

## Useful Web Sites and Addresses for Polish Genealogical Research – Fay Bussgang

**1. JewishGen: [www.jewishgen.org](http://www.jewishgen.org)** Foremost website for Jewish genealogical research.

One must register to access some sites, but there is no fee. Below are listed just a few of the offerings:

- a. **Family Finder: [www.jewishgen.org/jgff/](http://www.jewishgen.org/jgff/)** Find contact info for people researching similar surnames/towns.
- b. **JewishGen Communities Database: [www.jewishgen.org/Communities/](http://www.jewishgen.org/Communities/)** Gives each community's historical names and jurisdictions, and a link to further information and resources about that community.
- c. **JewishGen Gazetteer:** Gives latitude and longitude, the distance/direction from a reference city, and links to maps. To search by town name (soundex or exact spelling): [www.jewishgen.org/Communities/LocTown.asp](http://www.jewishgen.org/Communities/LocTown.asp)  
To search towns located within a certain distance of a given latitude/longitude: [www.jewishgen.org/Communities/LocRad.asp](http://www.jewishgen.org/Communities/LocRad.asp)
- d. **Yizkor Book Project: [www.jewishgen.org/yizkor](http://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, lists of those killed. English translations posted on website, chapter by chapter. "Yizkor Books in Print Project" publishes completely translated books.
- e. **Yizkor Book Necrology Database: [www.jewishgen.org/databases/yizkor](http://www.jewishgen.org/databases/yizkor)** Names of Holocaust victims mentioned in books.
- f. **Special Interest Group Web Pages: [www.jewishgen.org/jewishgen/sigs.htm](http://www.jewishgen.org/jewishgen/sigs.htm)**

Informational Web pages maintained by various Regional Special Interest Groups. Lists of what documents are available.

Photographs, stories, projects, addresses for various archives, information about possible researchers for hire.

- g. **Special Interest Groups (SIGs) mailing lists: [www.jewishgen.org/listerv/sigs.htm](http://www.jewishgen.org/listerv/sigs.htm)**  
Mailing lists for groups of people researching same locality. Can subscribe and get daily digest. Can search archives. For list of Special Interest Group mailing lists not part of JewishGen, some of which are Jewish-oriented, see: Google Groups and <http://lists.rootsweb.ancestry.com/index/index.html> Scroll down to "Other" and select "Ethnic-Jewish."

h. **Viewmate: [www.jewishgen.org/viewmate/](http://www.jewishgen.org/viewmate/)** Can post photos, documents, or letters for analysis, translation, or advice.

i. **JewishGen Online Worldwide Burial Registry (JOWBR): [www.JewishGen.org/databases/cemetery/](http://www.JewishGen.org/databases/cemetery/)**

Project to document burials worldwide. New data added constantly.

j. **Lodz Ghetto Database: [www.jewishgen.org/databases/Poland/LodzGhetto.html](http://www.jewishgen.org/databases/Poland/LodzGhetto.html)**  
Database of all people registered in Łódź ghetto. Shows name, birth date, place of residence, changes of place of residence, date of death if it occurred in the ghetto, sometimes date of deportation. This 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.

k. **All Poland Database: [www.jewishgen.org/databases/Poland](http://www.jewishgen.org/databases/Poland)**  
Multiple database search facility incorporating JRI-Poland and many other databases connected to Poland.

l. **Polish-Jewish Genealogy: Questions & Answers: <http://www.jewishgen.org/infofiles/poland/Questions.htm>**

**2. JRI-Poland: [www.jri-poland.org](http://www.jri-poland.org) [Independent but hosted by JewishGen]** Project to index all birth, marriage, and death records in Poland over 100 years old. Searchable database by surname (soundex/exact spelling). Some cemeteries, newspapers, Books of Residents also indexed. Books of Residents & Census Records: <http://www.jri-poland.org/bor.htm>

**3. Geshher Galicia: [www.geshhergalicia.org](http://www.geshhergalicia.org)** (not part of JewishGen): All Galicia database, Map Room, Inventory of Cadastral Maps and Archival Records in Galicia.

**4. Virtual Shtetl: [www.sztetl.org.pl/en/](http://www.sztetl.org.pl/en/)** Project of the new Museum of the History of Polish Jews in Warsaw (POLIN). History, documents, photographs from various localities in Poland, often from previously untapped sources.

**5. Steve Morse: <http://stevemorse.org/>** Web pages that greatly simplify research at other sites (e.g., Ellis Island). Includes Holocaust research, dealing with Hebrew and Russian characters, Jewish calendar conversion, etc.

**6. Genealogy Indexer: <http://genealogyindexer.org/>** Using OCR (optical character recognition), indexes surnames found in Eastern European business directories, Yizkor books, and other documents that have already been posted online as image files by various libraries or organizations worldwide. Index gives link to view the document page. To use complicated sites (e.g., Krakow 1880–1910 Censuses, Warsaw Directories), see directions at: <http://genealogyindexer.org/forum/viewforum.php?f=14>

**7. Museum of Family History: [www.museumoffamilyhistory.com/](http://www.museumoffamilyhistory.com/)** Virtual, multimedia, and interactive museum. Exhibitions, cemetery documentation, education, history, postcards, videos, personal recollections, etc.

**8. Virtual Jewish History Tour: Central & Eastern Europe: [www.jewishvirtuallibrary.org/index.html](http://www.jewishvirtuallibrary.org/index.html)**  
Division of American-Israeli Cooperative Enterprise Information on many Jewish towns in Eastern Europe.

**9. Routes to Roots Foundation—Miriam Weiner: [www.rtrfoundation.org](http://www.rtrfoundation.org)**  
Info about Jewish holdings in state archives of Belarus, Lithuania, Moldova, Poland, and Ukraine.

**10. U.S. Holocaust Memorial Museum Collections and Archives: <http://www.ushmm.org/online/archival-guide/>**  
In "Archival Finding Aids," one can enter topics to search various collections (e.g., "Lists of Jews").

**11. Yad Vashem Database of Shoah Victims' Names: <http://db.yadvashem.org/names/search.html?language=en>**  
Information on victims of Holocaust obtained from pages of testimony submitted primarily by survivors or relatives. May include name and address of submitter. Many other Holocaust related databases are being added.

