

Finding Your Ancestor's Original Surname and Village of Origin

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You Must Find:

- Original Greek surname (not “Pappas” but “Papadopoulos”)
- Village and region (Agios Ioannis, Sparta, Laconia)

Find every record that could have been created in your ancestor's new homeland

Resources to Find Records in New Homeland

- See additional handout, “Records in His/Her New Country”
- FamilySearch Wiki ([familysearch.org/wiki](https://www.familysearch.org/wiki)); type name of country for research help and links to records
- State/Province and Local Archives
- Historical Societies and Libraries

Records That May Give You Name & Village

- Marriage (Civil and Church)
- Baptismal (Greek Church)
- Death (Civil and Church)
- Civil Birth
- Immigration (Passenger Ship)
- Naturalization
- Government Pension
- Census
- Military: both draft and service
- Obituary
- Tombstones
- Photographs
- Cemetery websites
- Wills and Probate Files (found in local/county courthouses)

Research family members, not just your immediate ancestor. Repeat the research process for each person, on both direct line and collateral lines

- Talk to older family members; prove or disprove family stories
- Write down facts, stories
- Start collecting photos (make sure they are identified!) and documents
- Use a genealogy database to keep track of people, facts (RootsMagic, Legacy)
- DNA Research: [Ancestry.com](https://www.ancestry.com); [FamilyTree DNA](https://www.familytreeDNA.com); [23&Me](https://www.23andme.com); [MyHeritage.com](https://www.myheritage.com)