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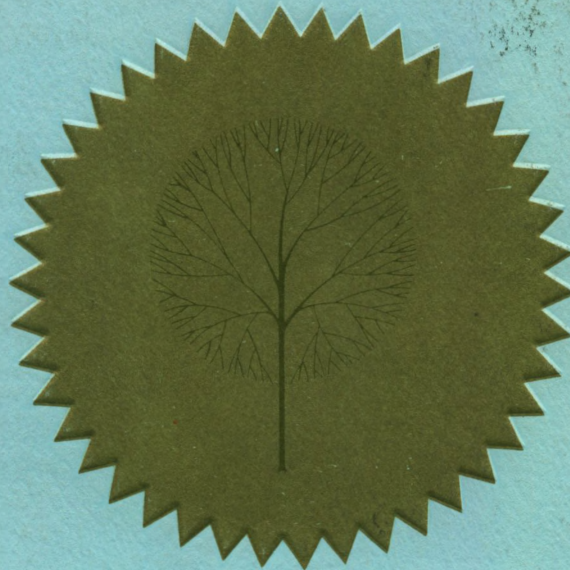
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MAJOR GENEALOGICAL RECORD SOURCES  
IN DENMARK

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# MAJOR GENEALOGICAL RECORD SOURCES IN DENMARK

In identifying ancestors, genealogical researchers need the answers to four key questions regarding record sources:

1. What types of records exist that will aid in the identification of ancestors?
2. What periods of time do the existing records cover?
3. What genealogical information appears in the existing records?
4. What is the availability of existing records for searching?

The chart and table that follow contain answers to the above questions for the major genealogical record sources of Denmark. The major sources are listed, together with type of record, period covered, type of information given, and source availability.

Table A shows at a glance the record sources available for a research problem in a particular century.

Table B provides more detailed information about the major records available. For example, if a pedigree problem is in the 17th century, a quick indication can be obtained from Table A of the sources available for that period. Reference to Table B will then provide more complete information.

# AID TO GENEALOGICAL RESEARCH IN DENMARK

TABLE A

MAJOR SOURCE AVAILABILITY BY CENTURY

TYPE OF RECORD	CENTURY					
	11th-15th	16th	17th	18th	19th	20th
1. Police Census Records						
2. Vital Records						
3. Records of Domestics						
4. Application Records						
5. Emigration Records						
6. Census Records						
7. Marriage License Records						
8. Midwife Records						
9. Military Records						
10. Nonconformist Records						
11. Trade Licenses						
12. School Records						
13. Deeds and Mortgages						
14. Lutheran Parish Registers						
15. Lutheran Church Accounts						
16. Court Records						
17. Probate Records						
18. Trade Guild Records						
19. Land Tenancy Records						
20. Genealogies of the Nobility						

TABLE B

## MAJOR SOURCES CHRONOLOGICALLY ARRANGED

TYPE OF RECORD	PERIOD COVERED	TYPE OF INFORMATION GIVEN	AVAILABILITY
1. POLICE CENSUS RECORDS <i>(Politiets Mandtalslister)</i>	1866-1923	Names of residents and their children over 10, ages, places of birth, relationships, residence, occupation	1866-1900 Copenhagen City Archives; 1901-1923 Statistical Office, Copenhagen; on film (Genealogical Society)
Death Certificates <i>(Dødeblade)</i>	1893-1923	Full name of deceased, occupation, place of birth, age or date of birth, marital status, full name of spouse, names of children ages 10-14 and their ages or dates of birth, addresses (residences)	Provincial Archives, Copenhagen; on film (GS)
2. VITAL RECORDS	1851 to present	<i>Civil Marriages (Borgerlige vielser)</i> : (cities) name of candidate, residence, occupation, marital status, date of marriage, sometimes age	City archives and some provincial archives; 1851-1961 on film (GS)
	1857 to present	<i>Death Certificates (Dødsattester)</i> : (Sjælland, Fyn, Bornholm, Falster, Lolland); name of deceased, age, marital status, occupation, residence, date of death, cause of death (obliterated on microfilm)	Provincial archives; 1857-1933 on film (GS)
	1874 to present	<i>Civil Registration (Personregistre)</i> : (Counties of Åbenrå-Sønderborg, Haderslev, and Tønder) <i>Births</i> : name, date and place of birth, sex, parentage, religion, residence <i>Marriages</i> : names of the candidates, dates of births, parents, religion, residences, names of witnesses, date of marriage <i>Deaths</i> : name of deceased, including maiden names of married women, residence, name of spouse, date and place of birth, parentage, date and place of death	Provincial Archives, Åbenrå; 1874-1950 on film (GS)
	1924 to present	<i>Folkeregister</i> : a general listing of all inhabitants, kept on a commune basis; complete names of persons, dates and places of birth, residence, occupation, removals and arrivals, deaths	Local registration offices in Denmark
3. RECORD OF DOMESTICS <i>(Tyendeprotokoller)</i>	1828-1923	Names of domestic employees, dates and places of birth or christening, ages, year and place of confirmation, altered residences	Provincial archives; 1828-1923 on film (GS)

TYPE OF RECORD	PERIOD COVERED	TYPE OF INFORMATION GIVEN	AVAILABILITY
4. APPLICATION RECORDS ( <i>Blanketregnskaber</i> )	1800-1847	<i>Copenhagen City</i> : applications administered by civil authorities under the direction of the chancelry regarding marriages, divorces, burials, testaments	City archives; on film (GS)
5. EMIGRATION RECORDS  ( <i>Udvandringsjournaler</i> )	1868-1959	Name of emigrant, occupation, place of birth or residence, age, destination, date of embarkation	Arbejdsdirektoratet, Adelgade 13, Copenhagen K, Denmark
Passport Records ( <i>Pasprotokoller</i> )	1780-1920	Name of person receiving passport, occupation, former place of residence, destination, date of issue	Provincial archives; 1780-1920 on film (GS)
6. CENSUS RECORDS  ( <i>Folketaellinger</i> )	1787, 1801	Names of all persons, ages, residence, marital status, relationships, number of times married, if children are of the 1st, 2nd or subsequent marriages and their legitimacy, occupations	National Archives, Copenhagen; on film (GS)
	1834, 1840	Names of all persons, ages, residence, marital status, relationships, occupations	
	1845, 1850	Names of all persons, ages, residence, marital status, place of birth, relationships, occupations; from 1850 information is requested about each person's physical and mental condition, such as deaf, dumb, blind, or insane	
	1855, 1860 1870, 1880 1890, 1900	Same as above, except from 1855 forward religion is given; from 1870 forward sex is given	
	1901	Same as above, except complete date of birth is given, year of marriage or divorce and number of living and deceased children that have been born are listed; and what year a person moved into the parish and previous place of residence	
	1906	Names of all persons, sex, date of birth, residence, marital status, relationships, occupations	
	1911	Same as 1901, except year of marriage or divorce and number of children living and deceased are not given	

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TYPE OF RECORD	PERIOD COVERED	TYPE OF INFORMATION GIVEN	AVAILABILITY
6. CENSUS RECORDS (Cont)	1916, 1920 After 1920, every 5th year	Similar to above; restricted as to usage NOTE. 1935, 1945, and 1955 censuses destroyed. There are miscellaneous censuses that were taken on a city and parish basis, such as the 1769 and 1771 censuses, and the 1885 and 1895 censuses for Copenhagen. These are found in various provincial and city archives	National Archives, Copenhagen
7. MARRIAGE LICENSE RECORDS ( <i>Kopulationsprotokoller</i> )	1720-1868	Copenhagen City only; index listing names of male candidates, date of license, parish in which marriage was to be performed	City Archives, Copenhagen; on film (GS)
8. MIDWIFE RECORDS ( <i>Jordemødebøger</i> )	18th Century to 20th Century	Names of persons born, dates of birth, sex, legitimacy of the child, parentage and residence, name of midwife, time of birth  NOTE. Available only 80 years after the birth	Provincial and local medical officer's archives
9. MILITARY RECORDS	Earliest 1693; generally 1765 to present	<i>Army Service Records (Stambøger)</i> : names of both officers and enlisted men as recorded in regiments, batteries, companies, etc.; age, sometimes date and place of birth; dates of death and discharge, place of death; general description of soldier, previous service, place of enlistment (prior to 1803), sometimes reference is made to military levying rolls number	Haerens Arkiv, Copenhagen; 1693 to approximately 1890 (some to as recent as 1930) on film (GS)
	Approximately 1789 to present	<i>Military Levying Rolls (Laegdsruller)</i> : similar information found in various manorial records prior to 1789. From 1789 this record was kept on a parish basis by civil authorities. Conscript's name, age, place of birth, residence, height, old and new serial entry numbers, unit of service, disabilities, notification of death, exemptions from military service, name of father. If an illegitimate child, the mother's name is recorded. Prior to 1848 all males of the rural classes were entered at time of birth and their names remained on the rolls until they removed from the parish, died, were exempted from mili-	

Continued

TYPE OF RECORD	PERIOD COVERED	TYPE OF INFORMATION GIVEN	AVAILABILITY
9. MILITARY RECORDS (Cont)		<p>tary service, transferred to the Naval Rolls (SL-sø lister), or reached age about 45 years. After 1848 the name was not entered until age 14 years; after 1869, the name was not entered until age 17 years. Names of persons of the rural classes who moved into cities are on the lists of a rural parish. The names of persons born in the cities do not appear in the military levying rolls before 1842 because the cities had their own militia prior to that date, but lost their exemption that year.</p> <p>NOTE. There are no military levying rolls for Bornholm prior to 1850. They are incomplete for the counties of Haderslev Tønder, and Åbenrå-Sønderborg</p>	
	1848-1850, 1864	<p><i>Army Service Records and service medals (Tjenestemedalier):</i> service awards given to army personnel and persons of various countries of Denmark and of some foreign countries, with applications filed for service rendered during the years 1848-1850, 1864; also delayed applications 1885-1924; name of applicant, date of birth, occupation, residence, regimental number</p>	Haerens Arkiv, Copenhagen; on film (GS)
	1802 to present	<p><i>Navy Levying Rolls (Sørruller or sø lister):</i> prior to 1802, the information was recorded in the Military Levying Rolls except for Fyen, where this record was kept separate from 1796; the port cities have separate rolls</p> <p><i>Main Rolls (active):</i> name of conscript, place of birth, age, height, marital status, number of children, residence, name of father; parish number, present and next serial entry number; date and number of seamans certificate; occupation; if able to serve, reasons for not serving; if presently at sea, home port of ship and name of captain, expected date of return; remarks, transfers, deaths</p> <p><i>Extra Rolls (reserve):</i> similar to above except addition of date of transfer to Extra Rolls and the reason; former number in Main Rolls; names can remain until death</p>	National Archives, Copenhagen; 1802-1893 on film (GS)

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TYPE OF RECORD	PERIOD COVERED	TYPE OF INFORMATION GIVEN	AVAILABILITY
9. MILITARY RECORDS (Cont)		<i>Youth Rolls (pre-active):</i> names of father and son, son's place of birth, age, sometimes date of birth, reference to where father's name is found in the other rolls, present and new enrollment numbers, remarks; names placed on Youth Rolls at birth later transferred to Main Roll	
10. NONCONFORMIST RECORDS	17th Century to present	<i>Annerkendte Trossamfund:</i> the non-state church congregations whose ordinances and records are accepted by the civil authorities on the same basis as the state church and are classified as recognized nonconformists; earliest: Reformed French and German, Mosaic, Roman Catholic, Methodist  <i>Ikke Annerkendte Trossamfund:</i> the unrecognized nonconformist groups who must have births, baptisms, marriages, deaths, and burials entered in the records of the state church (Lutheran)	City archives; some on film (GS)
11. TRADE LICENSES  ( <i>Rådstue-og borgerskabsprotokoller</i> )	1596 to present	Name of applicant, occupation, date license was issued; sometimes age or date and place of birth and residence	City archives; 1596-1933 on film (GS)
12. SCHOOL RECORDS  ( <i>Skoleprotokoller</i> )	1584 to present	Matriculation records listing names of those enrolling in school, inventories, endowments, teacher's land tenancy records; probate records of headmasters, assistants, and students	Provincial archives and schools; 1584-1905 on film (GS)
13. DEEDS AND MORTGAGES  ( <i>Skøde og Panteprotokoller</i> )	1580 to present	Names of persons, relationships, residence; dates of documents or transactions, descriptions of properties involved	Provincial archives and local administration offices; 1580-1945 on film (GS)

Continued

TYPE OF RECORD	PERIOD COVERED	TYPE OF INFORMATION GIVEN	AVAILABILITY
14. LUTHERAN PARISH REGISTERS <i>(Kirkebøger)</i>	Earliest 1572; generally from 1645 to present	<p><i>Births and Christenings:</i> names of children born, sex, dates of birth and christening, legitimacy, names of parents, mother's age, names of persons present as witnesses at the christening, places of residence, occupations, relationships, introductions; usually in earlier records only the father's name is given</p> <p><i>Marriages or Engagements:</i> names of candidates, ages or dates of birth, residences, occupations, personal or marital status, witnesses, date of marriage</p> <p><i>Deaths and Burials:</i> name of deceased, dates of death and burial, residence at time of death, occupation, marital status, age, cause of death</p> <p><i>Communions:</i> names of persons receiving communion, sometimes relationships, residence</p>	1572 to approximately 1925, provincial archives; 1925 to present, local parish custody; 1572-1915 (some to as late as 1925) on film (GS)
	1736 to present	<p><i>Confirmations:</i> residence; often prior to 1814 only the name and age of the child being confirmed is listed, but after 1814 it is common that also the child's age or date of birth or christening and name of one or both parents or name of employer is given</p>	
	1814-1875	<p><i>Arrivals and Removals:</i> not usually kept in cities, mostly for rural classes; names of persons arriving at or leaving the parish, former and new places of residence, marital status, sometimes date and place of birth, relationships</p>	
	Early to 1767	<p><i>Absolutions:</i> name of person absolved for transgression; sometimes names of other persons involved, such as in the case of illegitimate births; residence</p>	
	Approx 1800 forward	<p><i>Vaccinations:</i> names of children, parentage, age, residence</p>	
		<p>NOTE. From 1814 general indexes were supposed to be kept in each parish with reference to christenings, confirmations, marriages, deaths, arrivals and removals</p>	

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TYPE OF RECORD	PERIOD COVERED	TYPE OF INFORMATION GIVEN	AVAILABILITY
<b>14. LUTHERAN PARISH REGISTERS (Cont.)</b>  Lutheran Parish Register Ex-tracts <i>(Kirkebogsud-drag)</i>	17th-19th Centuries	Each entry the same as in the parish register; entries pertain mostly to prominent persons or persons with other than patronymic names	Provincial archives; on film (GS)
<b>15. LUTHERAN CHURCH ACCOUNTS</b>  <i>(Kirkeregnskaber)</i>	1571-1923	Names of persons involved in accounts, land leases, pew rentals, tithes, prominent burials	Diocesan, parish, and National Archives; on film (GS)
<b>16. COURT RECORDS</b>  <i>(Tingbøger eller retsprotokoller)</i>	1564 to present	Decisions in criminal trials, transfers of real estate, marriage settlements, guardianships, mortgages, miscellaneous judiciary items; names of persons involved, occupations, relationships, residence	Provincial and city archives and local court custody; 1564-1886 on film (GS)
<b>17. PROBATE RECORDS</b>  <i>(Skifteprotokoller)</i>	1562 to present	Name of deceased and place of residence at time of death; sometimes date of death, enumeration of legal heirs; names of male spouses and their residence; ages of children and name of guardian, place of residence and relationship if a kinsman; inventory and distribution of property	Provincial archives and local court custody; 1562-1913 on film (GS)
Guardianship Records  <i>(Overformynderiprotokoller)</i>	1573 to present	Name of deceased, names of heirs, relationships, residence, sometimes date of birth or christening, name of guardian	National and provincial archives; 1573-1870 on film (GS)
<b>18. TRADE GUILD RECORDS</b> <i>(Lavsprotokoller)</i>	1527 to present	Minutes; names of guild members and those seeking membership; sometimes date and place of birth, age, parentage	Provincial and city archives, museums, guild custody; 1527-1906 on film (GS)

Continued

TYPE OF RECORD	PERIOD COVERED	TYPE OF INFORMATION GIVEN	AVAILABILITY
<p>19. LAND TENANCY RECORDS</p> <p><i>(Faesteprotokoller og Jordebøger)</i></p>	<p>1515 to present</p>	<p>Names of residents, places of residence, dates of transactions</p>	<p>National and provincial archives; local administration offices; 1515-1922 on film (GS)</p>
<p>20. PRINTED GENEALOGIES OF THE NOBILITY</p> <p><i>(Adelen)</i></p>	<p>11th Century to present</p>	<p>Names of persons; pedigrees listing their progenitors to the earliest known ancestor; names of spouse and children; dates and places of birth, marriage, and death; residences, offices, commissions, occupations, relationships</p>	<p>Various archives and libraries in Denmark; in print (GS)</p>

