



Discovering Polish Websites

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FamilySearch
Family History Library

INTRODUCTION:

The websites listed here are only a small sample of the useful sites that can be found to help you with your Polish research. It was not possible to give all the sites, but rather to give you general ideas of what to look for as you use the Internet to further your research and knowledge of your ancestors' homeland. For a more extensive list of websites, please go to the following link: https://familysearch.org/learn/wiki/en/images/6/65/Polish_websites_templated.pdf

FAMILYSEARCH ONLINE IMAGES

The online images on the FamilySearch website can be found at this link:
<https://familysearch.org/search/collection/location/1927187?region=Poland>

How to Find the Polish records at FamilySearch.org:

1. On the main page of FamilySearch.org you will see several tabs across the top. Click on "Search".
2. On the dropdown list choose "Records".
3. This brings you to a page with a World map on the right side. Click on the European region.
4. Another dropdown list will appear. Click on "Poland".
5. This takes you to a page which says "Poland Indexed Historical Records". You will see several indexed record sets. If the type or area of records are those of interest to you, fill in the search fields to look for your ancestor.
6. If images are available, they will be indicated by the small camera icon at the right side of the record set name. Some images are from partner sites.
7. For images that are not indexed, scroll down to the "Poland image only Historical Records". There are currently 3 collections. Click on the record set of your choice.
8. You will see the link to "Browse through (number) images. Click here to be taken to the various locations. These will be larger jurisdictions and you will need to click on the one for your region.
9. After clicking on the region, click on the location where the parish was located. If you do not know where the parish was located, you will have to first make this determination by using a gazetteer.

POLISH STATE ARCHIVES

The online images on the FamilySearch website can be found at this link:

<http://szukajwarchiwach.pl/>

How to Find the Polish records at <http://szukajwarchiwach.pl/>:

1. Click on the "x" in the upper right corner of the white area on this main page.
2. In the white search field, type in the locality you are looking for.
3. If you only want scans, also click on this box, otherwise to find all holdings, check it.
4. After choosing a location with "scans only" checked and if nothing comes up, then this locality has not been digitized at this time. Check back periodically to check later.
5. When your location appears you will see the records sets and to the right of the title of the records, you will see the number of digital images shown.
6. If you look on the left side of the records there are search options. If you are only searching for religious or civil registration records, click on the following boxes that say "Collections" and "Vital records and civil registers". This will eliminate all other types of digitized records from the list.
7. Choose the type and years of records that you need. If you are looking for civil registration, the Polish term is *Urząd Stanu Cywilnego*.
8. Click on the record title or "digital images".
9. On this page click on "Units". Here you will see each of the individual record types that are available for this location. Click on the title that fits your needs.
10. Now click on "Digital copies". Now you will arrive at the thumbnail images.
11. As many images are not yet indexed, it may be necessary to search page by page.
12. For more details on how to use these records go to this link:
https://familysearch.org/wiki/en/images/3/35/1-Polish_State_Archives-Instruction.pdf

GENETKA.GENEALODZY

Geneteka is a Polish indexing project which is indexed by many volunteers. This site includes indexes of all areas of Poland, although some areas have considerably more entries than others. They have also included indexing for locations in Ukraine, Lithuania, Belarus and Russia.

It is an ongoing project, so if your names do not appear when you check, you should check back periodically to see if further indexing has been done for your names or area.

The online images on the Geneteka website can be found at this link:

<http://geneteka.genealodzy.pl/>

How to Find the Images at Geneteka

1. Click on the British flag at the top of the page to see the page in English.
2. You will see a colored map of Poland with the current province jurisdictions. To the right of the map there is an alphabetical list of the all the Polish provinces, as well as several eastern countries, including Ukraine, Lithuania, Belarus and Russia.
3. Directly to the right of the region name under the heading of **Parish** you will see a number. This number represents the number of parishes that have been included in the database at the current time.
4. The number under the heading **Registers** represents the number of registry books included. The following heading **Entries** are the indexed entries for the province.

5. You will notice that the province names or eastern countries have a different color and are links when clicked on, which will take you to the indexes only for this region.
6. When you click on a region it will take you to another page. Click on your region of interest.
7. Click on the drop down arrow of the field which says Book "All locations".
8. The time periods of the type of all records, whether church or civil are displayed like the following:
M=marriages, D=deaths and B=births. Not all locations within a certain region are indexed.
9. Then choose and click on your location (parish) and the specific time period and record type desired.
10. A complete list of all the names of people with records indexed arranged alphabetically by surname that were in this parish should now appear.
11. At the bottom of the page you will see the page numbers and if the name you are looking for is at the end of the alphabet you can quickly get to a page by clicking on the page numbers. You can also type in a specific surname, as well.
12. For some records the names do not contain links to images because there are no digitized images for these records. If there had been, the term "SKAN" would be on the far right column.
13. Click on the word SKAN in the far right column to arrive at the direct link to the image or possibly a website where that image may be found.

GENBAZA

The online images at the Genbaza website can be found at this link:

<http://metryki.genbaza.com/>

How to Find the Images at Genbaza:

1. Register for an account before using this site. There are many more localities available for those with a free account.
2. A list of regions appear under the term "Root: If only Warszawa appears, you may not have logged in or logged in correctly.
3. Find your region and the click on it and it will bring up many locations. Find your parish by clicking through the larger jurisdictions until your parish village appears.
4. Click on the right time periods and the images will appear.

AGAD

The online images at the AGAD site are found here:

<http://www.agad.gov.pl/inwentarze/testy.html> .

The following types of registers can be found on this site:

- Registry books of Evangelical and Helweckiego 1764-1939
- Jewish Community registry books of the Bug River area 1789-1943
- Roman Catholic registry books of the Lviv area 1604-1945
- Registers of the Orthodox lands In Volhynia and Polesie 1823-1909, 1929-1939
- Roman Catholic registry books of the Lutsk and Vilnius Diocese 1600-1943
- Roman Catholic registry books of the Przemysl Diocese 1590, 1600-1943

- Evangelical-Augsburg registry books from the Western Province of the Russian Empire 1790-1940
- Registry books of minority religious groups: Armenians, Autocephalous Orthodox, Baptists, Mennonites, Evangelical Christians of the Bug River area 1685-1942

How to Find the Images at AGAD:

1. Click on the record set of your choice.
2. You will arrive at a page with a yellow color. Scroll down the page to find your locality in the index. You can also use the Control f keys to do a search for the locality.
3. Click on the link that says *galleria ze skanami*. This will take you to the scanned images.

LUBGENS

The online indexes at the Lubgens site are found here: <http://regestry.lubgens.eu/news.php>

The online records found here are for the Lublin region only. They are mostly only indexes. Some images are available. However, images of many of these locations should be checked for in FamilySearch, Geneteka and Genealodzy.pl as well as szukajwarchiwach.pl

How to Find a Name on Lubgens:

1. Look on the left side of the page under the heading "Navigation". These are the indexed localities.
2. Click on the locality of your choice.
3. If there are records for more than one religion in this town a dropdown list will appear.
4. Choose the religion by clicking.
5. On the screen for your village events will be listed tabs for births, marriages, and deaths. Click on the tab you want.
6. Then click on the time period you need. All the names will appear. In some cases a blue button on the right may indicate that there are scans available. You can access the scan by clicking on the button.

HELPFUL MISC. SITES

- <http://www.usc.pl/zasieg> .This site gives Polish civil registration and parish office addresses and phone numbers, web addresses and email addresses, when available.
- <http://www.polskiezabytki.pl/> .This website alphabetically lists monuments, castles, manors and estates in Poland and has an interactive map to help you locate them. Includes pictures when available.
- <http://luteranie.pl/> .This website gives all the remaining Lutheran/Evangelical parishes which are still found in Poland. Click on the tab "O naszym Kościele" or if your computer translated the page to English, "about our church". Hover over the region to see the number of churches and region name. Click on the map to see the list of church locations. Click on the location to find address information.