

Hidden Stories in City Directories: Another True Story For A “Golden” Opportunity at [http://www.kuzmich4.com/Facebook/Hidden Stories in City Directories.pdf](http://www.kuzmich4.com/Facebook/Hidden%20Stories%20in%20City%20Directories.pdf)

Remember the Yellow Pages—those hefty dictionaries of domiciles and dwellers, delivered to your front porch? With the rise of Google and other Internet sites, printed phone directories have become a memory for most of us, as it's faster and easier to find addresses and phone numbers on your phone, tablet, or laptop. But City directories can be a great resource for finding ancestor information. This handout from RootTech 2019 at [https://content.ldschurch.org/family-history/bc/rootstech/salt-lake/2019-conference-syllabi/RT1479 Finding Stories in City Directories.pdf](https://content.ldschurch.org/family-history/bc/rootstech/salt-lake/2019-conference-syllabi/RT1479_Finding_Stories_in_City_Directories.pdf), presented by the Family History Fanatics group, introduces you to directories and then explores ways to uncover stories about your ancestors that may be hidden in them. Examples of info to look for include job changes, name changes, moves, etc. To learn more about using city directories in your research, check out [Goal A2](https://www.thefhguide.com/project-9-united-statesa2.html#d) at <https://www.thefhguide.com/project-9-united-statesa2.html#d> in the United States page. ([See all tips](https://www.thefhguide.com/tip-of-the-day.html) at <https://www.thefhguide.com/tip-of-the-day.html>)

True Story from an Unpublished History of Nowa Biala, Poland



Here's a true story that was obtained from an unpublished history of Nowa Biala, Poland pertaining to my Dlugi ancestors who originally came from the Czech Republic. It came from my Polish genealogist who is very, very important in all of my Polish genealogy. Here's parts of an email he researched and shared with me.

“However I do have information about Joannes (Jan) Dlugi (Slovak: Dluhy, Hungarian: Dluhi). In fact he is one of the few inhabitants that we have a little bit of history for. And I only know about it because when I was in Nowa Biala, Poland, I took some notes on a unpublished history of the town. And it goes something like this:

In approximately 1765, the church in town burned down and after a little delay, the town leaders decided to rebuild it (which is now the primary Catholic church in the village). Much of it was to be brick and so they hired three bricklayers from Silesia which is now part of the Czech Republic today. They were three brothers with the surname of Dlugi. They came from a town named Stara Ves (“Little Village”) in what is today Moravian/Silesian section of the Czech Republic. The distance away from Nowa Biala was 150 to 200 miles. I have no idea why they had to go so far for bricklayers. They came and did their work on the church. Two of them went home; one stayed. That one that stayed was my direct ancestor, Jan Dlugi. I believe that he is the ancestor of all the people named Dlugi/Dluhy in Nowa Biala today. His story is well known there and in fact that house his family lived in is called something like “the house of the bricklayer.” (House 55). Dlugi's have lived there since (perhaps to the present day).

Now I can't absolutely prove all this but it is the only way of explaining the facts and stories I have. That's all I have but it is a lot more about a single

person living in the town than practically anyone else.”



Closing Comments with open-ended networking for genealogical opportunities

Never underestimate “Golden” opportunities for conducting original research with hidden records. In this case, the town of Nowa Biala, Poland had an unpublished history that directly related to my ancestors who lived far away in the Czech Republic. Fortunately, my Polish genealogist knows how to conduct original research beyond researching churches and graveyards for birth, marriage and death records. Networking can an incredible resource to connect with. Keep you eyes and ear open to promptings from the Lord because that can be the very magic of doing genealogy. How did I find this Polish genealogist? I networked with an individual in Provo, Utah 25 years ago who was using him at that time. Her genealogy was from the same village as mine. Over time, I communicated with him and eventually hired him for small projects. Then in 2009, I made a historic trip to Poland to network with three villages where the priests were not user-friendly. And the rest of the story can be more fully explained at <http://www.kuzmich4.com/Facebook/Catholic%20Records2.pdf>? And now, I’m planning another historic trip to Poland and the Czech Republic in 2022 or 2023 which helps to both keep feeling younger than I am and healthier so I can travel to Eastern Europe even during this extended COVID 19 pandemic period.

More City Directory Resources

[How City Directories Can Reveal Your Family History](https://lialisson.com/how-to-use-city-directories-in-your-genealogy-research/)

<https://lialisson.com/how-to-use-city-directories-in-your-genealogy-research/>

U.S. genealogical records expert Sunny Jane Morton shows how **directories** reveal unique, compelling stories about her family's post-WWII lives and a previous ...

[Before Google ... City Directories - The Family History Guide](https://www.thehguide.com/blog/before-google-city-directories/)

<https://www.thehguide.com/blog/before-google-city-directories/>

Below are **handouts** that we've received as part of a class. ... 13 June 2020. **City Directories** by Pamela Brigham ...

[Finding More in U.S. City Directories | Sassy Jane Genealogy](https://www.sassyjanegenealogy.com/finding-more-in-u-s-city-directories/)

<https://www.sassyjanegenealogy.com/finding-more-in-u-s-city-directories/>

The general index or table of contents of a **city directory** is like ... This entry in the 1928 Greeley, Colorado, **directory, notes** where the ...

[Using City Directories for Genealogical Research](https://www.familytreemagazine.com/records/directory/city-directories-genealogy/#:~:text=City%20directories%20and%20similar%20listings,to%20locate%20other%20genealogical%20records.)

<https://www.familytreemagazine.com/records/directory/city-directories-genealogy/#:~:text=City%20directories%20and%20similar%20listings,to%20locate%20other%20genealogical%20records.>

The written lessons are supplemented by videos [closed-captioning provided], and a **handout** with resources and websites. Interactive Learning. Practical ...

[MyHeritage Adds Huge Collection of Historical US City ...](https://www.pinterest.com/pin/62557882311965280/)

<https://www.pinterest.com/pin/62557882311965280/>

The collection was produced exclusively by MyHeritage from 25,000 public U.S. **city directories** published between 1860 and 1960. It comprises 545 ...

[Examining City Directories to Discover New Avenues of ...](https://familyloket.com/examining-city-directories-to-discover-new-avenues-of-research/)

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Censuses and vital records are the backbones of genealogical research. Finding ancestors on every census and discovering their vital records ...

