HOW TO LOCATE PARISH AND CIVIL RECORDS IN A TOWN OF ORIGIN

**IF TOWN NOT KNOWN**

**SOURCES**
1. Family Sources
2. Church Records
3. Government Records
   - Vital Records
   - Census [Fed-1900-1940]
   - Immigration [post 1897]
   - Naturalization
   - Military
   - Tax
   - Probate
   - Court
   - Land / Deed
   - SSDI
4. Other US Sources
   - City Directories
   - Newspapers
     - English / German
   - Local Histories
   - Cemetery Records
   - Occupational Records
5. European Sources
   - Emigration Records
   - German Lineage Books
   - Village Lineage Books
   - Police Registers
   - Tax Records
   - Burgher Registers (citizen)
   - Apprentice & Guild
   - Military Records
6. Internet Databases

**IF TOWN IS FOUND**

**NAME MODIFICATION**
1. Try using wildcards
2. Try common character swaps [e.g. C-K, etc.]
3. Some towns changed names pre- and post-WWI and WWII

**NOT FOUND**

**FOUND**

**TRAINING**

**HISTORICAL GAZETTEER**
1. Lists Towns, their Districts and Political Units (duchy, kingdom, etc.)
2. Lists the Civil Registry Office, Court Districts and Parishes, if any
3. Lists other governmental offices and businesses.

**IF TOWN KNOWN**

**PARISH IN TOWN**
1. Meyersgaz entry lists location of civil registry
2. Meyersgaz Ecclesiastical tab shows nearest churches
3. Meyersgaz Map tab shows location of the town [both 1912-13 and toggles to current day]

**CIVIL REGISTRATION IN TOWN**

**NO**

**YES**

**RECORDS NOT FOUND**

**CONTACT ARCHIVE OR PARISH**

**FIND CHURCH RECORDS ONLINE**
- [https://www.familysearch.org/en/](https://www.familysearch.org/en/)
- [https://data.matricula-online.eu/de/deutschland/](https://data.matricula-online.eu/de/deutschland/)
- [http://wiki-de.genealogy.net/Kirchenb%C3%BCher_online](http://wiki-de.genealogy.net/Kirchenb%C3%BCher_online)
- [http://wiki.de.genealogy.net/Kategorie:Online-Personenstandsregister](http://wiki.de.genealogy.net/Kategorie:Online-Personenstandsregister)
- [https://www.ancestry.com/](https://www.ancestry.com/)
- [https://www.archion.de/](https://www.archion.de/)

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