



Gen Dobry!

***** GEN DOBRY! *****

Volume V, No. 2. 29 February 2004.
Copyright (c) 2004, PolishRoots(R), Inc.
Editor: William F. Fred Hoffman, E-mail: <wfh@langline.com>

CONTENTS

Welcome
Strategies for Locating Ancestral Villages
Letters to the Editor
Print On Demand
Polish Trivia Questions
Upcoming Events
More Useful Web Addresses
You May Reprint Articles...

*** WELCOME! ***

to the latest issue of Gen Dobry!, the e-zine of PolishRoots(R). If you missed previous issues, you can find them at

http://polishroots.org/gendobry/gendobry_index.htm.

There are always new pages being added to the PolishRoots Website. For instance, Christine Clark recently compiled data from _History of the Polish Medical Society of Chicago_, and produced an index of names of that Society's leaders, with the page number on which they're mentioned (often with photographs). You can see more information and the index here:

http://www.polishroots.org/databases/chicago_medical_society.htm

*** STRATEGIES FOR LOCATING ANCESTRAL VILLAGES: FOUR CASE STUDIES ***

by Ceil Jensen <cjensen@mipolonia.net>

[Editor -- Ceil sent me this piece, and I think you might find it helpful with one of the most vexing problems researchers face. Ceil adds that the documents cited here are all available online at <http://mipolonia.net/villages>.]

One lucky colleague told me he identified his ancestors' villages by asking his grandmother! Sweet and simple. For those of us whose grandparents died before our birth -- or before our interest in genealogy began -- we need to use other research techniques to locate the ancestral villages.

Here are four case studies that use different finding aids and techniques to locate the village and parishes. While many traditional research techniques were employed, I've highlighted online tools that can help you in your quest. The case studies are from West Prussia, East Prussia, Congress Poland, Poznan, and Galicia.

* Starting Point: Three family documents for the Wendt family *

Tools:

- Kartenmeister:

<http://www.kartenmeister.com>

- Family Search

<http://www.familysearch.org>

- FEEFHS Map Room:

http://www.feefhs.org/newest_map.html

The Wendt family knew their ancestors came from the Danzig/ Gdansk area. The

documents were issued in 1889 and 1892 and were in written in German. Without access to the proper finding aids in the mid-1970s the village could not be located; a 1970s map of Poland would not show the German name of the village. What was needed was a German map of the region from the proper time period, and a gazetteer to indicate the civil and religious registries. The documents were finally identified as being issued by the Roman Catholic Church in Mühlbanz. It was not in the Kreis of Danzig, but to the south of Danzig in Kreis Dirschau.

Uwe-Karsten Krickhahn's Kartenmeister <http://www.kartenmeister.com> is a great tool to help with the border and name changes of villages in the following provinces: East Prussia, including Memel, West Prussia, Brandenburg, Posen, Pomerania, and Silesia. You can find a 1880s map in the FEEFHS Map Room <http://feefhs.org/maps/gere/ge-wprus.html>. They have online the West Prussia map from Blackie & Sons Atlas (Edinburgh, 1882), Scale: 1:1,800,000 (or one inch = about 28 miles).

Using the LDS Family History Library online catalog at http://www.familysearch.org/Eng/Library/FHLC/frameset_fhlc.asp, the family was able to locate microfilms of the church and civil records that could be rented at the local Family History Center. The catalogue on Family Search has the microfilms under both the German and Polish names: Mühlbanz, West Prussia, Germany; now, Milobadz (Tczew), Gdansk, Poland.

* Starting Point: One Document for the Przytula/Przytulski Family *

Tools:

- Stephen S. Barthel's East and West Prussia Gazetteer:

<http://www.horlacher.org/germany/ewpruss/>

- Selected Translations from the _Słownik Geograficzny_:

http://www.polishroots.org/slownik/slownik_index.htm

- Family History Library / Reference:

fhl@ldschurch.org [an e-mail address for questions]

- World War I Draft Registration:

<http://www.ancestry.com>

- Baltimore Ship Manifest (Index):

<http://www.familysearch.org>

The Przytulski family was said to have moved from "Germany to Poland" before immigration to the U.S. A post-World War II map would not solve this 1880s problem. The migration was not west to east but north to south, from East Prussia to Congress Poland. The original document was issued in 1888 Ciborg, Strasbourg, Lautenburg. Using Stephen S. Barthel's *_East and West Prussia Gazetteer_* the correct spelling of the location was clarified as Cibórz, Strasburg in West Prussia.

Researchers referenced the multi-volume *_Słownik Geograficzny_* to read a description of their village between 1880 and 1902. An English translation for Lidzbark, in the County of Brodnica, is located on the PolishRoots Websites under the *Słownik Geograficzny* entry at <http://www.polishroots.org/slownik/lidzbark.htm>.

The FHL had the microfilmed records indexed as Lautenburg (Kr. Strasburg), West Prussia, Germany; now Lidzbark (Dzialdowo), Olsztyn, Poland.

The process had to be repeated when only one ancestor was found in the church records. Where was the earlier village? The Baltimore ship manifest listed "Gross Sensk" but there was no such village in the gazetteers. The document was sent to reference librarian Sonja Nishimoto at the FHC in Salt Lake and her experienced eye identified the village as GROSS LENSKE, Neidenburg, East Prussia. These church records contained over 150 years of family records.

But the key ancestor's 1890 birth record was still missing. His U.S. World War I draft registration was obtained. He had entered "Cutsburg" as his place of birth. Studying a map from the FEEFHS map room showed a village over the border in Congress Poland called Kuczbork. Since the records were not filmed, the records were obtained by sending a bilingual request letter to the Mława archives. The form was published in Hoffman and Shea's *_In Their Words ... Volume 1, Polish_* (p. 151). This family's villages spanned West Prussia, East Prussia and Congress Poland in a radius of less than 15 miles.

* Starting Point: No Documents, Good Stories for the Adamski family of Poznan *

Tools:

- Naturalization Papers Archives of Michigan:

http://www.michigan.gov/hal/0,1607,7-160-17449_18635_20684---,00.html

- Current map of Poland:

<http://www.pilot.pl>

The Adamski line was the maternal grandmother's line. The family didn't have any documents for her but knew the family's roots were in Poznan. Whether it was the city or region was unknown. A search of U.S. marriages, births and baptisms of her children

didn't reveal any information. It was only after re-reading family letters that a paper trail was found. A branch of the family arrived in 1907, and if naturalization papers were filed, they would identify the village. Her nephew did files paper in 1922, and the village of Rogalin was identified. Since this village name did not change during the partitions, its location could be found on a current Polish map.

* Starting Point: No Documents, One Meager Story for the Zdziebko Family *

Tools:

- City Directories:

<http://www.ancestry.com>

- U.S. Census:

<http://heritagequestonline.com>

- Ellis Island Database:

<http://ellislandrecords.org>

- Vital Records for Galician Towns:

http://www.polishroots.org/galicia_towns.htm

- Death Certificates:

<http://www.vitalchek.com>

- NARA's Great Lakes Region:

<http://www.archives.gov/facilities/il/chicago.html>

The Zdziebko descendants had lost the documents as well as the family stories pertaining to their ancestor, Agata Zdziebko. All that was known was that their mother had a brother who "lived on Rich St." and they were from Galicia.

A thorough search of city directories identified Zdziebkos living at that address. U.S. Census work identified the homeowner as Thomas Zdziebko. Obtaining their death certificates identified their father as Jan Zdziebko. Then the research hit a brick wall. It wasn't until the Ellis Island database came online that several Zdziebko ship manifests were found. Zarzecze was listed as the home village -- but the online gazetteer listed 13 villages by that name. Which one to check?

It was a daunting task, and few of these parishes were available on microfilm. So the

researcher went back to the Ellis Island website. The only male from that location settled in East Chicago, Indiana. His naturalization papers were obtained from the Chicago NARA and identified his place of birth as Zarzecze, Jaslo, Austria. A Polish researcher had to be found to contact the parish in Debowiec. The records revealed the unknown Pawel was in fact Agata and Thomas's nephew. Again, a location found by looking at the papers of a younger generation.

*** LETTERS TO THE EDITOR ***

Subject: Researcher in northeastern Poland?

I have tried any number of ways to get more information on my father's family, which lived in Boguszki [near Lomza]. My father's surname is Biedrzycki and my grandmother was Wiszowate. The old address we had always included "parafia Trzcianne." When I first wrote to the pastor of the parish, he told me he never heard of the name. When I persisted by sending another letter, he gave it to the previous pastor (a very elderly gentleman who was in the hospital when I sent my first letter.) He gave me a little information but told me how difficult it was for him in his old age. I compensated him for his work. But now I think the time has come to hire a researcher for that area.

I wrote to Iwona Dakiniewicz, but she cited many difficulties, one being that it is a long distance for her and the second being that the priest in the parish (obviously the present pastor) could not read Russian. Do you have knowledge of someone who does do research in that area that is reliable? Some of my family plans to visit Poland in 2005 and I would like to have more information than I have now.

My Mother's family comes from Staniszcze Wielkie and Bendawitz and those have been microfilmed and I have had success with those. But the Northeast is my undoing. I have even tried using your book as a guide to learn some of the Russian records I have seen on microfilm, but this old dog just can't seem to learn this new trick. Would appreciate your guidance in this matter.

Sophie Biedrzycki Gottemoller <sgottemoller@dol.net>

[Editor -- I know when I talked to Iwona last October, she said she was booked solid for at least a year. So I'm not surprised she couldn't help. I'm afraid I don't know of any reliable researchers in northeastern Poland. Can any of our readers recommend someone in that region who might be able to help Sophie?]

Subject: Book/Polish Family Research

In the last _Gen Dobry!_ you mentioned a book that you had never heard of, _Polish

Family Research_, Summit Publications, Munroe Falls, OH. I have the revised edition of 1987. It was first published in 1977 and then revised in 1982 and 1987. It is 72 pages long. I first saw the book in our local library. Because I live in Summit County (as in Summit Publications) and about 10 miles away from Munroe Falls, I had ordered a copy of the book many years ago.

The book has four chapters: Chapter I, Poland: The History and the Land; Chapter II, The Polish Immigration; Chapter III, Beginning Your Search in the United States; Chapter IV, Ancestor Hunting in Poland.

I really can't agree with the synopsis of the book presented by the Chicago Public Library, that there is a focus on Chicago. On page 24 there is a paragraph mentioning Chicago as the largest single city as a center of Polish settlement. But that particular chapter also mentions Panna Marya and Detroit.

The book does mention Polish Genealogy Societies, namely the one in Chicago, Michigan, Connecticut and Houston.

Armela Hammes <armelahammes@att.net>

Subject: Emigration video

I was cleaning out my genealogy files and came across a reference to a 10-minute video that's available on line. It's called "Krakow-Hamburg-New York" and demonstrates the suffering the emigrants had to bear traveling to the New World. It's released by the Port of Hamburg and State Archives (Freie und Hansestadt Hamburg Staatsarchiv). The video can be viewed online or downloaded as a self-extracting zip file. I intended to include it on the CDs of family information that I'll be sending out to my relatives.

The URL for the video is:

http://fhh1.hamburg.de/fhh/behoerden/staatsarchiv/link_to_your_roots/english/video_clips.htm

And the nice thing about it all -- it's in English!

This is an explanation of what it was like onboard the ships:

<http://fhh1.hamburg.de/fhh/behoerden/senatskanzlei/internetausstellungen/emigration/englisch/inhaltE.htm>

For information about emigrants from Hamburg -- you can search (for a fee) at the following site:

http://fhh1.hamburg.de/fhh/behoerden/staatsarchiv/link_to_your_roots/english/index.htm

I don't know if you've included it in _Gen Dobry!_ in the past, but I thought it might be a nice resource for your readers.

Alan J. Kania <ajkania@comcast.net>

[Editor -- I can't recall mentioning it in the past. Even if I had, it's certainly worth mentioning again. Thanks for the tips!]

Subject: Search again and again!

It pays for everyone to conduct their regular internet searches periodically. Today I found someone in a weblog with the surname Klimanowicz. He's from Poland but now in South Africa. With zillions of pages being regularly added one never knows who and what will show up.

Stanley Klemanowicz <stanklem@msn.com>

[Editor -- This is another one of those basic points for which we can always use a reminder!]

Subject: You Can Do It!

Long ago, when I first started my genealogical quest, I believe you mentioned to me your opinion that other families with similar surnames would likely not be related to me. Well, you were right, BUT....

Over the course of the last year and half I've come into contact with three similarly named families, all named Klimanowicz. I reported to you that my DNA was compared with one of them and we did not match, so that obviously rules out any relationship.

These two other families, although previously unknown to one another, come from the same little town known as Bildziugi in northern Belarus. How amazing.

Since I did most of the leg work, I should be ticked off, and part of me is. But a greater part of me is happy I was able to contribute to their reuniting. It is difficult to reflect on how far I have come in my research in such a short time compared to many who still struggle just to find out what their original family name and town were. Actually, I am rejoicing I have accomplished so much.

Thanks to great new search engines and repeated following up I located three more

namesakes, from whom I await replies. One is in my in-basket but my software on this computer doesn't like Cyrillic, so it will need to wait until I get home.

My commitment to taking my family line back before 1812 remains and, if anything, is stronger. I just hope these three remaining Klimanowiczes are not related to my namesake in Belarus -).

Stanley Klemanowicz <stanklem@msn.com>

[Editor -- All I can say is, anyone who puts as much effort into research as you have, always ends up a winner. The prize you win may not always be the one you were going for -- but it's a prize nonetheless. What's more, you're not about to give up. If I were a betting man, I'd place money on you to finally win the prize you started out to win!

[I'm printing your comments because I think they illustrate the right frame of mind for a researcher to cultivate. They may prove inspirational and/or instructive for many. Thanks, and I wish you continued success in your research.]

Subject: STEP 1 and URGENCY

On newbies starting genealogy, step one is talking to relatives and this is urgent! Unfortunately the older living relatives leave us, or their memories are failing. I started my family tree in preparation for my first trip to Poland, as a way to keep straight all the relatives I would meet for the first time, and only knew from my parents' stories. But what an icebreaker with my relatives! They were entranced with it, particularly young children who were interested in other children around their age and how they fit in. My mother was 91 and my father was gone. But she still had a great memory and could go back to her great grandparents and even my father's. Talking with my relatives I expanded, corrected and updated my tree, from this trip and subsequent ones. Even now with my parents gone I come up with questions to ask them.

Another thing I did was to take old family pictures, particularly those containing unidentified persons. Also recent pictures. Great interest from my relatives and many identifications were made. On my return I made many copies to send to them, as requested. I also received then or later copies of old photos they had, as well as recent pictures.

A very useful resource was my mother's address book. She had lost contact with a number of relatives and addresses were old (about 15-20 years). I updated them with the new province names and postal codes and sent out about 10 letters. I got to about seven of them. Three of my letters had been redirected by the Polish Post to the current addresses. About half were from the children or grandchildren of the addressees. I obtained contact not only with descendants of my grandparents but also of siblings of my grandparents.

This summer I visited descendants of two children of my maternal grandfather's brother and of one child of my paternal grandmother's sister. They were thrilled to meet a relative from another branch of the family. One second cousin was so enthusiastic she drove 100 km, with husband and grandchild, to meet her great aunt, my aunt, while I was there. From this trip I gathered useful genealogy information that I was unlikely to get any other way. I added, or updated information on, nearly 200 individuals.

A warning on Internet sites: many are transient. When first encountered the sites should be pursued. Well, not urgently, but expeditiously -- before they are gone. Some sites offer free access for a temporary period. The useful site pages should be saved to memory.

I hope this is of interest.

Henry Szot <hojoso@hotmail.com>

[Editor -- Thanks for a bunch of good insights! I usually tell people there's no reason to feel a sense of urgency about genealogical research. We have enough things in our lives to stress over; let this be a welcome break. But you have pointed out one action that should involve some urgency: interview your older relatives immediately! I can't tell you how often I've heard people moan "If only I'd asked grandma before she died...."

*** PRINT ON DEMAND ***

One issue that researchers often discuss is how to save their research in printed form, so that all their hard work won't just be lost to others in the future. Recently I've usually advised folks to make their work accessible online, simply because it's much cheaper than printing books. Up till now I thought that was the only sensible advice for anyone who wasn't rich and didn't own his own publishing company. But I know many people just feel better about printed books -- books to hold and consult whenever you want, even when the power is off. I understand that feeling very well!

In the February 22 issue of *_Nu? What's New?_*, Gary Mokotoff wrote an article entitled "New Printing Technique Makes Publishing Family Histories Cheaper." It's a nice intro to "Print on Demand," a recent phenomenon in publishing that uses recent technological advances to print small runs of books at a reasonable price. What used to be a pipe dream is becoming a real possibility: you can arrange to print your own book, one or two copies at a time, as you wish, without having to mortgage your house.

If this interests you, I definitely recommend reading the article here, which is available here:

<http://www.avotaynu.com/nu12.htm#v05n04>

*** POLISH TRIVIA QUESTIONS ***

[Editor: In the last issue we gave 5 questions from a Polish trivia game PolishRoots Vice President Paul Valasek <paval56@aol.com> came across. The answers to those questions appear below, followed by this month's questions, the answers to which will appear in the next issue. We want to thank Tom Bratkowski for permission to reprint these.]

ANSWERS TO THE QUESTIONS IN THE LAST ISSUE:

+ General

-- What religious denomination originated in the U.S. and was taken to Poland by Polish Americans?

The Polish National Church

+ Humanities

-- Who did Cornell Wilde portray in the movie, "Song To Remember"?

Fryderyk Chopin

+ History

-- Who was the last Polish king?

Stanislaw August Poniatowski

+ Bonus

--What message did Polish King Jan III Sobieski send to Pope Innocent XI after the victory at Vienna?

"Vendi, Vidi, Deus Viciti!" (I Came, I Saw, God Conquered!)

+ Geography

-- Where in the U.S. is the Kosciuszko Garden?

At West Point, New York

~~~~~

## QUESTIONS FOR MARCH

+ People

Q: Who is called the "Father of the American Cavalry?"

-----

+ People

Q: What two statues of Polish patriots were unveiled in Washington DC on May 10, 1910?

-----

+ Geography

Q: Where was Kazimierz Pulaski born?

-----

+ People

Q: How old was Kazimierz Pulaski when he died? (within 5 years)

-----

+ Traditions

Q: Who was Zywia?

-----

Reprinted with permission from Polish American Trivia & Quadrivia, Powstan, Inc. If interested in learning more, contact Paul Valasek <paval56@aol.com>.

\*\*\*\*\*

\*\*\* UPCOMING EVENTS \*\*\*

[Note: the PolishRoots Events Calendar <[http://www.polishroots.org/coming\\_events.htm](http://www.polishroots.org/coming_events.htm)> usually has more info than we have room for here. If you have an event coming up you want Polish genealogical researchers to know about, send as much info as possible to <[Events@PolishRoot.org](mailto:Events@PolishRoot.org)>.]

Sunday, March 7, 2004

## EggsSTRAVAGANZA

Uniontown, Pennsylvania

GCU District #2 is sponsoring an EGG EggSTRAVAGANZA at St. John's Byzantine Catholic, Uniontown, from 1:00 -4:30 p.m. More than 10 artists will demonstrate, including Carpatho-Rusyn Society members: Bonnie Balas, Helen Timo, Sr. Rita Keshock, Madalen Warhola Hoover and Evelyn Peckyno. Rusyn patterns and techniques will be shown.

The Marketplace will have pysanky supplies, Easter items and craft items and Carpatho-Rusyn Society merchandise. There will be displays, including Easter Basket Covers, childrens activities, raffle items and much more! Light refreshments will be sold.

Whether beginner or expert, spend the afternoon making pysanky.

For information contact GCU District #2 Publicity Director Ann Swanson at 724-483-8564 swan@dp.net or Bonnie Balas at 724-438-8412 golden15401@yahoo.com.

GCU District #2 President is C-RS member Susan Timo susan@c-rs.org.

=====

March 27, 2004

## POLISH GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY OF CALIFORNIA MEETING

LA-FHC, 10741 Santa Monica Blvd, Los Angeles CA. For more information see [www.pgscsca.org](http://www.pgscsca.org).

=====

April 16-19, 2004

## UNITED POLISH GENEALOGICAL SOCIETIES

Biennial Conference  
Salt Lake City, Utah

To be held at:

Best Western Salt Lake Plaza Hotel  
122 West South Temple  
Salt Lake City, UT 84101

To make reservations call: 800-366-3684. Identify yourself with "United Polish

Genealogical Societies." Guaranteed Rates: Single/Double -- \$79.00 per night,  
Triple/Quad -- \$86.00 per night

Conference Speakers:

Daniel Schlyter  
Ceil Jensen  
George Ott  
Sonja Nishimoto

Conference Fee: \$70:00 includes admission to sessions, materials packet, Sunday morning breakfast buffet, Monday hospitality, and dinner banquet.

More details are available on the PolishRoots Website, or contact Paul Lipinski <Paul.Lipinski@acm.org>.

=====

August 5-8, 2004

THE SOCIETY FOR GERMAN GENEALOGY IN EASTERN EUROPE

- 2004 CONVENTION -

Coast Plaza Hotel & Conference Center  
1316 33rd Street NE  
Calgary, Alberta, Canada  
Phone: 403-248-8888

Contact: [convention@sggee.org](mailto:convention@sggee.org)  
Web: <http://www.sggee.org>  
Web: [http://www.clickcalgaryhotels.com/coast\\_plaza\\_hotel\\_and\\_conference\\_center.html](http://www.clickcalgaryhotels.com/coast_plaza_hotel_and_conference_center.html)

SGGEE is a Poland and Volhynia genealogy group for people of German origin interested in the genealogy, culture and history of their ancestors who migrated through present-day Poland and Volhynia (now western Ukraine) and the surrounding areas.

Research opportunities, speakers and workshops will assist you in discovering your ancestral roots out of these areas. SGGEE reaches researchers not only in Canada but the U.S.A., Germany, Poland, Australia, and Russia.

More data will be available on the Website <http://www.sggee.org> as details are finalized.

=====

September 17-18, 2004

POLISH GENEALOGICAL SOCIETY OF CONNECTICUT AND THE NORTHEAST

presents their 2004 Conference in affiliation with the

CENTRAL CONNECTICUT STATE UNIVERSITY POLISH STUDIES PROGRAM

More info will be given in the Spring issue of *\_Pathways & Passages\_*, and on the PGSCTNE Website at [www.pgsctne.org](http://www.pgsctne.org)

!! ZAPRASZAMY !!

\*\*\*\*\*

\*\*\* MORE USEFUL WEB ADDRESSES \*\*\*

<http://www.bellaonline.com/Site/polishculture>

Debbie Greenlee <daveg@airmail.net> mentioned this site on the Poland-Roots list. She described it as "a diverse web site about Poland you might enjoy. You can even dress-up a gypsy doll!"

---

<http://genealogy.drefs.net/Introduction.htm>

On the Posen mailing list, Reuben Drefs <drefs@ix.netcom.com> said "The 1793-4 land registration conducted by the Prussian government, known as the second partition, is now available for research."

---

<http://www.posen-l.com/TownSearch.php>

Also on the Posen list, administrator James Birkholz <j.birchwood@verizon.net> announced that he's got the first working version of the browse/edit functions working here. "Click on the town name to view its Parish. Click on it again to edit it. Save the edits and click on the header link to return to the Parish listing." He added, "One known problem to watch for: the edit function doesn't handle towns with the same names, not sure what it will do if you try to edit a town that shares its name with other towns in the database. Please try to avoid editing those."

---

<http://www.posen-l.com/CatholicDbBrowse.html>

Again on the Posen list, James Birkholz has another database in usable form, though he cautioned it's not finished yet. "Select either the Poznan or Gniezno diocese at the upper left. Then choose one of the Deaneries at the extreme left, and finally, click on a Parish. This will display the list of Communities for that Parish. You can click on each Parish in the list, and the towns list will change. I've set the type size quite small, but you should be able to have your browser enlarge it to fit your needs."

---

<http://www.jasinski.co.uk/wojna/index.htm>

Here's a site Paul Valasek found and thought was definitely worth sharing, "Polish Warfare 1450 to 1699."

---

<http://www.episkopat.pl/?a=mapy#>

On the Genpol mailing list, Guido Buldrini <buldrini@tin.it> explained that this site gives up-to-date maps of new dioceses in Poland. "Just click on 'Swidnicka' or 'Bydgoska.'"

---

<http://www.rat.de/kuijsten/navigator>

We've mentioned the Surname Navigator site before, but Rob Kuijsten recently posted a note on the soc.genealogy.slavic list that detailed all the sources this mega-search engine checks for surnames. This site can be a big help, especially with rare names.

---

[http://wikibooks.org/wiki/Genealogy:\\_Locating\\_the\\_previous\\_overseas\\_residence](http://wikibooks.org/wiki/Genealogy:_Locating_the_previous_overseas_residence)

On the Poland-Roots list, Diana Grzelak Needham <carsonneedham@adelphia.net> explained that she'd put together "a beginning tutorial for locating ancestral homes, which is located on WikiBooks. Hopefully it will assist some who have run out of ideas to locate that elusive village."

---

<http://www.shtetlinks.jewishgen.org/>

David Binkowski <dcbinkowski@ameritech.net> sent me a note praising this site, using Belchatow as an example ([http://www.shtetlinks.jewishgen.org/Belchatow/city\\_plan.htm](http://www.shtetlinks.jewishgen.org/Belchatow/city_plan.htm)). He was searching for places named Binkow or Binkowo that his surname might refer to. He wrote, "It's a REALLY detailed mapping site, it may not give road names or anything but as far as pinpointing place names its the only thing I could find that even acknowledged 'Binkow' existed. Go ahead and change the 'Bi' to some other two letters (first two of a place name) and then open a map. You can make the map as large as you like and zoom in and out. Roads are shown on the map: <http://www.calle.com/world/PL/a/Bi.html>."

---

<http://www.fisheries.vims.edu/hoenig/pdfs/penmanship.pdf>

On the soc.genealogy.jewish list, Jon Hoenig noted that people often ask for help dealing with lousy handwriting, and he'd published an article "15 Techniques to Triumph Over Poor Penmanship" in *Family Chronicle* (March-April 2003 pages 28-30). That publication allowed him to post a downloadable pdf file on his website. You can get a free copy at the address above. He adds, "There are several other articles on genealogical technique you might find of interest" on his page at <http://www.fisheries.vims.edu/hoenig/professor.html>.

---



<http://www.familytreeexpert.com/fte/freereport.htm>

Also on the soc.genealogy.jewish list, Gary Palgon explained that the article available here will help researchers make a research outline to focus their efforts. He says, rightly, that using such an outline methodically can do a lot to break down "brick walls." At the address given above you can sign up to download the article.

\*\*\*\*\*

YOU MAY REPRINT articles from \_Gen Dobry!\_, PROVIDED: (1) the reprint is used for non-commercial, educational purposes; and (2) the following notice appears at the end of the article: Written by [authors name, e-mail address, and URL, if given].

Previously published by \_Gen Dobry!\_, Vol. V, No. 2, 29 February 2004.

PolishRoots(R): <http://PolishRoots.org/>.

\*\*\*\*\*

Copyright 2004, PolishRoots(R), Inc. All rights reserved.