Intro to Genealogy

Jonathan C. Rappaport
Thanks to...

- Faculty of the Jewish Genealogy Course at Hebrew College and the Jewish Genealogy Society of Greater Boston, including:
  - Heidi Urich (blue slides)
  - Jay Sage (white slides)
### Use Abbreviations

<table>
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<th>Events:</th>
<th>People:</th>
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<td>• B, M, D</td>
<td>• GM, GF</td>
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<td>• BD, BP</td>
<td>• PGF, PGM</td>
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<td>• MD, MP</td>
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<tr>
<td>• DD, DP</td>
<td>• GGF, GGGGF...</td>
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<td>• M, F, A, U, C...</td>
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About: c (circa)
First, start at home! Find documents, pictures from your family and organize, date them.

Good idea to scan all documents and photos so there are digital copies in case originals get lost or damaged.
Photographs

- Collect your old family pictures
- Study front & back
- Identify people, places & times
- Preserve originals, work with copies.
Collect Documents

- Immigration Documents
- Naturalization Papers
- Old Passports
- Cemetery Information, pictures of gravestones
- Announcements, Invitations
- Old newspaper clippings
- Letters, cards, correspondance
- Birth, marriage, death certificates
Record What You Know

- Names of living & deceased relatives
- Birth, death, burial - dates & places
- Marriages, spouses, children, divorces
- Important events
- Stories
- Include yourself
Start actual research with the living!

Your living sources will disappear over time

BUT:

Documents will remain for long periods of time, and in fact, accessibility of documents will likely increase.
Who Should I Contact?

1. Oldest relatives & spouses
2. Others with information - family & friends
3. Any potential sources - tell them about your project
   - ask for photos, documents, family stories
Best conducted in person and recorded

- Most people like to talk about themselves
- If reserved, ask about parents, siblings, GPs - use ice-breakers
- Move back in time: parents, GPs, GGPs …
- Seek facts: birth, marriage, death, dates, towns, spouses, children, addresses
- Seek family stories
- Get spellings and pronunciations
- Sample interview questions (see handout)
- Post-interview tasks
Next: Vital Records

- Birth, marriage and death records
- Began as religious records
- Civil – began early 1800’s in Europe & U.S.
- Recorded in local gov’t registration offices
- Restricted access - privacy concerns
- After c.100 years, records move to larger archives, more accessible
- Myth: Nazis destroyed all Jewish records
Working with Data

- Collect names, dates, places & more
- **RECORD A SOURCE FOR EVERY ITEM!**
- Vital records – 100% accurate?
- Evidence vs. Truth
- Expect and save conflicting data
- Note and tolerate uncertainty, [note ?]
- Record your analysis of conflicting information & problems
American Data

- State, County, Local Archives
- Genealogical Societies
- United States census
- State census
- Ship Manifests
- Ellis Island
- Draft records
- Passport applications
- City Directories

Online Sources
- [www.Myheritage.com](http://www.Myheritage.com)
- [www.findagrave.com/](http://www.findagrave.com/)
- [www.stevemorse.org](http://www.stevemorse.org)
- [www.familysearch.org](http://www.familysearch.org)
County Data, Nashua NH

Will of Robert Rogers, d. 30 Dec 1808, Greenfield, NH
Jonathan’s 5X Great Grandfather
Finding Proulx Ancestry
Knowing Emma’s father’s first name “Etienne” from the NH marriage registration was key to breaking through the “wall”

Another relative found a probable Etienne Proulx, listed as one of the children of Antoine Proulx and Felicite Cote. Nothing else was found for nearly 15 years. No proof that this Etienne had a daughter named Emma

Google search “Children of Antoine Proulx and Felicite Cote” in 2016 found the following:


See slide 40 for complete Proulx descendent chart
Jewish Data

- Research as much as possible in US records first
- Try to obtain as much info about names (Anglicized vs. Yiddish vs. Hebrew), places in Europe where born, and then identify current country Shtetls are located and current place names.
- Find ship manifests to locate family members if possible to confirm dates or arrival in US and any variations of names.
- Register with jewishgen.org to research your family in Europe or other foreign locations.
- Check Yad Vashem records of Holocaust victims http://yvng.yadvashem.org/
Don’t insist on exact spellings. Realize that American names have Yiddish and Hebrew Equivalents. Examples:

- Great grandfather, Moses Cederbaum. In Lithuania he was Movska Eres, Moishe Erez, etc.
- Grandfather Harris Rappaport, in Lithuania, first name could be Tzvi in Hebrew or Girsh, Gersh, Hirsch, Hirsh, Gershe in Yiddish. Rappaport could be spelled Rapoport, Rappoport, Rapaport, etc.
Jewish Names

- Myth: Spelling matters (Levine vs. Levin)
- Expect inconsistent spellings due to:
  - changing languages
  - different alphabets
  - transliteration with no rules
  - low value given to consistency
  - human error
- True of first names, surnames & towns
Jewish Surnames

- Today: fixed, permanent, inherited - carried from parent to child
- Traditional: **Patronymic** - up to 200 yrs ago
  
  *ben* = son of;  *bat* = daughter of
- Early exceptions:
  Sephardic, Rabbinic, Hesse-Cassel
Mandatory adoption began:

- 1787  Austrian Empire (East Galicia & Bucovina)
- 1804/1835  Russia/Poland
- 1805  West Galicia
- 1807  Frankfort, 1809  Baden
- 1808  France
Given Names - Customs

Askenazic

- Children named for deceased relatives: GPs, GGPs ...

Sephardic

- Children named for living & deceased relatives - often in order: PGF, PGM, MGF, MGM, uncle...
Place names – Shtetls in Eastern Europe often were referred to by their Yiddish name within families. E.g.: Anikst is where my grandfather came from. It is now called in modern Lithuania as Anyksciai.

Ages are inconsistent in tax roles and census as ages were often reported by a relative giving the info and often was wrong. E.g.: Great-Grandfather Moses Cederbaum was allegedly 92 when he came to US in 1920 (born c. 1828). 1897 Lithuanian census said he was 55, thus he would have been born c. 1842 (unlikely). Tombstone says he was born 1832.
I, Joseph Cederbaum, a naturalized and loyal citizen of the United States, hereby apply to the Department of State, at Washington, for a passport, accompanied by passport-like photograph.

(Name and place of birth.)

I solemnly swear that I was born at Dobaik, Kovno, Russia on March 14, 1868; that I emigrated to the United States, sailing from Hamburg, Germany about September 12th, 1893; that I resided thirty-two years, uninterruptedly, in the United States, in the City of Stamford, Connecticut, and New York City, NY; that I was naturalized as a citizen of the United States before the Superior Court of Fairfield County at Bridgeport, Conn., on the 29th day of Jan., 1907, as shown by the Certificate of Naturalization presented herewith; that I am the identical person described in said Certificate; that I have resided outside the United States since my naturalization six thousand five hundred and twenty-five days; that I am domiciled in the United States, my permanent residence being at No. 117 West 116th Street, New York, in the State of New York, where I follow the occupation of manufacturer; that I am about to go abroad temporarily, and

1920 Passport application of great uncle Joseph Cederbaum, critical info
JewishGen – Lithuanian Census of 1897

Jonathan’s GGF and GGM, giving their fathers’ names and place name Debeikiai

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<th>Town Volost District Gubernia</th>
<th>Address Landowner</th>
<th>Name (father)</th>
<th>Age</th>
<th>Relationship Comments</th>
<th>Born Registered Living</th>
<th>Source</th>
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<tr>
<td>Debeikiai Vilkomir Kovno</td>
<td>Leliuny Village Karl, son of Osip Karanovski</td>
<td>ERES, Movsha 55</td>
<td>Leizer</td>
<td>head of household Blacksmith</td>
<td>Leliuny Svedasai Leliuny</td>
<td>LVIA / 768 / 1 / 24</td>
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<td>ERES, Beila-Ginde 51</td>
<td>Orel</td>
<td>wife -</td>
<td>Svedasai Svedasai Leliuny</td>
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<tr>
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<td></td>
<td>ERES, Keile-Rokha 14</td>
<td>Movsha</td>
<td>daughter -</td>
<td>Leliuny Svedasai Leliuny</td>
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Other JewishGen data for Rappaport and Erez
Welcome to JewishGen

Preserving our history for future generations

Our free, easy-to-use genealogy website features thousands of databases, research tools, and other resources to help those with Jewish ancestry research and find family members.

If you are a beginner: Click here to get started >

If you’re more experienced, you can use the search boxes below or the menu above.
Pull-Down Menus
Importance of Using JGFF

• You can find others who are researching your family

• Other family members can find you
  – Example of my brickwalls: Goldman, Fox
  – Example of amazing discovery: Greenberg

• You should enter every surname you know of in your family, even if you know nothing about that part of the family
### JewishGen Communities Database

**Searching for Town PODU (starts with) in modern country Romania**

Run on Thursday 3 March 2016 at 12:29:18

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<th>Modern Town &amp; Country</th>
<th>Other Names</th>
<th>c. 1950 After WWII Town / Country</th>
<th>c. 1930 Between Wars Town / District / Province / Country</th>
<th>c. 1900 Before WWI Town / District / Province / Country</th>
<th># of JGFF Entries</th>
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<td>Prahova Muntenia Romania</td>
<td>Prahova Wallachia (Greater) Romania</td>
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<td><strong>Podu Iloaiei, Romania</strong></td>
<td>Podu Iloaiei [Rom], Podeloy [Yid], Podu Iloaiei, Podul-Iloaiei, Podul-Iloaiei, Podul-Iloaiei, Podul-Leloaiei</td>
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<td>Iasi Moldavia Romania</td>
<td>Iasi Moldavia Romania</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Podu Turcului, Romania</strong></td>
<td>Podu Turcului [Rom], Podul-Turcului</td>
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<td>Tecuci Moldavia Romania</td>
<td>Tecuci Moldavia Romania</td>
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Number of matches = 3

Podu Turcului [Rom], Podul-Turcului

34 miles SE of Bacău, 23 miles N of Tecuci, 14 miles W of Birlad.

**Jewish Population:** 1,085 (in 1899)

1900: Tecuci județ, Moldavia, Romania
1930: Podul-Turcului, Tecuci județul, Moldavia, Romania
Rappaport Paternal Family Shtetls

See next slide for details. Lipaja, Latvia, is port city (Libau) family sailed from
Steve Morse’s Web Pages

- Morse’s site (mostly) does not have databases
- It has tools (mostly his own) and interfaces to other database sites (e.g., Ellis Island)
- “One-step” pages allow more powerful searching:
  - User fills out form on Morse’s site
  - Morse’s server queries database server multiple times; collects all the responses; collates, sorts, and analyzes them
  - Final results are displayed to user
Top of Steve Morse’s Home Page

One-Step Webpages by Stephen P. Morse

This site contains tools for finding immigration records, census records, vital records, and for dealing with calendars, maps, foreign alphabets, and numerous other applications. Some of these tools fetch data from other websites but do so in more versatile ways than the search tools provided on those websites.

Public Appearances  List of Lectures

About this Website and how to use it

Search Bar:
- First Name
- Last Name
- Any
- Locality
- Search Button
Quick Access to Tools

Ellis Island
- Overview
  - Ellis Island Gold Form (1892-1924)
  - Ellis Island White Form (1892-1957)
  - Ellis Island Manifests (1892-1957)
  - Ellis Island Ship Lists (1892-1957)
  - Ellis Island Passenger IDs (1892-1957)

New York Census
- New York Passengers (1820-1891)
- New York Passengers (1925-1957)

Vital Records
- All NY Passengers (1820-1957)
- All NY Manifests (1820-1957)
- All NY Ship Lists (1820-1957)

New York Census
- Vital Records
  - Birthdays
  - Ages, Related Persons, and Locations

Vital Records
- Social Security Death Records
- Social Security Numbers
- Credit Card Numbers
- Driver's License Numbers

Miscellaneous
- LDS United States Records
- LDS Western Hemisphere Records
- LDS Eastern Hemisphere Records
- Footnote/Fold3 Naturalization Records
- New York Naturalization Records
- New York Incarceration Records
- New York City Birth Records (1846-1909)
Ellis Island Search Forms and Ship Arrivals

Overview: Which Ellis Island Search Form to use

Ellis Island Gold Form (1892-1924): Preferred Form for Searching for Ellis Island Passengers in One Step
Ellis Island White Form (1892-1957): Form for Searching for Ellis Island Passengers beyond 1924 in One Step
Ellis Island Manifests (aka Missing Manifests) (1892-1957): Direct Access to Ellis Island Manifests in One Step
Ellis Island Ship Lists (1892-1957): Searching for Ships in the Ellis Island Microfilms in One Step
Ellis Island Passenger IDs (1892-1957): Converting Ellis Island Passenger IDs to series/roll/frame in One Step

New York Passengers (1820-1891): Searching for New York Passengers up to 1891 in One Step

$ All NY Passengers (1820-1957): Searching for Ellis Island and Castle Garden Passengers in One Step
$ All NY Manifests (1820-1957): Direct Access to Ellis Island and Castle Garden Manifests in One Step
All NY Ship Lists (1820-1957): Searching for Ships in the Ellis Island and Castle Garden Microfilms in One Step

Ship Pictures: Obtaining Pictures of Passenger Ships in One Step
Ships & Fleets: Obtaining Details on Ships and Fleets in One Step
NARA/FHL Roll Numbers: Obtaining NARA and FHL Roll Numbers for NY Ship Arrivals in One Step

Ancestrylibrary.com/Ancestryinstitute.com: Using Ancestry from a library or institute in One Step
Ancestor Pedigree Chart

Jonathan Charles "Jon" RAPPAPORT
17 Aug 1947 -

Dr. Benjamin "Baruch" RAPPAPORT
12 Apr 1906 - 20 Jan 2006

Harris "Tzvi Asher Rapoport" RAPPAPORT
1861 - 16 Nov 1941

Mary Asher HILSBERG

Uryash RAPPOPORT

Moshe Eliezer EREZ

Nechama Yente "Emma Harris" EREZ
15 Mar 1863 - 13 Sep 1952

Bella-Ginda GOLDSHTEYN

Edmund Aimé AUBIN
31 Jul 1866 - 22 Oct 1959

Emma PROULX

Alphonse AUBIN

Aletha Dorothy AUBIN
2 Mar 1908 - 17 Apr 2001

Charles William GODDARD

Nettie Lucinda GODDARD
6 May 1885 - 19 Jan 1968

Ellen Lena MUNHALL

Borukh RAPPOPORT

+ Click to add mother

+ Click to add father

+ Click to add mother

Leizer EREZ

Clara MULKURM (?)

Orel GOLDSHTEYN

+ Click to add mother

Leon AUBIN

Rose-de-Lima CORBIÈRE

Etienne PROULX

Flora ROY

Antoine GODDARD

Eliza Ann WALLACE

Patrick MUNHALL

Mary KATEN (?)
Ancestor Fan Chart
Ancestor Chart – Family Tree

The _____________    Family Tree

Children

© 2002 Guent L. Misbach
www.Misbach.org
Sample Descendent Chart
Descendant Reports

Recently Discovered Proulx Family Ancestry

1-Breau; born: France; died: France
+Inconnue; born: France; died: France

2-Jean PROU; born: 1587, France; died: Apr 1657, France
+Mathe Poulain; born: 1600, France; marr: 1620; died: France

3-Jean PROU; born: 1621, St Jean De Montierneuf, Poitou, France; died: 1670, Angers, France
+Louise Vallee; born: 1620, Saumur, Angers, Maine Et Loire, France; marr: 1647; died: 1680, Notre Dame De Nantilly, Saumer, Anjou, France

4-Jean PROU; born: 1649, Nantilly, Angers, Anjou, France; died: 1703, St Thomas, Montmagny, Quebec, Canada
+Jacquette Fournier; born: 1659, City, Quebec, Canada; marr: 1680; died: 1736, St Thomas, Montmagny, Quebec, Canada

5-Pierre PROU; born: 1685, L'Islet, Quebec, Canada; died: 1751, Montmagny, Quebec, Canada
+Agathe Destroismaisons; born: 18 Jan 1690, Cap-St Ignace, Quebec, Canada; marr: 1715; died: 1756, St Thomas, Montmagny, Quebec, Canada

6-Guillaume PROULX; born: 1718, Montmagny, Quebec, Canada; died: 1776, Quebec, Canada
+Marie Agnes Landais; born: 1733, St Pierre, L'Islet, Quebec, Canada; marr: 1751; died: 1801, Quebec, Canada

7-Charles PROULX; born: 1754, St Pierre-Du-Sud, Quebec, Canada; died: 1815, Rimouski, Quebec, Canada
+Marie Chouinard; born: 1763, Origine Inconnue; marr: 1781; died: 1830, Rimouski, Quebec, Canada

8-Antoine PROULX; born: 1796, Quebec, Canada; died: 7 Jan 1858, Junet, (Quebec?), Canada

9-Etienne PROULX; born: ca 1824, St Anaclet, Quebec, Canada; died: 3 Feb 1878, St Anaclet, Quebec, Canada
+Flora ROY; born: 1830; marr: 7 Sep 1847, Rimouski, Quebec, Canada; died: 13 Nov 1889, St Anaclet, Quebec, Canada

10-Emma PROULX; born: 13 Jan 1865, St Anaclet, Quebec, Canada; died: 3 Dec 1942, Boston, MA, USA
+Alphonse AUBIN; born: 26 Jan 1860, St Anaclet, Quebec, Canada; marr: 9 Feb 1885, Nashua, New Hampshire, United States; died: 15 Jul 1945, Allston, MA, USA

11-Edmund Aimé AUBIN; born: 31 Jul 1886, Lowell, Massachusetts, United States; died: 22 Oct 1959, St Vincent's Hopisatal, Stratford, Fairfield, Connecticut, United States
+Nettie Lucinda GODDARD; born: 6 May 1885, NH; marr: 29 Jun 1905, Nashua, NH; died: 19 Jan 1968, Grasslands Hospital, Valhalla, NY, USA

12-Aletha Dorothy AUBIN; born: 2 Mar 1908, Nashua, NH, USA; died: 17 Apr 2001, Putnam Medical Center, Carmel, NY
+Dr. Benjamin "Baruch" RAPPAPORT; born: 12 Apr 1906, New York, NY, USA; marr: 6 Jun 1934, Tarrytown, NY, USA; died: 20 Jan 2006, Holmes, NY, USA

13-Jonathan Charles "Jon" RAPPAPORT; born: 17 Aug 1947, Bronxville, NY, USA
Use a genealogy software program to record and store data, create reports, record sources of information, make notes about people and events.

- Roots Magic has become a popular program
- Versions for Windows and Mac platforms
- [https://www.rootsmagic.com/RootsMagic/](https://www.rootsmagic.com/RootsMagic/)
- Cost: $29.95. Free download

Most genealogy programs can save data as “GEDCOM” files and can be opened in different programs, so no fear of obsolescence.

Let’s explore it for a few minutes!
National Archives and Records Administration (NARA) regional office.
380 Trapelo Road, Waltham, Massachusetts 02452
Toll Free Telephone: (866) 406-2379
Telephone: (781) 663-0144
Fax: (781) 663-0154
E-mail: boston.archives@nara.gov
Monday - Friday, 9:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

Has actual archives that can be researched as well as exhaustive online resources, subscriptions to various genealogical sites
## Sources for Genealogical Records

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The Jewish Genealogical Society of Greater Boston is dedicated to helping people discover and research their Jewish family history.

JGSGB offers monthly speakers, special interest groups, individual help with research and a comprehensive beginner’s course.

An extensive collection of research materials is available at meetings.

JGSGB publishes an award-winning journal, Mass-Pocha.

http://jgsgb.org/
Introduction to Jewish Genealogy Course

- Held for 8 Wednesday evenings, March & April, 2020
- On campus of Hebrew College in Newton, MA
- Fabulous presentations and opportunity to do your own family research with coaching from experts
- Limited space available for the 2020 course
- Register at register.jgsgb.org.
- Questions? Contact course@jgsgb.org or 866-611-5698.
Upcoming Workshops

Most events at 1:30 p.m. at Temple Emanuel, 385 Ward Street, Newton Centre, MA

- Avraham Groll - What’s New at JewishGen?
  Feb 9, 2020 @ 1:30 – 3:30 pm

- Lisa Cooper – A Forgotten Land: Growing Up in the Jewish Pale
  March 29 @ 1:30 pm - 3:30 pm

- Jonathan Brent – YIVO’s Rediscovered Archives in Vilna and New York; and Spotlight Talk: Elliot Matz – Bringing Jewish Life to Lithuania’s “Sturbridge Village”
  April 26 @ 1:30 pm - 4:30 pm

- Schelly Talalay Dardashti and Maria Apodaca – Sephardic/Converso Experience: History, Migration, DNA and Personal Journeys: One Program in 2 Parts
  April 30 @ 7:45 pm - 9:30 pm

- Research Sunday
  May 3 @ 2:00 pm - 4:30 pm

- Meredith Hoffman – Demystifying Repositories: Virtual Tours of Local Resources
  May 31 @ 1:30 pm - 3:30 pm

- JGSGB Panel: Digital Storytelling: A New Way to Share Your Information
  June 14 @ 1:30 pm - 3:30 pm
Hitting a BrickWall

- Grandfather Harris Rappaport’s brother, Jacob Rappaport
- Munhall / Mulhall research (Maternal ggp)
- Keeping data consistent

Harris Rappaport, 1861-1941
The End

Questions?

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