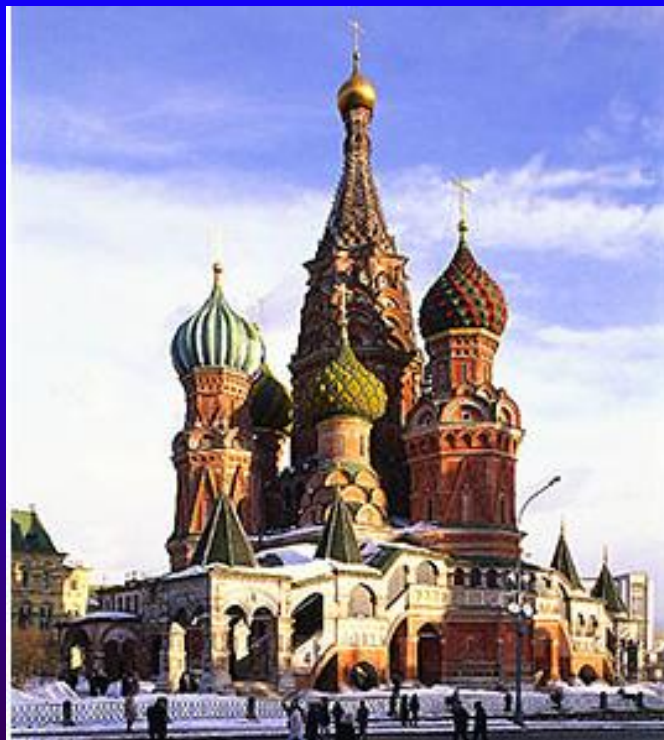




# **Tsarist Russian Research**

Mesa Regional Family History Center

# What to Bring to the Mesa Regional Family History Center:



- Please bring your pedigree, family group sheets and other data with you when you come to the library for your reference as you search for your ancestors.

# Types of Records to Search for Date and Town of Birth:

- Census Records
- Immigration, Emigration Records
- Naturalization and Other Court Records
- Cemetery and Church Records
- Military Records
- Social Security Death Index
- Family Sources (Bibles, Diaries, Histories)
- IGI, Pedigree Resource File & Ancestry File
- Periodicals and Newspaper Articles



## Where to Start Your Research:

- Begin with U.S. records (e.g. Census) and work back to the time of the person's immigration, and then on to Europe.
- Make sure you copy all the census records from 1930 back to when you think they came.
- 1930, 1920, 1910 and 1900 give dates of immigration and naturalization.
- Look for all relatives including uncles, cousins, and in-laws, etc. Families, neighbors and friends often settled in the same area.

# Emigration, Immigration Sources:

- Migrations from the Russian Empire. Volumes 1-6 (Jan 1875 -June 1891)Book Call # 973 W3r.
- Collection of Ships Passenger Lists from New York, Boston, New Orleans, Baltimore, and other eastern ports - (see Books on west Reference Wall).
- Hamburg Passenger Lists 1850-1934 (indices and passenger lists and corresponding films (in burgundy book on Reference Table wall. Book call # 943.515/Hlw2)
- Germans to America , Glazier and Philby.,  
Book call # 973W2ger  
(67 volumes starting in 1850).



# Emigration, Immigration Sources:

- Czech Immigration Passenger Lists, Baca, Leo., Book call # 973 W3b1 vol. 1-9
- Ellis Island: Internet search [www.ellislandrecords.org](http://www.ellislandrecords.org) and [www.stephenmorse.org](http://www.stephenmorse.org) Most of the immigrants who came from Eastern Europe arrived after Ellis Island was opened in 1892. Try various spellings of their names. After locating a name on a passenger list, the names and dates for all the other passengers should be copied. Examination of the other names on the passenger list is often productive because whole families and sometimes communities emigrated together.





## Naturalization Sources:

- Naturalization: Guide to Naturalization Records of the United States. Schaefer, Christina K., Book call # 973.P4s (Ref. Wall).
- Records in the United States were kept by local courts until 1906.
- Contact the Reference Desk for help in applying to the US National Archives for naturalization records for 1906 and after. Send for all naturalization papers to the appropriate archives. Forms are in the Copy Room.
- Women were naturalized on their own after 1922.

# Russian History at a Glance:

YEAR	EVENT
859	The Rus, Viking traders, settle Novgorod.
1147	Moscow settled.
1237	Tartars defeat the Kievan Rus.
1582	Siberia settled.
1569	Russia's first Czar: Ivan the Terrible.
1698	Peter the Great westernizes Russia.
1861	Emancipation of Russian serfs.
1867	Russia sells Alaska to the US.
1917	Bolshevik revolution overthrows Tsar.
1918	Russia pulls out of World War I.
1991	USSR dissolves.







## Map Resources:

- Russian History Atlas, Historical geographical book on the changing boundaries of Russia and surrounding countries from 800 b.c. to 1970 a.d. as a result of wars, famines, trading and rebellions, exiles and revolutions, Call # 947 E3g.
- Maps: check stacks and map table for Russia and bordering countries e.g. Czech Republic, Slovakia, Poland, Croatia, etc.

# Map Resources:

- [www.davidrumsey.com](http://www.davidrumsey.com)
- [www.mapquest.com](http://www.mapquest.com)



# Libraries:

- SALT LAKE GENEALOGICAL LIBRARY 1-800-453-3860 (ask for International desk). [www.familysearch.org](http://www.familysearch.org) Research opportunities, techniques, lessons, research guides and software are available.
- Mesa Regional Family History Center (MRFHC): <http://www.mesarfhc.org/> Search the Mesa Regional Family History Center for book holdings, films, fiche, and maps for each country of interest not already mentioned here. Utilize place, surname and keyword searches to broaden your research potential.

# Library Helps:

- Research outlines for Eastern European countries and a draft version for Russia are available in the copy room.
- Other helpful guides are also available for language and letter-writing guides for Eastern European countries. Especially helpful guides are: "Tracing Immigrant Origins" and "Hamburg Passenger Lists" and "Jewish Genealogy".
- The MRFHC website has Power Point Training and Quick Starts available to assist you with understanding research options and techniques.
- The MRFHC has notebooks prepared on Eastern European Research (in reference section on north wall) and Jewish genealogy (behind reference desk).

# Website Helps:

- Villages, towns, cities and regions in Russia may have their own web sites. Utilize Google to see if a site exists; some may indicate they can be translated into English if you use the \*\*\*\* selection offered by Google.



# Websites for Research:

- All Russia Family Tree: [www.vgd.ru/english.htm](http://www.vgd.ru/english.htm)
- BabelFish: <http://www.babelfish.altavista.com/> (translates Russian websites into English).
- Federation of Eastern European Family History societies: [www.feeffhs.org](http://www.feeffhs.org)
- JewishGen Databases: [www.jewishgen.org/databases](http://www.jewishgen.org/databases)
- Researching Russian Roots: <http://www.mtu-net.ru/rrr/>
- Russia GenWeb: <http://www.rootsweb.com/~ruswggw/>
- Volga Village Census Index (Russia): [http://www.ahsgr.org/volga\\_census\\_index.htm](http://www.ahsgr.org/volga_census_index.htm)



**The End**