

Out of the Whirlwind: Finding Your Family Lost in the Holocaust

Deborah H. Long
123 Woodleaf Drive, Chapel Hill, North Carolina USA 27516
DebbieTheTeacher@gmail.com
Deborah Long, 2021 rev. 1/26

Holocaust Research Roadmap and Resources

STEP 1: Define Your Research Goal (briefly, but precisely)

Before searching databases, write **one sentence** answering:

Am I researching a person, a family, a place, an experience, or a historical question?

Examples:

- “I want to document my uncle’s survival and postwar displacement.”
- “I’m researching Jewish children sent to Siberia.”
- “I want museum-quality sources on DP camps in Germany.”

This determines which archives matter most.

STEP 2: Start with Names & Identity

(Even if you’re not doing family research, this step anchors everything.)

Primary Sources

Arolsen Archives (Germany)

→ First stop for individuals

- Camp records
- Forced labor
- DP cards
- Postwar tracing file

Yad Vashem – Central Database of Shoah Victims' Names

- Pages of Testimony
- Family-submitted and institutional records
- Variant spellings are critical—search broadly

Tip: Always search **multiple spellings**, maiden names, and birth towns.

STEP 3: Survivor Testimony (Voices & Lived Experience)

USC Shoah Foundation – Visual History Archive

This is where experiences become **narratives**, not just records.

Search by:

- Town
- Camp
- Ghetto
- Deportation route
- DP camp
- Keywords like *Siberia, evacuation, partisans, orphan, hidden child*

Even if the person you're researching didn't give testimony, **people from the same place often did.**

STEP 4: Institutional & Historical Documentation

United States Holocaust Memorial Museum (USHMM)

Use for:

- Archival documents
- Transport lists
- Camp administrative records
- Scholarly articles
- Photographs and artifacts

Their **Holocaust Survivors and Victims Database** is excellent for triangulation.

STEP 5: Geographic & Contextual Research

(This is where most people stop too early—don't.)

Ask:

- What **country controlled the area** at the time?
- Did borders change?
- Was this a **German-controlled, Soviet, or Axis-allied region**?

Then consult:

- National archives (Poland, Lithuania, Ukraine, Russia, Germany)
- Regional Holocaust museums
- Local memorial books (*Yizkor books*)—often digitized

JewishGen is invaluable here for towns and prewar community structure.

STEP 6: Postwar Period (DP Camps, Emigration, Restitution)

This step is **essential** if the story continues after 1945.

Sources:

- Arolsen Archives (again)
- UNRRA / IRO records
- DP camp newspapers
- Passenger lists
- Naturalization records
- Restitution and compensation files

If someone passed through **DP camps, Siberia, or refugee routes**, this is often where the richest documentation lives.

STEP 7: Museum & Scholarly Cross-Checks

Now validate and deepen.

- Search museum collections for:
 - Artifacts
 - Exhibits
 - Curatorial essays
- Look for:
 - Academic articles
 - Oral history projects
 - University-based Holocaust centers

This step turns “research” into **credible historical work**.

STEP 8: Build a Timeline

Create a simple timeline with:

- Dates (even approximate)
- Locations
- Status (ghetto, hiding, deported, displaced, emigrated)

Contradictions usually resolve themselves once everything is on a timeline.

STEP 9: Preserve or Publish

Depending on your goal:

- Donate copies to a museum or archive
- Record oral history (even second-generation testimony)
- Write a documented narrative
- Create a family or educational archive

Institutions *want* well-organized material.

Primary Resources

- **Arolsen Archives**
- **USHMM**
- **Yad Vashem**
- **JewishGem**
- **USC Shoah Foundation**
- **JewishGen**

1. **AROLSEN ARCHIVES/ INTERNATIONAL TRACING SERVICE (ITS), BAD AROlsen, GERMANY**

The Arolsen Archives/ITS is a critical resource for obtaining records on your family member. Forms available at ITS website: <https://www.its-arolsen.org/en/information/request-for-information-on-victims-of-nazi-persecution/>

To see what is new: <https://arolsen-archives.org/en/news/update-online-archive/>

- The Arolsen Archives has added an online tool to describe documents the e-Guide. The new part online focuses on documents about people who were looked after by the Allies as survivors of Nazi persecution during the period after 1945. The first part of the e-Guide supplied information on concentration camps.
- Following the war the displaced persons (DP) were included with the survivors that aid organizations took care of from concentration camps and the liberated forced laborers. The new part of the e-Guide deciphers numerical codes and other abbreviations for items the DP needed and recorded on their registration cards. The documents explained in the e-Guide make it possible to trace the paths taken by DPs, starting from the place where they first received support and continuing on through to their emigration.
- The post-war file is now available on the e-Guide. All the personal data within this card file is available online in early 2020, and provides additional explanatory information on the contents of the card file, which contains about 3.5 million documents.
- To access the e-Guide to the Arolsen Archives see: <https://eguide.arolsen-archives.org/en/> Samples of documents are available on this page as well. It suggested to use the guide on PCs. While it can be used on smart phones, not all the features will be available.

2. THE UNITED STATES HOLOCAUST MEMORIAL MUSEUM /USHMM

Search requests:

- The **United States Holocaust Memorial Museum**:
https://secure.ushmm.org/individual-research/getting_started.php
- Priority given to survivors & families.
- At the USHMM website, also go to Holocaust Survivor and Victim database at
<https://www.ushmm.org/online/hsv/>
- Visiting the library and the archives in DC is a must for any US-based serious researcher. Plan on spending several days. Consult this page to plan your visit:
<https://www.ushmm.org/information/visit-the-museum/plan-your-visit>

3. YAD VASHEM

This resource is also a critical website for Holocaust research on people and events. Check Yad Vashem, <https://yvng.yadvashem.org/> for

- Pages of Testimony, where persons have registered names of people who died in the Holocaust. Click on 'Digital Collections' and then 'Shoah Names' Database.'
- Under 'Digital Collections,' you will find many more items of interest, such as 'Shoah Related Lists Database' and photographs.
- Archival records - Hire a researcher to check Yad Vashem's extensive archival and photographic files if you cannot go there yourself. If you can, travel to Jerusalem to see Yad Vashem and explore its extensive library.

4. JEWISHGEN

Check www.jewishgen.org website for names, locations, registers, and current research by topic and location. Pay special attention to the Holocaust Database, InfoFiles, Jewish Genealogy Family Finder, Cemeteries and Special Interest Groups links.

5. USC SHOAH FOUNDATION INSTITUTE FOR VISUAL HISTORY AND EDUCATION

Online catalog of survivors who gave their oral history at
<http://vhaonline.usc.edu/Search.aspx>. Also searchable by relatives, subject and place name

OTHER RESOURCES

Check:

- **Yizkor books** (memorial books for towns). The NYC library has many of them online for towns of interest. The website www.holocaustcenter.org/memorial-book-index has a list of the memorial book cities.
- **American Joint Jewish Distribution Committee** files at <http://archives.jdc.org/Sharedlegacy/search-names>. Photographs and text searching also available.
- **Miriam Weiner's Routes to Roots website** www.rtrfoundation.org to identify Jewish archival records in Poland, Belarus, Ukraine, Lithuania and Moldova.
- **USC Shoah Foundation Institute for Visual History and Education online catalog** of survivor who gave their oral history at <http://vhaonline.usc.edu/Search.aspx> Also searchable by relatives, subject and place name.
- **Concentration or slave labor camps** where your family members might have been. Google the name of the camp and then write directly to the address or find out where the records are currently being kept.
- **Displaced persons camps records and periodicals** which appeared at the time. The Holocaust Memorial Center (HMC) in Farmington Hills, MI (<http://www.holocaustcenter.org/home>) and other repositories have microfilm copies.
- **HIAS Records**, Location Service, 333 Seventh Avenue, New York, New York 10001, 212.613.1424. Fax: 212.967.4442. Email: valery.bazarov@hias.org. Fee per search.
- To see if your family member went to **Israel**, Mrs. Batya Unterschatz-Landsman conducts research for a fee. Email batyal2@012.net.il Read about Batya here: <http://www.billgladstone.ca/?p=8951>. Be aware that the person's last name may have been changed to a Hebrew version of a European name.
- The **Red Cross** still participates in searches from WWII. Contact your local chapter here: <https://www.redcross.org/find-your-local-chapter.html>
- **Landsmanschaften societies**. Place ads in their newsletters or ask the head of the society to speak with members regarding the person(s) in whom you are interested. Read more here: <https://www.jewishvirtuallibrary.org/landsmanschaften>
- Review the **list of all of the Holocaust museums** around the world and see if any of them could assist: <http://www.science.co.il/holocaust-museums.asp>

- Contact **World Jewish Relief**, previously known as the Central British Fund for German Jewry, was established in 1933 to help rescue Jews from Nazi Europe. They succeeded in bringing about 65,000 people to safety in Britain. These include many of the 10,000 children who came on the Kindertransport, as well as men who came to the Kitchener camp, 732 child survivors from concentration camps known as The Boys. Most of these refugees are German or Austrian. They now have digitized their records and are offering free copies of case files for family members. There appears to be no online index to the names of the persons for whom they have files. An application to receive the case file of a family member can be found at <https://www.worldjewishrelief.org/about-us/your-family-history>.

- Review **holocaust survivor resources**: <https://yivo.org/Holocaust-Study-Resources>

- Review **CRARG** which maintains an excellently designed web site which includes an extensive database of Holocaust-era records of residents of the Czeszochowa-Radomsko area. The web site's address is <https://www.crarg.org>.

- Check **Ancestry.com** which is working to make more Holocaust resources available through its World Memory Project (see <https://www.ancestry.com/cs/wmp>): https://www.ancestry.com/cs/alwaysremember?o_xid=100484&o_lid=100484&o_sch=E-mail+Campaigns
 - At the 39th IAJGS International Conference on Jewish Genealogy, Ancestry announced a new partnership with Arolsen Archives, formerly known as the International Tracing Service (ITS). The partnership provided two new Holocaust-related databases that are indexed and are free access—i.e. you do not require a subscription to access these databases, however, you do have to register with name, email address and password.
 - 1. Lists of Those Persecuted 1939-1947—. This collection consists of foreigners and German persecutees in Germany between 1939-1947 who were persecuted by public institutions, social securities and companies. The records may also include information on those who died, including burial information. The documents were assembled according to the Zones of Occupation - American, British, French and Soviet - by the Allied forces within Germany. Areas outside Germany were also recorded. These initial records are from the American sector. The other sectors: will be added at a later date.
 - 2. Passenger Lists 1946-1971—these are lists of displaced persons mostly traveling from a resettlement camp to a final destination-often the United States. This collection consists of passenger lists of immigrants leaving Germany and other European ports and airports between 1946-1971. The majority of the immigrants listed in this collection are displaced persons - Holocaust survivors, former concentration camp inmates and Nazi forced laborers, as well as refugees from Central and Eastern European countries and

some non-European countries. Many of the immigrants listed in the collection fall outside the ITS (International Tracing Service) mandate. The records in this collection are organized by Resettlement Camp location where immigrants began their journey. These centers were the first step in their long journey. The passenger list Africa, Asia and Europe, Passenger Lists of Displaced Persons, 1946-1971 and Europe, Registration of Foreigners and German Persecutees, 1939-1947 are predominately in German with some English.

- Go to: <https://www.ancestry.com/cs/alwaysremember> When you find the person you are searching, a new window opens and the record appears. Click on the image of the record. When the image opens you can click on the tools icon on the right to print or download. If you want to save it to your computer click on the green “save” button on the upper right side of the screen.

- **Fold3.com** which is part of the Ancestry family of companies focuses on military records and has a Holocaust collection of 2.5 million records from the National Archives and Records Administration (NARA). You can search for free—(The entire Holocaust collection is free to search not only in the browse selection but also in the search collection and they are discussing this notification with their product team.) You need to register to view the Holocaust records. Certain other records in their collection are also free if you click on “all titles” in the browse section those which are free to access are noted, such as the Veterans Affairs BIRLS Death file. World War II Nuremberg Interrogation records, WWII Captured German Records and more. <https://go.fold3.com/holocaust>

- **Every Name Counts**, <https://www.zooniverse.org/projects/arolsen-archives/every-name-counts>, featureser projects for [Transcription Tuesday 2021](#), this crowdsourcing project is seeking to transcribe and index data from the Dachau records looked after by the aforementioned Arolsen Archives. These include prisoners’ registration forms and the camp’s central card index. Specifically the project seeks to expand on surname and first name, date and place of birth, and prisoner number, by also digitising additional information sometimes included on these documents. This includes prisoner category, nationality, profession and family background.
- **Holocaust Weiner Library**. Based in West London, the library looks after archives, published and unpublished works, cuttings, photographs and eyewitness testimony on the Holocaust and Nazi era. It also has material relating to other cultures persecuted by the regime: a 2019–2020 ‘Forgotten Victims’ exhibition focused on the Roma and Sinti. The government of the United Kingdom announced in January 2022 it will be making all its records related to the Holocaust available to the public for research and study. This includes the collection of 787 books in the St. Lambrecht collection, once looted by the Nazis, which will be accessible to the public for the first time. The Foreign, Commonwealth & Development Office (FCDO) plans to move them to the Wiener Holocaust Library subject to legal agreement In addition, the governments of Guernsey and Jersey have committed to making their Holocaust records publicly available as well. The Wiener Holocaust Library is one of the world’s leading and most extensive archives on the Holocaust, the Nazi era and genocide. Read here:
- <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/uk-to-make-all-its-holocaust-records-accessible-for-research-and-study>

- Visit **cemeteries and Holocaust memorials** which often have names listed/available.
- The **United States Holocaust Memorial Museum (USHMM)** has made Holocaust-related **Ukrainian Archives** available on line with special permission from the Ukrainian State Archives. This results in 10 million pages of records that will be accessible online for the first time.
- The first one million pages are now searchable at <https://tinyurl.com/562kfn4u>
- Original URL:
https://collections.ushmm.org/search/?f%5Bbrowse%5D%5B%5D=ukr&f%5Bf_textual_materials%5D%5B%5D=historic_documents&per_page=50&q=RG-31&search_field=all_fields&sort=datetimemodified+desc%2Ctitle_sort+asc

These archives include historical materials from before, during and after the Holocaust. They include collections on such topics such as:

- The activities of Jewish political, cultural, educational and philanthropic organizations;
- information about individuals, census data, vital statistics, lists of names, personal files, etc.;
- pogroms during the Russian civil war, closure of synagogues and dissolution of Jewish communities by the Soviet authorities, demographic and statistical information and other documentation;
- the Nazi German administration in occupied Ukraine and Ukrainian auxiliary police;
- Jewish ghettos;
- postwar developments, such as Soviet investigations of war crimes committed by Germans and their allies on the occupied territories, return of evacuated populations, restitution of Jewish property and war crimes trials and Soviet antisemitism.

With one of Europe's largest pre-war Jewish populations, Ukraine was the site of critical events in Holocaust history, including the beginning of Nazi Germany's systematic mass killings of Jews after the invasion of the Soviet Union in 1941. At least 1.5 million Jews were killed within Ukraine's current borders.

OTHER TIPS

Check the name of the person whom you are searching and the name of the town where the person originated.

Locate the city on a map and note surrounding towns and area.

Learn the history of the community to familiarize yourself with Holocaust events in that area:

- USHMM has made the first two volumes of their *Encyclopedia of Camps and Ghettos 1933-1945* freely available on its website at <http://tinyurl.com/m9qat2t>
 - Volume I includes the major concentration camps, their subcamps, SS construction brigades, and early camps set up by the police, SA and SS shortly after the Nazis seized power.
 - Volume II includes ghettos in German-occupied territories.
 - Each volume matches the physical format of the book, and each consists of two pdf files. The place name index is in the back of the second part of each volume.
 - Each signed article includes citations and bibliographies for further research. Overview articles provide additional information, and are worth reading.
 - Future volumes will be made available online after the print volume has been available for a few years.
 - Volume III- camps and ghettos in countries allied with the Nazis- is scheduled to be released in print this year.

- Identify the governing bodies or occupying forces. (For example, a “Ghetto List” which identifies thousands of towns in Eastern Europe where Jews lived showing the town name in various languages, region/country as defined by Germany during World War II (Example: Generalgouvernement), date of occupation, date of liquidation, date of deportation, place of deportation, comments and source of information can be downloaded here: <http://hauster.de/data/ZRBG20151210.pdf>. The site is in German.)

If possible, ask relatives or persons who would know where the survivor/victim went and what happened. Get as much information as possible, including the European spelling of the person’s name, age, address and names of relatives.

PUBLICIZE

- Place an ad in **TOGETHER**, published by the American Gathering of Jewish Holocaust Survivors by emailing allgenerations@aol.com. This magazine has a ‘Searches’ column and they accept notices for publication. Serena Woolich, president of Allgenerations, Inc., administers an email group of survivors and children. The notice will reach the survivor community and other interested parties.

- Create a Facebook page for your missing family members: see <https://www.facebook.com/searchingforMenachem/> as an example.

- Place an ad in **Generations of the Shoah International Newsletter** (www.genshoah.org) Email: GSI@genshoah.org

- Go to local Holocaust Remembrance Day events and get involved. Read your family names during any “reading of the names” event.
- Deliver presentations on your family history and become a member of a local Holocaust speakers’ group.

READ

Book Recommendations

- Mokotoff and Sack. *Where Once We Walked: A Guide to the Jewish Communities Destroyed in the Holocaust* (Avotaynu, 1991).
- Mokotoff. *How to Document Victims and Locate Survivors of the Holocaust* (Avotaynu; 1995)
- Spector and Wigoder, editors. *Encyclopedia of Jewish Life Before and During the Holocaust*, 3 Volumes (New York University Press, 2001)
- Daniel Mendelsohn. *The Lost: The Search for Six of Six Million* (HarperCollins, 2013)

Diaries and Oral Histories

- YIVO (New York City); Ringelblum Archive (Warsaw, Poland)
- USHMM – list of published diaries:
<https://www.ushmm.org/collections/bibliography/diaries>
- Spielberg/USC testimonies about Shoah and other genocides: www.sfi.usc.edu
- Fortunoff Video Archive for Holocaust Testimonies: <http://orbis.library.yale.edu>.

TESTIMONIES

- USC Shoah Foundation: <https://sfi.usc.edu/>
- British Library Oral History <https://sounds.bl.uk/Oral-history/Jewish-Holocaust-survivors>
- Fortunoff Video Archive <https://editions.fortunoff.library.yale.edu/>
- Michigan Holocaust Memorial Center <https://www.holocaustcenter.org/visit/library-archive/oral-history-department/>
- New York Public Library <https://www.nypl.org/blog/2016/01/25/voices-holocaust-survivors>
- St. Louis Holocaust Museum <https://stlholocaustmuseum.org/survivor-stories/oral-histories/>
- University of Michigan <https://holocaust.umd.umich.edu/interviews.php>
- San Francisco JFCS <https://holocaustcenter.jfcs.org/oral-histories/>

- USC Shoah Foundation <https://vhaonline.usc.edu/search>
- USHMM <https://www.ushmm.org/remember/holocaust-reflections-testimonies>
- <https://gatheringthevoices.com/testimonies/> - Gathering the Voices project (Scotland)
- www.sjac.org.uk - Scottish Jewish Archives Centre, Scottish Holocaust-era Study Centre
- <https://ajr.org.uk/remembrance/resources/> - Association of Jewish Refugees (UK)
- Yale University. https://sfi.usc.edu/archive_sites/yale-university
- The Breman Museum of Jewish Heritage in Atlanta also has a number of Holocaust recordings. The museum is in the process of making these available on their website at the Esther and Herbert Taylor Oral History Collection | The Breman Museum ArchivesSpace
- Holocaust testimonies can be searched from both the JewishGen Holocaust database and the USA database.
- While not strictly Shoah testimonies, the University of Lund, in Sweden, has interviews from about 45,000 concentration camp survivors who were taken to Swedish hospitals for medical care after they were liberated. Many of the testimonies have been translated and are available as pdfs. Here is a link to the Witnessing Genocide page on the University website: <https://www.ub.lu.se/hitta/digitala-samlingar/witnessing-genocide>. There is an alphabetical list of the interviewed survivors. There are also photographs, transport lists and much more.
- The United States Holocaust Memorial Museum has a total of 80,778 oral histories. These include ones we have done, ones we have received from other organizations (including the USC Shoah Foundation) and ones we have received from individuals. Over 18,300 are available online through our Collections Search catalog, collections.ushmm.org. Limit your search to Personal stories -> Interviews in Audio or Video. Many of these have full transcripts, time-coded notes or basic summaries that include names and places which are searched as part of a keyword search.
- There are Video Testimonies which you can search by Place or Topic : <https://www.yadvashem.org/holocaust/video-testimonies.html>

The following is another list of websites with Shoah testimonies:

- British Library Oral History <https://sounds.bl.uk/Oralhistory/Jewish-Holocaust-survivors>
- Fortunoff Video Archive <https://editions.fortunoff.library.yale.edu/>
- Michigan Holocaust Memorial Center <https://www.holocaustcenter.org/visit/library-archive/oral-historydepartment/>
- New York Public Library <https://www.nypl.org/>

- blog/2016/01/25/voices-holocaust-survivors
- St. Louis Holocaust Museum <https://stlholocaustmuseum.org/survivor-stories/oral-histories/>
- University of Michigan <https://holocaust.umd.umich.edu/interviews.php>
- San Francisco JFCS <https://holocaustcenter.jfcs.org/oral-histories/>
- USC Shoah Foundation <https://vhaonline.usc.edu/>
- Search USHMM <https://www.ushmm.org/remember/holocaust-reflections-testimonies>
- Gathering the Voices project (Scotland) <https://gatheringthevoices.com/testimonies/>
- Scottish Jewish Archives Centre, Scottish Holocaustera
- Study Centre www.sjac.org.uk
- Association of Jewish Refugees (UK) <https://ajr.org.uk/remembrance/resources/>
- Yale University https://sfi.usc.edu/archive_sites/yaleuniversity.

MISCELLANEOUS. WEBSITES

- www.americanjewisharchives.org
- <https://www.jdc.org/>
- <https://www.bh.org.il/databases/databases/>
- www.porges.net/Terezin/BeitTheresienstadt.htm
- www.jafi.org.il/ph/relatives.htm
- www.stevemorse.org
- www.findagrave.com
- www.kadisha.biz
- www.toledot.org/terezin1.jpg
- http://totenbuch.werkraum-media.de/cemetery.jewish.org.pl/lang_en/
- <http://immigrantships.net/bremenproj/bremenproject.html>, ships leaving German harbors post war
- [Beit Lohamei Haghetot - Ghetto Fighters House Museum](http://www.beitlohamei.org)
- [Centre de Documentation Juive Contemporaine](http://www.centre-documentation-juive.com), Paris, France
- [Fortunoff Video Archive for Holocaust Testimonies](http://www.fortunoff.com), New Haven, CT
- [Foundation Monumentum Iudaicum Lodzense](http://www.fundamentum.org), Lodz, Poland
- [Leo Baeck Institute](http://www.leobaeck.org), New York, NY. A partner of the Center for Jewish History
- [Memorial Book for the Victims of National Socialism at the University of Vienna in 1938](http://www.memorialbook.org), Vienna

- [Polish Righteous – Recalling Forgotten History](#), A project of the Museum of the History of Polish Jews, Warsaw. In Polish and English
- [Simon Wiesenthal Center](#), Los Angeles, CA
- [University of Michigan Holocaust Survivor Oral Histories](#), Dearborn, MI
- [www.crarg.org/search-holocaust-records.php](#), Czestochowa-Radomsko Area Research Group
- OBD, the Russian Defense Ministry site, which lists over a million fallen Red Army soldiers: <http://www.obd-memorial.ru/html/index.html>
- Benjamin Meirchak's partial list of Jewish military casualties in WWII: <http://www.zchor.org/meirtchak/volume5.htm>
- The Pobediteli website, which provides a multimedia history of the Eastern Front and lists over a million surviving (in 2005) WWII Red Army veterans <http://english.pobediteli.ru/>
- The Israeli Museum of the Jewish Soldier in World War II, which lists soldiers and partisans who fought for the Allies: <http://www.jwmww2.org/en>
- [Yahad-In Unum](#) (YIU) is a French organization founded to locate the sites of mass graves of Jewish victims of the Nazi mobile killing units, especially the Einsatzgruppen, in Ukraine, Belarus, Russia, Poland, Lithuania, Latvia, Romania and Moldova. It was founded in Paris in 2004 by leaders in the French Roman Catholic and Jewish communities. YIU is led by Father Patrick Desbois, a Catholic priest whose grandfather was a French soldier deported to the Nazi prison camp Rava-Ruska, located in a Ukrainian town that borders Poland.
- <http://www.massuah.org.il/eng/Contact-us> Massuah, International Institute for Holocaust Studies, designed to evoke discourse on the significance of the Holocaust in our contemporary society and culture. Massuah comprises a central school, permanent exhibitions, multimedia centers, archives, conference halls, dormitories, and an amphitheater.
- *Tracing the Footsteps of Holocaust Survivors in 1945 and Beyond* by Rose A. Feldman in Avotanyu, Fall 2020, pp. 14-16. At the end of the article, the author lists resources for survivors by date (during and after the war; arrival in Palestine; rebuilding their lives.) Contact Rose at rosef@tauex.tau.ac.il.
- The Dutch site *War Lives* included the transport lists of Camp Westerbork. Camp Westerbork was the main transport camp in World War II in the Netherlands from where Jews, Roma, Sinti, homosexuals and other persecuted people were transported to the death camps of Eastern Europe.
- Camp Westerbork was the final transport camp to Auschwitz for Anne Frank. Some have information on name, date of birth, where captured, concentration camp and date of death and have photographs. Where available there are links to documents. There are over 361,000 entries. War Lives is in both Dutch and English and can be accessed at: <https://www.oorlogslevens.nl/?lang=en>
- https://www.jewishgen.org/databases/Holocaust/0054_BreslauDeportations.htm The database "Breslau Deportations", which was compiled by Peter W. Landé and USHMM volunteers (many thanks!), is based on information in the book by Alfred Konieczny, Tormersdorf, Grüssau, Riebzig: *Obozy przejściowe dla Żydów Dolnego Śląska z lat 1941-1943* [Transit camps for Jews from Lower Silesia in the years 1941-1943], namely the alphabetical tables of deportations from these three camps (p. 89-165). The last column (Uwagi 'remarks') contains Roman numerals that are not explained.
- The United States Holocaust Memorial Museum has added a collection to the Holocaust Survivors and Victims Database (HSV): Children of the Lodz Ghetto: A

Memorial Research Project. This collection contains 13,172 name records. These names were compiled as part of the project of the same name started by the USHMM in 2007. The purpose of the project was to reconstruct the stories of school children who fell victim to the Holocaust. The names were taken from thousands of signatures of students and teachers in a collection of hand drawn New Year greetings presented to Chaim Rumkowski in 1941. More details of the project can be found here: <https://www.ushmm.org/online/lodzchildren/>

- Holocaust Memorials of New York and New Jersey: <https://www.museumoffamilyhistory.com/hm-main.htm>
- Jewish Partisans Education Foundation. Most people have never heard of the 20,000-30,000 Jews who fought back against the Nazis as Jewish partisans. These Jews were responsible for blowing up thousands of armored convoys and thwarting the Nazi war machine in countless ways, including rescuing people from the ghettos, procuring food and medicine, tending to wounded soldiers, sabotaging German communications and supply lines, punishing collaborators, sheltering civilians and saving thousands of Jewish lives. Learning about who these partisans were and what they accomplished has the power to transform people's perception of the Jewish experience during the Holocaust. <https://www.jewishpartisans.org/>
- Felix Archive's Foreigner Files--Including Photos for People From Across Europe: <https://larasgenealogy.blogspot.com/2025/10/felix-archives-foreigner-files.html>

New information:

- Many survivors have decided to put their first-person accounts into books. A source would be the Azrieli Foundation for Canadian survivor books, the Israel National Library for Israeli survivor books, Scholastic for some American survivors targeted to young audiences for a start.
- New publication with more volumes to come: *The Persecution And Murder Of The European Jews By Nazi Germany, 1933–1945: The Authoritative Collection Of Source Documents On The Holocaust*

The 16-volume PMJ series of historical documents in English translation provides unique insights into the persecution and murder of the Jews under Nazi rule throughout Europe. <https://pmj-documents.org/>

As of February, 2023, five volumes are available for purchase.

- Jewishdata.com has recently indexed the Kennkarten collection from the Berlin Collection at the YIVO Archives in New York City. These German Jewish identification cards add a crucial layer to Holocaust era documentation.

ManyRoads / Treemagic.org:

- [Aktion T4 and 14f13 Guide](#)
- [Basic Study Guide](#)
- [Jewish Genealogy](#)
- [Shoah Context](#)
- [Shoah Research](#)
- [Shoah Research Getting Started](#)
- [Fascism](#)
- [Prussian German](#)
- [Meyers Gazetteer Guide](#)
- [Eastern Diaspora Records](#)
- [East Prussia Guidance](#)
- [Elsaß-Lothringen](#)
- [German Diaspora Records](#)
- [Glossary Illnesses](#)
- [Volga and Bessarabia](#)
- [Locating WW1/WW2 Casualties](#)
- [Ostsiedlung](#)
- [Prussian German Help](#)
- [Ancestor Was Prussian?](#)
- [Vertreibung Expulsions](#)

CHALLENGES OF HOLOCAUST RESEARCH

- No single master list of those who died
- The Germans destroyed much of the existing documentation
- Ancestral town research required: Did Einsatzgruppen visit? Was work/labor camp or extermination camp nearby? Where would people from that town have been transported (train, death march)?
- Documents and oral histories may not be recorded in English

WHY HOLOCAUST EDUCATION IS NECESSARY

- 22% of millennials have never heard of the Holocaust
- 41% of millennials believe 2 million or fewer Jews were killed in the Holocaust
- 41% of Americans and 66% of millennials never heard of Auschwitz death camp