

crucial role that Jewish genealogists have played in making these files accessible. (Though their importance to genealogists may be apparent, the Russian consular records should be of considerable value to historians as well.) In the age of *glasnost*, the Russian consular records were returned to the Soviet Union, whose authorities always claimed them as Soviet state property. Had they been returned before being indexed and microfilmed, their utility to Western researchers – including genealogists – would have been lost for a long time to come, perhaps forever.

Looking Ahead

Glasnost provides the next frontier for the majority of Jewish genealogists who trace their ancestry to Eastern Europe and the former Soviet Union. Genealogists have not been slow to perceive the advantages of the recently improved political climate. Soviet authorities and their successors have only begun to open up vital records to outsiders, with the prospect of an infusion of hard currency providing the prime incentive for making access to archival collections in that financially exhausted country more open.

Rabbi Malcolm Stern has represented the interests of the American genealogical community in formal discussions between American archivists and their counterparts in the former Soviet Union, regarding enhanced access to Soviet archival collections. Jewish genealogical societies are poised to play a pivotal role in opening up Eastern European archives, in cooperation with government bodies, librarians and archivists, and non-Jewish genealogical organizations (including the Genealogical Society of Utah, which needs to be encouraged to renew its microfilming of Central and Eastern European vital records).

Alongside such traditional media as print and microform, genealogical tools that make use of the advanced technology of our age are now becoming available. There is an array of competing software packages, which enable genealogists to construct family trees on their personal computers without constantly having to

(Continued on p. 48, col. 3)

Bibliography of Jewish Genealogy*

Compiled and Annotated by
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Manuals and Sourcebooks

Baxter, Angus. *In Search of Your European Roots: A Complete Guide to Tracing Your Ancestors in Every Country in Europe*. Baltimore: Genealogical Publishing Co., Inc., 1985. 289 p.

A country-by-country description of resources [now outdated for Eastern Europe]. Includes a chapter on Jewish sources in Europe and Israel.

Cohen, Chester G. *Shtetl Finder Gazetteer*. Bowie, MD: Heritage Books, Inc., 1989. 145 p. Paperback.

Locates with varied spelling many of the Jewish communities of Eastern Europe, identifying by name some prominent citizens of each [cf. Mokotoff-Sack, below].

Eakle, Arlene; Cerny, Johni, eds. *The Source: A Guidebook of American Genealogy*. Salt Lake City: Ancestry, Ltd., 1984. 786 p.

Chapters indicate where to find every type of record in the U.S. Lists LDS [Latter-Day Saints, i.e., Mormons'] microfilms of vital records for Jewish communities in Germany, Poland, and Hungary (updated in *Avotaynu*, see Periodicals).

Gedenkbuch, compiled by the Bundesarchiv, Koblenz, and the International Tracing Service, Arolsen, Germany, with the cooperation of Yad Vashem, Jerusalem. Koblenz: 1987. 2 v.

Lists 128,000 Jewish victims of Nazis in Germany, 1933-45, citing last place of residence, birth date, and circumstances of death, where known.

Guzik, Estelle M., ed. *Genealogical Resources in the New York Metropolitan Area*. New York: Jewish Genealogical Society, Inc., 1989. 404 p.

Detailed guide to every agency between Albany, New York, and Trenton, New Jersey, that could provide data of use to Jewish genealogical research, including many specific records, hours of opening, public transportation, finding aids, fees, and restrictions. Appendices include: bibliography and locations of yizkor books, vital record application forms, Soundex codes, available foreign telephone directories, U.S. city directories, newspapers, and Jewish cemeteries. Indexes.

Kranzler, David. *My Jewish Roots: A Practical Guide to Tracing and Recording Your Genealogy and Family History*. New York: Sepher-Hermon Press, 1979. 88 p. Paperback.

Kurzweil, Arthur. *From Generation to Generation: How to Trace Your Jewish Genealogy and Personal History*. New York: Schocken Books, 1982. 353 p. Paperback.

A very personal approach to each step.

Kurzweil, Arthur; Weiner, Miriam, eds. *The Encyclopedia of Jewish Genealogy*. Northvale, NJ: Jason Aronson, Inc., 1991. Vol. I: Sources in the United States and Canada.

An up-to-date finding aid to sources of Jewish genealogical information.

Mokotoff, Gary; Sallyann Amdur Sack. *Where Once We Walked: A Guide to the Jewish Communities Destroyed in the Holocaust*. Teaneck, NJ: Avotaynu, 1991. xxviii, 514 p.

*Reprinted with the permission of the compiler and the editors of *Avotaynu*. First published in *Avotaynu*, vol. 7, no. 1 (Spring 1991), pp. 22-23.

FIRST INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE OF JUDAICA AND ISRAELI LIBRARIANS

A gazetteer of 21,000 Central and Eastern European localities, arranged alphabetically and phonetically under the Daitch-Mokotoff Soundex System, so that various spellings can be readily found.

Rottenberg, Dan. *Finding Our Fathers: A Guidebook to Jewish Genealogy*. Baltimore: Genealogical Publishing Co., Inc., 1986. xiv, 401 p. Paperback reprint of 1977 ed.

The pioneer "how to," with a list of every Jewish surname appearing in a variety of sources.

Sack, Sallyann Amdur. *A Guide to Jewish Genealogical Research in Israel*. Baltimore: Genealogical Publishing Co., Inc., 1987. xv, 110 p.

Detailed guide to the accessibility and holdings of each agency. Appendices include: yizkor books and landsmanshaftn listed at Yad Vashem Library; list of towns represented at 1981 World Gathering of Holocaust Survivors.

Sack, Sallyann Amdur; Wynne, Suzan. *Russian Consular Records Index and Guide*. New York: Garland Publishing Co., 1987.

An index to names in the 250,000 case files from former Czarist consular offices in the U.S., 1860-1924, on microfilm at the U.S. National Archives.

Zubatsky, David S.; Berent, Irwin M. *Jewish Genealogy: A Sourcebook of Family Histories and Genealogies*. New York & London: Garland Publishing Co., 1984-1990. 2 v.

Finding aids to published and manuscript genealogies in many Jewish archives and libraries. Arranged by surname.

Collected Genealogies

Rosenstein, Neil. *The Unbroken Chain: Biographical Sketches and Genealogy of Illustrious Jewish Families from the 15th-20th Century*. (Elizabeth: Computer Center for Jewish Genealogy, 654 Westfield Avenue, Elizabeth, NJ 07208), 1990 [An enlarged revision of the 1977 ed.]

Includes descendants of the Katzenellenbogen family – Hasidic and other rabbis, Mendelssohn, Martin Buber, Karl Marx, Helena Rubinstein. Index of surnames only.

Sackheim, George I. *Scattered Seeds*. 2 v. (R. Sackheim Publishing Co., 9151 Crawford Ave., Skokie, IL 60076).

Chronicles 13,000 descendants of Rabbi Israel, one of the two martyrs of Rozanov (Ruzhany), Byelorussia – executed after a blood libel of 1659. Indexed.

Stern, Malcolm H. *First American Jewish Families*. Baltimore: Ottenheimer Publishers, Inc. (300 Reisterstown Road, Baltimore, MD 21208), 1991. 441 p. Reprint of 1978 edition, with added update section.

Contains genealogies of all available Jewish families settled in America prior to 1840, traced where possible to the present. 50,000-name index.

Periodicals

Avotaynu: The International Review of Jewish Genealogy. 1985-. Sallyann Amdur Sack and Gary Mokotoff, eds. Quarterly. (P.O. Box 1134, Teaneck, NJ 07666).

Articles and data of general Jewish genealogical interest written by an international group of authors.

Family Finder, compiled by Gary Mokotoff. Updated quarterly and distributed to each society affiliated with the international Association of Jewish Genealogical Societies.

A computerized printout of more than 9,000 ancestral surnames and 7,000 place names being researched by members of Jewish Genealogical Societies. Arranged alphabetically by surname and by town.

Jüdische Familienforschung: Mitteilungen der Gesellschaft für jüdische Familienforschung, 1924-1938. Arthur Czellitzer, ed.

Fifty issues, published by a pre-Holocaust Berlin genealogical

society. Contains lectures, vital records, and queries. Available at some research libraries and archives.

Search: The Quarterly Journal of the Jewish Genealogical Society of Illinois. 1980-. Alan M. Spencer, ed. (c/o Janette Woods, 4823 N. Lawndale, Chicago, IL 60625).

Articles of varied interest, including resources for researching Jewish genealogy in individual U.S. cities.

Toledot: The Journal of Jewish Genealogy, 1977-1982. Steven W. Siegel and Arthur Kurzweil, eds. (some back issues available c/o P.O. Box 6398, New York, NY 10128).

Articles on methodology, vital records, queries, and book reviews.

Research Archives and Libraries

American Jewish Archives. 3101 Clifton Avenue, Cincinnati, OH 45220 (on the campus of Hebrew Union College). Specializes in data on Jews in the Western Hemisphere.

Many genealogies, vital records, biographies, organizational and congregational records, and newspaper indexes. Finding aids: Clasper, James W.; Dellenbach, M. Carolyn. *Guide to the Holdings of the American Jewish Archives* (Cincinnati, 1979. 211 p.). See also: Zubatsky and Berent (above).

American Jewish Historical Society. 2 Thornton Road, Waltham, MA 02154 (on the campus of Brandeis University).

All areas of American Jewish history, including organizational and institutional records, as well as family documents. Finding aids: *National Union Catalog of Manuscript Collections*; handout on genealogical holdings.

LDS [Latter-Day Saints] *Family History Library*. 35 North West Temple, Salt Lake City, UT 84150.

The world's most complete and technologically current genealogical library; open to all. Books and

microfilms include Jewish records from many countries, notably Poland, Germany, and Hungary. Microfilms may be obtained on interlibrary loan at local Mormon libraries. Computerized and microfiche catalogs available at branch libraries. Finding aid: Cerni, John; Elliot, Wendy, eds. *The Library: A Guide to the LDS Family History Library* (Salt Lake City: Ancestry, Ltd., c1988). Separate chapters are devoted to records for each region of the U.S. and countries abroad.

Leo Baeck Institute. 129 East 73rd Street, New York, NY 10021.

Library and archive of surviving records of Jews from German-speaking lands. Finding aids: *National Union Catalog of Manuscript Collections*, published guides to LBI Library (1970) and Archives (1991).

Library of Congress. Jefferson (main) Building, housing Genealogy & Local History, Independence Avenue between 1st & 2nd Streets, SW, Washington, DC; connected underground with Adams and Madison Buildings (Hebraic Section).

Contains every book submitted for U.S. copyright, city directories, maps, gazetteers. Finding aid: Neagles, James C. *The Library of Congress: A Guide to Genealogical and Historical Research* (Salt Lake City: Ancestry, 1990. xii, 381 p.).

National Archives & Records Administration. 8th & Pennsylvania Avenue, NW, Washington, DC 20408.

Research room has federal censuses 1790-1910 (1920 will be available in 1992), passenger arrival indexes, 18th & 19th century military records, some naturalizations, land records. Regional branches have microfilm copies and regional records. Finding aids: *Guide to Genealogical Research in the National Archives* (Washington, DC, 1982. 304 p.); Szucs, Loretto Dennis; Luebking, Sandra Hargreaves. *The Archives: A Guide to the National Archives Field Branches.* (Salt Lake City: Ancestry, Ltd., c1988. xvii, 340 p.)

New York Public Library. Fifth Avenue & 42nd Street, New York, NY 10018.

Jewish, Map, Microfilm, and Local History & Genealogy Divisions contain useful materials. Finding aid: Guzik, *Genealogical Resources in the New York Metropolitan Area* (above).

YIVO Institute for Jewish Research. 1048 Fifth Avenue, New York, NY 10028.

Library and archive of data from Yiddish-speaking lands. Finding aid: Guzik. *Genealogical Resources in the New York Metropolitan Area* (above).

Rabbi Malcolm H. Stern, a Fellow of the American Society of Genealogists, is known for his many contributions to American Jewish genealogy. He lives in New York City, where for many years he was on the staff of the Hebrew Union College-Jewish Institute of Religion.

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erase and redraw the charts. Databases with obvious genealogical uses are also being generated. As examples, we may cite the passenger arrival records that are to be included alongside the exhibits at the Ellis Island Museum in New York, and Yad Vashem's "Pages of Testimony," which are currently being entered into a database at the Museum of Jewish Heritage (also in New York). None of these databases, however, is as yet available for public use.

We may be encouraged by the proliferation of Jewish genealogical publications and by the promise of further progress toward gaining access to records that until now were not available. The more genealogical reference tools there are, the easier it will be for us, as librarians, to deal with the persistent inquiries of the many researchers who wish to learn more about the lives, the times, and, above all, the *names* of their ancestors.

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