Latvia

- Independent in 1918, formed from former Russian Empire gubernias of Courland, southern Livonia, and western Vitebsk

- 1940-1989 Republic of U.S.S.R.

- Independent 1989

- Archives - Latvijas Valsts Arhîvs

  (Central State Historical Archive)

    Slokas iela 16; LV-1007 Riga, LATVIA

- See also Russian Empire

Lithuania

- Annexed by Russia in 1795
- Independent in 1918, formed from Kovno, eastern Vilna, and northern Suwalki gubernias (+ a tiny piece of East Prussia)
- Vilna area annexed by Poland, 1919-1939. Capital: Kaunas (Kovno).
- Republic of U.S.S.R. 1940-1989. Capital: Vilnius (Vilna)
- Independent 1990. Capital: Vilnius
- Records under Russian Empire and Poland

Moldova

- Archives: Arhiva Nationala a Republicii Moldovei
(National Archives of the Republic of Moldova)
str. Gheorghe Asachi 67b
277028 Chisinau
MOLDOVA

- Won't respond to written requests – have to hire local researcher

Poland

- 1772 - 1795 Poland divided among Russia, Austria and Prussia

- Over 100 years later re-established as independent nation after WWI in 1918

- Between WWI – WWII included Russian gubernias of Vilna, Grodno and Volhynia; former Austrian province of Galicia; and Prussian Poznan and West Prussia

Poland – After WWII

- Nearly one half of inter-war Poland (eastern provinces: Wilno, Nowogródek, Polesie, Wolyn, Tarnopol, Stanislawów and parts of Lwów and Bialystok) became part of the Soviet Union -- these areas are now part of Ukraine, Belarus and Lithuania

- Poland gained former German areas: most of Pommern (Pommerania), Brandenburg, Schlesien (Silesia), West Prussia, and half of East Prussia

Russian Poland Records

Russian Poland = Kingdom of Poland

- 1808: Civil registration established by Napoleon. Jews and others included in Catholic registers

- 1826: Separate registers are kept for each religious community: Roman Catholic, Jewish, Russian Orthodox, Protestant, etc.

- 1868: Record-keeping switches from Polish to Russian language

Other Polish Records

- **Austrian Poland (Galicia):** Civil registration began in 1787, but not enforced until the mid-nineteenth century

- **Prussian Poland:** Civil registration began in 1874

Polish Archives

- Naczelna Dyrekcja Archiwów Panstwowych [Polish State Archives]; ul. Dluga 6; Skr. Pocztowa Nr 1005; 00-950 Warszawa; POLAND. {Requires $30 deposit, hourly fee $15, copies $10 each}.

- Records over 100 years old are located in several dozen regional archives, located throughout the country. But you need to write to main archive in Warsaw, listed above.

Recent Polish Records

- Vital records less than 100 years old are still stored at the local Civil Registrar's office in each town.

- Write to:
  Urzad Stanu Cywilnego; [YourTown]; POLAND -- may or may not respond

Romania

- Moldavia and Wallachia, formerly under Ottoman Turkish rule, united to form Romania in 1859.

- Kingdom of Romania formed in 1881.

- Transylvania and Bukovina, parts of the former Austro-Hungarian Empire, became part of Romania after WWI.

Romanian Records

- 1865 – Beginning of government vital records
- Earlier than elsewhere in Eastern Europe
- Prior 3 decades - civil registration by Romanian Orthodox priests
- After 100 years, churches transfer vital records to the district (*judet*) archive
- Archives not very responsive to written requests – hire researcher or visit in person

Romanian Regions

- **Transylvania & Bukovina** (former Austrian regions): vital records kept by clergy since late 18th century, full compliance after 1848. Civil registration in 1895.

- **Wallachia & Moldavia** (former Ottoman regions): civil vital registration, in Romanian, beginning 1865.

Russia

- Some microfilm
- Archives - Rossiiskii gosudarstvennyi arkhiv drevnikh aktov (RGADA) (Russian State Archive of Early Acts); Bol'shaia Pirogovskaia 17;   119817 Moscow; RUSSIA
- See http://www.iisg.nl/~abb/

Slovakia

- Formed 1993 when Czechoslovakia divided

- Comprised of the former Slovak-speaking northern counties of Hungary

- LDS films for vital records (*matriky)* for same period as Hungary

- Archives - *Statny Ustredny Archiv; Cesta 42; Bratislava; SLOVAKIA*

Slovenia

- Earliest record 1458 - exception
- Most begin 1600s
- Civil registration began in 1926
- LDS microfilm for some church and civil registers
- Writing to the local archbishopric in Slovenia has met with success

Ukraine

- Independent Ukraine from Russian Empire gubernias of Podolia, Volhynia, Kiev, Poltava, Chernigov, Kharkov, Kherson, Taurida and Ekaterinoslav; and eastern half of the Austrian Empire province of Galicia

- Parts were in Poland between the wars (Polish inter-war provinces of Wolyn, Tarnopol, Lwów and Stanislawów)

Ukrainian Records

- Many filmed by LDS
- Currently indexing and adding as indexed – keep checking catalogue for your village
- See list at http://www.lemko.org/genealogy/galicia.html
- Western Ukraine found in Austria-Hungarian Empire records and now some in Poland
- Archives reported as expensive and/or non-responsive

Yugoslavia

- Recent unrest in the former Yugoslavia makes availability of records difficult
- Pre-1946 parish registers are kept in local churches—Orthodox, Catholic, Muslim.
- Turkey may have records for areas under Ottoman control – applies to Yugoslavia, Romania and Bulgaria

See 5 Slides in Part 4a&b

- Eastern_Europe_4a.pdf
- Eastern_Europe_4b.pdf

Guide to Translations

- Rafal T. Prinke - *Poradnik Genealogi-Amatora*

- http://www.polishroots.org/translating.htm

- Jonathan D. Shea "The Keeping of Vital Records in the Austrian Partition" in *Pathways and Passages*
  Volume 9, Number 1, Winter 1992 issue

Table of Latin, Ukrainian & Polish Genealogical Terms

Common Foreign Language Terms by Mike Szelog, November 2001

http://freepages.genealogy.rootsweb. com/~atpc/genealogy/articles/records -common-fgn-words.html

Reading Clues

- Born and baptised August 21, 1884 in
- Village/parish of Czyski
- Deanery of Olesko
- Raion of Zolochivskyi (Zolochiv, Zolochev or Zloczow)
- Oblast of Lvivska (capital Lviv or Lvov)
- Province of Galicia (east), now part of Ukraine; then part of Austrian-Hungarian Empire

Sample Titles for Upper Classes

Latin	*Polish*	*English*	*Used to address:*
illustrissimus ac magnificus	*jasnie wielmozny*	The Honorable	magnate, senator
magnificus	*wielmozny*	Esq., Your Honor	an official of the court
generosus	*urodzony*	" well born"	owner of at least one village
nobilis	*szlachetny*	noble	owner of a parcel, or leaseholder
spectabilis	*godny*	worthy	wealthy patrician from a large city

Sample Titles for **Commoners**

famulus,famuli	*parobek*	generally landless farm worker or worker on an estate
arator, aratoris	*rataj*	a *zagrodnik* who also worked at a large estate farm
	gbur	used in the German partition, a wealthy peasant, frequently free from serf labor obligations
colonus, coloni	*kolonista*	originally meant "settler" or colonizer, later acquired the meaning of "poor peasant"
agricola, agricolæ	*rolnik*	a general term in the 19th century to describe a peasant

Resources

Oblasts and Raions In Ukraine

- http://209.82.14.226/ua-maps/oblasts/ http://www.lemko.org/genealogy/oblasts.html

Towns and Villages

- Columbia Lippincott *Gazetteer of the World*
- *Where Once We Walked*
- Brian Lenius – *Genealogical Gazetteer of Galicia* 1999

More Resources

- Geographic Dictionary of the Kingdom of Poland and Other Slavic Countries, 15 volumes. 1880-1902

- Index to Places of the Republic of Poland. 1934.

- A History of Cities and Villages of the Ukrainian SSR. 1967-1974.

Atlas & Gazetteers

A History of Cities and Villages of the UkrainianSSR
(one for each oblast – 26 vol.)

Published in Ukrainian as "Istoriia mist i sil Ukrainskoi RSR"
"Історія міст і сіл Української РСР"

Published in Russian as "Istoriia gorodov i sel Ukrainskoi SSR"
"История городов и сел Украинской ССР"

Join Ukrainian Special Interest Group

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