

HOW TO LOCATE PARISH AND CIVIL RECORDS IN A TOWN OF ORIGIN

IF TOWN NOT KNOWN

SOURCES

1. Family Sources
2. Church Records
3. Government Records
 - Vital Records
 - Census [Fed-1900-1940]
 - Immigration [post 1897]
 - Naturalization
 - Military
 - Tax
 - Probate
 - Court
 - Land / Deed
 - SSDI
4. Other US Sources
 - City Directories
 - Newspapers [English / German]
 - Local Histories
 - Cemetery Records
 - Occupational Records
5. European Sources
 - Emigration Records
 - German Linage Books
 - Village Linage Books
 - Police Registers
 - Tax Records
 - Burgher Rolls (citizen)
 - Apprentice & Guild
 - Military Records
6. Internet Databases

IF TOWN IS FOUND

NAME MODIFICATION

1. Try using wildcards
2. Try common character swaps [e.g. C-K, etc.]
3. Some towns changed names pre- and post- WWI and WWII
4. Kartenmeister for the Eastern Prussian provinces <http://www.kartenmeister.com/preview/databaseue.asp>

TRAINING

German Genealogy
https://www.familysearch.org/wiki/en/Germany_Genealogy

NOT FOUND

FOUND

YES

IF TOWN KNOWN

HISTORICAL GAZETTEER

1. Lists Towns, their Districts and Political Units (dutchy, kingdom, etc.)
2. Lists the Civil Registry Office, Court Districts and Parishes, if any
3. Lists other governmental offices and businesses.
4. Major Gazetteer - German Empire Meyers Orts- und Verkehhrs- Lexikon / 1912-13 at <https://www.meyersgaz.org/>
5. Austro-Hungarian Empire: Allgemeines Ortschaften Verzeichnis / 1900 at <https://www.loc.gov/rr/geogmap/pdf/orts/orts.html>

PARISH IN TOWN

NO

CIVIL REGISTRATION IN TOWN

NO

1. Meyersgaz entry lists location of civil registry
2. Meyersgaz Ecclesiastical tab shows nearest churches
3. Meyersgaz Map tab shows location of the town [both 1912-13 and toggles to current day]
4. Map Guide to German Parish Registers by Kevan Hansen

YES

RECORDS NOT FOUND

FIND CHURCH RECORDS ONLINE

<https://www.familysearch.org/en/>
<https://data.matricula-online.eu/de/deutschland/>
http://wiki-de.genealogy.net/Kirchenb%C3%BCcher_online
https://www.szukajwarchiwach.gov.pl/en/strona_glowna
<http://wiki-de.genealogy.net/Kategorie:Online-Personenstandsregister>
<https://www.familia-austria.at/index.php/forschung-und-service/netzrecherche/111-matriken-im-netz>
<https://www.ancestry.com/>
<https://www.archion.de/>

CONTACT ARCHIVE OR PARISH