**ADVANCE YOUR EASTERN EUROPEAN RESEARCH WITH A BAKERS DOZEN OF UNUSUAL SOURCES - XENIA STANFORD**

Source: Harvest Your Family Tree 2018 – Kelowna & District Genealogical Society pp.17 - 19

These sources are provided in case it covers your ancestors and also to provide inspiration not to settle for the ordinary research paths but to look where maybe you have not looked before. This session will be most useful if you have already searched all the records available for you in North America as these should give you the location in Eastern Europe from which your family originated.

**Topics Covered**

1. Overlooked Immigration Records
2. Emigration Records
3. Cadastral Maps
4. War Files
5. Military Records
6. Cemeteries/Graves
7. Maps & Gazetteers
8. Vital Records
9. City directories
10. St. Petersburg Archives
11. Census Records
12. Criminal Activity
13. School Records

**1. Overlooked Immigration Records**

Just because you found one passenger list for your ancestor, it does not mean it was the only one. Passengers whose destination was Canada may be found on New York Passenger Lists if the ship went to New York before or after arriving at a Canadian port. Also given are some specific collections for Eastern European immigration.

a. Canadian Passenger Lists

https://bit.ly/2LpovlW

https://www.familysearch.org/search/collection/1823240

b. Immigrants from the Russian Empire, 1898-1922

https://bit.ly/2PDGtUZ

c. New York Passenger Lists (Ellis Island & Castle Rock) now available on FamilySearch and

Steve Morse’s One-Step search files - https://stevemorse.org/

d. Gjenvick Gjønvik <https://www.gjenvick.com/> and Facebook page

https://www.facebook.com/GGImmigrationArchives/

e.Ukrainian Immigrants, 1891-1930 indexed by the late Walter Zayachkowski - https://bit.ly/20IlSli

**2 Emigration Records**

Before someone arrived at a port, they had to leave a port – very few ships went straight from continental European ports to North America. They usually left a European port, stopped off in England and often changed ships before traveling to North America (Liverpool and Southampton were ports for emigration).

a.Gjenvick Gjønvik covers Antwerp emigration - https://www.gjenvick.com/

b. Bremen Emigration Lists - http://www.passengerlists.de/

https://www.familysearch.org/search/collection/1787826

c.Antwerp Belgium, Antwerp Police Immigration Index, 1840-1930

https://www.familysearch.org/search/collection/1477769

d. Odessa Collection

http://www.odessa3.org/collections/ships/

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e. Netherlands Passenger Lists Holland-America Line, 1900-1974

https://www.familysearch.org/search/collection/1916283/

f. Hamburg Passengers Lists – available on

Ancestry and Hamburg State Archives

https://recherche.staatsarchiv.hamburg.de/ScopeQuery5.2/volltextsuche.aspx

**3. Cadastral Maps**

The cadastre of a country is a register of property titles usually managed by government agencies and shows ownership of each parcel of land. In some countries it also records the value of a property and is used for land taxation purposes.

a. Many maps for Eastern Europe at https://maps.geshergalicia.org/

See inventory at https://www.geshergalicia.org/cadastral-mapsand-records/

b. Many maps for the former Galicia - http://www.przemysl.ap.gov.pl/skany/

c. Some historians are making up cadastral maps through the parish registers as these give house numbers. It is also an unofficial census. Send inquiry to village or city mayor.

**4. War Files** – some in Canada where those labeled as Austrians (many of whom were Ukrainians) were interned in prison camps. Other records are in Eastern Europe due to wars and civil punishment.

a. Canada’s Enemy Alien Files

http://www.infoukes.com/history/images/internment/pdf/roll\_call.pdf

b. Provincial Archives from province where enemy aliens not in camps had to report monthly to police.

c. POW of WWI by International Red Cross - https://grandeguerre.icrc.org/en/File/Search

d. The following are at Steve Morse One Step search files https://stevemorse.org/

* Siberian Refugee Camps: Searching the Polish "Index of the Repressed"
* Soviet Gulags: Searching for People Interned in Soviet Gulags (1935-1955)
* Stalin's Secret Police: Viewing Stalin's Secret Police Members (1935-1939)
* Russia's Fallen (English): English front-end for Database of Russia's Fallen

e. KGB and predecessors from 1940- http://www.kgbdocuments.eu/index.php?2439553049

**5. Military Records** – from 1648 on almost all men were required to serve in the military. In 1802 the term was reduced from life to ten years, although not always on active duty. After 1868 the term was active duty for three years and after 1912 it was reduced to two years. The collection most relevant to those in Eastern Europe outside of Russia and Prussia prior to 1914 is Austrian Military Files.

a.Austrian Military Records, look for search tips and links at

<https://www.familysearch.org/wiki/en/Austria>\_Military\_Records

b.Russian Records for WWI - http://xn--80adcv1b.xn--p1ai/user

c. Description of conscription lists for Russia at https://www.familysearch.org/wiki/en/Russia\_Military\_Records

d. Many records for Prussia/Germany exist, see description and links at

https://www.familysearch.org/wiki/en/Germany\_Military\_Records

e. CAW Centralne Archiwum Wojskowe (Poland’s Central Military Archives in Warsaw) from 1908 - http://caw.wp.mil.pl/pl/index.html

**6. Cemeteries/Graves -** Special Graves also includes death cards, address books, family books and other records.

a. BillionGrave includes European locations - https://billiongraves.com/search/

b. Findagrave includes European locations - https://www.findagrave.com/

c. Special Graves - http://wiki-de.genealogy.net/Grabstein-Projekt/Besondere\_Gr%C3%A4ber

http://grabsteine.genealogy.net

d. Global, Find a Grave Index for Burials at Sea and other Select Burial Locations, 1300s-Current (see Ancestry collections)

e. Lodz Cemetery: Searching the Lodz Cemetery https://stevemorse.org/

**7. Maps & Gazetteers -** These are essential for finding ancestral villages and determining its location within jurisdictions then/ now.

a. FEEFHS has many maps for many locations - http://feefhs.org/resource

b. Genealogical Gazetteer of Galicia 3rd edition by Brian J. Lenius (in KDGS Library)

c. Where Once We Walked 2nd edition (in KDGS Library)

d. Google Maps once you know correct village/city

**8. Vital Records**

a. Database of Ukrainian residents born between - 1650-1920 https://pra.in.ua/en

b. Polonia Family Tree search http://www.ipgs.us/poloniaindex/patilist0.html

c. Polish PRADZIAD database Archives: d. http://baza.archiwa.gov.pl/sezam/pradziad.php?l=en

d. Geneteka Genealogy (Poland/Ukraine) - http://geneteka.genealodzy.pl/

e. Online parish records from Galicia - www.ukrhec.org/family-historygroup/blog/tips-finding-online-parish-recordsgalicia

f. Volhynia, Kiev and Podolia Lutheran marriages – links for births and deaths as well

https://www.sggee.org/research/StPeteMarriage.html

g. Routes to Roots Foundation to search location of Eastern European archives

http://www.rtrfoundation.org/search.php

h. Halgal for Galician records - http://www.halgal.com/vitalrecords.html

**9. City directories**

a. Kiev city directory https://bit.ly/2MMn59

b.Russian Phone Directory (English): English front-end for old Moscow and St. Peterburg

Phone Directories - https://stevemorse.org/russian/phonebook.html

c. Genealogy Indexer to over 3000 directories - http://genealogyindexer.org/

**10. St. Petersburg Archives** – in addition to Russian material, it includes records from Eastern European countries that once were part of USSR - http://www.odessa3.org/collections/stpete/

**11. Census Records -** Yes, there are census records for Eastern Europe. The differing jurisdictions over time means there is not a consistent series. Many list only the major landowners. These are also census substitutes.

a. FamilySearch.org has census records for various jurisdiction, e.g. from 1794-1920 – search catalog and/or collections

b. Status Animarum- State of Souls – was census of parishioners submitted by priests – in addition to baptism, marriage and burial, priests were asked to take a State of Souls names and their religious status – e.g. communicant vs non-communicant, or parishioner vs non-parishioner

(sometimes only head of family and number of people in household in each category, some are at

http://www.alenjes.com/stari-trg

**12. Criminal Activity**

Unknown reference in document: Bayer[isches] Central-Polizei-Blatt

Aka Bavaria’s Most Wanted - 26 different editions of books showing people wanted throughout Bavaria for criminal acts from 1857-1903 – descriptions of person - many with photos - http://books.google.com/books?id=4cAqAAAAYAAJ.

**13. School Records**

a. Elementary School Records of students born between 1879-1887, e.g. \*Stari trg ob Kolpi, Bela Kranja, Slovenia (Austria, Yugoslavia) - http://www.alenjes.com/stari-trg

b. 24,000 school records

http://genealogyindexer.org/

c. Also check Familysearch.org to see the collections available for various jurisdictions (will be under location collections)

d. Czech Republic 1799- 1953

https://www.familysearch.org/search/collection/2328519?