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**SALT LAKE CITY, UTAH**

THE CHURCH OF JESUS CHRIST OF LATTER-DAY SAINTS

# Finland

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## INTRODUCTION

This outline can help you find information about people who lived in Finland. It gives information about records of genealogical value for Finland and helps you decide which types of records to search.

Generally, *you must know the specific town in Finland where your ancestor was born* before beginning research in Finland. Sometimes you can find this information in Finnish or other European or United States sources.

You will need some basic understanding of genealogical research procedures. You may want to read *A Guide to Research* (30971) or *Principles of Family History Research* (34020) or see the video orientation program, all of which are available at the Family History Library™ and at Family History Centers™.

## HELPS FOR USING THIS RESEARCH OUTLINE

Before using this outline you need to choose the information you would like to learn about one of your ancestors, such as a birth date or a maiden name.

After you have decided what information you want to find, look at the “Record Selection Table” in this outline. It lists the kinds of information you may want and the best types of records for finding that information.

You can find a section in the outline for each type of record listed in columns 2 and 3 of the “Record Selection Table.” The subsequent sections referred to in this outline give more information about these records and how to find them. The sections are in alphabetical order.

This outline does not mention all possible genealogical record sources. At the end of the outline, you will find a brief list of additional topic headings under “Other Records” and a short bibliography of sources under “For Further Reading.” For help in tracing Finnish immigrants, use the research outlines for the country of arrival and the *Tracing Immigrant Origins Research Outline* (34111).

## References to the Family History Library Catalog™

The Family History Library Catalog™ is a listing of all the records available at the Family History Library. The catalog is available at the Family History Library and at each Family History Center™. Staff at the library or centers can help you learn to use the catalog.

This outline gives instructions for finding information in the catalog. For example, in the section of this outline called “Genealogy” you may find the following statement:

For more information about genealogical collections, look in the Locality Search of the Family History Library Catalog under:

FINLAND - GENEALOGY  
FINLAND, [COUNTY] - GENEALOGY  
FINLAND, [COUNTY], [TOWN] -  
GENEALOGY

This tells you to look in the catalog under:

- Finland and then the subject GENEALOGY.
- A county in Finland and then the subject GENEALOGY.
- A town in a county in Finland and then the subject GENEALOGY.

This outline includes many references to specific records. The references include call numbers and computer numbers, which are listed in parentheses.

- *Call Numbers*. The call number is used to find a record in the Family History Library (FHL).
- *Computer Numbers*. Each record is assigned a number to identify it in the catalog. If you are using the Family History Library Catalog on computer or compact disc, you can search for the record by the computer number. This is the quickest way to find the listing of the record in the catalog.

For additional information on using the catalog see *Using the Family History Library Catalog*<sup>TM</sup> (30966).

## References to Other Family History Library Publications

The Family History Library has many other publications that may be helpful to you in your research. Some are referred to in this outline. Their titles are in italics and their item numbers are in parentheses. They are available at the Family History Library and the Salt Lake Distribution Center.

## Finnish Terms

In this outline, Finnish and Swedish language terms are frequently given in brackets and italics after the English terms, such as marriages [*Vihityt/Vigda*]. The Finnish word is listed first. English translations in parentheses follow Finnish- or Swedish-language book, microfilm, or microfiche titles.

## RECORDS SELECTION TABLE: FINLAND

This table can help you decide which records to search. It is most helpful for research from 1800 to the present.

Step 1. Choose an ancestor you would like to know more about. Decide what new information you would like to learn about that person. This new information is your research goal.

Step 2. In column 1 of this table, find the goal you selected.

Step 3. In column 2 of this table, find the types of records most likely to have the information you need; then read the sections in this outline about those types of records.

Step 4. Look in the Family History Library Catalog™, and choose a specific record to search.

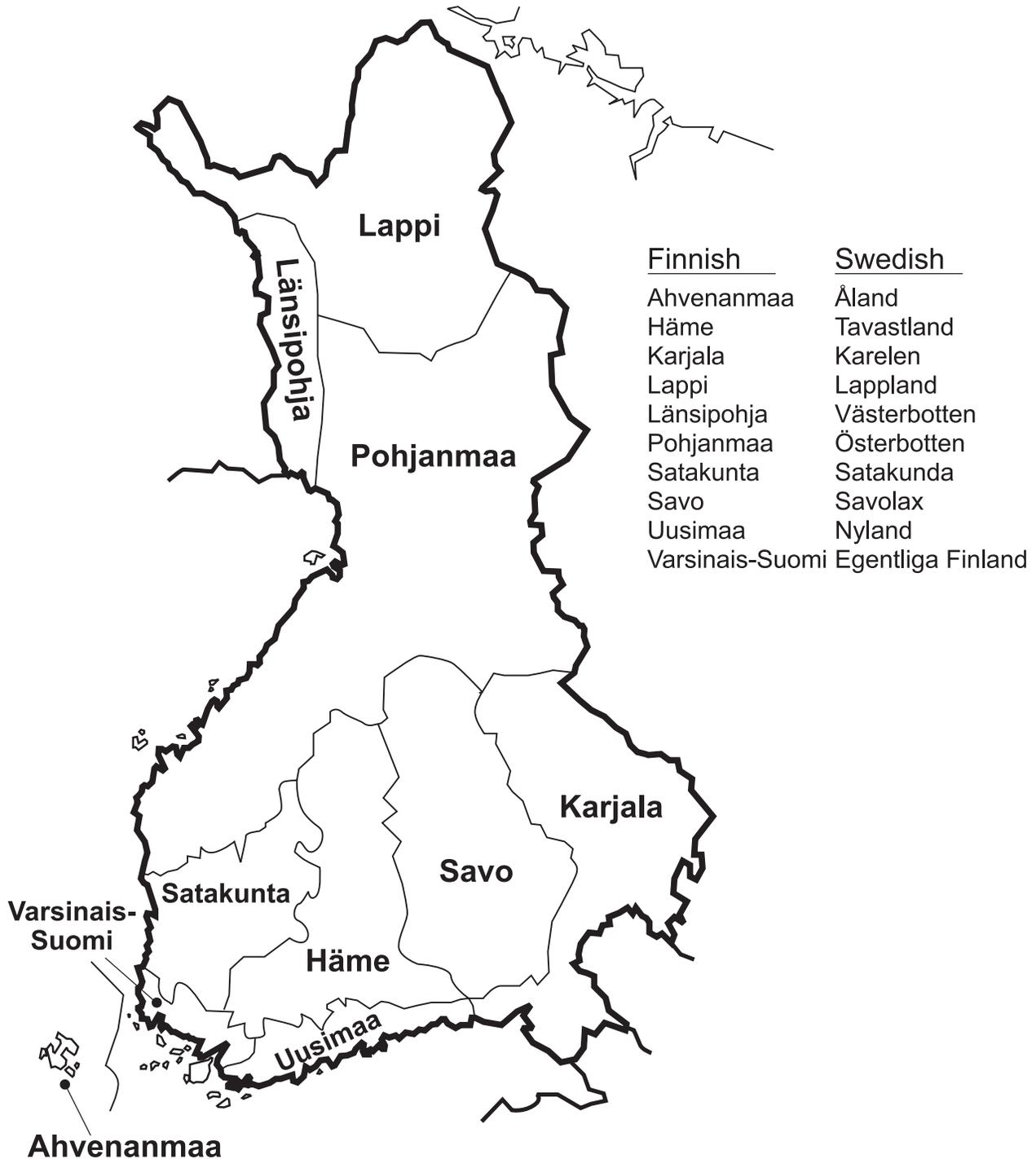
Step 5. Look at the record.

Step 6. If you do not find the information you need, return to column 3 and search those record types.

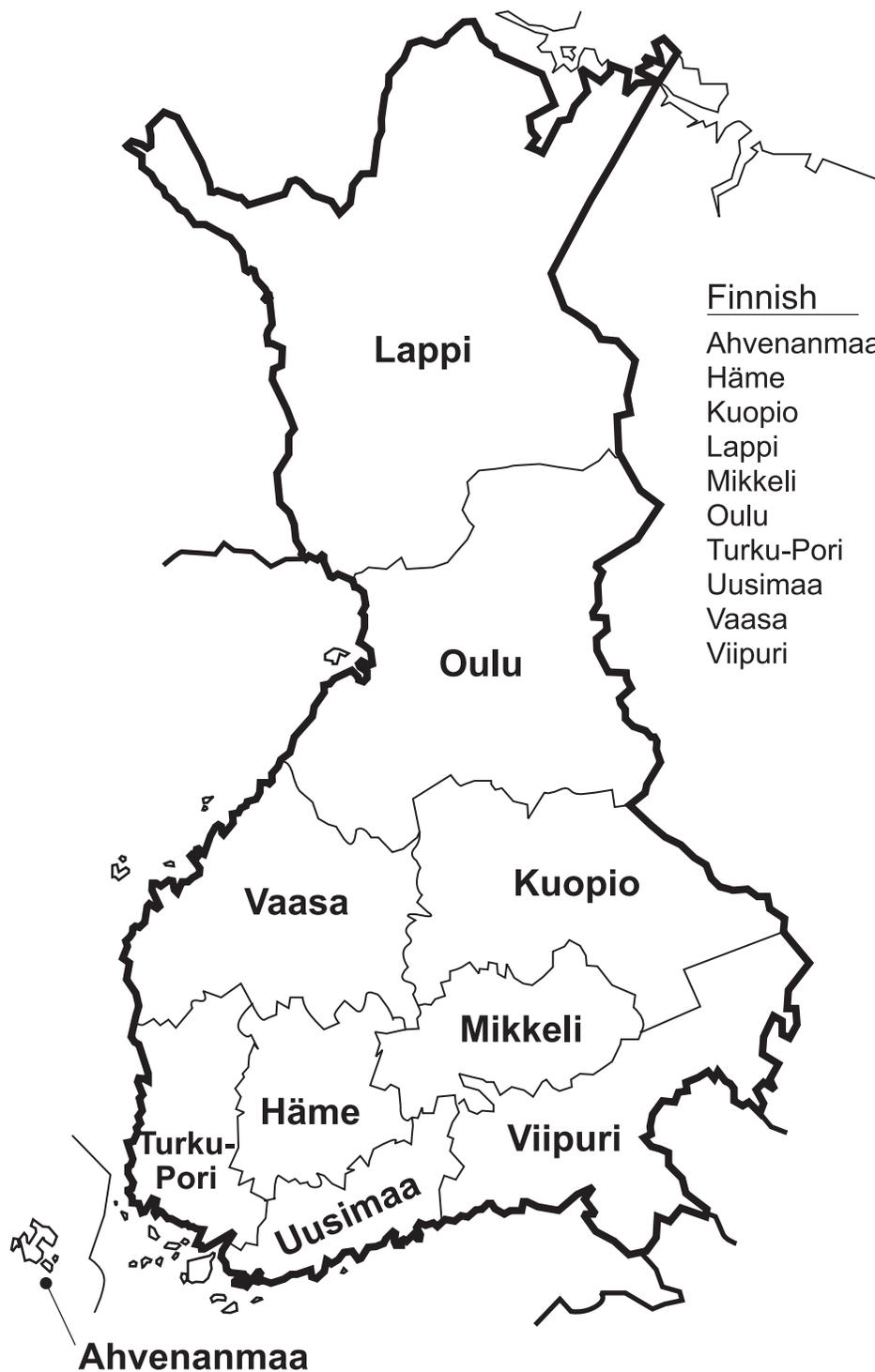
Note: Records of previous research (Genealogy, Biography, History, Periodicals, and Societies) are useful for most goals, but they are not listed unless they are *especially* helpful.

1. If You Need	2. Search These Record Types First	3. Search These Record Types Next
Age	Church Records	Census, Probate Records
Birth date	Church Records	—
Boundaries and Origins	Gazetteers	Maps, History
Children	Church Records	Census, Probate
Death information	Church Records	Probate
Emigration date	Emigration and Immigration	Church Records
Ethnic background	Church Records	Minorities, Social Life and Customs, Ethnology
Historical background	History	Social Life and Customs
Maiden name	Church Records	—
Marriage information	Church Records	—
Occupations	Church Records	Probate, Occupations
Other family members	Church Records	Census, Probate
Parents	Church Records	Census, Probate
Physical description	Military Records	Biography, Genealogy
Place-finding aids	Postal and Shipping Guides	Gazetteers, Maps,
Place of residence	Church Records	Geographical Names Census, Taxation
Previous research	Genealogy, Periodicals	Biography, History, Archives and Libraries
Record-finding aids	Archives and Libraries	Bibliography, Genealogy
Religion	Church Records	Minorities, Encyclopedias and Dictionaries
Social activities	Social Life and Customs	History

# FINLAND - Provinces (Maakunnat/Landskapen)



# FINLAND - Counties of 1939 (Läänit/Länen)



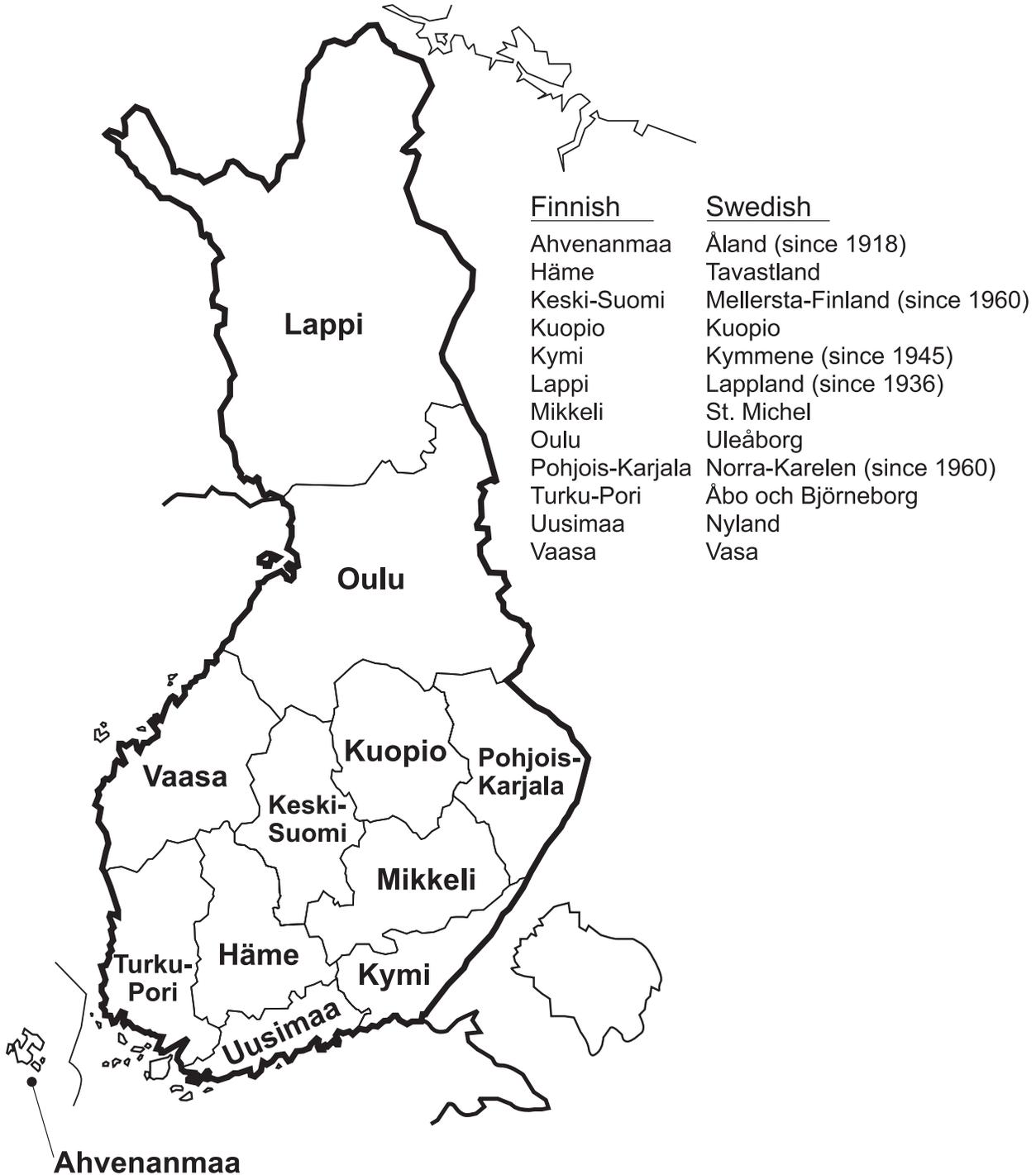
## Finnish

Ahvenanmaa  
Häme  
Kuopio  
Lappi  
Mikkeli  
Oulu  
Turku-Pori  
Uusimaa  
Vaasa  
Viipuri

## Swedish

Åland (since 1918)  
Tavastland  
Kuopio  
Lappland (since 1936)  
St. Michel  
Uleåborg  
Åbo och Björneborg  
Nyland  
Vasa  
Viborg

# FINLAND - Counties of 1960 (Läänit/Länen)



## **ARCHIVES AND LIBRARIES**

Archives collect and preserve original documents of such organizations as churches or governments. Libraries generally collect published sources, such as books, maps, and microfilm. This section describes the major repositories of genealogical and historical records and sources for Finland. When one of these institutions is referred to elsewhere in this outline, return to this section to obtain the address.

If you plan to visit one of these repositories, contact the organization and ask for information about collection, hours, services, and fees.

Although the records you need may be in an archive or library in Finland, the Family History Library has copies of many valuable genealogical records on microfilm from several Finnish archives and libraries.

The following major types of genealogical repositories are discussed in this outline:

- National archives
- Provincial archives
- Parish offices
- Military archives
- Other Finnish archives and libraries
- United States archives

### **National Archives**

The Finnish National Archives have documents pertaining to the whole country. Records of the cities of Helsinki, Espoo, Kauniainen, and Vantaa are also found in the national archives; however, records from Uusimaa County are in the provincial archives in Hämeenlinna.

Records of genealogical value at the national archives include the following:

- Church records
- Census records
- Court records
- Emigration records

The National Archives of Finland are open to the public. You may purchase microfilms through the national archives and request photocopies of the records by using forms obtained from the archives.

You can write to the archives at:

National Archives of Finland  
Kansallisarkisto  
PL 258  
00171 Helsinki  
Finland  
Telephone: 011-358-9-228 521  
Fax: 011-358-9-176 302  
<http://www.narc.fi/ka.html/> (Finnish)  
<http://www.narc.fi/sve/ka.html> (Swedish)

The archives are located at:

Rauhankatu 17  
Helsinki  
Finland

### **Provincial Archives**

Finland has eight regional archives that house records about their particular area. Most Finnish records of genealogical value are kept at provincial archives, including the following:

- Church records
- Census records
- Emigration records
- Court records

Each provincial archive also has a large collection of printed material about its area, including local histories and biographies.

The provincial archives are open to the public and will answer correspondence. Each archive has different service hours, so make sure you know the days and times it is open before visiting.

For Turku-Pori County, write:

Turun maakunta-arkisto  
PL 383  
20101 Turku  
Finland  
Telephone: 011-358-2-2760 818  
Fax: 011-358-2-2760 810  
<http://www.narc.fi/ma/tma/index.htm>

For Häme and Uusimaa Counties, write:

Hämeenlinnan maakunta-arkisto  
13100 Hämeenlinna  
Finland  
Telephone: 011-358-3-653 3801  
Fax: 011-358-3-653 3810  
<http://www.narc.fi/ma/hma/index.html>

For Kymi, Mikkeli, and Kuopio Counties and for the former Viipuri County and the parishes of Salla and Petsamo, which were ceded to the USSR in 1944, write:

Mikkelin maakunta-arkisto  
PL 2  
50101 Mikkeli  
Finland  
Telephone: 011-358-15-321 310  
Fax: 011-358-15-321 3157  
<http://www.narc.fi/ma/mma/mmmapsivu.htm>

For Vaasa County (see also Jyväskylä maakunta-arkisto), write:

Vaasan maakunta-arkisto  
PL 240  
65101 Vaasa  
Finland  
Telephone: 011-358-6-317 3912  
Fax: 011-358-6-312 0392  
<http://www.narc.fi/ma/vma/finhtml/index.htm>

For Keski-Suomi County, which was formed in 1960 from the eastern part of the former Vaasa county and the border parishes from Häme, Mikkeli, and Kuopio Counties, write:

Jyväskylän maakunta-arkisto  
40100 Jyväskylä  
Finland  
Telephone: 011-358-14-617 592  
Fax: 011-358-14-610 651  
<http://www.narc.fi/ma/jyma/index.html>

For Pohjois-Karjala County, which was formed in 1960 from the eastern half of the former Kuopio County, write:

Joensuun maakunta-arkisto  
PL 146  
80101 Joensuu  
Finland  
Telephone: 011-358-13-251 4602  
Fax: 011-358-13-251 4606  
<http://www.narc.fi/ma/joma/index.htm>

For the counties of Lappi and Oulu Counties, write:

Oulun maakunta-arkisto  
PL 31  
90101 Oulu  
Finland  
Telephone: 011-358-8-311 7066  
Fax: 011-358-8-311 7068  
<http://www.narc.fi/ma/oma/oulul.htm>

For the county of Ahvenanmaa (Åland) County, write:

Ålands landskapsarkiv  
PB 60  
22101 Mariehamn  
Finland  
Telephone: 011-358-18-253 44  
Fax: 011-358-18-191 55

### Parish Offices

Local parishes usually have church records created after 1900. They may also have earlier records. You can write to local parishes and church archives for information. For more information, see the "Church Records" section of this outline.

### Military Archives

Finnish military records that were created before 1810 are preserved at the Military Archives of Sweden. The address for the archives is:

Krigsarkivet  
S-115 88 Stockholm  
Sweden  
Telephone: 011-46-8-782 41 00  
Fax: 011-46-8-782 69 76  
<http://www.ra.se/kra/>

Finnish military records from 1810 are at the Military Archives of Finland. (Most of the records begin in 1812.) The address for the archives is:

Sota-arkisto  
PL 266  
00170 Helsinki  
Finland  
Telephone: 011-358-9-161 6362  
Fax: 011-358-9-161 6371

### Other Finnish Archives and Libraries

Many genealogical works are deposited in the University of Helsinki Library. The address is:

Helsingin yliopiston kirjasto  
Unioninkatu 36  
00170 Helsinki  
Finland  
<http://renki.helsinki.fi/hyk/kirjasto/kokoelma/arkistot.html>

An archive that has newspaper clippings from Swedish-language newspapers from the early 1900s to the present, including death announcements, emigration information, and indexes, is:

Brages Urklippsverk  
Kaserngatan 28  
00130 Helsingfors  
Finland

Finland has many organized historical and genealogical societies. Some societies maintain libraries and archives that collect valuable records. For more information, see the “Societies” section of this outline.

### United States Archives

The following archives have specialized collections on Finnish immigration and other records:

Finnish-American Historical Archives  
Suomi College  
601 Quincy Street  
Hancock, MI 49930  
USA

Immigration History Research Center  
University of Minnesota  
826 Berry Street  
St. Paul, MN 55114  
USA

Lutheran Church in America Archives  
1100 E. 55th Street  
Chicago, IL 60615  
USA

### Inventories, Registers, Catalogs

Most archives have catalogs, inventories, and guides that describe their records and how to use them. If possible, study these guides before you visit or use the records of an archive so that you can effectively use your time.

The following publication is a comprehensive list of Finnish archives. It gives names and addresses of the archives and a brief description of their holdings:

*Suomen arkistojen opas: Arkiven i Finland, en handledning: Guide to Archives Repositories in Finland.* Helsinki: Valtion painatuskeskus, 1975. (FHL book 948.97 A35v no. 6 1975; computer number 139337.)

A general guide written in English about the Finnish public archives is:

*Guide to the Public Archives of Finland.* Helsinki: National Archives, 1980. (FHL book 948.97 J5g; computer number 40247.)

Helpful guides written in Finnish and Swedish about the National Archives are:

*Kansallisarkisto, asiakkaan opas* (The National Archives: A Guide). Helsinki: Kansallisarkisto, 1994. (FHL book 948.972 J5k; computer number 826987.)

*Riksarkivet, en handledning* (The National Archives: A Guide). Helsingfors: Riksarkivet, 1995. (FHL book 948.972 J5ka; computer number 826988.)

The following book series contains a guide to the holdings of the National Archives of Finland:

*Valtionarkiston yleisluettelo—Översiktskatalog för Riksarkivet* (Inventory for the National Archives). 4 vols. Helsinki: Valtioneuvoston kirjapaino, 1956–73. (FHL book 948.97 A35s; computer number 155950.)

The following book contains a guide to the provincial archives of Finland:

*Maakunta-arkistojen opas* (Guide to the Provincial Archives). Helsinki: Valtion painatuskeskus, 1976. (FHL book 948.97 A35v no. 2 1976; computer number 139382.)

A guide to the military archives has been published in English, Swedish, and Finnish:

*Guide to the Military Archives of Finland.* Helsinki: The Military Archives, 1977. (FHL book 948.97 J5ga; computer number 830849.)

*Sota-arkiston opas* (Guide to the Military Archives). Helsinki: Valtion painatuskeskus, 1974. (FHL book 948.97 A35v no.5 1974; computer number 139292.)

*Krigsarkivet: en handledning* (Guide to the Military Archives). Helsingfors: Statens tryckericentral, 1977. (FHL book 948.97 A35v no. 9 1977; computer number 139288.)

These guides are available at the Family History Library. They may also be available at your public or university library or through interlibrary loan.

To find other inventories, guides, catalogs, and directories, look in the Locality Search of the Family History Library Catalog under:

FINLAND - ARCHIVES AND LIBRARIES  
FINLAND - ARCHIVES AND LIBRARIES -  
INVENTORIES, REGISTERS, CATALOGS

### Computer Networks and Bulletin Boards

Computers with modems can be useful tools for obtaining information from selected archives and libraries. In a way, computer networks themselves serve as a library. The Internet, certain computer bulletin boards, and commercial on-line services help family history researchers:

- Locate other researchers.
- Post queries.
- Send and receive e-mail.
- Search large databases.
- Search computer libraries.
- Join in computer chat and lecture sessions.

You can find computerized research tips and information about ancestors from Finland in many sources at local, provincial, national, and international levels. The list of sources is growing rapidly. Most information is available at no cost.

Some very useful databases and guides for Finland are available on the Internet. In this outline, you will find references to sites that contain indexes and transcripts of Finnish church records, emigration records, maps, and research guides. You can also find information about addresses and activities of various societies and archives on the Internet.

General sites that act as an index to many interesting Finnish genealogical sites on the Internet include:

- Family History Finland, part of the WorldGenWeb project:  
<http://www.open.org/rumcd/genweb/finn.html>
- Cyndi's List for Finland/Suomi:  
<http://www.cyndislist.com/finland.htm>
- Genealogical Research in Finland:  
<http://www.genealogia.fi/indexe.htm>
- Family History Library home page:  
<http://www.familysearch.org/>

## **BIOGRAPHY**

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A biography is a history of a person's life. In a biography you may find the individual's birth, marriage, and death information and the names of his parents, children, or other family members. Use the information carefully because there may be inaccuracies.

Many brief biographies have been gathered and published in collective biographies, sometimes called *biographical encyclopedias* or *dictionaries*. Usually these only include biographies of prominent or well-known citizens of a country. Some feature specific groups of people, such as bankers or musicians.

Some significant Finnish biographical collections available through the Family History Library are:

*The Scandinavian Biographical Archives*. New York: K. G. Saur, 1989. (FHL fiche 6060424–31, 6060441–45, 6060452–66; computer number 409520.) The information in this collection comes from many sources and is in alphabetical order by surname. It also has an index (FHL book 948 D32s; computer number 731014). The second section contains Finnish and Swedish biographical sketches. To find more specific microfiche numbers for this material, look in the Locality Search of the Family History Library Catalog under:

### FINLAND - BIOGRAPHY

*Biographica* (Biographies). Salt Lake City: Utahin Sukututkimusseuralle kuvannut AB. Rekolid, 1952. (FHL film 55735–55767; computer number 355764.)

*Kansallinen elämäkerrasto* (Biographical Encyclopedia of Finland). Porvoo: WSOY, 1927–34. (FHL book 948.97 D36k; computer number 194617.)

Colliander, O. I. *Suomen kirkon paimenmuisto* (Memorial of the Clergy of Finland). Salt Lake City: Utah in Sukututkimusseuralle kuvannut AB. Rekolid, 1952. (FHL film 55724–34; computer number 76320.)

The Finnish Historical Society is working on a project to publish biographical sketches of 6,000 Finns. This collection will first be available on the Internet, later on compact disc, and finally in book form. The biographies that have been completed are in Finnish, but eventually many will also be available in English. Following are the addresses for the trilingual home page for this organization and for their biographical database, respectively:

<http://www.histseura.fi/>

<http://194.100.110.49:3000/KB/default.htm>

You can find collective biographies at the Family History Library in the Locality Search of the Family History Library Catalog under:

FINLAND - BIOGRAPHY  
FINLAND, [COUNTY] - BIOGRAPHY  
FINLAND, [COUNTY], [TOWN] -  
BIOGRAPHY

You may also find some biographical information in Finnish local history books. See the "History" section of this outline for more information.

## CEMETERIES

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If you know the specific area where your ancestor lived, you may contact the local mortuary [*hautausoimisto/begravningsbyrå*] for information about burials that occurred after the 1920s.

Cemeteries and churchyards keep records of the location of graves. Graves are often reused after 25 years, and the tombstones are replaced. But the cemetery records generally provide both birth and death dates of everyone who has been buried there.

The Family History Library has not microfilmed any Finnish cemetery records, but the library does have the yearbooks of the Finnish Genealogical Society, which list the gravestones of several old cemeteries. The yearbooks have a personal name index for the first 13 volumes, which cover 1917 to 1929 (to find out what parish graveyards are included, you must search each volume of the yearbook separately):

*Vuosikirja: Årsskrift* (Yearbook). Lahti: Kirjapaino ja Sanomalehti Oy, [1917]. (FHL book 948.97 D25v; computer number 76320.)

## CENSUS

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### General Background

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A census is a count and description of the population. In Finland records similar to census records are called *henkikirjat/mantalslängder*. These records were a type of population registration kept for taxation purposes.

Various tax lists were kept from the 1530s on; however, they are not as comprehensive as the *henkikirjat/mantalslängder*, which began in 1634.

Another record similar to a census is the communion book. For more information, see the “Church Records” section of this outline.

The *henkikirjat/mantalslängder* precede the earliest church records and can frequently be used to extend family lines beyond what is recorded in the church records. They also can be used to fill in information where the church records have gaps or are missing.

Various age groups were included in the early *henkikirjat/mantalslängder*:

- 1634–1651: persons over age 12
- 1652–1855: persons between ages 15 and 63

- 1655 on: persons between ages 15 and 63 and heads of households over age 63

Before 1765 some people did not have to register for the *henkikirjat/mantalslängder* because they did not have to pay the associated taxes:

- From 1640 on, the nobility and their servants did not have to register.
- From 1652 on, owners of large estates did not have to register.
- Soldiers generally did not have to register while they served.
- Very poor people did not have to register.

After 1765 the government began to use the *henkikirjat/mantalslängder* for statistical purposes; therefore, everyone—including people exempt from the taxes—was required to register. People gradually complied.

### Using Census Records

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Before using original census records, you should first use the *Suomen asutuksen yleisluettelo/Generalregistret över bosättningen i Finland* (General Register of Settlement in Finland). This register includes 1539 to 1809. See the “Public Records” section of this outline for more information.

The *henkikirjat/mantalslängder* records are grouped in two time periods:

- 1634–1809
- 1810–1860

All of the records have a similar format, listing the districts, parishes, and villages. Within each village, the taxpayers are listed by household. The head of the household is listed by name. Other members of the household are indicated by numbers in various columns. In many of the later records, all members of the household are listed by name. Ages are frequently mentioned.

#### 1634–1809

The *henkikirjat/mantalslängder* for 1634 to 1809 are part of the *Uudempi tilikirjakokoelma/Nyare räkenskapssamlingen* (New Collection of Accounts). See the “Public Records” section of this outline for a description of this source.

You can find these records by looking in the Locality Search of the Family History Library Catalog under:

FINLAND, [COUNTY] - CENSUS  
FINLAND, [COUNTY] - MILITARY  
RECORDS  
FINLAND, [COUNTY] - PUBLIC RECORDS

The catalog has two sets of records under the same title, *Uudempi tilikirjakokoelma/Nyare räkenskapssamlingen* (New Collection of Accounts):

- *Henkikirjat/mantalslängder*. The catalog entry refers to the year and number of each volume. The catalog entry does not describe the records.
- *Other records*. Besides the *henkikirjat/mantalslängder*, this collection also includes other records, such as tithes, general accounts, and so forth. At the beginning of each volume is a list of the contents.

An index to the *henkikirjat/mantalslängder* is available for this time period. It is organized by civil districts [*kihlakunta/härad*] and cities and specifies the page number on which the district or city begins within each census volume. This index is:

*Luettelo henkikirjamikrofilmien käyttökopioista 1634–1808/Förteckning över brukskopior av mikrofilmer av mantalslängder 1634–1808* (Inventory of Microfilms of the 1634–1808 Censuses). Ed. Matti Walta. 2nd rev. ed. *Helsinki*: Valtionarkisto, 1989. (FHL book 948.97 A33La 1989; barcode 021774.)

## 1810–1860

To find Finnish *henkikirjat/mantalslängder* that were kept from 1810 to 1860, look in the Locality Search of the Family History Library Catalog under:

FINLAND, [COUNTY] - CENSUS -  
1810–1860

During this time period, the *henkikirjat/mantalslängder* were only filmed every five years. These films have internal indexes to the districts and parishes indicating initial page numbers.

## CHURCH HISTORY

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It is helpful to understand the historical events that led to the creation of records, such as parish registers, where your family is listed.

The Swedes brought Christianity to Finland in the form of Roman Catholicism between 1050 or 1150 and 1300. Along with religion, the Swedes also

established administration in southwestern Finland, from which it spread north and east.

By the time of the Protestant Reformation, Finland was an integral part of the Swedish kingdom. The Lutheran religion became the kingdom's official state church in 1611. When Finland gained its independence in 1917, 98 percent of the population was Lutheran. In the Family History Library Catalog, the Finnish Church [*Suomen Kirkko/Finska Kyrkan*] is listed as the author of church records.

While the Swedes were introducing Christianity in the west, the Novgorodians, who were from a Russian city-state, converted the eastern Finns to Eastern Orthodoxy. The Swedish government continually contended against the practice of Orthodoxy, and the Orthodox population remained very small.

Historically, the orthodox religion in Finland has been called Greek Catholic [*Kreikkalais-katolinen/Grekisk katolsk*]. The term *Greek Catholic* in east central Europe refers to the Uniates; however, in Finland it refers to the Orthodox Church of Finland [*Suomen ortodoksinen kirkko/Finlands ortodoxa kyrka*]. The Orthodox Church of Finland also became a state church in 1918. Today, 1.5 percent of the Finnish population belongs to this church.

Other denominations were tolerated, especially from the late 1800s on. Methodists, Baptists, Roman Catholics, and other groups were quite small in Finland. The earliest records from these groups date back to the 1890s. From 1923 on, when a freedom of religion law was passed, people without a religious preference were recorded in the civil registry [*Siviilirekisteri/Civil registret*]. These records are also discussed in the “Civil Registration” section of this outline.

## CHURCH RECORDS

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Records of births, marriages, and deaths are commonly called *vital records* because critical events in a person's life are recorded in them. Church records are vital records made by parish ministers. They are often referred to as *parish registers* or *churchbooks*. They include records of christenings and births, marriages, burials and deaths, and communions. Church records may also include account books, confirmations, and records of people moving in and out of a parish.

In general the Lutheran church began keeping records after a 1686 royal decree. Each parish gradually complied with this decree.

Before the decree some prominent churchmen, including bishop Johannes Rudbeckius in Sweden and bishops Isak Rothovius and Johannes Gezelius in Finland, promoted record keeping. Hence, some parishes began keeping records earlier. For example, Teisko birth records begin in 1648.

Since Finland was a part of the Swedish kingdom in 1686, church records were kept in Swedish. Records were not kept in Finnish until after 1863, when Finnish was made an official language in Finland. The transition from Swedish into Finnish was gradual, and about 30 Finnish parishes still use Swedish as their primary language. This outline gives the names of records and institutions in both languages.

Church records [*kirkonkirjat/kyrkoböcker*] are the primary sources for accurate information on names; dates; and places of births, marriages, and deaths. Since the state entrusted the church to keep vital records, virtually every person who lived in Finland was recorded in the church records from the time the records began.

In Finland, birth, marriage, and death records are called history books [*historiakirjat/historieböcker*], and the communion books are called main books [*pääkirjat/huvudböcker*].

### **Information Recorded in Church Registers**

Information recorded in church books varied over time. Later records generally give more complete information than earlier ones.

No uniform format for church records was used, but the information listed in the various formats was generally the same.

### **Births [*Syntyneet/Födda*] and Baptisms [*Kastetut/Döpta*]**

Children were generally baptized or christened within a few days of birth. Stillbirths were generally registered in both the baptism and burial records.

Christening registers usually contain:

- Names of the infant and parents.
- The baptism date (later registers also contain the birth date).
- The child's legitimacy status.
- Names of godparents and witnesses.
- Father's occupation.
- The family's place of residence.

The records may also contain:

- Death information if the child died very young.
- The street name or family's address if they lived in a larger city.

Earlier registers typically give less information, sometimes including only the names of the child and father and the date of the christening. Until the end of the 1700s many pastors either did not include the mother's name in the birth records or included only her given name.

### **Marriages [*Vihityt/Vigda*]**

Couples were generally married in the bride's home parish. Typically, people were well into their 20s before they married.

Marriage registers generally include:

- Names of the bride and groom.
- Marriage date.
- The residences of the bride and groom before the marriage.
- The occupations of the bride and groom.
- Marital status (single or widowed).
- The names and residences of witnesses and possibly the parents.
- The three dates on which the marriage intentions were announced in addition to the marriage date.

The three dates on which the marriage intentions were announced are often referred to as banns [*kuulutetut/förelysta*]. They ensured that the persons to be married fulfilled all legal conditions for marriage, such as being of age, having parental consent, not being closely related, and widowers and widows having probated their former spouses' estate. Banns may also be in a separate register.

### **Deaths [*Kuolleet/Döda*] and Burials [*Haudatut/Begravna*]**

Burials were recorded in the parish where the person died and was buried. Burials usually took place within a few days of death.

Burial registers often give the following information:

- Name of the deceased

- Burial date and death date
- Age of the deceased
- Place of residence
- Cause of death

For the death of a woman or child, earlier burial records often list only the husband's or father's name and the word for *wife* or *child*. They may not give the name of the deceased.

Burial records may exist for individuals who were born before the earliest birth and marriage records and can at times extend your research another generation. Stillbirths were generally recorded in both the christening and burial registers; however, many stillbirths were recorded only in the burial records.

### **Church Records Extracts [Kirkonkirjojen kopia/Avskrifter av kyrkoböcker]**

To preserve the original records, the Finnish Genealogical Society has transcribed Finnish church records. These transcriptions are called church record extracts [*Kirkonkirjojen kopia/Avskrifter av kyrkoböcker*].

The extracts cover births, marriages, deaths, and sometimes church accounts and moving records from the earliest records, some beginning in the 1600s, to at least 1850.

The extracts are written in modern handwriting and are therefore easier to read than the original records. The information in these records has been put into columns and contains the basic information as in the original records. However, christening extracts do not list the names of the witnesses, and other random information is also left out.

The Family History Library Catalog lists the original church records as *kirkonkirjat* and the extracts separately as *kirkonkirjojen kopia* under:

FINLAND, [COUNTY], [PARISH] - CHURCH RECORDS

The extracts of birth records and some marriage records have also been extracted and included in the International Genealogical Index®. You can find alphabetical printouts for many parishes in the catalog under the heading:

FINLAND, [COUNTY], [PARISH] - CHURCH RECORDS - INDEXES

### **Confirmation Registers [Rippilapset/Skriftskolebarn; Konfirmeringer]**

A person's confirmation, or first communion, generally took place between the ages of 14 and 16. Most parishes kept confirmation records, the earliest dating from the mid 1700s. The records frequently list boys and girls separately by villages or residences, giving their names and birth dates or ages.

### **Communion Records [Rippikirjat/Kommunionböcker]**

The 1686 royal decree required ministers to keep rolls of all their parishioners, where the parishioners lived, their attendance at communion, and their religious knowledge. Some communion books go back to the late 1600s. They exist for most parishes from the mid 1700s.

Many ministers began making yearly entries for each household, but with time, ministers began making entries every 5 to 10 years.

Communion records list the inhabitants of a parish by village, farm, and household. The head of the household appears first and other household members next. The records generally list the following information:

- Each person's name and occupation or his or her relationship to the head of the household
- Each person's birth date and birthplace and possibly marriage date and death date
- The place to or from which a person moved and the moving dates
- Circumstances such as poverty, illness, illegitimacy, and committed offences

Typically earlier communion records have less information than later ones. Search all available communion books for the place where and time when the person lived. Verify all birth, marriage, and death dates in the respective original records.

### **Preconfirmation Records [Lastenkirjat/Barnböcker]**

Pre-confirmation records were kept primarily in the parishes of eastern Finland. Many parishes in western Finland also kept them, at least briefly. These records list each residence, the parents, and the children who had not yet been confirmed (usually all children younger than about age 14). After their confirmation, the children were transferred into the communion book.

## **Moving Records [Muuttaneet/Muuttokirjat; Flyttningslängder/Flyttningsbetyg]**

Moving records can help you trace a family as they moved around Finland. You can find moving records in several sources.

**Communion Books.** Ministers used the communion books to note individuals and families who moved into or out of the parish.

**Moving Certificates.** By the late 1700s some parishes began to issue moving certificates [*muuttokirjat/flyttningsbetyg*] to persons leaving the parish. These certificates identified the persons to their new minister and were chronologically archived in the new parish.

The certificates usually included the following information about a person:

- Name
- Birth date and birthplace
- Occupation
- Marital status
- Reading ability
- Knowledge of religion
- Worthiness to partake of the communion
- Character reference
- Vaccination information
- Place where the person was registered for taxation

If a whole family moved, the certificate generally contained at least the name of each family member.

**Arrival and Removal Records.** In the 1800s parishes began using special arrival and removal records [*sisään- ja ulosmuuttaneet; seurakuntaan ja seurakunnasta muuttaneet/in- och utflyttningslängder*]. These records, which are frequently essential to family history research, chronologically list the people who moved into or out of the parish.

The records give the following information about a person:

- Name
- Occupation
- Parish moved to or from

- Previous or subsequent residence in the parish. In more recent records, the residence is indicated by the page number in the communion book.

The records sometimes list:

- Age or date of birth
- Religious knowledge
- Character reference
- Gender

Wives and children may not be mentioned by name, only as numbers in a separate column.

## **Finding Church Records**

Church records were kept at the local parish church. The term *parish* [*seurakunta/socken; församling*] refers to the jurisdiction of a church minister.

Before you can find church records, you must know the name of the parish that kept the records about your ancestor.

The boundaries of a parish may cover many villages and farms, which generally have their own place-names. If you know a place of origin, use a gazetteer to determine whether the name refers to a farm, village, parish, or county. See the “Gazetteers” section of this outline for more information.

For large cities that have several parishes, the Family History Library Catalog lists the parishes under the name of the city.

Over time, some parishes have been divided and borders have been changed. The earlier records of a particular parish may be found in its “mother” (previous) parish. A guide to the divisions of the parishes in Finland is in:

Leinberg, K. G. *Finlands territoriala församlingars ålder, utbildning och utgrening intill 1885 års utgång* (Finland’s Territorial Parishes’ Ages, Development, and Branching through the End of 1885). Helsingfors: Svenska Literatursällskapet, 1886. (FHL book 948.97 B4 No. 3; film 157159; computer number 186251.)

## **Records at the Family History Library**

The Family History Library has Finnish Lutheran church records from the time they begin, in the late 1600s or early 1700s, to 1860 and sometimes to 1900.

The Family History Library also has church records from Orthodox parishes in Finland beginning in the late 1700s and continuing until about 1900 and most of the church records (both Lutheran and Orthodox) from areas that were ceded to the Soviet Union in 1944.

To find Finnish church records, look in the Locality Search of the Family History Library Catalog under:

FINLAND, [COUNTY], [PARISH] - CHURCH RECORDS

### Records Not at the Family History Library

The Family History Library does not have recent church records. You can obtain this information by writing to the local parishes in Finland. If you do not speak Finnish, you may write your letter in English. In your letter, include a statement that you are willing to pay for the services you request. You will be billed when the research has been completed. *A Finnish Letter-Writing Guide* (36215) is available through Family History Library publications.

For a list of the Lutheran and Orthodox parishes in Finland and their addresses, see:

*Kunta- ja rekisterinpitäjälueetelo: Förteckning över kommuner och registerförare* (Register of the Parishes and Record Keepers). Helsinki: Västörrekisterikeskus, 1981. (FHL book 948.97 E4k; computer number 125454.)

You can also find addresses for the Evangelical-Lutheran Churches in Finland on the Internet:

<http://www.evl.fi/kkh/y/srkosoit/index.htm>

You may also find more information in a large database, the HisKi Project, that is being developed for the Internet. The database includes indexes and extracts to many Finnish parish records. Records from additional parishes are added to the database as they become available.

The database includes christenings, marriages, burials, and moves. The indexes include records for some parishes during the period 1860 to 1900, for which the Family History Library does not currently have all the records.

You can search the indexes for a single parish, several parishes, or by a county or region. To find the HisKi Project in English, go to the following Internet address:

<http://194.252.3.119/historia/indexe.html>

## Search Strategies

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When you begin using church records, it is usually best to first verify the information you already have before you try to find new information.

The following steps may be helpful as you use Finnish church records:

1. Find a person's birth record. Write down the name of the parents and the place where the family was living.
2. Search the communion records and preconfirmation rolls, if applicable, of that parish for the date and place where the family was then living (several households may have been living in the same place). Note all information about the family, including names, birth dates, birthplaces, marriage and death dates, and moving information.
3. Search the original church records to verify the information you found in the communion and preconfirmation books.
4. Repeat steps 1 to 3 for the person's parents, siblings, or other persons of interest.

If you do not find earlier generations, search neighboring parishes and the International Genealogical Index.

## CIVIL REGISTRATION

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Records of births, marriages, and deaths are commonly referred to as vital records because they refer to critical events in a person's life. Civil registration is the vital records made by the government. Vital records of Finland have traditionally been kept by the church. See the "Church Records" section of this outline for more information.

In 1923 a freedom of religion law was passed. As a result, people who did not have a religious preference were recorded in a civil registry [*Siviilirekisteri/Civil registret*]. Later, people who belonged to churches other than the state churches were also included in the civil registry.

In 1970 the government's census records [*henkikirjat/mantalslängder*] became the basis of a general population register [*Västörrekisteri/Befolkningsregistret*] for all people in Finland. This population register also incorporated the information from the earlier civil registry [*Siviilirekisteri/Civil registret*]. For more information about Finnish censuses, see the "Census Records" section of this outline.

The Västöräkisteri/Befolkningsregistret has local offices on a commune (parish) level. The central office has a computerized register that includes information on individuals nationwide. The central office can help you find living relatives in Finland.

You can contact the office at:

Västöräkisterikeskus  
PL 7 (Kellosilta 4)  
00521 Helsinki  
Finland  
Telephone: 011-358-9-229 161  
Fax: 011-358-9-2291 6795  
<http://www.vaestorekisterikeskus.fi/>

## **COURT RECORDS**

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Court records may contain genealogical information. These records are an account of court proceedings in deciding property disputes, guardianships, thefts, drunkenness, assaults, or murders. Court records concerning probate cases were kept separately. See the “Probate Records” section of this outline for more information.

Court records may give details that bring to life names on a chart and that aid in compiling a family history.

To find court records in the Family History Library Catalog, look in the Locality Search under:

FINLAND, [COUNTY] - COURT RECORDS

## **EMIGRATION AND IMMIGRATION**

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Emigration and immigration sources list the names of people leaving (emigrating) or coming into (immigrating) a country. For Finland, emigration information is usually found in passport records and passenger lists. The information in these records generally includes the emigrants’ names, ages, occupations, and destinations and their places of origin.

In addition to determining where an emigrant came from, emigration and immigration records can help you construct family groups. If you do not find your ancestor, you may find emigration information about your ancestor’s neighbors. People who lived near each other in Finland often settled together in their new country.

Records were created when individuals emigrated from or immigrated to Finland. Other records document an ancestor’s arrival in the destination country. This section discusses:

- Finding the emigrant’s town of origin.
- Emigration from Finland.
- Immigration to Finland.
- Finnish passport lists.
- Passenger lists (departures).
- The Institute of Migration.
- Records of Finnish emigrants in their destination countries.

### **Finding the Emigrant’s Town of Origin**

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Once you have traced your family back to an emigrant ancestor, you must determine the city or town where he or she was from. Finland has no nationwide index prior to 1970. Birth, marriage, and death records were kept locally and chronologically.

Several sources may give your ancestor’s place of origin. You may be able to learn the town your ancestor came from by talking to older family members. Members of your family or a library may have documents that name the city or town such as:

- Birth, marriage, and death certificates.
- Obituaries.
- Journals.
- Photographs.
- Letters.
- Family Bibles.
- Church certificates or records.
- Naturalization applications and petitions.
- Passenger lists.
- Passports.
- Family heirlooms.

### **Emigration from Finland**

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Through the years, many Finns have immigrated to many places—mostly Sweden, Norway, North America, Russia, and Australia.

## North America

As early as 1638 Finns and Swedes colonized New Sweden, which was located around the Delaware River. Many of these Finns had been living in central Sweden, and their ancestors had left Finland during the 1500s.

From the 1860s onward, an estimated 316,000 Finns, primarily from Ostrobothnia, immigrated to the United States. Most settled in Michigan, especially in the upper peninsula. Many Finns also settled in Minnesota, Massachusetts, New York, Ohio, Wisconsin, Illinois, Montana, Washington, Oregon, and California.

From 1860 to 1996 about 92,000 Finns immigrated to Canada, especially Toronto. Finnish immigration to Canada peaked in the 1920s.

## Australia

About 10,000 Finns have immigrated to Australia since World War II.

## Sweden and Norway

Throughout the years, many Finns, including colonists, refugees, and laborers, have immigrated to Sweden. Many Swedes, especially during the Swedish Era, have emigrated to Finland as well. Some localities in northern and central Sweden have had a Finnish population for several centuries. Since World War II, about half a million Finns have moved to Sweden. An authoritative history of the Finns in Sweden is:

Tarkiainen, Kari. *Finnarnas Historia i Sverige* (The History of the Finns in Sweden). 2 vols. Helsinki: SHS, 1990. (FHL book 948.97 W2t; computer number 617064.)

Many Finns have also moved to northern and east-central Norway. From Norway many of them have immigrated to the United States.

## Russia

Russia, especially its former capital, St. Petersburg, was a destination for Finnish laborers, officials, and military personnel serving both the Russian Empire and the Grand Duchy of Finland. At the turn of the century, 36,000 Finns lived in Russia, and 83 percent of them were in the St. Petersburg region.

Finns living in St. Petersburg were a mobile group, and many of them later returned to Finland. A history of St. Petersburg and the Finns that lived there is:

Engman, Max. *St. Petersburg och Finland, Migration och influens 1702–1917* (St. Petersburg and Finland, Migration and Influence 1702–1917). Helsingfors: Societas Scientiarum Fennica, 1983. (FHL book 948.97 W2en; computer number 382791.)

From the 1820s on, long before the general wave of Finnish immigration to the United States, hundreds of Finns came to Alaska as representatives of the Russian Empire, making up about one-third of the Russian population there. Among them were the families of government officials, Lutheran clergymen, and many seamen. After 1867 many of these Finns became early settlers in California.

## Immigration into Finland

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After World War I, about 30,000 Russian subjects immigrated to Finland, many of whom were Karelian or Finnish.

In World War II, Finland lost its eastern regions to the Soviet Union. Nearly half a million people were evacuated from the areas.

The following five-volume set lists most of the evacuated Karelians who resettled in post-war Finland:

*Siirtokarjalaisten tie* (The Path of the Evacuated Karelians). 4 vols. Turku: Nyky-Karjala Oy, 1970–71. (FHL book 948.97 W2si; films 1124548–1124549, computer number 127201.) This work indexes the evacuees by their home parishes and indicates the place to where they moved. The index is on film 1124579, item 2.

The evacuees brought most of their church records with them. These records are available at the Family History Library and at the Mikkeli Provincial Archives (for the address of the Mikkeli Archives, see the “Archives and Libraries” section of this outline).

A special project is in progress in the Mikkeli Provincial Archives to extract and alphabetize all persons listed in the Karelian church records from the time they begin until 1949. The archive staff does not perform genealogical research but can provide information, such as lists of surnames, from their database for a fee. You can write to the archives at:

Karjalan tietokanta  
PL 2  
50101 Mikkeli  
Finland

## **Finnish Passport Lists**

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The Finnish passport lists are the primary source for obtaining the immigrants' places of origin. The lists began around 1820 and are available on microfilm through 1920. The early lists are not as informative as the ones from the mid 1800s on. These lists record the passport recipients in chronological order and contain:

- Names.
- Occupations.
- Home parishes.
- Destination countries.
- The number of children included in the passport.

Immigrants could receive a passport in any county. Many received them in the county from which they embarked, not from their home county.

To find the passport lists in the Family History Library Catalog, look in the Locality Search under:

FINLAND, [COUNTY] - EMIGRATION AND IMMIGRATION

Both county offices [*lääninkanslia*] and city offices [*maistraatti*] issued passports. The catalog lists the county offices first and the city offices second.

It is useful to know that in these records the city of Vaasa is often called Nikolainkaupunki/Nikolaistad and abbreviated as N:stad.

## **Passenger Lists (Departures)**

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### **The Finnish Steamship Company [*Suomen Höyrylaiva Osakeyhtiö/Finska Ångfartygs Aktiebolaget*]**

In 1892 the Finnish Steamship Company [*Suomen Höyrylaiva Osakeyhtiö/Finska Ångfartygs Aktiebolaget*] began to coordinate the travel of emigrants on several ship lines that left from the port of Hanko/Hangö.

The passenger lists of the Finnish Steamship Company are arranged by ship line and year and include the following information about emigrants:

- Names
- Ages
- Port of departure
- Destinations

The records seldom indicate the emigrant's last residence in Finland. However, they do use the farm name as a surname, which can be a clue to the home parish.

The passenger lists of the Finnish Steamship Company have been microfilmed through 1960. To find them, look in the Locality Search of the Family History Library Catalog under:

FINLAND - EMIGRATION AND IMMIGRATION

### **Emigration through Other Countries**

Finns also traveled through the ports of other countries, primarily Göteborg, Malmö, and Stockholm in Sweden, and Trondheim in Norway.

The Swedish and Norwegian passenger lists were actually lists kept by the local police of people leaving the country. These lists generally include:

- Name.
- Age.
- Destination.
- Last residence (the specific place of residence is given about half the time; otherwise, it lists only Finland).

Below is a list of the ports and their records available through the Family History Library. For complete bibliographic information and film numbers, please search the Family History Library Catalog.

- Göteborg . . . . . Original records 1869–1920  
Index 1869–1951  
Index of Finns 1869–84 (FHL film 1043046;  
computer number 0391618)
- Malmö . . . . . Original records 1874–80  
Index 1874–1939  
Index of Finns 1879–1916 (FHL film 1613007;  
computer number 091474)
- Stockholm . . . . . Original records 1869–1904  
Index 1869–1920  
Index of Finns 1880–1932 (FHL films  
1613015–18; computer number 0062993)
- Trondheim . . . . . Original records 1867–1926  
Index 1867–1925  
Index of Swedes and Finns 1867–90 (FHL film  
1282961 item 3; computer number 0254155)

## **The Institute of Migration**

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The Institute of Migration in Turku, Finland, is preparing indexes to the following types of records:

- Passport records
- Passenger lists of the Finnish Steamship Company
- Emigrant letters
- Death notices of Finns who died abroad

The institute will search the databases for a moderate fee. You can contact the institute at:

Institute of Migration/Emigrant Register  
Piispankatu 3  
20500 Turku  
Finland  
Telephone: 011-358-2-231 7536  
Fax: 011-358-2-233 3460

To find a summary of the types of records in the collection and to check the progress of the database, check the institute's Web site at:

[http://www.utu.fi/erill/instmigr/index\\_e.htm](http://www.utu.fi/erill/instmigr/index_e.htm)

The Institute of Migration publishes a quarterly journal, *Siirtolaisuus* (Migration). (FHL book 948.97 W2s; computer number 0119994.)

Among the institute's other publications is a bibliography of sources about Finnish emigration:

Koivukangas, Olavi, and Simo Toivonen. *Suomen Siirtolaisuuden ja Maassamuuton Bibliografia: A Bibliography of Finnish Emigration and Internal Migration*. Turku: Siirtolaisuusinstituutti, 1978. (FHL book 948.97 W23k; computer number 0019647.)

### **National Archives**

The National Archives of Finland has the emigration lists that were kept by parish ministers for statistical purposes for 1882 to 1924. These are not available at the Family History Library, but you can obtain the information from them by writing to the National Archives (see the "Archives and Libraries" section of this outline for the address).

### **Records of Finnish Emigrants in Their Destination Countries**

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Sometimes the best sources for information about your ancestor are found in the country to which he or she immigrated. These sources sometimes provide the town of origin and other information.

To learn about these records, use handbooks, manuals, and research outlines, if available, for that country.

In U.S. records, especially passenger arrival records, Finns are often listed as being Russian or Swedish because Finland for a time was part of the Russian Empire or because many emigrants were Swedish-speaking Finns.

The following book gives a history of Finnish immigration to the United States and Canada and the names of many early Finnish immigrants:

Ilmonen, S. *Amerikan suomalaisten historia* (The History of Finnish Americans). 3 vols. Hancock, Mich.: by author, 1919, 1923, and 1926. (FHL book 973 W2i; computer number 243542.)

A translation to the third volume of this work, along with a comprehensive surname index to the names mentioned in the volume has also been made:

Ilmonen, S. *The History of Finnish Americans*. Vol. 3 of *Finnish and Scandinavian Migration Series*. Translated, edited, and indexed by Timothy Laitila Vincent. Salt Lake City: Family Sleuths, 1998. (FHL book 973 W2i vol. 3; computer number 831035.)

Another book listing the places of origin of many Finns is:

Vincent, Timothy Laitila. *Journal of Pastor Johan Wilhelm Eloheimo from the Evangelical Lutheran Parishes from Calmut, Michigan and Ironwood, Michigan*. Salt Lake City: Family Sleuths, 1998. (FHL book 977.49 K2or; computer number 831029.)

The following record might also be helpful:

*The Records of the Russian Consular Offices in the United States, 1862–1928*. Salt Lake City: Filmed by the Genealogical Society of Utah, 1986. (On 169 FHL films beginning with film 1463389; computer number 449311.) These records contain data on subjects of the Russian Empire, including Finns.

These records are indexed in:

Sack, Sallyann Amdur. *The Russian Consular Records Index and Catalog*. New York: Garland Publishing, 1987. (FHL book 973 D22s; film 1605681; computer number 453886.)

You can also find more information about finding the origins of immigrant ancestors in the *Tracing Immigrant Origins* (34111) research outline.

## ENCYCLOPEDIAS AND DICTIONARIES

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Encyclopedias provide information on branches of knowledge and treat specific topics comprehensively, usually in articles arranged alphabetically. They often contain valuable genealogical information. They can include articles about towns and places, prominent people, minorities, and religions. They can also give information about such diverse topics as record keeping practices, laws, customs, commerce, costumes, occupations, and archaic terminology.

The Family History Library has general knowledge encyclopedias in Finnish. They are listed in the Family History Library Catalog under:

### FINLAND - ENCYCLOPEDIAS AND DICTIONARIES

For information on language dictionaries, see the “Language and Languages” section of this outline.

## GAZETTEERS

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Gazetteers are dictionaries of place-names. Gazetteers describe towns and villages; parishes, counties, and provinces; rivers and mountains; and other geographical features. They usually include only the names of places that existed at the time the gazetteer was published, and the place-names are generally listed in alphabetical order. For small places, gazetteers generally include the names of higher government jurisdictions, such as civil offices, districts, counties, and so forth.

You can also use the Family History Library Catalog as a type of gazetteer. If you are using the catalog on microfiche, look at the beginning of the Locality Section for Finland to find an alphabetical list of the parish names in both Finnish and Swedish. This list directs you to the county where a parish is located and, consequently, where you will find it in the catalog.

If you are using the catalog on compact disc, use the Locality Search or Locality Browse to find the parishes and determine what county they belong to.

The Family History Library Catalog is based on the Finnish counties [*lääni/län*] as of 1945, but it also includes the ceded county of Viipuri. In addition, the International Genealogical Index includes the two counties founded in 1960 (see the “Maps” section of this outline for more information). In 1998 the counties were again redrawn.

Early Finnish records, such as the Old and New Collection of Accounts and military records, were organized by the old Finnish provinces [*maakunta/landskap*], which did not coincide with the counties with the same names (see the “Maps” section of this outline for more information). The catalog lists these records under all pertaining counties.

Regardless of the names a place may have had at various times, all Finnish places are listed in the

Family History Library Catalog as they appear in the following sources:

*Suomenmaa: maantieteellis-yhteiskunnallinen tieto- ja hakuteos* (Finland: A Geographical-Social Dictionary and Reference Work). 7 vols. Porvoo: WS, 1967–78. (FHL book 948.97 E2s; film 1224704, items 2–9; computer number 56190.)

*Suomenmaa: maantieteellis-taloudellinen ja historiallinen tietokirja* (Finland: A Geographical-Economical and Historical Dictionary). Vol. 5. Helsinki: Tietosanakirja-Osakeyhtiö, 1923. (FHL book 948.975 E2s; computer number 766506.) The library has only this volume, which describes Viipuri County, of the earlier edition of *Suomenmaa*.

The following source contains an alphabetical list of Finnish parishes, variations of their names, the counties they belong to, the date the parish records started, and county maps showing the parish boundaries:

Choquette, Margarita, Lee Choquette, and Matthew Russell. *Parish and County Listing with Maps of Finland*. Salt Lake City: Corp. of the President, 1991. (FHL book 948.97 E2ch; fiche 6068252; computer number 665344.)

The following two postal guides give the most comprehensive locality listings for Finland:

*Posti- ja lennätinlaitoksen osoitehakemisto: Post- och telegrafverkets adressförteckning* (Postal and Telegraph Address Register). Helsinki: Valtion Painatuskeskus, 1968. (FHL book 948.97 E4o; film 824098, item 1; computer number 125450.) This book lists places and which parish they belong to, but it does not list which county it belongs to.

Räsänen, Oskar. *Posti- ja sähkösanomaaosoitteiden hakemisto: Uppslagsbok för post- och telegramadresser* (Guide for Postal and Telegram Addresses). Helsinki: Valtionneuvoston kirjapaino, 1930. (FHL book 948.97 E8po; film 1440032, item 1; computer number 133632.) This postal guide, which was

printed in 1930, includes localities in the areas ceded to the Soviet Union. Note that places that are now in Lappi/Lapland County are listed in Oulu/Uleåborg County at that time.

To find more guides to locating places in Finland, check the Locality Search of the Family History Library Catalog under:

FINLAND - GAZETTEERS  
FINLAND - NAMES, GEOGRAPHICAL  
FINLAND - POSTAL AND SHIPPING  
GUIDES  
FINLAND - [COUNTY] - NAMES,  
GEOGRAPHICAL

## **GENEALOGY**

The term *genealogy* is used in this outline and in the Family History Library Catalog to describe a variety of records containing family information gathered by individuals, researchers, societies, or archives. These records may include pedigree charts, compiled information on families, correspondence, ancestor lists, research exchange files, record abstracts, and collections of original or copied documents. These records can be excellent sources of information that can save you valuable time. Because they are compiled from other sources, you must carefully evaluate them for accuracy.

### **Major Collections and Databases**

The Family History Library has several sources that contain previous research or that can lead you to others who are interested in sharing family information. These sources include:

- *International Genealogical Index*. This index provides names and vital information for millions of deceased persons who lived in Finland, mostly before 1900. This valuable research tool lists birth, christening, or marriage dates. The index for Finland includes names extracted from parish registers by volunteers and names submitted by other researchers.

The International Genealogical Index is available on microfiche and on compact disc as part of FamilySearch®. If you are using the microfiche, you need to know which county to search. If you are using the compact disc, however, the computer will search the entire country for any name. The International Genealogical Index includes Finnish counties since 1960. Because Finland created new counties in 1945 and 1960 some names may appear twice—once in the pre-war county and, if resubmitted, once in the new county.

Because of patronymic naming customs, the International Genealogical Index indexes Finnish records under both given names and surnames. On the compact disc edition, you can search for either a given name or a surname. On the microfiche edition, the surname fiche have black-on-white labels. The given name fiche have black-on-orange labels.

When using the Surname Search, it is best to search all the surnames a person was known by, such as the patronymic name, farm name, or family name. The counties of western Finland are generally designated as patronymic countries, which means that the each person is given a surname derived from the father's given name. The counties of eastern Finland are generally designated as fixed-surname counties. It is important to note that persons listed in the International Genealogical Index in an eastern county with a patronymic surname may have been incorrectly assigned the father's patronymic surname by the computer rather than their own patronymic name. (See the "Names, Personal" section of this outline for more information about Finnish names.)

- *Ancestral File™*. This file, part of FamilySearch, contains family history information linked in family groups and pedigrees that have been contributed since 1979. As of 1992 the file contains the names of millions of persons, including thousands of Finnish families. Ancestral File can print pedigree charts, family group records, and individual summary sheets for people in the file.
- *Family Group Records Collection*. More than eight million family group record forms have been microfilmed in the Family Group Records Collection. This includes many Finnish families. There are two major sections: the Archive Section and the Patrons Section. The film numbers for both sections are listed in the Author/Title Search of the Family History Library Catalog under:

### **FAMILY GROUP RECORDS COLLECTION**

#### **Family Histories and Newsletters**

Some Finnish families have produced histories or newsletters that may include genealogical information, biographies, photographs, and other excellent information. These histories or newsletters usually include several generations of the family.

The Family History Library has some published Finnish family histories and newsletters. These are listed in the Surname Search of the Family History Library Catalog and in the Locality Search of the

catalog under the place where the family was most prominent. Not every name found in a family history will be listed in the Family History Library Catalog; only the major surnames discussed in the history are included in the catalog.

One fairly comprehensive family genealogy is:

Kojonen, Eero. *Sursillin suku: Genealogia Sursilliana* (The Sursill Family Genealogy). Helsinki: Weilin and Göös, 1971. (FHL book 929.24897 Su 78a; film 1224709 item 8; computer number 163780.)

Many Finnish family histories are listed in:

Sivén, Gunnar. *Suomalainen sukuhakemisto: Genealogiskt repertorium för Finland* (Genealogical Reporatorim for Finland). Helsinki: Frenckellin Kirjapaino, 1943. (FHL book 948.97 B4s, v.15; computer number 153440.)

Mether, Leif. *Sukuhakemisto: Släktregister: Family Index*. Helsinki: Suomen Sukututkimusseura, 1992. (FHL book 948.97 D23me; computer number 651565.)

The Family History Library has many books on the genealogies of prominent Finnish families. One of these is:

Bergholm, Axel. *Sukukirja: Suomen aatelittomia sukuja* (Genealogies of Finnish Non-Noble Families). 2 vols. Helsinki: Otava, 1984. (FHL book 948.97 D2su; computer number 660789.) The 1901 edition is on FHL films 396357–8; the computer number is 660789.

### **Family Registers [*Perheluettelot*/*Familjeregister*]**

The Family History Library has two collections on microform that register Finnish families.

One of the collections is on microfilm and was compiled by Erkki Koivisto, a minister. It includes the following parishes:

- Kemi, Lappi, 1610–1908. (FHL film 1259704 items 2–3; computer number 17975.)
- Kemijärvi, Lappi, 1565–1957. (FHL films 1259703–4 item 1; computer number 16124.)
- Kuusamo, Oulu, 1659–1907. (FHL film 1259704 item 4, 1259705 items 1–3; computer number 15039.)
- Posio, Lappi, 1665–1854. (FHL film 1259705 item 4, 1259706 item 1; computer number 15531.)

- Savukoski, Lappi (including Sodankylä and Pelkosenniemi), 1640–1876 (FHL film 1259706 item 2; computer number 17265.)
- Tervola, Lappi, 1612–1866 (FHL film 1259706 items 3–4; computer number 16435.)
- Salla, Lappi, 1620–1968 (FHL film 1259701; computer number 16248.)

This collection uses a numbering system that allows you to easily follow families for several generations. To find out which years each film covers, see the Family History Library Catalog, in which family registers are referred to as *Perheluettelot*.

The other collection of family registers, titled *Henkilökortit*, is on microfiche and was compiled by O. V. Kankaanranta. This collection lists family groups alphabetically and includes information from about 1610 to the early 1900s for the following parishes in Vaasa County:

- Halsua (FHL fiche 6060446, 2567–75; computer number 153687)
- Kaustinen (FHL fiche 6060446, 2576–91; computer number 608959)
- Veteli (FHL fiche 6060446, 2592–2600, 2614–2627; computer number 608960)
- Perho (FHL fiche 6060446, 2601–13; computer number 608961)

For the alphabetical breakdown on each fiche of *Henkilökortit*, see the Family History Library Catalog.

Various historical books, including genealogies, have been published by two societies in Finland:

- *Suomen Sukututkimusseura: Genealogiska Samfundet i Finland* (Genealogical Society of Finland)
- *Svenska Litteratursällskapet i Finland* (Swedish Literature Society in Finland)

See the “Societies” section of this outline for more information about these two societies.

To find genealogical collections and family histories listed in the Locality Search of the Family History Library Catalog, look under:

FINLAND - GENEALOGY  
FINLAND, [COUNTY] - GENEALOGY  
FINLAND, [COUNTY], [TOWN] -  
GENEALOGY

If you find your surname in any of the sources described in this section, determine whether the entry actually pertains to your family. All persons with the same surname are not necessarily related. Often, you will have to do some original research before you can connect your ancestry to families listed in these sources.

## HERALDRY

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In early times coats of arms were common only among the noble class. Since the Finnish nobility was part of the Swedish nobility, most of the coats of arms for the noble families of Finland can be found in Swedish heraldic sources. They are listed in the Locality Search of the Family History Library Catalog under:

### SWEDEN - HERALDRY

A Swedish heraldry work that includes Finnish coats of arms in color is the following five-volume set:

Stjernstedt, A. W. *Sveriges ridderskaps och adels Wapenbok* (Swedish Coats of Arms of Knights and Nobility). 5 vols. Stockholm: Lewertin & Sjöstedt, 1865–79. (FHL book 948.5 D6s; computer number 347912.)

A guide to heraldic terminology in Scandinavia, including Finnish language terms, can be found in:

Raneke, Jan. *Nordisk heraldisk terminologi* (Nordic Heraldic Terminology). Sverige: Svenska nationalkommittén för genealogi och heraldik, 1987. (FHL book 948 D6n; computer number 469164.)

You can find more information about Scandinavian and Finnish heraldry in articles published in:

*Heraldisk Tidsskrift* (Heraldic Periodical). København: Societas Heraldica Scandinavica, 1960–. (FHL book 948 D65h; computer number 53668.)

## HISTORY

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Effective family research requires some understanding of the historical events that may have affected your family and the records about them. Learning about wars, governments, laws, migrations, and religious trends may help you understand political boundaries, family movements, and settlement patterns. These events may have led to the creation of records, such as land and military documents that mention your family.

Your ancestors will become more interesting to you if you also use histories to learn about the events in which they may have participated. For example, by using a history you might learn about the events that occurred in the year your great-grandparents were married.

The area of Finland administered by Sweden spread from the southwest towards the east and north. The eastern border has fluctuated over time. The various county and parish divisions have also changed. Books about Finnish history frequently contain maps of these developments. One source that is especially useful for understanding the development of political, ecclesiastical, judicial, and military jurisdictions is:

Jutikkala, Eino. *Suomen historian kartasto: Atlas of Finnish History*. Porvoo: Werner Söderström Osakeyhtiö (WSOY), 1949. (FHL book 948.97 E3j; film 157159; computer number 194142.)

An informative overview of the use and availability of historical and archival sources in Finland is:

*Suomen historian asiakirjalähteet* (Documentary Sources of Finland's History). Helsinki: Kansallisarkisto WSOY, 1994. (FHL book 948.97 H2sha; computer number 827747.)

Some key dates and events in the history of Finland are:

- 1050 or 1150–1300 The Swedes engaged in Christian crusades to Finland.
- 1300 The Turku Cathedral was dedicated.
- 1350 The black plague occurred.
- 1397–1521 The Kalmar Union united Denmark, Norway, and Sweden under one ruler.
- 1523 Gustav Vasa was crowned king of Sweden.
- 1527 The Diet of Västerås proposed changing the official religion from Catholicism to Lutheranism.
- 1530s The government began keeping continuous tax records.
- 1548 Mikael Agricola's translation of the New Testament in Finnish was published.
- 1569 Titles of nobility were made hereditary in Sweden-Finland.

- 1570 The Älvsborg Ransom was issued, resulting in the silver tax (see the “Taxation” section of this outline for more information).
- 1570s Finnish migration to central Sweden began.
- 1593 Meeting of clergy in Uppsala adopted Lutheranism over Catholicism.
- 1611–32 Gustav II Adolf reigned as king of Sweden.
- 1626 The government decreed that provincial military regiments were to be established. These regiments supported Swedish involvement in the Thirty Years’ War.
- 1640 Åbo Academy (university in Turku) was founded.
- 1642 The Bible was published in Finnish.
- 1686 A church law prescribed that parishes should begin keeping records.
- 1700–21 The Great Nordic War involved Sweden-Finland and Russia.
- 1734 A new common law was established to instigate estate inventories (probates).
- 1753 Sweden-Finland made the transition from the Julian to the Gregorian calendar.
- 1808–09 The Finnish War. Sweden lost Finland to Russia.
- 1809 At the Diet of Porvoo, Finland was granted autonomy within the Russian Empire.
- 1812 “Old Finland” (Viipuri County) was joined to Finland. The capital moved from Turku to Helsinki.
- 1835 *Kalevala*, the Finnish national epic, was published. It contributed to the rise of Finnish nationalism.
- 1863 Finnish was proclaimed equal to Swedish as the official language.
- 1901 The Finnish army was abolished. Finns were to join the Russian army.
- 1906 Women were given right to vote.
- 1917 Finland declared its independence from Russia.

- 1918 Finnish socialists and nonsocialists fought a civil war.
- 1920 A law decreed that fixed surnames were mandatory.
- 1939–40 Finland fought the Winter War against the Soviet Union.
- 1941–44 Finland fought the Continuation War against the Soviet Union.
- 1944 Finland fought the Lapland War against Germany.
- 1995 Finland joined the European Union.

The following are only a few of the many historical sources that are available at the Family History Library. Books with film numbers can be ordered through local Family History Centers. Some may be found in major research libraries.

Jutikkala, Eino, and Kauko Pirinen. *A History of Finland*. Espoo: Weilin & Göös, 1984. (FHL book 948.97 H2juti; computer number 430487.)

Juva, Einar W. *Suomen kansan historia* (A History of the Finnish People). 5 vols. Helsinki: Otava, 1964–67. (FHL book 948.97 H2ju; computer number 160578.)

*Finlands historia* (Finland’s History). 3 vols. Esbo: Schildts, 1992–96. (FHL book 948.97 H2fi; computer number 768001.)

### Local Histories

Some of the most valuable sources for family history research are local histories. They describe the settlement of the area and the founding of churches, schools, and businesses. You can also find information about locally prominent people and lists of farm owners. Even if your ancestor is not mentioned, you may find information on other relatives that can provide important clues for locating the him or her. A local history may also suggest other records to search.

In addition, you can study and enjoy local histories for the background information they can provide about your ancestor’s lifestyle, community, and environment.

The Family History Library has some local histories for towns and parishes in Finland. Similar histories are often available at major public and university libraries and archives as well. To find general and local histories, look in the Locality Search of the Family History Library Catalog under:

FINLAND - HISTORY  
FINLAND, [COUNTY] - HISTORY  
FINLAND, [COUNTY], [PARISH] -  
HISTORY

To find bibliographies that list works about Finnish history, check under:

FINLAND - BIBLIOGRAPHY  
FINLAND - HISTORY - BIBLIOGRAPHY

### Calendar Changes

The Gregorian calendar is the calendar commonly used today. It is a correction of the Julian calendar that had been used since A.D. 46. Because leap years had been miscalculated in the Julian calendar, by 1582 the calendar was 10 days behind the solar year.

In Finland the last day of the Julian calendar was 17 February 1753. At that time, 11 days were omitted to bring the calendar in line with the solar year. The day after 17 February 1753 became 1 March 1753.

When you are looking for information about Finns who spent time in Russia after 1753, remember that Russia continued using the Julian calendar until after the revolution in 1917.

## LANGUAGE AND LANGUAGES

Since Finnish was not an official language in Finland until 1863, most records were written in Swedish. To do research in these records, you will need to know some Swedish and Finnish key words and phrases. Also, remember that Orthodox church records were written in Russian until after Finnish independence. Recently the Same language (Lappish) has also become an official language in Finland.

When you are looking up names or words in Finnish dictionaries or indexes, it is important to know that the Finnish alphabet has three letters that follow the letter z: *å*, *ä*, and *ö*. The letter *å* does not occur in native Finnish words, but many personal and geographical names of Swedish origin use this letter.

### Language Aids

The Family History Library has published the *Finnish Genealogical Word List* (35815) and the *Swedish Genealogical Word List* (31028) to help you in your research.

The following language dictionaries can also help you in your research. You can find these and similar material at many research libraries:

Alanne, V. S. *Suomalais-englantilainen suursanakirja* (Great Finnish-English Dictionary). 3rd ed. Porvoo: Werner Söderström Osakeyhtiö, 1968. (FHL film 1224706 item 3; computer number 256608.)

Björkman, C. G. *Svensk-Engelsk Ordbok* (Swedish-English Dictionary). Stockholm: P. A. Norstedt, 1889. (FHL film 1224734 item 1; computer number 661976.) Swedish spelling was reformed in 1906; therefore, this book includes words as they were spelled prior to 1906.

Ernolv, Carl. *Svensk-Engelsk Ordbok* (Swedish-English Dictionary). Stockholm: Svenska Bokförlaget Norstedts, 1947. (FHL film 1124531 item 12; computer number 203885.)

To find other language aids in the Locality Search of the Family History Library Catalog, look under:

FINLAND - LANGUAGE AND  
LANGUAGES - DICTIONARIES  
SWEDEN - LANGUAGE AND LANGUAGES  
- DICTIONARIES

You may also find language aids in the Subject Search under:

FINNISH LANGUAGE - DICTIONARIES -  
ENGLISH  
SWEDISH LANGUAGE - DICTIONARIES -  
ENGLISH

## MAPS

Maps are an important source in locating the places your ancestors lived. They help you see the neighboring towns and geographic features of the area your ancestor came from. Maps locate places, parishes, geographical features, transportation routes, and proximity to other towns. Historical maps are especially useful for understanding boundary changes.

Maps are published individually or as atlases. An atlas is a bound collection of maps. Maps may also be included in gazetteers, guidebooks, local histories, and other history texts.

Different types of maps can help you in different ways. Historical atlases describe the growth and development of countries. They show boundaries, migration routes, settlement patterns, military campaigns, and other historical information. Road atlases are useful because of the detail they provide. Other types of maps include parish maps, county atlases, and topographical maps. City street-maps are extremely helpful when researching in large cities such as Helsinki, Tampere, and Turku.

## Using Maps

Use maps carefully for the following reasons:

- Several places often have the same name. For example, two parishes are called Pyhäjärvi in present-day Finland and a third one used to be in the former Viipuri County.
- Many place-names have both Finnish and Swedish names. For example, the same city is called Turku in Finnish and Åbo in Swedish. The names and spellings of some places may have changed since your ancestors lived there. For example, the city currently known as Loviisa was previously known as Degerby.
- Place-names are often misspelled in American sources. Difficult names may have been shortened and important diacritical marks omitted.
- Political boundaries are not clearly indicated on all maps.

## Finding the Specific Place on the Map

To do successful research in Finland, you must identify the place your ancestor lived. Because many places have the same name, you may need some additional information before you can locate the correct place on a map. You will be more successful if you have some information about the place. Before using a map, search gazetteers, histories, family records, and other sources to learn all you can about:

- The county [*lääni/län*] your ancestor came from.
- The parish [*seurakunta/socken, församling*] where your ancestor was baptized or married.
- Towns where related ancestors lived.
- The size of the town.
- The occupation of your ancestor or his or her relatives. (This may indicate the size or industries of the town.)
- Nearby localities, such as large cities.
- Nearby features, such as rivers and mountains.
- Industries in the area.
- Other names the town was called.

Parish boundary maps can also be helpful when determining which parish church records to search. They can help you identify neighboring parishes if

you need to search through the various parishes in a given region.

## Finding Maps and Atlases

Collections of maps and atlases are available at many historical societies and public and university libraries. The Family History Library has several excellent Finnish maps and atlases. These are listed in the Locality Search of the Family History Library Catalog under:

FINLAND - MAPS  
FINLAND, [COUNTY], [PARISH/CITY] -  
MAPS

The following map is useful for genealogists because it shows many of the smaller localities:

*Suomi yleiskartta: Finland Generalkarta* (Finland General Map). Helsinki: Maanmittaushallitus, 1950. (FHL book 948.97 E7su; computer number 216785.) This map has been published in several editions. The prewar editions included the areas ceded to the Soviet Union. The various editions of this map show the location of many farms. The text is quite small, and no locality indexes are available. Some of these editions are available at the Family History Library and may be available at public libraries.

Other helpful atlases and maps at the Family History Library are:

Choquette, Margarita, Lee Choquette, and Matthew Russell. *Parish and County Listing with Maps of Finland*. Salt Lake City: Corp. of the President, 1991. (FHL book 948.97 E2ch; fiche 6068252; computer number 665344.)

*Fennia: Suuri Suomi-Kartasto: Kartverk över Finland: Finland in Maps: Finnischer Atlas*. Helsinki: W+G, 1979. (FHL book 948.97 E7f; computer number 19618.)

An excellent national historical atlas is:

Jutikkala, Eino. *Suomen historian kartasto: Atlas of Finnish History*. Porvoo: Werner Söderström Osakeyhtiö (WSOY), 1949. (FHL book 948.97 E3j; film 157159; computer number 194142.)

One atlas that has reference information in separate volumes in Finnish, Swedish, and English and includes several maps is:

*Suomen kartasto, 1925: Atlas of Finland, 1925: Atlas över Finland, 1925*. Helsinki: Otava, 1925–29. (FHL book 948.97 E7s; computer number 146834.)

You can purchase maps of Finland from:

Karttakeskus  
Unioninkatu 32  
00100 Helsinki  
Finland

The National Land Survey of Finland (NLS) is responsible for Finland's cadastral system and other mapping assignments. The first systematic survey of Finland was conducted in 1633. The NLS has 21 district offices and seven national operations and has detailed information and map surveys showing property boundaries. You can

find some of their maps and their address on the Internet at:

[http://www.nls.fi/laitos\\_e.html](http://www.nls.fi/laitos_e.html)

## **MERCHANT MARINE**

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Merchant marines are sailors who work on commercial ships. Finland had a large merchant marine enterprise that traveled and traded worldwide.

Among the records of the Finnish merchant marine are:

- Records of the navigational schools  
[*merenkulkukoulu/navigationsskola*].
- Records of the sailors' houses  
[*merimieshuone/sjömanshus*].

The sailors' houses recruited and registered sailors. They made crew assignments for each ship and recorded the ships' crews as they embarked and disembarked. These records contain individual names, birth dates, birthplaces, marital status, position on the ship, salary, and previous ship assignments, with some ports listed for each journey.

- Records of Finnish Lutheran churches or sailors' houses in foreign ports.

Since there were many Finnish merchant marines, these records are a valuable source for researchers. To find them, look in the Locality Search of the Family History Library Catalog under Finland and the main port cities:

FINLAND - MERCHANT MARINE  
FINLAND, [COUNTY], [CITY] - MERCHANT  
MARINE  
FINLAND, [COUNTY], [CITY] - BUSINESS  
RECORDS AND COMMERCE  
FINLAND, [COUNTY], [CITY] -  
OCCUPATIONS

FINLAND, [COUNTY], [CITY] - SCHOOLS  
FINLAND, [COUNTY], [CITY] - TOWN  
RECORDS

## **MILITARY RECORDS**

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Military records identify individuals who served in the military or who were eligible for service. Most young men in Finland were required to serve in or register for military service at various times. Evidence that an ancestor served may be found in family records, biographies, censuses, probate records, civil registration, or church records.

Finland has had a standing army since the sixteenth century. Military records give information about a soldier's military career, such as promotions, places served, pensions, and conduct. In addition, these records usually include information about his age, region of birth, residence, enlistment and discharge dates, and physical description. However, many military records in Finland provide very few details about individuals other than officers.

The military records you may find include:

- Muster rolls.
- Lists of officers.
- Pay records.
- Pension records.
- Naval records.

The Family History Library's main collection of Finnish military records is from the Swedish Era (before 1809), when Finland was part of the Swedish realm. The military records for the periods of Finnish autonomy and independence are available only through the Military Archives of Finland. See the "Archives and Libraries" section of this outline for the address.

To determine to which company and regiment a soldier in a given parish belonged during the Swedish Era, you can use a map found in the following book:

Jutikkala, Eino. *Suomen historian kartasto: Atlas of Finnish History*. Porvoo: Werner Söderström Osakeyhtiö (WSOY), 1949. (FHL book 948.97 E3j; film 157159; computer number 194142.) Pages 42–43 contain the map.

For information about the Finnish military and the Finnish regimental muster rolls that were kept during the Swedish period, search the Family History Library Catalog under:

#### FINLAND - MILITARY RECORDS

In the catalog, the Finnish regiments are listed by their Swedish names. For example, the catalog lists the Viipuri County Infantry Regiment as *Sverige Försvarsdepartementet (Viborgs läns Infanteriregiment)*.

You can find other military records in the New Collection of Accounts for each county (see the "Public Records" section of this outline for more information).

## **NAMES, PERSONAL**

Understanding surnames and given names can help you find and identify your ancestors in genealogical records.

In Finnish genealogical research, researching people with a common surname is not always productive because people often changed their surnames when they moved or for other reasons.

In the beginning of the 1900s as Finnish nationalism grew, many Swedish and other foreign sounding names were changed to Finnish names. For example Forsman became Koskimies and Widbom became Pajula. These could be direct translations, partial translations, or completely different names.

A law requiring permanent surnames for all Finnish citizens was passed in 1920.

### **Surnames**

Before record keeping began, most people had only one name, such as Johan. As the population increased, it became necessary to distinguish between individuals with the same name. The problem was usually solved by adding descriptive information. Johan became Johan the smith, Johan the son of Matts, or Johan from a given farm. At first, such "surnames" applied only to one person and not to the whole family. After a few generations, these names sometimes became hereditary and were used from father to son. Before the twentieth century, women in Finland generally did not assume the husband's surname at marriage.

Eastern and western Finland have different naming traditions. Both naming customs date back to the earliest written sources. There was frequent overlap of these practices in both areas.

Finnish birth records did not generally list a surname for newborn infants, but instead, listed a first name. In creating a surname standard for the International Genealogical Index, the Family History Library assigns the surnames strictly by whether a parish is classified as a patronymic parish (western) or a set surname parish (eastern). Without knowing which way a parish was classified, it is best to try all known possible variations, such as patronymic, farm names, and fixed surnames, when searching the International Genealogical Index.

All Finns had patronymic names. If they also had a farm name or a family surname, the patronymic name may or may not have been written out. The same person may have used a patronymic name in one record and a farm or family surname in another record.

Following is a brief description of various types of Finnish surnames according to geographic (east-west) distributions:

- *Western Finland* (Ahvenanmaa, Häme, Kymi, Turku-Pori, Uusimaa, and Vaasa Counties with the exception of certain parishes). Surnames changed from generation to generation according to the Scandinavian patronymic naming customs used in Sweden.
- *Eastern Finland* (Kuopio, Lappi, Mikkeli, Oulu, and Viipuri Counties with the exception of certain parishes). Surnames did not change from generation to generation.

### **Surnames in Western Finland**

Two types of surnames were common in western Finland: patronymic and farm names. A farm name could be used in addition to a patronymic name.

***Patronymic Surnames.*** Patronymic surnames were common throughout Finland, but most people in western Finland used only a patronymic surname.

Patronymic surnames are based on the father's given name. Swedish patronymics end with *-son* (son) or *-dotter* (daughter). For instance, Lars, son of Anders, was named Lars Andersson, and Maria, daughter of Anders, was named Maria Andersdotter.

Although church records used the Swedish form of the names, Finnish genealogists often convert them to their Finnish equivalents. Patronymic names in Finnish end with *-poika* (son) or *-tytär* (daughter). For example Lars Andersson is Lauri Antinpoika and Maria Andersdotter is Maria Antintytär in Finnish.

In cases of illegitimacy, a child's surname might be based on the mother's given name. For example, Henrik Mariasson would be the son of a Maria.

In the late nineteenth century, patronymic surnames became fixed. In other words, they no longer changed with each generation. As names became fixed, brothers could take different surnames. One may have taken his own patronymic name, while another may have taken his father's patronymic name. For example, brothers named Sven and Pär could be listed with different surnames. If their father was Lars Andersson, one son might be listed as Sven Andersson (from his father's patronymic) and the other son as Pär Larsen (from his own patronymic).

**Farm Names.** Farm names were often used like surnames, but they referred to a person's place of residence. Thus a person called Juho (Johan) Koskiniemi lived at a place called Koskiniemi. If he moved, he would use the name of the new farm as a surname. During the late nineteenth or early twentieth century, farm names often became fixed family surnames.

### Surnames in Eastern Finland

**Family Names.** The surnames used in eastern Finland are family surnames, which means that they were used in a family from generation to generation. They represent some of the earliest family surnames of Europe and most of them indicate relationship or common origin, although this cannot always be proved because of few sources.

Family surnames have certain types of endings: *-nen* or *-ainen/-äinen*. For example, Huuskonen and Liimatainen are family surnames. In earlier records, these names were found with other endings, such as Huuskoin and Liimatain. Early records also used a feminine variation: *-tar*. For example, Huuskotar and Liimatar both have the feminine ending.

**Nature.** Other types of surnames used in eastern Finland refer to nature. Such surnames include Kurki (crane), Orava (squirrel), and Repo (fox).

**Farm Names.** Farm names were also used in eastern Finland. Here they developed into permanent family surnames and did not change as a family moved. These names often end in *-la/-lä* or *-lainen/-läinen*. Examples of these names include Heikkilä (Heikki's farm) and Haapalainen (place of aspens).

### Soldier Surnames

When a soldier enlisted in the army, he was given a new surname. This name stayed with him as long as he served in the military. Often a certain name was associated with the soldier's cottage, and each new soldier assigned to that cottage received the same name. Soldier names pertained only to the soldier himself and not to his family or descendants. After the mid-nineteenth century, however, these names frequently became permanent family surnames.

The Swedish military used soldier names to distinguish persons with common patronymic names, such as Johansson and Mattsson. The soldier names were usually short, descriptive, and derived from Swedish: examples are Stål (steel), Glad (happy), Kämpe (fighter), Dufva (dove). However, in the mid-1800s Finnish language soldier names also became popular; examples are Kuula (canon ball, bullet), Luoti (bullet), Saari (island).

### Other Types of Surnames

Besides using patronymic names, both the nobility and clergy used additional, inherited surnames. Nobility surnames are unique family surnames, generally given at the time of ennoblement. The clergy often assumed surnames with the Latinized ending *-ius*, such as Alcenius and Rothovius.

In the 1800s artisans and urban tradesmen began to use their occupations as surnames in either their Finnish or Swedish versions. Examples of these names are Nikkari or Snickare (carpenter) and Mylläri or Möllare (miller). They also took Swedish compound names, such as Söderqvist, Sjöberg, and Lindholm.

### Given Names

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Many Finnish given names are derived from Biblical names, such as Taavetti (David), or the names of saints, such as Yrjö (George). Names can also be of ancient Finnish origin, (such as Ilmari or Tuulikki), or Swedish origin, (such as Sten or Knut).

When baptized, children were usually given one or two given names. It was customary to name the oldest child after the paternal grandparents, the second child after the maternal grandparents, the third after the parents, and subsequent children after godparents or other relatives. If a child died young, it was also common to name the next child of the same gender with the same name.

An authoritative reference book about given names and surnames is:

Vilkuna, Kustaa. *Suomalainen nimikirja* (Finnish Name Book). Helsinki: Otava, 1984. (FHL book 948.97 G2s v.6; computer number 366726.)

You can find more sources about names in the Locality Search of the Family History Library Catalog under:

FINLAND - NAMES, PERSONAL

## **NOBILITY**

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If your research indicates that your ancestor was of nobility, additional records, such as published genealogies of noble families, will be helpful. Some important sources for Finnish nobility research are:

*Finlands ridderskaps och adels kalender* (Calendar of Finnish Nobility). Helsingfors: Frenckellska Tryckeri AB Förlag, 1858-. (FHL book 948.97 D25f; film 1440049-55; computer number 178071.)

Ramsay, Jully. *Frälsesläkter i Finland intill Stora ofreden* (Nobility in Finland until the Great Unrest). Helsingfors: Söderström, 1909. (FHL book 948.97 D2r; film 1224730 item 11; computer number 147006.)

Carpelan, Tor. *Ättartavlor för de på Finlands Riddarhus inskrivna ätterna* (Genealogies Recorded at the Finnish House of Nobility). 4 vols. Helsingfors: Frenckellska Tryckeri Aktiebolagets Förlag, 1954-66. (FHL book 948.97 D22ca; computer number 159850.)

Carpelan, Tor. *Ättartavlor för de på Finlands Riddarhus inskrivna efter 1809 adlade, naturaliserade eller adopterade ätterna* (Genealogies Recorded at the Finnish House of Nobility Recognized after 1809). Helsingfors: Frenckellska Tryckeri Aktiebolagets Förlag, 1942. (FHL book 948.97 D22c; computer number 159834.)

Aminoff, Torsten G., ed. *Gentes Finlandiae* (Nobility of Finland). Helsingfors: Frenckellska Tryckeri Aktiebolagets Förlag, 1966-. (FHL book 948.97 B4gf; computer number 186014.)

Since the Finnish nobility was part of the Swedish nobility, most Swedish nobility books also include Finnish nobility. To find these books, look in the Locality Search of the Family History Library Catalog under:

FINLAND - NOBILITY  
FINLAND, [COUNTY] - NOBILITY  
SWEDEN - NOBILITY

A Swedish nobility collection that includes many Finnish noble families is:

Elgenstierna, Gustaf. *Den introducerade svenska adelns ättartavlor: med tillägg och rättelser* (Genealogy of the Introduced Nobility of Sweden). Stockholm: P. A. Norstedt & Söners Förlag, 1925-36. (FHL book 948.5 D5e; films 1440192-5; computer number 150277.)

An organization for the preservation of Finnish nobility is:

Suomen Ritarihuone (Finnish House of Nobility)  
Unioninkatu 36  
00170 Helsinki  
Finland

## **OCCUPATIONS**

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Occupations were a measure of social status. Some trades were viewed as more prestigious than others. Many tradesmen, such as butchers, tanners, shoemakers, tailors, and others, were organized into guilds. The purpose of a guild was to train apprentices and regulate the practice of the trade in an area.

Guilds were usually established in each city. The records of these guilds contain lists of members, information on journeymen practicing in the town, marriages of journeymen, and advancements from apprentice to journeyman and from journeyman to master craftsman. In addition, contracts between masters and parents of apprentices may be included.

These records are usually found in the provincial archives. The Family History Library has collected records of some guilds in Finland. It also has books with biographical information about various occupations and other occupational records. To find them, look in in the Locality Search of the Family History Library Catalog under:

FINLAND - OCCUPATIONS  
FINLAND, [COUNTY] - OCCUPATIONS  
FINLAND, [COUNTY], [TOWN] -  
OCCUPATIONS

## **PERIODICALS**

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Most genealogical and historical societies in Finland publish magazines and newsletters. The articles often include:

- Family genealogies and pedigrees.
- Transcripts of church records and migration lists.
- Helpful articles on research methodology.
- Information about local records, archives, and services.
- Book advertisements and book reviews.
- Research advertisements.
- Requests for information about specific ancestors.

The Family History Library has the following Finnish genealogical periodicals:

*Genos: Suomen Sukututkimusseuran aikakauskirja/Genos: tidskrift utgiven av Genealogiska Samfundet i Finland* (Genealogy: Periodical Published by the Genealogical Society in Finland). Helsinki: 1930–. (FHL book 948.97 D25g; computer number 160862.)

*Sukutiето: datateknik* (Computer Technique). Helsinki: Sukutietotekniikka ry, 1982–. (FHL book 948.97 D25sd; computer number 437874.)

*Sukuviesti: sukumme eilen ja tänään, sukuyhteisöjen yhteyslehti* (Genealogical News: Our Family Yesterday and Today, Newsletter for the United Genealogical Societies). Espoo: SYT, 1978–. (FHL book 948.97 D25s; computer number 133740.)

### Obtaining Periodicals

Copies of periodicals are available from the local societies that publish them. Major archives with genealogical collections have copies of many periodicals, particularly those representing the area they serve.

The Family History Library subscribes to many periodicals. If you know the title of a periodical, use the Author/Title Search of the Family History Library Catalog. If you do not know the title, look in the Locality Search under:

FINLAND - PERIODICALS  
 FINLAND - GENEALOGY - PERIODICALS  
 FINLAND, [COUNTY] - PERIODICALS  
 FINLAND, [COUNTY] - GENEALOGY - PERIODICALS

See also the “Societies” section of this outline for more information.

## PROBATE RECORDS

Probate records are court records that describe the distribution of a person’s estate after his or her death. Information includes the name of the deceased person, death date, names of heirs and guardians, relationships, residences, an inventory and appraisal of the estate, a list of the deceased’s debts, and names of assessors.

These records are very helpful for research as they establish relationships that may be hard to prove in other ways because of patronymic names.

Because laws determined which heirs got what percentage of an estate, it was often not necessary to write wills; consequently, usually only the upper classes wrote them.

### The Probate Process

After a person died, two appraisers usually visited the house and made an inventory and appraisal of the property. In addition, creditors listed their claims against the estate. A probate official then deducted the debts and court fees from the assets. If money was left over, it was divided up among the heirs. The widow usually received half of the estate. The remainder was divided equally among the children. Boys were allotted double the girls’ portion.

Because this process was so well defined, records were not always kept. Probate cases that were recorded usually involved minor children or children from more than one marriage. To ensure that these heirs would be justly treated, guardians were appointed to represent the underage children and any unmarried female heirs. The law was changed in the mid-1860s to allow women to represent themselves.

Many people, when they became too old to continue working, often took care of their property and estate before they died so they would have care during their older years.

### Availability of Probate Records

The keeping of wills and estate papers usually date from the mid-eighteenth century. Probate proceedings were held from 1734 on.

District probate courts [*kihlakunnanoikeus/häradsrätt*] oversaw the process and kept the records. You may find probate records in these court records. You may also find probate records among the church records of many parishes. These records, listed as *perunkirjat*, are duplicates of the district court records. To find out which district

court a particular parish belonged to, use the map on page 34 of the following book:

Jutikkala, Eino. *Suomen historian kartasto: Atlas of Finnish History*. Porvoo: Werner Söderström Osakeyhtiö (WSOY), 1949. (FHL book 948.97 E3j or FHL film 157159; computer number 194142.)

The Family History Library has a substantial collection of Finnish probate records. They are listed in the Locality Search of the Family History Library Catalog under:

FINLAND, [COUNTY] - PROBATE RECORDS  
FINLAND, [COUNTY], [PARISH] - PROBATE RECORDS  
FINLAND, [COUNTY], [PARISH] - CHURCH RECORDS

## **PUBLIC RECORDS**

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In the Family History Library Catalog, the topic Public Records includes other miscellaneous civil records that could not be listed under a more specific topic.

Most public records in Finland were kept by civil authorities and by the clergy (especially in the 1500s) for tax-collection purposes.

### **The Old and New Collections of Accounts**

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The major collections of Finnish public records are:

- The Old Collection of Accounts [*Vanhempi tilikirjakokoelma/Äldre räkenskapssamlingen*] 1531–1634.
- The New Collection of Accounts [*Uudempi tilikirjakokoelma/Nyare räkenskapssamlingen*] 1635–1809.

These, like other Finnish public records, were created primarily for tax-collection purposes. They include land and tenant records, census records, military records, estate tax and rental records, bailiff accounts, lists of fines, and many other judicial documents.

These records were not kept uniformly throughout Finland, and in the early years the counties and parishes were not equivalent to the modern divisions.

### **Old Collection of Accounts, 1531–1634**

The Old Collection of Accounts is listed in the Locality Search of the Family History Library Catalog under:

FINLAND - PUBLIC RECORDS  
FINLAND, [COUNTY] - PUBLIC RECORDS

The catalog entry follows this pattern:

- A list of contents [*sisällysluettelo*] for each province appears first.
- General records [*yleisiä asiakirjoja*] for the entire country are listed next.
- Annual records for each province are listed last.

### **New Collection of Accounts, 1635–1809**

The Locality Section of the Family History Library Catalog lists two sets of records as the New Collection of Accounts [*Uudempi tilikirjakokoelma/Nyare räkenskapssamlingen*].

- The first set includes census records [*henkikirjat/mantalsländer*] and can be found in the Locality Search of the Family History Library Catalog under:

FINLAND, [COUNTY] - CENSUS RECORDS  
FINLAND, [COUNTY] - MILITARY RECORDS  
FINLAND, [COUNTY] - PUBLIC RECORDS

This first set of records is listed only by year and volume number. For more information, see the “Census Records” section of this outline.

- The second set of records is listed by record type, followed by the year and volume number. It is found in the Locality Search of the Family History Library Catalog under:

FINLAND - CENSUS RECORDS  
FINLAND - MILITARY RECORDS  
FINLAND - PUBLIC RECORDS  
FINLAND, [COUNTY] - MILITARY RECORDS

### **Suomen asutuksen yleisluettelo (SAY)**

To make genealogical information from the earliest written sources in Finland accessible, a project was undertaken that has become known as *Suomen asutuksen yleisluettelo/Generalregistret över bosättningen i Finland* (SAY) (The General Register of Settlement in Finland).

This register does not include all of Finland, but it does include most of southwestern Finland. It was compiled over several decades by various people; consequently, the format has varied somewhat over time.

SAY consists of tables that provide an overview to information drawn from several sources in the Old and New Collections of Accounts covering 1539 to 1809.

It is usually arranged chronologically, showing 20 years on each double page. It is organized by parishes, villages, farms, and dwellings. For each residence, SAY enumerates the name of farm owners and members of the household mentioned in the original record sources. A check mark appears next to a name that is noted more than once in the records with an additional mark for each time it is used.

The original SAY register was written in different colors of ink, each color representing an original source from the Old and New Collections of Accounts. The microfilm copy, however, is black and white; therefore, it may be difficult to identify what source the information came from. To overcome this, it is useful to know that the register follows a general pattern:

- The first notations on the page are generally from land records. In the registers that cover 1634 on, the information from the *henkikirjat/mantalslängder* is entered under the land records.
- The next notations come from the tithing records.
- Data from tax and military rolls appear last.

You can examine the information given in SAY and possibly identify additional information by looking in the original Old and New Collections of Accounts for the given time period and county.

To find SAY in the Locality Search of the Family History Library Catalog, look under:

FINLAND, [COUNTY], [PARISH] - CENSUS  
FINLAND, [COUNTY], [PARISH] -  
TAXATION

The following publication is a guide to SAY. It is written in Finnish and Swedish:

*Suomen asutuksen yleisluettelon opas: Generalregistret över bosättningen i Finland, en handledningen* (The General Register of the Settlement in Finland: A Guide). Helsinki: Valtion painatuskeskus, 1975. (FHL book 948.97 A35v no.7 1975; computer number 139227.)

## SCHOOLS

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If your ancestor was educated or was an instructor in the universities or other schools of higher or secondary education in Finland, he or she may have been recorded in a publication of that school. Books about universities include information from the seventeenth to the twentieth centuries. Most books about secondary schools generally cover the nineteenth and twentieth centuries.

These publications may contain valuable information about your ancestor such as name, age, hometown, and date of enrollment or graduation. Sometimes they contain biographical information including names of parents, wife, and children.

The Family History Library has collected many books on schools and universities. They are listed in the Locality Search of the Family History Library Catalog under:

FINLAND - SCHOOLS  
FINLAND, [COUNTY] - SCHOOLS  
FINLAND, [COUNTY], [CITY] - SCHOOLS

## SOCIAL LIFE AND CUSTOMS

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Effective family research requires some understanding of the society in which your ancestor lived. Learning about everyday life, religious practices, customs, and traditions will help you appreciate your ancestor and the time in which he or she lived. This information is particularly helpful if you choose to write a family history. Research procedures and genealogical sources may differ for each area and time period and are affected by the local customs and traditions.

Local customs and traditions vary for different areas of Finland and have changed over time. The information that might be of interest to you might include mortality rate, life spans, apprenticeship customs, and courting and marriage customs.

The Family History Library has collected a few sources that discuss Finnish social life and customs. They are listed in the Locality Search of the Family History Library Catalog under:

FINLAND - SOCIAL LIFE AND CUSTOMS

An informative book about Scandinavian (including Finnish) family life and customs is:

Gaunt, David. *Familjeliv i Norden* (Family Life in the Nordic Countries). Malmö: Gidlunds, 1983. (FHL book 948 H6g; computer number 244448.)

## **SOCIETIES**

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Many societies and organizations may have valuable genealogical information. You can find several such societies in Finland and in the country where your ancestor immigrated, including the United States. You may find it helpful to join one of these societies and support their efforts.

### **Genealogical Societies**

Several genealogical societies emphasize Finnish research. Most of them publish helpful periodicals, transcripts, and compiled genealogies. They may also have special indexes, collections, and projects. Some publish queries about Finnish ancestors or maintain a list of members' research interests. Some specialize in the immigrants to a specific area.

The Genealogical Society in Finland provides addresses of local genealogical societies and can also refer you to local professional researchers. You can contact the society at:

Suomen Sukututkimusseura/Genealogiska  
Samfundet i Finland  
Liisankatu 16A  
00170 Helsinki  
Finland  
Telephone: 011-358-9-278-1188  
Fax: 011-358-9-278-1199  
<http://www.genealogia.org/ssse.htm>

You can find a list of local genealogical societies in Finland on the Internet at:

<http://sss.genealogia.fi/stutkyh/indexe.htm>

### **Historical Societies**

Finnish historical societies in areas where Finnish immigrants settled may have valuable information. They collect information about Finnish immigrants and have special collections of books and manuscript materials about Finland that may be hard to find in other libraries and archives. You can inquire if their collection can be circulated.

Three Finnish-American historical societies are:

Finnish-American Historical Society of  
Michigan  
19885 Melrose  
Southfield, MI 48075  
USA

Finnish-American Historical Society of the West  
P.O. Box 3515  
Portland, OR 97208  
USA

<http://www.teleport.com/~finamhsw/>

Swedish Finn Historical Society  
6512 23rd Avenue NW  
Room 301  
Seattle, WA 98117-5728  
USA

The addresses of many ethnic-heritage historical societies in North America are given in:

Smith, Betty P. *Directory: Historical Agencies in North America*. 13th ed. Nashville: American Association for State and Local History, 1986. (FHL book 970 H24d 1986; computer number 491569.)

Wheeler, Mary Bray, ed. *Directory of Historical Organizations in the United States and Canada*. 14th ed. Nashville: American Association for State and Local History, 1990. (FHL book 970 H24d 1990; computer number 531083.)

## **TAXATION**

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Most of the Finnish tax records available through the Family History Library are part of the Old and New Collections of Accounts, which are discussed in the "Public Records" section of this outline.

The silver tax records have been extracted and published separately. Each province has been published in separate volumes, which enumerate the tax paying farm owners by localities:

Fontell, A. G. *Varsinais-Suomen hopeavero ja hopeaveroluettelo v. 1571: Egentliga Finlands silfverskatt och silferskatteregister för år 1571* (Silver Tax and Silver Tax Register for the Year 1571 for the Province of Finland Proper). Helsinki: Suomen Historiallinen Seura, 1892. (Not at the Family History Library)

Soikkeli, Kaarle. *Uudenmaan hopeavero ja hopeaveroluettelo v. 1571: Nylands silfverskatt och silfverskatteregister för år 1571* (Silver Tax and Silver Tax Register for the Year 1571 for the Province of Uusimaa). Helsinki: Suomen Historiallinen Seura, 1912. (FHL book 948.971 R4s; computer number 129825.)

*Suomen Hopeaveroluettelot 1571/Finlands Silverskatteregister 1571* (Silver Tax Registers of Finland, 1571). Helsinki: Suomalaisen Kirjallisuuden Seura, 1944-87. (FHL book 948.97 R4s; computer number 110807.) This work includes the provinces not listed in the two previous sources.

The original silver tax records that these books were extracted from can be found in the Old Collection of Accounts by province for 1571.

Many other types of tax records included in the Old and New Collections of Accounts have not been published separately.

## **OTHER RECORDS FOR FINLAND**

Other types of records not mentioned in this outline are listed in the Locality Search of the Family History Library Catalog under the following topics:

ETHNOLOGY  
HANDWRITING  
MANORS  
MILITARY HISTORY  
NAMES, GEOGRAPHICAL  
OFFICIALS AND EMPLOYEES  
YEARBOOKS

## **FOR FURTHER READING**

More detailed information about research and records of Finland can be found in:

Vincent, Timothy Laitila, and Rick Tapio. *Finnish Genealogical Research*. New Brighton, Minn.: Finnish America, 1994. (FHL book 948.97 D27v; computer number 96006.)

Karskela, Sirkka. *Sukututkijan tietokirja* (Reference Book for Genealogists). Suomi: Finnroots, 1983. (FHL book 948.97 D27k; computer number 215986.)

Brenner, Alf. *Släktforskning, praktisk handbok för Finland* (Genealogical Research, Practical Handbook for Finland). Helsingfors: Söderström & Co., 1947. (FHL book 948.97 D27b; computer number 194303.)

You can find a how-to guide for Finnish research on the Internet at:

<http://members.aol.com/dssaari/index.htm>

## **COMMENTS AND SUGGESTIONS**

The Family History Library welcomes additions and corrections that will improve future editions of this outline. Please send your suggestions to:

Publications Coordination  
Family History Library  
35 N. West Temple Street  
Salt Lake City, Utah 84150-3400  
USA

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