

Useful Web Sites for Jewish Genealogical Research

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1. JewishGen: www.jewishgen.org Foremost website for Jewish genealogical research. One must register to access some sites, but there is no fee. Below are only a few of the offerings:

a. **Family Finder: www.jewishgen.org/jgff/**

Database of people researching certain surnames or towns. You may find new relatives here.

b. **Shtetl Finder: www.jewishgen.org/ShtetlSeeker/**

Enter name of town and get longitude and latitude coordinates of all towns with that name, find how far a town is from any other town, find names of all towns a certain distance from a given town. If you click on coordinates listed for a town, you can get map of area where town is located. To search by town name (soundex or exact spelling): **www.jewishgen.org/ShtetlSeeker/loctown.htm**

To search by radius from coordinates: **www.jewishgen.org/ShtetlSeeker/locrad.htm**

c. **Yizkor Book Project: www.jewishgen.org/yizkor**

Memorial books created after WWII by survivors of destroyed communities, originally written mostly in Yiddish and Hebrew. Contain history of town, stories about people in them, lists of those killed. English translations of many of these are being posted on the website chapter by chapter.

d. **Yizkor Book Necrology Database: www.jewishgen.org/databases/yizkor**

Lists names of victims of Holocaust mentioned in numerous Yizkor books.

e. **Special Interest Groups (SIGs): www.jewishgen.org/listserv/sigs.htm**

Mailing lists for groups of people researching same town or area. Can subscribe and get daily digest.

f. **Special Interest Group Web Pages: www.jewishgen.org/jewishgen/sigs.htm**

Informational Web pages maintained by various Regional Special Interest Groups. Addresses for various archives and possible researchers. Photographs, stories.

g. **Viewmate <http://data.jewishgen.org/ViewMate/>**

Can post photos, documents, or letters for identification, analysis, translation, or advice.

h. **Worldwide Burial Registry: www.JewishGen.org/databases/cemetery/**

Project to document burials worldwide. Still in preparation.

i. **Lodz Ghetto Database: www.jewishgen.org/databases/Poland/LodzGhetto.html**

Database of all people registered in Lodz ghetto. Shows name, birth date, place of residence, changes of place of residence, date of death if it occurred in the ghetto, and sometimes date of deportation. The database can be searched not only for surname but for any word, making it possible to find people for whom you know only a first name or address.

j. **JRI-Poland: www.jewishgen.org/jri-pl** [Independent org. hosted by JewishGen.] Project to index all vital (birth, marriage, death) records in Poland over 100 years old. Searchable database by surname (soundex or exact spelling). Can limit search to given town or area.

JRI also has 1929 Polish Business Directory: **www.jewishgen.org/jri-pl/bizdir/start.htm**

2. Steve Morse: <http://stevemorse.org/> Web pages that greatly simplify research at other sites. Include ship arrivals, censuses, vital records, Holocaust research, dealing with Hebrew and Russian characters, Jewish calendar conversion, phone numbers, birthdays, addresses, etc.

3. Ancestry.com: www.ancestry.com Access (for fee) to U.S. censuses, Social Security Death Index, passenger lists, etc. [Use for free at National Archives, Waltham, and many libraries.]

4. Genealogy.com: www.genealogy.com Similar to above, fee for most databases.

5. National Archives Documents: www.footnote.com/ Historical documents and Petitions for naturalization papers from National Archives, available for some states (for a fee)

6. Family Tree DNA: www.familytreedna.com Info about DNA tests for genealogical purposes.

7. LDS (Latter Day Saints–Mormons) Records: www.familysearch.org/

Family History Library catalogue lists all microfilms that can be ordered and viewed at a local Family History Center (e.g., Weston). Films contain birth, marriage, and death records of U.S. and European communities, ship records, records of organizations helping immigrants, etc. For lists of holdings of Jewish records only, see: www.JewishGen.org/databases/FHLC/

8. Ellis Island: www.ellislandrecords.org

Actual ship passenger lists of immigrants who arrived at Ellis Island between 1892 and 1924. Easier to use Steve Morse's tools to search database: www.jewishgen.org/databases/EIDB/

9. Port of Hamburg Emigration Database: <http://ltyr.hamburg.de/>

"Link to your roots" - Index to emigrants who departed from the Port of Hamburg from 1890–98.

10. Yad Vashem Central Database of Shoah Victims' Names:

www.yadvashem.org/wps/portal/IY_HON_Entrance

Information on victims of Holocaust obtained from pages of testimony submitted by survivors. May include name and address of submitter.

11. U.S. Holocaust Memorial Museum Collections and Archives:

www.ushmm.org/uia/cgi/uia_form/db_group/collections

12. Routes to Roots Foundation–Miriam Weiner: www.rtrfoundation.org

Info about Jewish holdings in state archives of Belarus, Lithuania, Moldova, Poland, and Ukraine.

13. Polish State Archives Holdings: www.archiwa.gov.pl

Catalogue of holdings of Polish State Archives. Click on "English version," "Enter," "Data base." Enter town name/type of record in "Title of Fond." Not sure of spelling? Enter only first few letters.

14. Addresses of Polish Civil Registry Offices (Urząd Stanu Cywilnego–USC):

To search for addresses of USCs in Polish Yellow Pages: www.pkt.pl/index.php?lang=eng

Type "Stanu Cywilnego" in "keyword." Select *województwo* [province]. Type town name if there are no diacritical marks. Otherwise, double click on "select" and choose name from list.

15. Dan Kazez: www.benkazez.com/dan/crarg/search.php Holocaust records–Poland.

16. Jewish Communities in Poland: www.jewish.org.pl/

17. Polish Genealogical Society: www.pgsa.org/

Maps, administrative districts, sample letters in Polish to send to archives, etc.

18. Belarus Archives (from Belarus SIG):

www.jewishgen.org/Belarus/belarus_records_various_archives.htm

19. Jewish Communities in Ukraine: www.jewish.kiev.ua/eng/index_e.htm

20. Jews of the Ukraine: www.haruth.com/JewsUkraine.html

Links to many websites relating to Ukraine.

21. Federation of East European Family History Societies: <http://feefhs.org/>

Information pertinent to East European research—maps, databases, links to other sites.

22. Foreign Business Directories: www.kalter.org/search.php Searchable online.

23. Finding People on the Web. Search for white pages, yellow pages, email, international directories. Fee for any but simple search. [Try Steve Morse website first.]

www.whowhere.lycos.com/

<http://people.yahoo.com/>

www.switchboard.com/

www.ussearch.com/consumer/index.jsp

www.anywho.com/

www.anywho.com/international.html

24. Jewish Genealogical Society of Greater Boston: www.jsgsb.org/