



**The Routes to Roots Foundation  
and Miriam Weiner**

invite you to visit her website at [www.rtrfoundation.org](http://www.rtrfoundation.org)

After 30 years of working in the archives of Eastern Europe, Miriam is in the midst of the arduous task of indexing the literally thousands of pages of documents she has acquired and translated for her books, her website and research clients.

Currently, she has more than 300 separate document collections with 3 million surnames from:  
Belarus, Lithuania, Moldova/Bessarabia, Poland, Romania and Ukraine (and Galicia)

In the **first** upload to the new database, there are 150 separate document collections with 1 million surnames.  
**Additions are daily.**

For those of you who are familiar with Miriam's work, this is the latest chapter in a career that has literally opened doors to the archives of Poland & the former U.S.S.R. On June 28, 1991, "The Jewish Week" newspaper in New York City headlined an article about Miriam as follows: "[The Genealogist Who Lifted the Archival Iron Curtain.](#)"

**Surname Searches are possible as follows:**

- Standard surname search of documents in Latin letters
- OCR search of business directories, telephone books and name-lists in Cyrillic letters (you do not need to know Cyrillic [(Russian)] to do this search)

**You are invited to see:**

- a summary of what to expect at the new website, see next pages.
- the article about Miriam in the current issue of *Avotaynu*, [click](#) here.

So, stay tuned, check-in often and join Miriam in bringing your far-away ancestors just a bit closer to you -- their descendants.

**For example .....**



*Judah-Leib & Berto Rabkin  
Konotop, Ukraine c. 1920*



*Little Malka visiting her Aunt Miriam  
New Jersey, 1988*

*Judah-Leib & Berto Rabkin Were Great-Great Grandparents of Malka*

# UPDATES AT THE RTRFOUNDATION.ORG WEBSITE

by Miriam Weiner

dated: December 22, 2020

## NEW SURNAME DATABASE

- **Searchable via:**
  - Standard Surname Search
  - OCR Search (optical character recognition)
- **Number of Countries Included / 6**  
Belarus, Lithuania, Moldova Poland, Romania, Ukraine
- **Number of Collections**
  - 300 + total collections
  - 200 + currently on RTRF website
- **Number of Document/Name Entries**
  - 3 million +
  - 1 million + currently on RTRF website

## MAPS

- **Individual town maps & regional maps (80+)**  
Belarus, Lithuania, Moldova, Poland, Ukraine  
<https://www.rtrfoundation.org/maps.shtml>

During 25+ years of traveling in Eastern Europe, I have acquired a significant number of detailed "town" maps from various localities, including small towns and villages. Most of these maps were created by the local town architect and given to me as a "present" by the local Mayor.

\* \* \*

- **Joint Operation Graphic Maps (in color, measuring 22" x 29" each)**  
**Eastern Europe 1:250,000 / Series N501, U.S. Army Map Service, 1954**

I received 75 maps of these maps (aka JOG maps) in the mid/late 1980s as a "gift" from someone working in Washington D.C. Recently, I consulted a colleague at the *Geography & Map Division* at the Library of Congress about these maps and was told the following:

"The Library of Congress routinely received these Joint Operations Graphic maps as part of a government deposit agreement; and the LC should have a virtually complete set. Also, JOG maps were U.S. government issued, in which case they are in the public domain and can be reproduced freely. So yes, you can digitize and put them up for all to see."

**NOTE:** The JOG maps are being scanned now and should be upon on the RTRF website in the next 4-6 weeks.

## BUSINESS DIRECTORIES & TELEPHONE BOOKS

Throughout my 25+ years of working in the archives of Eastern Europe, I have acquired numerous business directories and telephone books. Of the 25 or so business directories, the following are now searchable via OCR on the RTRF website, **with more being added continually.**

### Business/Address Directories & Telephone Directories Currently on this Website

1. Address Book: Town of Lwow (Lvov), 1897 / **17,025 names**
2. Address Book: Town of Lemberg (now Lviv), 1916 / **24,060 names**
3. Telephone directory for districts of: Bydgosz, Gdansk, Krakow, Katowice, Lublin, Lwow, Poznan, Wilna and Warsaw, 1934 / **88,560 names**
4. Address Book for Poltava and Poltava Guberniya, 1914 / **9,614 names**
5. Address Calendar, Podolia Guberniya, 1909 / **6,840 names**
6. Telephone Directory for Boryslaw, Drohobycz & Lwow (& nearby towns), 1930 / **15,875 names**
7. Telephone Directory for Lvov, Boryslaw, Drohobycz (& nearby towns), 1938 / **13,500 names**
8. Address Calendar for Kiev Guberniya, 1914 / **1,960 names**
9. Volhynia Address Book, 1895 / **5,540 names**
10. Volhynia Address Book, 1915 / **3,600 names**
11. Galicia Address Book, 1891 / **11,875 names**
12. "All Russia" Business Directory, 1902 / **140,400 names**
13. *Vsia Rossiia* — "All Russia" Business Directory, 1903, entries from Mogilev Guberniya (partial)
14. *Vsia Rossiia* — "All Russia" Business Directory, 1911, entries from Mogilev Guberniya (partial)

### Telephone Directories Currently on this Website

I have a collection of 75 telephone directories from primarily small/medium-sized towns in Ukraine which I have donated to the Library of Congress (LOC) in Washington, D.C. These books are now searchable by surname via OCR at the [www.rtrfoundation.org](http://www.rtrfoundation.org) website and also at Logan Kleinwaks' website at [www.genealogyindexer.org](http://www.genealogyindexer.org). You can click on the search results to see the relevant page of the telephone book from the LOC website.

## IMAGES OF TOWNS

There is a new drop-down menu for images, accessible from the RTRF website **Home Page**. There are 2,215 images from 358 towns and I plan to add as many as possible to this database.  
<https://www.rtrfoundation.org/imagesearch.php>

## COMING SOON:

More telephone books and business directories  
 JOG Maps