

Ukrainian Genealogy

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Вітаємо!

Historical Lands:

Today's Ukraine includes territory from nine historical Russian Empire gubernias and territory from the portions of the Austro-Hungarian Empire (eastern portion of the Province of Galicia and Subcarpathian Ruthenia/Zakarpatska region).

Key Dates in History:

- 2014 & 2022: Russian invasion and occupation of territories in eastern Ukrainian oblasts and Crimea
- 1991: Declared independence from Soviet Union to become the Republic of Ukraine
- 1945-1991: Territory added to Ukrainian S.S.R. after WWII (realignment of boundaries / Curzon Line)
- 1923-1945: Western portion became part of Second Polish Republic
- 1919: Central & Eastern portion formed as Ukrainian S.S.R.
- 1918: Eastern portion declared independence from the Russian Empire
- 1772-1918: Western Ukraine [Province of Galicia] under the Austro-Hungarian Empire
- 1700s-1919: Today's Eastern Ukrainian Oblasts, formerly gubernia's under the Russian Empire

Political Divisions:

- Ukraine (new): област/oblast, район/raion
- Russian Empire (old): губерния/gubernia (governorate), уезд/uezd, округ/okrug, район/raion
- Poland: województwo (Voivodeship), powiat, gmina
- Austrian Empire: bezirkshauptmannschaft (district); kreis (district)
- Kingdom of Hungary: vármegye /megye (county), járás (district)

Ukrainian Archival Terms:

- Фонд / Fond = Record Group
- Опис / Opis = Collection/Series
- Справа / Sprava or Дело / Delo = Case/folder/file

Ukrainian Data privacy for Birth/Marriage/Death records: 75/75/75 years

Examples of Types of records:

- Metrical books including Confession Lists and Status Animarum
- Revision lists/family lists and Tax Lists
- Census records (especially 1897 for the former territory of the Russian Empire)
- Military Conscription lists
- Cadastral records and maps

Gazetteers to Locate Ancestral Towns

- Austrian Empire:
Gemeindelexikon der im Reichsrath vertretenen Königreiche und Länder [Gazetteer of the Crown Lands and Territories Represented in the Imperial Council]
- Russian Empire:
Spiski naselennykh Mest Rossiiskoi Imperii (Списки населенных мест Российской Империи)
- Kingdom of Hungary:
Magyarország helységnévtára tekintettel a közigazgatási, népességi és hitfelekezeti viszonyokra / szerkesztette Dvorzsák János [Ortslexikon von Ungarn mit Bezug auf die politische und kirchliche Eintheilung der Bevölkerung, Johann Dvorzsák]

ONLINE RESOURCES

Encyclopedia of Ukraine

<http://www.encyclopediaofukraine.com/>

Державна архівна служба України | State Archival Service of Ukraine

<http://www.archives.gov.ua/>

Official web-portal of the state archival service of Ukraine. Includes links to specific archives and information about holdings. No online collections of genealogical interest yet.

➤ *Use the main site in Ukrainian via the Chrome browser for best user experience.*

Links to all Central State Archives:

<https://archives.gov.ua/ua/центральні-державні-архівні-установ>

Links to all Oblast Archives:

<https://archives.gov.ua/ua/державні-архіви-областей-м-києва>

**Центральний державний історичний архів України, м. Київ (ЦДІАК України)
[TsDIAK]**

Central State Historical Archive Ukraine, m. Kyiv

<http://cdiak.archives.gov.ua/>

Online Inventory of Metrical Records: Church, Synagogues, Monasteries

http://cdiak.archives.gov.ua/baza_geog_pok/index.php

**Центральний державний історичний архів України, м. Львів (ЦДІАЛ України)
[TsDIAL]**

Central State Historical Archive Ukraine, m. L'viv

<http://tsdial.archives.gov.ua/>

List of archival finding aid and inventory holdings:

<https://tsdial.archives.gov.ua/index5.html>

FamilySearch

- Catalog: <https://www.familysearch.org/en/search/catalog>
- Records Search by Name: <https://www.familysearch.org/en/search/>

АРХІВИ: ДЖЕРЕЛА З АРХІВНИХ УСТАНОВ | Archives: Sources from Archival Institutions

<https://uk.wikisource.org/wiki/Архіви>

A citizen-archivist collection of scanned records coordinated and hosted by Alex Krakowsky.

JewishGen

<https://www.jewishgen.org/>

Major web site for Jewish research. Includes hundreds of index databases extracted from East European records as well as many other research helps.

Gesher Galicia

<https://www.geshergalicia.org/>

Jewish genealogical and historical research on Galicia, formerly a province of Austria-Hungary and today divided between southeastern Poland and western Ukraine.

JRI-Poland

<https://www.jri-poland.org/>

Jewish genealogical research support for Interwar-Poland territory.

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Odessa: A German-Russian: Genealogical Library

A collaborative digital library documenting Germans who immigrated to the Russian Empire in the 1800s. Compiled from a variety of original, print, & microfilm sources.

<http://www.odessa3.org/>

Language Resources

- **German** Word List:
 - https://familysearch.org/wiki/en/German_Word_List
- **Hungarian** Word List:
 - https://familysearch.org/wiki/en/Hungary_Genealogical_Word_List
- **Latin** Word List:
 - https://familysearch.org/wiki/en/Latin_Genealogical_Word_List
- **Polish** Word List:
 - https://familysearch.org/wiki/en/Polish_Word_List
- **Russian** Word List:
 - <http://files.lib.byu.edu/family-history-library/research-outlines/Europe/Russia.pdf>
- **Old Church Slavonic Online** - Slavonic: Base Form Dictionary
 - https://lrc.la.utexas.edu/eieol_base_form_dictionary/ocsol/13
- **Reading Russian Documents: The Russian Alphabet**
 - <https://www.familysearch.org/en/help/helpcenter/lessons/reading-russian-documents-the-russian-alphabet>
- Shea, Jonathan D. and William F. Hoffman. *In Their Words: A Genealogist's Translation Guide to Polish, German, Latin and Russian Documents*. Connecticut: Language and Lineage Press.
 - ✓ Volume I: Polish
 - ✓ Volume II: Russian
 - ✓ Volume III: Latin
 - ✓ Volume IV: German

Genealogical Guidebooks

- Chubenko, Michelle. *Workbook for Research in Galicia, Austria-Hungary*. New Jersey: self-published, 2025.
- Himka, John-Paul. *Galicia and Bukovina: A Research Handbook about Western Ukraine, Late 19th–20th Centuries*. Canada: Alberta Culture & Multiculturalism Historical Resources Division, 1990.
- Pihach, John D. *Ukrainian Genealogy*. Toronto: Canadian Institute of Ukrainian Studies, 2007.

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- Shea, Jonathan D. *Going Home: A Guide to Polish-American Family History Research*. Houston, Texas: Language & Lineage Press, 2008.
- Wynne, Suzan F. *The Jews of Galicia: A Genealogy Handbook*. JewishGen Press, 2022.

Genealogical Societies

- Nashi Predky-Our Ukrainian Ancestors Family History Group:
<http://nashipredky.org/>
- East European Genealogical Society (Canada/Intl): <http://www.eegsociety.org>
- Toronto Ukrainian Genealogy Group <https://torugg.org/>
- Ukrainian Genealogy Group · National Capital Region <https://uggncr.org/>
- Ukraine Genealogy Group - Edmonton and Area Society (Facebook)

Ethnic Specific:

- Armenian Genealogy:
<https://www.armeniangenealogyconference.com/>
- Carpatho-Rusyn Society (C-RS):
<http://www.c-rs.org/>
- Czechoslovak Genealogical Society International (CGSI):
<http://cgsi.org/>
- Polish Genealogical Society of America:
<http://pgsa.org/>
- American Historical Society of Germans from Russia:
<http://www.ahsgr.org/>
- Galizien German Descendants:
<https://galiziengerm descendants.org/cms/index.php/en/>
- Germans from Russia Heritage Society:
<https://www.grhs.org/pages/research>
- Society for German Genealogy in Eastern Europe (SGGEE):
<https://www.sggee.org>

Neighboring Countries:

- **Poland State Archives** - Szukaj w Archiwach
<https://www.szukajwarchiwach.gov.pl/>
Over 79 million images for thousands of villages, towns and cities held by 118 archives. (Includes records from former Polish areas now in Belarus, Lithuania, and Ukraine).
- **Polish State Historical Archive | Archiwum Główne Akt Dawnych (AGAD)** –
Nineteen collections for records of former Polish areas now in Belarus, Lithuania, and Ukraine.
Online Scans: <http://www.agad.gov.pl/inwentarze/testy.html>
Placename Index: <http://www.agad.gov.pl/inwentarze/indexmet.xml>
- **Archives of Belarus**
<https://archives.gov.by/en/welcome-to-the-archives-of-belarus-website/genealogy-family-history>
Portal page for the national and regional archives of Belarus. Includes good English-language resource listings for genealogists.
- **Lithuania Virtual Electronic Heritage System** - ePaveldas
<https://www.epaveldas.lt/main>
Includes Roman Catholic church records from the 1500s-1900s as well as other manuscript collections, digital books, newspapers, etc. Part of site is in English, but to get to the collections, you need to switch to Lithuanian. Records may be in Russian, Polish, German, Belarusian or Lithuanian. (Also includes some records for Belarus.)
- **Russia Archive Portal**
<https://rusarchives.ru/>
Portal site for all Russian archives. Includes contact info and links to individual archive sites, information about holdings, and some finding aids.

Blogs:

- *Forgotten Galicia – Remnants of the past found in Lviv, Galicia & the Former Austrian Empire* by Areta Kovalska
<https://forgottengalicia.com/>
- *From Shepherds and Shoemakers* by Julie Roberts Szczepankiewicz
<https://fromshepherdsandshoemakers.com/>
- *Lara's Jewnealogy* by Lara Diamond
<https://larasgenealogy.blogspot.com/>

Get Involved with the NYG&B

JOIN:

The New York Genealogical & Biographical Society (NYG&B) is a nonprofit organization dedicated to preserving, documenting, and sharing family history and stories from across New York State. Our award-winning publications; expert staff; professional research services; extensive online records and collections; and comprehensive educational programming and resources help our members become New York family history experts. Learn more at:

<https://www.newyorkfamilyhistory.org/content/join>

VOLUNTEER:

Volunteering with the NYG&B—either in person or remotely—is a great way to actively support a community dedicated to researching New York ancestors. And there are so many ways to help, whether virtually wherever you may be, at one of our regional Digitization Centers, or at our bustling New York City headquarters. Volunteers can assist with scanning documents, indexing records, and editing images. We provide both remote and in-person training and guidance.

Please visit <https://www.newyorkfamilyhistory.org/volunteer> or email us at volunteer@nygbs.org for more information.

PARTICIPATE IN PROGRAMMING:

The NYG&B holds a wide range of online, in-person, and hybrid events, conferences, classes, research trips, and seminars, both paid and free of charge. To see a list of upcoming events and to register, please visit <https://www.newyorkfamilyhistory.org/events>

DONATE TO SUPPORT OUR MISSION

Consider making a tax-deductible donation to advance our mission and support additional record and collection preservation efforts, educational programming, and landmark publications and resources. Learn more at www.newyorkfamilyhistory.org/get-involved/donate or call 212-755-8532, ext. 208.

STAY CONNECTED:

Stay up to date on the latest happenings at the NYG&B and broader genealogy community—including new programming, publications, and more—by subscribing to our free eNews. Sign up on our website at newyorkfamilyhistory.org. You can also follow on Facebook at www.facebook.com/nyfamilyhistory and Instagram at www.instagram.com/nyfamilyhistory.