakes Region: New Perspectives, edited by Michael G. Karni, Matti E. Kaups, and Douglas J. Ollila, Jr.

If you have any questions regarding the collections and publications, or if you have information concerning material which should be preserved, please contact:

Immigration History Research Center, University of Minnesota, 826 Berry Street, St. Paul, Minnesota 55114
Telephone: (612) 373-5581

Hours: Monday - Friday, 8:30 - 4:30, Saturday, 9:00 - 1:00

Other Resources Poland

The Partitions of Poland-Wikipedia article with Maps
http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Partitions_of_Poland

Polish Genealogical Society of America
http://www.pgsa.org/

List of Common Polish First Names
http://www.rootsweb.com/~polwgw/namelist.html

Cyndi's List Poland Links
http://www.cyndislist.com/poland.htm

FamilySearch Wiki
http://wiki.familysearch.org
https://wiki.familysearch.org/en/Poland