

MIGRATION, NATURALIZATION, AND PASSENGER LISTS AT WALLACE STATE COLLEGE

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Many sources are available that give place of birth including foreign country and sometimes even village or province. All Federal military service records beginning with the Civil War and regular United States Army enlistments starting in 1800 provide this information. It can also be obtained through death certificates, social security records, medical discharges in Confederate compiled service records, and many other records. We have extensive records of the German families of Cincinnati, Ohio and Cullman County, Alabama.

Federal census records are the most common place to locate place of birth, starting with the 1850 Federal census. The 1870 Federal census shows if the parents were foreign born and starting with the 1880 census place of birth of parents appears in the censuses. Censuses from 1900 on give number of years in the United States and naturalized.

We have the indexes and other microfiche and cd-rom finding aids of the Genealogical Society of Utah (the LDS). See our handout on the LDS. These sources allow you to search for and order records on microfilm from around the world. Our book collection includes specific published guides to doing genealogical research in Austria, Cuba, Europe, Germany, Great Britain, Hispanic countries, Hungary, Ireland, Mecklenburg, Mexico, Poland, Wales, and elsewhere.

Indexes to Migration Records

The best single source for locating a naturalization, passenger, or migration record of a foreign born person to America is Genealogy.com, a subscription Internet web site that we have available for you to use. It includes P. William Filby, Passenger and Immigration Lists Index, a multivolume, continuing project. The sources cited in the book use a numerical code. The numbers are explained inside the cover of each book. Many of the books cited in this index are in our collection. We have the first volumes and all on computer CD-ROM disk. We have other sources, especially for Irish research on computer CD-ROM disk. The National Archives has microfilmed many of the passenger lists and indexes to passenger lists from United States ports. Most of this microfilm can be borrowed for you by us. For what is available see Immigrant & Passenger Arrivals: a Select Catalog of National Archives Microfilm Publications. A list of this microfilm available at the National Archives Southeast Branch, East Point, Georgia is Microfilm Publications in the National Archives--Southeast Region. The Birmingham Public Library has microfilm of indexes to passenger lists of ships arriving in New York (1820-1846; the passenger lists for that period are on microfilm at the Georgia Department of Archives and History), New Orleans (to 1900; also the passenger lists, 1820-1902), and the other Gulf/Atlantic ports (1820-1874; southeastern United States, 1890-1924).

The best general guides to understanding federal passenger and naturalization records, 1789 to the present, is Guide to Genealogical Research in the National Archives which we keep on our

ready reference book shelf, and John P. Colletta, They Came in Ships. We also have Loretto Dennis Szucs, They Became Americans: Finding Naturalization Records and Ethnic Origins and James C. Neagles, Locating Your Immigrant Ancestor. We have lists of passenger ships with useful information on locating passenger lists including Lawrence B. Bangerter, The Compass Carl Boyer, Ship Passenger Lists; and Bradley W. Steart, Passenger Ships in New York Harbor. Bibliographies of passenger lists in our book collection include Olga K. Miller, Migration, Emigration, Immigration and F. William Filby, Passenger and Immigration Lists Bibliography. Also see our bibliography of genealogical articles called the Periodical Resource Index or PERSI. We have the first of the books on German, Irish, and Italian passenger lists of the port of New York, beginning c1850, as well as many other books and CD-ROM disks immigration records. The Birmingham Public Library has complete sets of these and other works. Such works have also been done for Czech and Russian immigrants. We also have in book form the Charleston, South Carolina passenger lists, 1820-1829.

Our library on the sixth floor has many books documenting Europeans going to America. We have in microfiche drawer number four a list of some 220,000 Germans leaving coming to America, 1820-1914, an on going project with future editions. Our book collection has David Dobson's Scottish records and Peter W. Coldham's early English records of emigration. We have books of records of Barbados and Bermuda. For foreign born citizens in South Carolina see Brent Holcomb's five volumes of colonial South Carolina council minutes. For early arrivals in Virginia see Nell Marion Nugent, Cavaliers and Pioneers and M. S. Giuseppi, Naturalizations of Foreign Protestants in the American and West Indian Colonies. When you find someone in Nugent be sure to also read the article by Richard Slatten, "Interpreting Headrights in Colonial-Virginia Patents: Uses and Abuses," National Genealogical Society Quarterly 75 (1987): 169-79, a copy of which is in our Virginia vertical file. **Remember that most early records (before 1783) of persons coming to America do not survive. These and all such published books of such lists, together, represent only a small fraction of immigrants to America.**

Special Sources for Naturalizations

Naturalizations are records of United States citizenship by foreign born persons. For a good history and explanation of naturalization law see Loretto Dennis Szucs, They Became Americans: Finding Naturalization Records and Ethnic Origins; John J. Newman, American Naturalization Processes and Procedures; and Marian L. Smith, "Any Woman who is Now or May Hereafter be Married. . .," Prologue: Quarterly of the National Archives 30 (1998): 146-54. From 1789 to 1909, naturalizations could be filed in any court of record. For South Carolina, we have Brent Holcomb, South Carolina Naturalizations 1783-1850. For Philadelphia, we have P. William Filby, Philadelphia Naturalization Records and, for Cincinnati and Hamilton County, Ohio, we have Lois E. Hughes, Hamilton County, Ohio Citizenship Record Abstracts 1837-1916 and Don Heinrich Tolzmann, Ohio Valley German Biographical Index. Our collection also includes Linda Geiger, Index to Georgia's Federal Naturalization Records to 1950. The 1867 voter lists for Alabama and Georgia in our collection gives naturalizations for men. See our handout on 1867 voter lists of the South.

The Family and Regional History Program, Wallace State College, P. O. Box 2000, Hanceville, AL 35077-2000 (Phone: 205-352-8265) is on the fifth floor of the college library. The college is located near Cullman, Alabama, and is on Highway 31, a few miles east of

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Interstate-65 (take the Hanceville Highway 91 Exit), only one hour from Birmingham, Gadsden, and Huntsville. Our extensive and growing collection of research materials includes books, periodicals, microfilm, microfiche, cd-rom disks, computer programs, family folders, and much more. The hours are 8 to 8, Monday through Thursday; and 8 to 4PM on Fridays. The collection is completely open to the general public. The Program also offers college credit courses in genealogy from basic courses to computers to such specialties as court house, Georgia, and Civil War era research. Some courses are purely research field trips to archives and libraries across the South.