

Finding Unindexed Latvian Jewish Vital Records on FamilySearch

IAJGS Cleveland

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Marion Werle - canadagenes@gmail.com

Introduction

- ▶ FamilySearch is focused on transitioning to digital resources
- ▶ It is estimated that about 70% of the FamilySearch resources are part of unindexed collections
- ▶ Indexing is time-consuming, so rather than wait for items to be indexed, FamilySearch is focusing on putting resources online before they are indexed
- ▶ This involves time-consuming manual searching on the part of the end user, but can be very rewarding!

How to Locate Unindexed Records

- ▶ To use FamilySearch, you must create a (free) userid - you do not need to put your tree information on the site if you don't wish to do so
- ▶ Users typically use the Search>Records function to locate indexed records
- ▶ Locating unindexed records uses the Search> Catalog function
- ▶ Unindexed records typically follow the organizational scheme of the originating archives - these records are from all around the world, many converted from microfilm collections

How to Locate Unindexed Records

- ▶ If the original archives has index volumes, these will usually be included in the collection
 - ▶ You use the indexes the same way you would as if you were visiting the archives itself - use the indexes to find the data you want, note the year, volume, and page number
 - ▶ Then find the year and volume you want to locate the record itself - note that this doesn't apply to the Latvian Jewish vital records
- ▶ FamilySearch continues to film records in the Latvian State Historical Archives (LSHA/LVVA)
- ▶ Most Jewish vital records have already been filmed

LVVA Archival Designations on JewishGen

<u>MINSK, Khaya-Sora</u>	Mordukh, Yosel	5/8/1891	Dinaburg / [Daugavpils]
	Liba, Abram-Itzik	[Mon 13 Av 5651]	Dvinsk
	MINSK		Vitebsk

Dinaburg / Dvinsk / Dwinsk / Daugavpils	Not microfilmed /
1891	144
F235	LVVA/5024/2/272

LVVA → *Latvijas Valsts vēstures arhīvs* (Latvian State Historical Archives)
 Every archival file is digitized as a separate file and the title page shows:
 fond name, fund number, inventory number, file number, dates of the
 document and number of pages.
 Note the image number (144) and record number (F235 - Female #235)

LVVA Archival Designations on FamilySearch

Daugavpils, Daugavpils, Latvia - DAUGAVPILS
JEWISH Births, LVVA-005024-0002-000272, 1891

[Granite Mountain](#)
[Record Vault](#)

International Digital

105919227



How did I Locate that File?

- ▶ Sign onto FamilySearch
- ▶ From the homepage, use the dropdown “Search” and select “Catalog”
- ▶ Search by place - Latvia

Catalog Search - Select “Latvia”

FamilySearch Catalog

Search the catalog of genealogical materials (including books, online materials, microfilm, microfiche, and publications) made available by FamilySearch online and in libraries and centers worldwide.

[Learn more about the catalog and how to access materials.](#)

Search by:
Place | Surnames | Titles | Author | Subjects | Keywords

Place

- Latvia
- Latvia
- Latvia
- U.S.S.R., Latvia

2 Results

Family History Center

Select “Places Within Latvia”

Search Results for FamilySearch Catalog

 [PRINT](#)  [Catalog Print List \(0\)](#)

Use for:

Latvija
U.S.S.R., Latvia

[Places within Latvia ▶](#)

- ▶ Latvia - Archives and libraries (1)
- ▶ Latvia - Archives and libraries - Inventories, registers, catalogs (5)
- ▶ Latvia - Bibliography (2)
- ▶ Latvia - Biography (16)
- ▶ Latvia - Biography - Dictionaries (3)
- ▶ Latvia - Buildings, dwellings, etc. (1)
- ▶ Latvia - Cemeteries (2)

[Print List](#)

Places (partial listing) - Daugavpils

Annas	Jelgava	Ogre	Ugāle
Apukalns	Kabile	Olaine	Umurga
Audera Asīte	Kaldabruņa	Omuļi	Usma
Augšpils	Katriņas	Ozupine	Vadakste
Augstroze	Ķirbeļi	Pampaļi	Valbēģi
Aumeisteri	Ķirbeļi	Pedele	Valka
Balvi	Krāslava	Pēterupe	Valle
Bārbele	Krimulda	Piņķi	Valmiera
Bāte	Krustpils	Priekule	Vāne
Bauska	Krūte	Puze	Vangaži
Bebrene	Kuldīga	Remte	Varakļāni
Biķernieki	Kursīši	Renda	Vārme
Birži	Lambarte	Reņģe	Varnaviči
Blīdene	Landze	Repjakaļns	Vecauce
Burtnieki	Laši	Reval	Vecgulbene
Carnikava	Lauķese	Rezekne	Vecjērcēni
Celmenieki	Launlikupēni	Riebiņi	Veckalsnava
Cēsis	Lejasciems	Rīga	Veclaši
Cēsu	Lēņi	Rīga	Veclikupēni
Code	Lielaide	Rinda	Vecmuiža
Dalbe	Lieldzērve	Ropaži	Vecpils
Daugavpils	Lieliecava	Rucava	Vecsaule
Dignāja	Lielīvande	Sakaspils	Vecsēlpils

Now select “Places within Latvia, Daugavpils”

Search Results for FamilySearch Catalog

 PRINT  Catalog Print List (0)

Part of [Latvia](#)

[Places within Latvia, Daugavpils](#) ▶

- ▶ [Latvia, Daugavpils - Church records](#) (2)
- ▶ [Latvia, Daugavpils - Emigration and immigration](#) (1)
- ▶ [Latvia, Daugavpils - Jewish history](#) (1)

Note that “Emigration and immigration” is where you will find the passport books

Select “Daugavpils” again

Search Results for FamilySearch Catalog

 PRINT  Catalog Print List (0)

Part of [Latvia](#)

[Places within Latvia, Daugavpils](#) ▶

Daugavpils	Ilūkste	Piedruja	Subate
Demene	Latgale	Saliēna	Višķi
Eģipte	Lipiniški	Skrudaljiēna	

- ▶ [Latvia, Daugavpils - Church records](#) (2)
- ▶ [Latvia, Daugavpils - Emigration and immigration](#) (1)
- ▶ [Latvia, Daugavpils - Jewish history](#) (1)

You need to go down another level to find the Jewish records - they are NOT included with the other church records

Almost there...

Search Results for FamilySearch Catalog

 PRINT  Catalog Print List (0)

Part of [Latvia, Daugavpils](#)

- ▶ [Latvia, Daugavpils, Daugavpils - Census \(1 \)](#)
- ▶ [Latvia, Daugavpils, Daugavpils - Jewish records \(1 \)](#)

- “Census” subject heading will contain the 1897 All Russian Census
 - Digital files have been created, but images not yet available
- “Jewish records” contains the BMD records

Catalog Entry for the Collection



Family Tree [Search](#) Memories Indexing

Records Family Tree Genealogies [Catalog](#) Books Wiki

[◀ BACK TO SEARCH RESULTS](#)

Latvia, Daugavpils, Daugavpils, Jewish records, 1868-1908

Authors: [Jewish Congregation. Daugavpils \(Daugavpils\) \(Main Author\)](#)
[National Archives. Rīga \(Latvia\) \(Repository\)](#)





Format: Manuscript/Manuscript on Digital Images

Language: Latvian
German
Russian

Publication: Salt Lake City, Utah : Digitized by FamilySearch International, 2018

Partial List of Jewish Vital Records

Film/Digital Notes (This family history center has 1 of 1 films/fiche.)

Note	Location	Collection/Shelf	Film	DGS	Format
Daugavpils, Daugavpils, Latvia - DAUGAVPILS RABINATS JEWISH Births, LVVA-0004359-0002-000012, 1908	Granite Mountain Record Vault	International Digital		105919259	
Daugavpils, Daugavpils, Latvia - DAUGAVPILS RABINATS JEWISH Births, LVVA-004359-0002-000002, 1894	Granite Mountain Record Vault	International Digital		105919261	
Daugavpils, Daugavpils, Latvia - DAUGAVPILS RABINATS JEWISH Births, LVVA-004359-0002-000003, 1895	Granite Mountain Record Vault	International Digital		105919263	
Daugavpils, Daugavpils, Latvia - DAUGAVPILS RABINATS JEWISH Births, LVVA-004359-0002-000005, 1898	Granite Mountain Record Vault	International Digital		105919265	
Daugavpils, Daugavpils, Latvia - DAUGAVPILS RABINATS JEWISH Births, LVVA-004359-0002-000006, 1891	Granite Mountain Record Vault	International Digital		105919267	

1. Wait for the full list to load
2. Do a “find” to make sure the high level fond number can be found - if so, do a “find” for the year, until you find the birth records for 1891

Verify that the fond and file numbers match

JewishGen
Latvia DB:

MINSK, Khaya-Sora	Mordukh, Yosel	5/8/1891	Dinaburg / [Daugavpils]
	Liba, Abram-Itzik	[Mon 13 Av 5651]	Dvinsk
	MINSK		Vitebsk

Dinaburg / Dvinsk / Dwinsk / Daugavpils	Not microfilmed /
1891	144
F235	LVVA/5024/2/272

FamilySearch:

Daugavpils, Daugavpils, Latvia - DAUGAVPILS
JEWISH Births, LVVA-005024-0002-000272, 1891

[Granite Mountain](#)
[Record Vault](#)

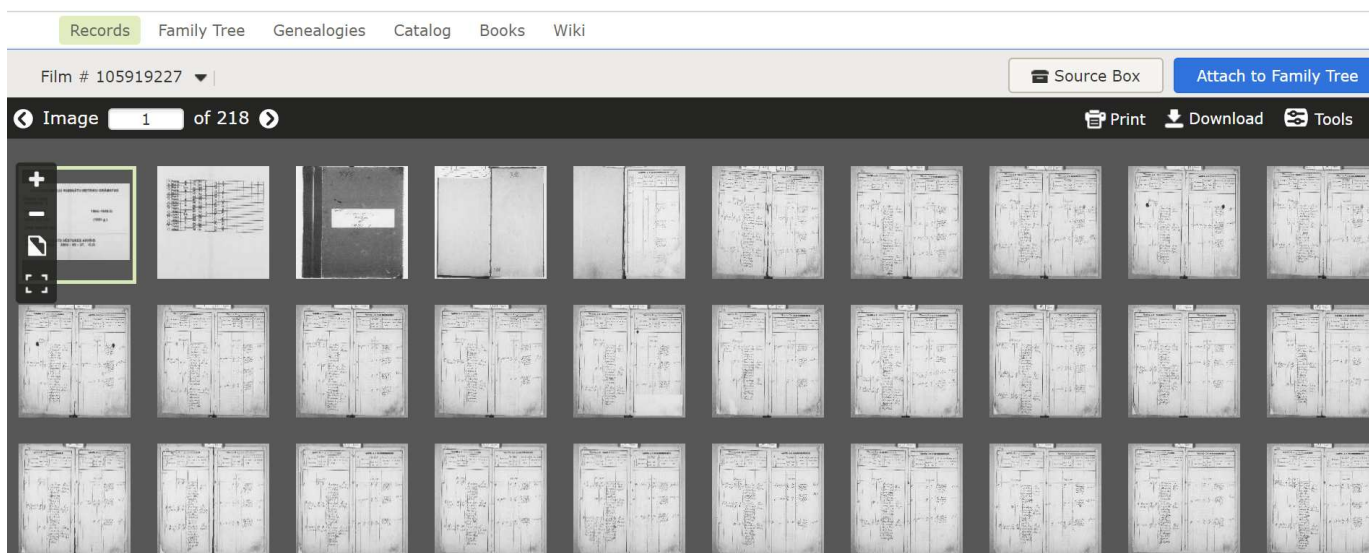
International Digital

105919227

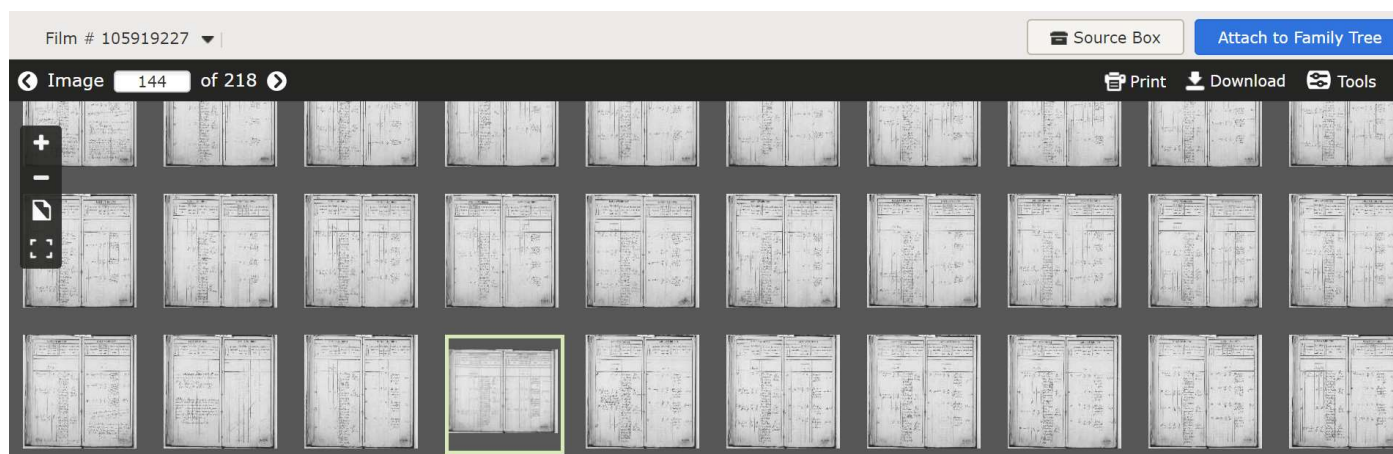


To access the birth records, click on the camera icon

This is the first screen of all Jewish births in Dvinsk (Daugavpils) in 1891



Enter 144 into the image number



Click on the highlighted record

You have now located the birth record for Chaya-Sora Minsk:

Records Family Tree Genealogies Catalog Books Wiki

Film # 105919227

Source Box Attach to Family Tree

Image 144 of 218

Print Download Tools

№	Кто совершалъ	Число и мѣсяцъ рожденія и обрѣзанія.	Состояніе отца,	Кто родился и какое
Женскаго.	Мужскаго.	Христіанскій, Еврейскій, Губъ. религіоз.	имена отца и матери.	ему или ей дано имя.
235		5 13	Сорока-Сора	Сора-Сора
236		6 14	Сорока-Сора	Сора-Сора

Image Index Information

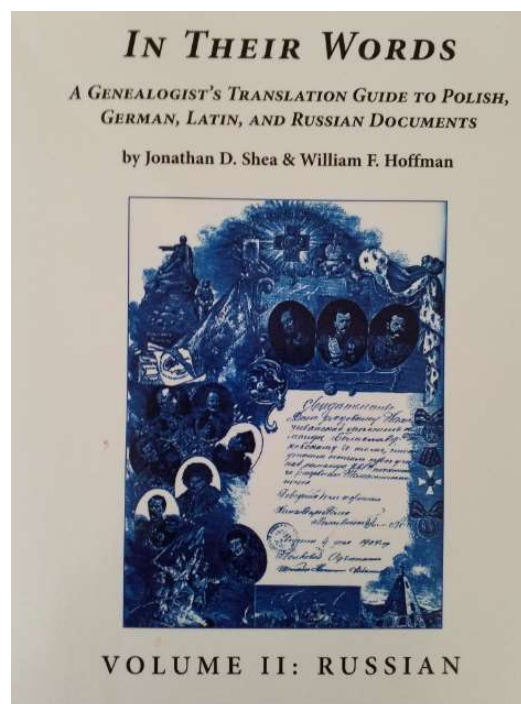
No indexes are available.

The same record in the Raduraksti (LVVA website)



Note that the resolution is not as good as on FamilySearch

But I don't speak Russian!



Jonathan D. Shea and William F. Hoffman:
*In Their Words; A Genealogist's
Translation Guide to Polish, German,
Latin, and Russian Documents, vol.2:
Russian*, 2nd ed. Houston: Language &
Lineage Press, 2014.

Conclusion

- ▶ FamilySearch continues to film materials from the Latvian State Historical Archives, making them available as they are digitized before indexing
- ▶ Opportunities abound for district research groups to raise funds to translate new materials

Questions?