



Researching in Prussian Poland

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This class will share some ideas on websites that can help you find information about your ancestors. These sources can speed up your research time and help you find new information regarding your Prussian Polish families.

CLASS OBJECTIVES

- Learn what is available for your region of Prussian Poland.
- Discover new research tools.

Historical Map

A useful historical map which was put online can be found at this link:

https://dcms.lids.org/delivery/DeliveryManagerServlet?dps_pid=IE2192862 . At this link you will find a map which shows the former Prussian areas of the German Empire of 1871. This map shows the areas which are now in foreign countries.

Helps for Finding Localities and Records

- FamilySearch Wiki for Poland <https://familysearch.org/learn/wiki/en/Poland>
- Meyers Orts und Verkehrrs Lexikon online. <http://www.meyersgaz.org/> A wonderful resource that makes finding your locality easier than ever before.
- Kartenmeister.com <http://kartenmeister.com>, a great help in finding the Polish name for your former Prussian locality.
- Lost Shoebox will help you keep current on the websites that relate to your area that are being indexed and digitized. <http://www.lostshoebox.com/poland/online-records/>
- It is usually more difficult to locate Evangelical records in Poland and to find the current addresses of Evangelical churches which are still available in Poland. This site will help you with this issue: Luteranie.pl
- Although "mainly" considered a German Website this site has lots of sources for the former Prussian areas as well. <http://wiki-de.genealogy.net>.

Former Prussian Localities

- The areas of Prussia which have now become Poland include, parts of Brandenburg, parts of East and West Prussia, parts of Pommern, Posen, and most of Silesia.
- Helpful maps can be found in the German Research Outline which is on the FamilySearch Wiki. There is a map which shows the German Empire between 1871-1918.

- A helpful map showing where the towns and cities where the Polish State Archives are found can be located at this site http://archiwalna.archiwa.gov.pl/archiwa-pastwowe/98-mapa.html?lang=pl&template=archiwa_home
- An organization whose goals are to learn the whereabouts of all extant records in Eastern areas formerly inhabited by Germans is known as AGOFF and is a membership organization that is located at this link <http://www.agoff.de>.
- Online village lineage books available for these regions can be found on the Genealogy.net site at this link <http://ofb.genealogy.net/>.
- The State Archives for the former Pommern area located in Szczecin has digitized records online. There is no fee to use the Polish State Archive images. Here is the link for the Szczecin archive online records <http://www.szczecin.ap.gov.pl/>
- Indexed records for the former Pommern region can be found for many locations. These indexes can be found here <http://www.ptg.gda.pl>
- The Lost Shoebox site lets you know if the BaSia website will help you find records for your area. One very helpful site if the BaSia project and deals with Greater Poland and Posen. These are free records indexed by volunteer. <http://www.basia.famula.pl>
- For those searching in Posen province, the Poznan Project of indexing marriages will be very helpful. This free database shows countless marriages and gives the information where the marriage can be found. <http://poznan-project.psnc.pl>
- There are many sites where historical books, including address books can be found such as this site for Posen, <http://www.wbc.poznan.pl> in which you may be able to find out about your ancestor or the place he lived. This same site also has many historical newspapers which are searchable.
- FamilySearch also has collections of digitized records from areas of former Prussian Poland and can be found by using the "Search" tab and choosing a country from the "Research by Location" pull-down tab.
- A website for Silesian address books, newspapers and much more can be found at this link www.sbc.org.pl.
- The Polish State Archives has many digitized records for all of Poland. You should always check their holdings whether digital or not for records that might further your research. <http://szukajwarchiwach.pl>
- A resource that deals with locating records and helping researchers with their West Prussian research can be found here <http://www.westpreussen.de>.

These are just some of the wonderful websites that will give you assistance in doing your Prussian Polish research. But hopefully they will give you some new ideas and insights.