


Why you can't Find Your Ancestor in the Index

Indexer problems with English, German, Scandinavian and Polish Handwriting

By Richard Hartman

Possible reasons:

1. The name is not in the record.
Why are you looking there? Well there might be a good reason.
2. The name was not indexed.
Damaged name.

3. Imaged pages are out of sequence.
The name was changed.
Married or maiden name.
The name was modified for cultural reasons.
Name change at the time of naturalization.
4. The record does not exist for that year.
Check the description of the database.
5. Spelling variations.
Many names could spelled phonetically.
6. The name was entered into the record incorrectly.
7. The handwriting was not properly transcribed.

Scripts

Typeset – Gothic or Blackletter

Manuscript – Latin

Sütterlin (*Sütterlin*) Truetype font is available

<http://www.suetterlinschrift.de/Englisch/Sutterlin.htm>

Kurrent (*Kurrent*) or Old Sütterlin (*Old Sütterlin*) Truetype font is available

German records can have a mixture of fonts, even within words or names.

Die deutsche Kurrentschrift

a b c d e f g h i j
 k l m n o p q r s t u v
 w x y z A B C D E F G H I J

A B C D E F G H I J
 K L M N O P Q R S T U
 V W X Y Z A B C D E F G H I J

Die Deutsche Kurrentschrift (The German Kurrent Script)

Anno 1710. d. 13. October ist Christoph Kris
 Krüger in Cammeren, ein Pöfsterlein geboren,
 v. 20. Jahr. getauft und Catharina genant
 Leinke, die Paten waren Elias Zimmer, Schulmeister
 daselbst, v. 10. Grad, Schulmeister ibid. Matthias
 Biedel, Calluprom daselbst, Ewaldus Coptow in
 Cammeren Maria etc.
 Calluprom in Cammeren
 Michael König

Birth Record from Altsorge, Posen