HOW TO GET STARTED

Approach tracing your immigrant ancestors the same way you would approach any other relative. Start with the same information, documents, and techniques you use in all genealogical research:

- Vital Records (birth, marriage, death)
- Federal and State Census
- Personal Records (family bible, wills, letters, etc.)
- Probate/Court Records
- Church Records
- Interview family members

Rules of Thumb

- Start with what you know, working your way back to the earliest immigrant ancestor in America.
- Once you have done that, use what you know about that ancestor to figure out when and where they arrived in America and where they came from.
- From there, your goal is to determine where to find and how to use records from their home country.

THE BASIC STEPS FOR RESEARCHING YOUR IMMIGRANT ANCESTOR

- Trace your family back to the earliest ancestor present in America
- Determine the arrival date and origin of that ancestor
- Locate immigration records
- Locate naturalization documents
- Determine a (fairly) specific location in home country
- Begin research in that country’s records

FINDING CLUES IN US RECORDS

Basic Tip: You will want to focus on finding clues in basic records that indicate nativity, ethnicity, parents’ names and nativity, port of entry, port of departure, arrival date, and citizenship status.

VITAL RECORDS

- Check birthplaces listed on birth & death records
  - Remember: This information is only as accurate as the informant
- Most states have regulations on who can request a copy of a birth or death certificate
  - Check with the Department of Public Health in particular state

Example: 1912 Indiana Birth Certificate
Mother: Rose Bussell, 37, born in England
Census Records

- The areas of most interest here are the Nativity and Citizenship columns
  - Answers to these questions can help direct you to related immigration and naturalization records
  - The names of foreign countries may change over time for political, linguistic, geographical, or religious reasons, i.e. “Baiern/Bayern” is the German name for Bavaria, and may be used on the census
- Some states also took state-level censuses in between federal census years
  - Check for additional nativity and citizenship status information there

The Census Bureau website provides in-depth information regarding each year of the Federal Census [www.census.gov/history/www/through_the_decades](http://www.census.gov/history/www/through_the_decades)

- This includes questions asked, blank forms, historical context for that year, enumerator instructions, etc.
- Enumerator Instructions can be especially helpful
  - They detail how the enumerator was instructed to fill out the questionnaire, such as how to handle countries with recent name changes or ambiguous relationships between native tongue and country
    - i.e. 1910 Instructions: “In case the person speaks Polish, as Poland is not now a country, inquire whether the birthplace as Germany, Austrian Poland or Russian Poland, and enter the answer accordingly as Poland (Ger.), Poland (Aust.), or Poland (Russ.).”

Changes in the Federal Census Nativity & Citizenship Sections Over Time

- 1850 Census – People are first listed individually, rather than just the head of the household
- 1870 Census – Whether their Father or Mother was “Foreign Born”
- 1880 Census – Place of Birth, Father & Mother’s Place of Birth questions are added
- 1900 Census – Year of immigration and naturalization status questions are added
- 1910 Census – Questions added about whether they are Naturalized or Alien, whether they speak English
- 1920 Census – Year of naturalization is added
- 1930 Census – Language spoken before immigration (“mother tongue”) added
- 1940 Census – Citizenship status of foreign born individuals is added

Each Census had a select list of preset abbreviations for the “Color” or Race column:

- W – White
- Neg – Negro
- In/Indian – Indian (Native American)
- Mex – Mexican (1930 Census only)
- M/Mulatto – Mixed Race* (*not always accurate)
- Jp – Japanese
- Hin – Hindu (Indian from India)
- Kor – Korean
- Fil – Filipino
- Chi – Chinese
All other races were supposed to be written out in full. This column isn’t always accurate, and, for some (especially Native Americans or mixed race individuals), may vary from year to year.

Example: 1925 New York State Census

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>John Patrick Clarke</th>
<th>Mary Clarke</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Nativity: Ireland</td>
<td>Nativity: Ireland</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Citizen or Alien: Alien</td>
<td>Citizen or Alien: Alien</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Years in US: 4</td>
<td>Years in US: 18 months</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Naturalized: No</td>
<td>Naturalized: No</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Example: 1930 Federal Census, Rochester City, Monroe, NY

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>John Patrick Clarke</th>
<th>Mary Clarke</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Nativity: Irish Free State</td>
<td>Nativity: Irish Free State</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Citizen or Alien: Alien</td>
<td>Citizen or Alien: Alien</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Year of Arrival: 1920</td>
<td>Year of Arrival: 1924</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Citizenship Status: “Pa” Declared Intent</td>
<td>Citizenship Status: Alien</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Example: 1940 Federal Census, Omaha City, Douglas, NE

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>John Patrick Clarke</th>
<th>Mary Clarke</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Nativity: Irish Free State</td>
<td>Nativity: Irish Free State</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Citizenship Status: Naturalized</td>
<td>Citizenship Status: Alien</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Military Records
Always check for the individual’s birthplace on any record
- Registration
- Muster Rolls
- Pensions
- WWI Draft Cards (provides citizenship status)
- WWII Draft Cards

Example: Civil War Draft, Cayuga, Seneca, and Wayne Counties, New York, 1863

Researcher Note: Since he was born in Holland, around 1827, we know a window of time to look for his immigration records (1827-1863, the date of the record). Clues in other records might help narrow that window down further.

Example: WWI Draft Card

Name: Theodore Alacheff
Age: 26
Residence: Flint, Michigan
Birth Date: 5 November 1890 (possibly 1889)
Citizenship Status: “1st Papers” (has filed a Declaration of Intent)
Birth Place: Tetovo, Bulgaria
Citizenship: Bulgarian

Occupation: Baker, self-employed
Marital Status: Single
Dependents: Father & Mother, in Bulgaria
Race: Bulgarian

Researcher Note: Now that we know he has filed a Declaration of Intent, we know that his naturalization records (and therefore immigration records) exist and could possibly be found. In addition, since his parents remain in Bulgaria and he
is unmarried, we are likely to find him traveling alone on a passenger list. We also have a fairly specific location in Bulgaria for when we begin searching abroad.

Researcher Note: With this record we get a date and place of birth abroad (helpful later when researching with Irish records), a relative’s name (a sister, Mary Clarke) which might help when looking for his immigration records, namely a passenger list. If we cannot find his records, we can try his sister’s, since we know she likely emigrated from Ireland, as well.

**IMMIGRATION RECORDS**

### Passenger Lists
- Starting in 1820, the US government mandated the use of passenger lists
- Earlier records are typically indexed or in book form rather than digitized
- Prior to 1900s, mostly handwritten and provide less detail
- Names on these manifests were typically as the passenger provided
  - Any name changes, “Americanization,” or significant spelling variations came from the passenger, not the immigration official
  - Handwritten records are notorious for having questionable transcribing – remember to try spelling variations or browsing and filter options when searching for pre-1900s passenger lists

**Commonly used arrival ports:**
- New York
- Baltimore
- Boston
- Philadelphia
- New Orleans
- Great Lakes

**New York Passenger Lists**
During the years 1892 – 1924, over 20 million immigrants arrived at New York’s Ellis Island
- Statistically, the most likely port used – so when in doubt, check New York

**Online Resources for Passenger Lists from New York Ports**
- Castle Garden (arrivals pre-1892)
- Ellis Island (arrivals 1892–1924)
Researcher Note: This passenger list gives us a very specific location in Ireland, a city and even a street address for his mother. The information provided here will help when researching with Irish records like the Irish Census and vital records.

Example: 1870 Passenger List, Port of Baltimore

Johann and Kunigunde Thieroff and children
**Country of Birth:** Baiern [Bavaria, Germany]
**Last Residence:** Baiern
**Destination:** Baltimore, Maryland
**Port of Departure:** Bremen, Germany

Researcher Note: This record was transcribed poorly, making it hard to find with basic searching. Kunigunde Theroff (as her name was later written on most records), was transcribed here as "Tumgunde Thuroff." Also, "Bavaria" isn't a very specific location, so further research may be required before starting with German records.

Example: 1921 Passenger List, Port of New York

John Patrick Clarke
**Last Residence:** Skibbereen, Co. Cork, Ireland
**Nearest Relative:** Mother, Mrs. E. Clarke, Upper Bridge Street, Skibbereen, Co. Cork

Researcher Note: This passenger list gives us a very specific location in Ireland, a city and even a street address for his mother. The information provided here will help when researching with Irish records like the Irish Census and vital records.

Research Note: Don’t Forget the Second Page of Post-1900 Passenger Lists

Starting in the 1900s, passenger list forms like the one pictured above had a second page with over twenty additional questions about the passenger:

- These answers provide more contextual information, but some answers may provide clues on:
  - Additional immigration records
  - Relatives already living in the United States
The types of records that may be available in their home country (i.e. the questions about stays at institutions, charitable organizations, or workhouses)

14. Number on list
15. Whether having a ticket to such final destination
16. By whom was the passage paid?
17. Whether in possession of $50, and if less, how much?
18. Whether ever before been in the United States
   a. Yes or No
      If Yes:
      Year or period of years?
      Where?
19. Whether going to join a relative or friend; and if so, what relative or friend, and his name and complete address
20. Purpose of coming to the United States
   a. Whether alien intends to return to county whence he came after engaging temporarily in labor
   b. Length of time alien intends to remain in the United States
   c. Whether alien intends to become a citizen of the United States
21. Ever in prison or slumhouse, or institution for the care and treatment of the insane or supported by charity? If so, which?
22. Whether a polygamist
23. Whether an anarchist
24. Whether a person who believes in or advocates for the overthrow by force or violence of the Government of the United States or all forms of law, etc.
25. Whether coming by reason of solicitation, promise, or approval expressed to labor in the United States
26. Whether alien has been previously deported within one year
27. Condition of mental health
29. Height: feet, inches
30. Complexion
31. Color of hair and eyes
32. Marks of identification
33. Place of birth: country, city or town

Border Crossings

Canada
- From Canada to US: 1895 – 1956 (on Ancestry)
  o US “Ports” include: Idaho, Maine, Michigan, Minnesota, Montana, New York, North Dakota, Vermont, Washington
- From US to Canada: 1903 – 1935 (on Ancestry)
  o Most English, some French

Mexico
- From Mexico to US: 1895 – 1964 (on Ancestry)
  • Manifest cards for temporary visits and permanent residence, applications for border crossing ID cards, traveling US citizens

A Note on Canadian Border Crossings
If you searching for an ancestor you believe to have been an immigrant, but struggle to locate a passenger list for them at an American port, try searching for them in Canadian border crossings. Many immigrants reached America via Canada by sailing there first and crossing the border later.
Researcher Note: The fact that he lists "Canada" as his nationality raises questions about possible immigration and naturalization records generated in Canada that may be available and provide a more specific Irish residence and birthplace.

Example: 1924 Border Crossing (Canada to US), Port of Montreal, Quebec, Canada

Sarah (Bercovitch) Kramer, accompanied by sons Morris and Eli
Race/Language: Hebrew/Yiddish
Birthplace: [illegible], Russia
Nearest Relative There: Mother [illegible, crossed out]
Last Permanent Residence: Montreal
Destination: Cambridge, Mass.
Passage Paid By: Husband
Relative or Friend There: sister-in-law, Lea Berman

Researcher Note: There may be a benefit in searching for the border crossing record from her previous visit to America in 1918 reported here. Perhaps it clarifies the identity of the relative recorded and then crossed out and the illegible city in Russia. Also, check for any available immigration records generated when she emigrated from Russia to Canada.
Researcher Note: Based on his answers, it is hard to determine why Antonio is traveling or the purpose of his trip to England. He is a farmer from El Salvador, and though married, provides no information for his nearest relative in El Salvador. He is not going to visit friends or family, and it appears his head tax was subsidized by a third party, but he paid for his own passage. Perhaps it was for work or maybe he was simply traveling. Further research would be necessary.

Passport Applications
- **U.S. Passport Applications, 1795-1925** (on Ancestry)
- U.S. Government began issuing passports in 1789
  - Mandatory for a short time after Civil War
- Passports were not required for foreign travel until WWI
  - Law passed during WWI lapsed in 1921 after treaties and the end of the war
  - Requirement was re-instated during WWII
- Foreign-born applicants had to submit proof of citizenship status and immigration information
  - Often an excellent source of information regarding the individual’s immigration, providing the date of arrival, the ship’s name, port of departure and arrival, etc.
- May help locate passenger lists and border crossing records and may also include a photograph

Information provided by passport applications includes:
- Name of applicant
- Birth date or age
- Birthplace
- Residence
- Date of application or issuance of passport
- Father’s and/or husband’s name
- Father’s and/or husband’s birth date or age
- Father’s and/or husband’s birthplace and residence
- Wife’s name
- Date and place of immigration to the U.S.
- Years of residence in the U.S.
- Naturalization date and place
- Occupation
- Physical characteristics

Example: **1909 Border Crossing** (Mexico to US), Port of Laredo, TX

Name: Antonio Alfaro
Age: 55
Birthplace: El Salvador, Salvador
Marital Status: Married
Occupation: Farmer
Nationality/Race: Salvador/South American
Last Residence: El Salvador, Salvador
Example: 1900 Passport Application

Name: Emilio M. Castillo
Birth: 5 February 1843, Malaga, Spain
Arrival: 15 January 1872
Departure Port: Havana Cuba
Ship Name: Yazor
Residence: Wantagh, Long Island, New York
Naturalized: 14 May 1900, Southern District of New York

Port Departure Lists
Manifests of passengers departing from a given port – mostly British port records for Liverpool and Queenstown, but also for the port of Hamburg and Bremen in Germany

Information typically provided:
- Class of ticket (1st, 2nd, 3rd)
- Port of Destination
- Age (often in separate columns for gender, young children, and by marital status)
- Occupation
- Country of Last Permanent Residence
- Country of Intended Future Permanent Residence

Example: 1921 Outward Passenger List, Port of Queenstown, Ireland

Name: John P. Clarke
Occupation: Clerk
Age: 23
Ship Line/Name: White Star Line/Celtic
Class of Ticket: Second Class
Departure Date: 10 February 1921
Destination: New York
Last Permanent Residence: Ireland
Intended Future Residence: U.S.A.
Example: 1873 Hamburg Passenger List

Name: Emilie Kusserow, accompanied by her children and mother
Age: 34
Residence: Lindow, Prussia
Occupation: Housewife
Destination: New York, via Liverpool
Date of Departure: 2 May 1873
Port of Departure: Hamburg, Germany
Ship Name: Hull

Note: Port departure records from Germany (Bremen or Hamburg) will be in German. They may, however, be indexed in English. It is possible to memorize a short list of select German vocabulary that will help you recognize and get the information you need out of a record without having to be fluent in German.

Colonial Immigration Records
Researching immigrants who arrived in American colonies before 1790 can be difficult, but not impossible
- More often than not, these records are indexed instead of digitized and are not readily available online

Immigration Up to 1790
- The forced immigration of Africans makes up the largest single group of early immigrants (about 40% of all immigration)
- Immigrants from regions of Great Britain made up a total of a little over 46%
  - England (26%), Ulster (Northern Ireland, 15%), Scotland (5%), Ireland (<3%), Wales (<3%)
- Other countries with immigrants who relocated to the Colonies include Germany/Switzerland (11%), Sweden, Jews, France, and the Netherlands (all <3%).

Passenger and Immigration Lists Index
“Filby Books” – written by William P. Filby
- Comprehensive index of early passenger lists, 1600s – 1800s
- Arrivals of over 500,000 immigrants to North America and West Indies
- Compilation of source material (books, periodicals, etc.) from repositories all over
Information provided by this index includes:

- Name of the passenger
- Age of the passenger
- The place of arrival
- The year of arrival
- A number referring to the source book containing the passenger list or record (located at beginning of book)
- The page number in the source book where this entry can be found
- All accompanying passengers are listed below

Example: *Passenger and Immigration Lists Index*

Name: John (Johann) Daum, accompanied by his wife Marie (Stauder) (35) and children Johann (10), Adam (6), and Marie (3)
Age: 38
Port of Arrival: Texas
Year of Arrival: 1845
Source: No. 2484, page 87

Note: Entries for early records may have incomplete information, such as a missing age or port of entry. Referring to the source may explain why those details are unavailable.

Example: Johann Daniel Dauwald, arriving in 1783 (left); this entry as no age and the port of arrival was recorded as “America.”

**Naturalization Records**

Naturalization Records

*Records before 1906 are much less detailed*

Pre-1906, naturalization records may include:

- Name, age of immigrant
- Port and date of arrival
- Place of residence
- Country of origin/allegiance

Post-1906, naturalization records typically include:

- Name, birth date and place
- Name of spouse and any children, their birth dates and places, marriage date
- Port and date of arrival, name of vessel
- Occupation
The Naturalization Process

1790–1906: “Old Law” Period
- There was no federal oversight over naturalization, each state established its own process
- 5,000 federal, state, and county courts had the authority to grant citizenship, each with their own system

1906: Federal oversight of the process began, establishing the C-File (Certificate File) series
- Every person naturalized between Sept. 27, 1906, and March 31, 1956, has a Certificate File (“C-File”) with USCIS containing a copy of their Certificate of Naturalization
- Beginning in September 1906, all naturalization courts were required to:
  - Issue a Certificate of Naturalization to every naturalized person (and name all members of the primary subject’s family who derived citizenship from his or her naturalization);
  - Create Certificates of Naturalization using standard forms
  - Submit a duplicate copy of every Certificate of Naturalization for filing

1906–1941: Naturalization was a two-step process intended to take at least 5 years
- After living in the US for 2 years, an alien can file “first papers” or a Declaration of Intent (Declaration of Intent)
- After an additional 3 years, the applicant could then file a Petition for Naturalization
- Both steps did not have to be filed with the same court — typically, whatever court was most convenient
- From 1929-1941, the form also included a photo of the applicant

Exceptions to This Process

“Derivative” Naturalization
- 1790-1922 – wives of naturalized men automatically became naturalized citizens
- 1790-1940 – children under 21 of naturalized individuals automatically became naturalized citizens

Minor Aliens
- 1824 to 1906 – minors living in the US for 5 years before 23rd birthday could file Declaration and Petition simultaneously

Veterans
- 1862 – Honorably discharged could file a Petition without Declaration after 1 year of residence
- 1894 – extended to 5-year veterans of Navy and Marines
- 192,000 veterans naturalized from May 1918 – Jun 1919 without filing Declaration or 5-year residence

Declaration of Intent — “First Papers”

Pre-1906
- 5,000 federal, state, and county courts had authority to grant citizenship, each with their own forms with varying questions
- Some municipal, criminal, and probate courts also processed naturalizations

Post-1906
- US Bureau of Immigration and Naturalization required the use of uniform and consistent forms
- Forms changed again in 1929, requiring a photo
- Declaration of Intent no longer required after 1951, though some still filed

Petition for Naturalization
- Generally, the Declaration of Intent provides more genealogically relevant information for researchers, but in the absence of a Declaration, a Petition for Naturalization does provide some information
  - And a Petition may be used to locate a Declaration for an individual if you find it first
- Naturalization record collections online often have both forms for one individual organized together

Affidavits of Witnesses
On more recent Petitions, witnesses to the information provided by the applicant have recorded their names, occupations, and residences.

Example: 1934 Declaration of Intent, Los Angeles, Southern District of California

Name: Bernard Dworkin
Occupation: Student
Age: 25
Marital Status: Single, no children
Birth: 23 March 1911, Calgary, Canada
Race/Nationality: Hebrew/British
Arrival: 14 July 1927, Eastport, Idaho (via the C. P. Hwy)
Filed: 29 June 1934

Example: 1936 Petition for Naturalization, Los Angeles, Southern District of California

Name: Bernard Dworkin
Birth: 23 March 1911, Calgary, Canada
Occupation: Librarian
Race: Hebrew
Declared Intention: 29 June 1934, District Court at Los Angeles
Marital Status: Single, no children
Example: Affidavits of Witnesses

Last Foreign Residence: Calgary, Canada
Port of Arrival: Eastport, Idaho, via C. P. Hwy
Date of Arrival: 14 July 1927

Witnesses: Jess Millman, student, 2317 E. 6th St., Los Angeles, CA; Gerald Zolla, clerk, 548 No. Hobark Blvd., Los Angeles, CA

Note: For some naturalization records, you may have to request copies. Not all naturalizations are digitized and available online. Some naturalization collections (on Ancestry and elsewhere) are indexes or digitized index cards of records held at the National Archives or another repository. www.archives.gov/research/naturalization

Example: Index Card for Naturalization

Name: John Patrick Clarke
Birth Date: 11 March 1897
Record Collection: Missouri, Western District Naturalization Index, 1840-1990 [held at The National Archives at Kansas City, Kansas City, Missouri]
Researcher Note: Using the information on this index card, a copy of the naturalization documents for this individual can be requested from the National Archives at Kansas City.

Women’s Naturalization Records

- From 1907 to 1922: “...any American woman who marries a foreigner shall take the nationality of her husband...”
- From 1922 on, a woman retained her citizenship unless she formally renounced it
  - Women seeking to regain American citizenship had to file a Petition for Naturalization
  - So many women repatriated following the repeal, that a new form was created in 1936: “The Application to Take the Oath of Allegiance to the United States of America”

Example: 1940 Application to Take the Oath

Name: Agnes Josephine Di Girolamo
Birth: 14 February 1894, Holstein, Nebraska
Husband: Joseph DiGirolamo
Husband’s Citizenship: Italy
Marriage: 7 June 1917
Documentation: “1) certificate of marriage of Joseph Degroloma and Agnes J. Williams in Jackson County, Mo on June 7, 1917. 2) affidavit of my aunt Martha Edson Metlewski wherein it is stated that to her personal knowledge I was born in Holstein, Nebr.”
Colonial Naturalization

- British immigrants were automatically citizens of the colonies; all others had a few ways of becoming naturalized citizens of the colonies.
- The US Constitution allowed for the establishment of a uniform naturalization process, prior to that each colony had its own and the process and requirements varied from colony to colony.
- Most of these records, if they still exist, are indexes in book format.
  - Denizations and Naturalizations in the British Colonies in America, 1607-1775; Lloyd DeWitt Bockstruck

Denization

- The individual could buy and sell land, but could not hold office.

Oath of Allegiance

- The individual renounced loyalty to former country, gave immigrant right to vote and hold office.

Collective Citizenship

- When the US became a country in 1776, this naturalized entire groups of people without using documents.

**RESEARCHING ABROAD**

Genealogy Databases

Ancestry

- England, Scotland, Wales
- Ireland
- Germany
- Canada
- Sweden
- France
- Poland

FamilySearch

- Germany
- Sweden
- Netherlands
- Mexico
- France
- South America, Africa, Middle East

National Archives

- Many countries have their National Archives online – may not be digitized (or available for a fee).
- Also check for “State Archives,” especially in Germany.

Country-specific databases

- Some countries, ethnic groups, and international genealogical societies have their own websites that facilitate searching records, requesting copies, and provide educational resources.
- You can often find these sites by doing a Google search with terms like “German genealogy research” or “Doukhobor Russian genealogy.”
  - Ireland: www.irishgenealogy.ie
  - Scotland: www.scotlandspeople.gov.uk
  - Eastern Galicia (Poland and Ukraine): www.halgal.com/vitalrecords.html

FindMyPast

- Subscription website, excellent resource for UK, Ireland, Australia & New Zealand records: www.findmypast.com

Learning More

- Take advantage of database “Learning Centers.”
  - FamilySearch videos: researching in specific countries, ethnic groups, and record types.
  - FamilySearch Wiki: www.familysearch.org/wiki
  - Ancestry Library Edition has immigration and ethnic group guides.
- Read published books and guides.
  - In Search of Your British and Irish Roots, Angus Baxter.
  - Your Swedish Roots: a step by step handbook, Per Clemensson & Kjell Andersson.
Understanding Archival Context
Understand how that country organized records when they were initially generated AND how they are organized now:

- Sometimes church records were the only records
  - Understand how that specific denomination kept and archived their records
- Know when civil registration started in that country
- Research any historical events that might have destroyed records or relocated them
- Not all countries have digitization agreements or indexing partnerships with databases online
  - International research may require submitting formal requests for records
  - Getting copies of church records may require contacting a specific diocese, historical society, or parish directly

Some records may be digitized online, but in a foreign language

- Google Translate
- Memorize a Vocabulary List
- Genealogical Dictionaries
- Occupation Lists
- Research/Translation Volunteers Online
- Hire a Professional

Immigrant Ancestor Resources at the Genealogy Branch
www.casscolibrary.org/genealogy/guides

- Pamphlet Guides
  - Immigration & Naturalization Records
  - British Ancestry
  - German Ancestry
  - Irish Ancestry
  - Italian Ancestry
- In-Depth Research Guides
  - Researching Immigrant Ancestors
  - Tracing Your British Ancestors
  - Tracing Your German Ancestors
  - Tracing Your Irish Ancestors

Visit the library’s locations page (www.casscolibrary.org/locations) for CCPL Genealogy’s location, contact information, and hours of operation.

Information regarding our digital collections, access to online databases, submitting inquiries, and more, can be found on Cass County Public Library’s Genealogy Resources page, located here: www.casscolibrary.org/genealogy

Send Research Inquiries to: askgenealogy@casscolibrary.org

Cass County Public Library – Genealogy Branch
400 E. Mechanic St. Harrisonville, MO – 816.884.6285