

When Ancestry Confusion Occurs: Don't Neglect Passports as a Vital Record???

Passports were issued in the United States as early as 1789, and prior to 1856 individual states could also issue them. The genealogy information found in passport applications can be quite extensive. This [FamilySearch blog article](#) provides a good introduction to using passport applications for research, and in **The Family History Guide**, [Choice B](#) in Goal D3 of the United States page has additional resources to help you learn about passport records.. ([See All Tips](#))

FamilySearch.org also provides insight into the importance of obtaining passports. Although it indexes 713 incidences but they are all well-defined and specialized for your convenience as an example illustrated below.

- [Mexico Research With the Wiki Part 4 of 11: U. S. Immigration and Citizenship Records](#)

To use the records of Mexico, you must know the exact town where your ancestor lived. Learn how to search for that information in immigration records, border crossing records, passport applications, naturalization records, and alien registrations.

- [Slovakia Research With the Wiki Part 2 of 6: Slovakia Finding Town of Origin](#)

To use the records of Slovakia, you must know the exact town where your ancestor lived. Learn how to search for that information in family records, vital records, census records, cemetery records, obituaries, military records, Social Security records, and passports.

- [Netherlands Research With the Wiki Part 2 of 7: The Netherlands Finding Town of Origin](#)

To use the records of the Netherlands, you must know the exact town where your ancestor lived. Learn how to search for that information in family records, vital records, census records, cemetery records, obituaries, military records, Social Security records,...

- [Czech Republic Research With the Wiki Part 2 of 5: Czech Republic Finding Town of Origin](#)

To use the records of the Czech Republic, you must know the exact town where your ancestor lived. Learn how to search for that information in family records, vital records, census records, cemetery records, obituaries, military records, Social Security records,...

- [Puerto Rico Research With the Wiki Part 2 of 8: Puerto Rico Finding Town of Origin](#)

To use the records of the Puerto Rico, you must know the exact town where your ancestor lived. Learn how to search for that information in family records, vital records, census records, cemetery records, obituaries, military records, Social Security records,...

- [Danish Herred](#)

Records created by the herred include civil registration, court, passport, guardianship, land and property, military, notarial, probate, taxation

- [Germany Finding Town of Origin](#)

As residents, they might be in the passport records. Index to Wuerttemberg passport applications : Stuttgart passport office 1845-1920 They list the emigrant's

- [Portugal Finding Town of Origin](#)

Arrival Lists 6.7.1 Suggested Search Strategy 6.8 Naturalization Records 6.9 Passport Applications 6.10 Alien Registration In order to research your family in

- [Germany Emigration and Immigration](#)

Restricted to time and space. Passport guidelines were established in France in 1792 to control migrations. Citizens now needed a passport if they wanted to leave

- [Italy Emigration and Immigration](#)

Left Italy without an official passport. The Italian government used passports to make sure young Italian men did not emigrate to avoid the military draft

Closing Comments: More Options Still Available

Perhaps all of us have relatives who have immigrated to the USA and have traveled periodically back to their homelands. Don't neglect the possibility of obtaining their passport applications for more clues about their ancestry in addition to their immigration naturalization applications. For more insight about these kinds of records, consider the following previous Facebook posts:

- [Tracing Immigrant Origins:](#) or see September, 2019 posting
- [Immigration Research Tools for the United States:](#) or see August 28, 2019 posting

Immigration to the USA is no simple matter when considering that families sometimes were divided from their ancestors thousands of miles apart. My maternal grandmother immigrated to the America from Poland at the age of 13 because as a female, she wouldn't inherit the family homestead because her brothers would. Still not sure of how she traveled without a pack oof adults some 4,000 miles by herself. Certainly, her language skills were not capable of speaking German, English and any other foreign languages while en route to America. And then, where would she go to live upon going through the Ellis Island immigration procedures? Unfortunately, these questions can't be answered by anybody since I'm the oldest member of my family and I never asked her while she lived. But my grandmother did return to Poland to visit her mother right before she passed away. Below is a keepsake family portrait off her entire family from that 1930-31 trip to Poland which includes both my great-grandfather and great-grandmother and her siblings. My grandmother is in the center of the second row as Elizabeth. Incidentally, her younger brother, John, also immigrated later to the USA

while all the other siblings remained in Poland. And consequently, John is not in this 1930 family portrait because he didn't make the 1930-31 trip.









[U.S. citizenship quiz: Can YOU pass the test? - CNN](#) ✓

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Jul 04, 2019 · (CNN)The U.S. Citizenship test features 100 civics questions. Hopeful American citizens are asked up to 10 of these during an interview and have to answer six correctly to pass.