



German Genealogy Group

# Passenger Lists and Emigration

# Why Go to America?

- Wars
  - Napoleonic (1803-1815)
- Lure of Land
- Unemployment high
- Crop failures
- Compulsive military service
- 1820, emigration is in full swing

# The Lure

- 1830's not boding well in Germany
  - Land scare, mass-production and overproduction creating unemployment of Germans
  - Settlers from the Rhine region settle in IN, MO and OH

# The Lure

- 1840's emigration continues to rise
- Mass production continues, as does unemployment
- Crop failures in the late 1840's
- Failure of the Revolution of 1848 causes many to flee

# The Lure

- 1850's Political upheaval in Germany serves as a catalyst for many to come to America, the land of democracy and opportunity
- Unemployment continues
- Railroads now in Germany makes travel easier to the ports

# The Ports of Departure

- Bremen
- Hamburg
  - [The Hamburg State Archives](#)
  - [Germans to America](#)
- Le Havre, France

# Passenger Arrival Lists

- Nationality, place of birth
- Ship's name, date of entry
- Age, height, weight, eye color, hair color
- Occupation/Profession
- Place of last residence
- Relatives - often traveled with friends

# Ancestry.com

- *Can review immigration records directly and easily*
  - *Immigration & Travel*
  - *Enter as much information that you have*
  - *Can search in sub-categories*
    - *Passenger Lists*
    - *Citizenship & Naturalization Records*
    - *Border Crossings & Passports*
    - *Crew Lists*
    - *Immigration & Emigration Books*
    - *Ships Pictures and Descriptions*



# The Ships List

- Can Search:
  - Passenger Lists
  - Fleet Lists
  - Ship Descriptions
  - Pictures
  - Rigging
  - Arrivals

# The Ports of Arrival

- Castle Garden 1850-1890 11 million records
  - Simply walked down the gangplank onto the wharf and their new home. No processing.
  - Two out of three immigrants came through here
- Ellis Island 1892-1954 12 million records
- Baltimore
- Philadelphia
- New York

# Ship Pictures and History

- Google It!
- Lots of Information
  - [http://www.norwayheritage.com/p\\_ship.asp?sh=wiela](http://www.norwayheritage.com/p_ship.asp?sh=wiela)
  - <http://www.jeffbraunger.com/Family%20History/Paternal/SS%20Wieland.html>

# Naturalization Records

- From 1828-1906 anyone wishing to become an American citizen could do so by applying in any court in any place in the United States.
- Only name, date, country of origin and allegiance were required.
- Beginning 27 Sept 1906, records were filed with the court and the Bureau of Immigration and Naturalization.
- Also check our [National Archives](#).

# Census Records

- Confirms entry into the US
- Check every decade

Research

Happy  
Hunting!