IMMIGRATION SOURCES

Sources on arrival of persons at the Cape in the 19th and 20th centuries

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Departure of the Immigration Ship, "Chapman" (M 390)
1. **Purpose of this document**

1.1 This document will give direction to researchers as to which sources are available at this repository to conduct research about immigration.

2. **Introduction**

2.1 The Western Cape Archives and Records Service is in possession of a large variety of archival sources that can be used for research on immigration. A list of archival sources that could be consulted by researchers is given below. Please see also Archives Fact Sheet A1.1: Genealogical Research Sources.

3. **Archival groups to be used**

**Sources relating to various immigrants**

**Archives of the Colonial Office (Reference: CO)**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Volume</th>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Period</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>6054, vols 1–4</td>
<td>Permits to remain in the Colony</td>
<td>1806–1828</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6055, vol 1</td>
<td>Index to Permissions to remain in the Colony</td>
<td>1806–1838</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6055, vols 2–3</td>
<td>Register of Permissions to remain in the Colony</td>
<td>1806–1838</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6056, vol 1</td>
<td></td>
<td>1839–1843</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6056, vol 2</td>
<td>Permissions granted to British Settlers</td>
<td>1820–1824</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6059</td>
<td>Sundry Permits to leave/remain in the Colony</td>
<td>1806–1809</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6060–6066</td>
<td>Permits to leave the Colony</td>
<td>1809–1844</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6067</td>
<td>Registers of Permits to leave the Colony</td>
<td>1806–1844</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5760–5769</td>
<td>Letters of Naturalization</td>
<td>1826–1902</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8552–8696</td>
<td>Applications for Letters of Naturalization</td>
<td>1865–1911</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Consult computer printouts 9/23/1 – 9/23/5 for the period 1899–1911 (refers to CO 8552–8696)

| 6137–6138 | List of British Settlers to the Cape               | 1820      |
| 136       | Letters received from Settlers                     | 1820–1825 |

As well as volumes 158, 178, 201, 223 and 249

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**IMMIGRATION SOURCES** 2014 August
An example of an application form to enter the Cape Colony.

Archives of the Immigration Board, Cape Town (Reference: IBC)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Volume</th>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Period</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>List of emigrants on board various ships from Britain to the Cape</td>
<td>1857 – 1862</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Consult inventory 4/3/1 for volume numbers.

Some of the signatures of the French Huguenots (publication: Botha, CG: The French Refugees at the Cape)
# Index to Signatures

1. A. de Villiers  
2. Pierre Vivier  
3. G. Leboul  
4. Jacques Mignard  
5. Jean Taillefert  
6. Jacques Théronne  
7. J. Preuille de Plein  
8. Estienne Vrèt  
9. Jacob de Villiers  
10. E. Nel  
11. Estienne Brueche  
12. P. Meyer  
13. D. D. Beddon  
14. Willen Nel  
15. Pierre Villiers  
16. David Sendral  
17. Claude Marais  
18. I. Taillefont  
19. Salomon de Gournay  
20. Phillipe Fouche  
21. Pierre Rousseau  
22. [Paul Lefebvre  
23. François Retif  
24. Hercules Després  
25. G. Sollier  
26. Pierre Simon  
27. Jean Durand  
28. Pierre Cunie  
29. Gédéon le Grand  
30. Jean Garde  
31. Jacques Labat  
32. Estienne Cromer  
33. Jean Leboul  
34. J. Malam  
35. Louis de Boulau  
36. Jacobus de Savoye  
37. Jean Leboul  
38. Guillaume du Tont  
39. François du Tont  
40. Jacob Montie  
41. Daniel Hourtier  
42. Abraham Bleuet  
43. Eusébe Costier  
44. Jean Oufreille  
45. André Gauch  
46. J. Claudié de Conde  
47. J. de Boul  
48. Jean Gardiol  
49. Pierre Jourdan  
50. Daniel Hugot  
51. Paul Courret  
52. Daniel de Ruelle  
53. Jacques de Ponte  
54. Paul Roux

A list of the names of the French Huguenots

## Archives of the Secretary, Immigration Board, Port Elizabeth (Reference: PIB)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Volume</th>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Period</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>Applications for immigrants selected by Colonists and for the introduction of relatives and friends</td>
<td>1862 – 1865</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9-10</td>
<td>Register of Immigration Applicants</td>
<td>1858 – 1861</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>14</td>
<td>Register of Emigrants</td>
<td>undated</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

## Archives of the Immigration Agent, Cape Town (Reference: IAC)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Volume</th>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Period</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Native Immigration</td>
<td>1878 – 1884</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>German Immigration</td>
<td>1883</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Consult inventory 4/3/3 for volume numbers.
Archives of the Port Captain and Dock Superintendent, Table Bay (Reference: PC)

Volume | Description | Period
--- | --- | ---
 | Registers of Ships' Arrivals | 1806 – 1913
 | Registers of Ships' Departures | 1853 – 1913

Consult inventory 1/42 for volume numbers. These are not passenger lists, but lists of ships and indicating numbers of passengers.

Landing of the British Settlers in 1820 (A 263 No. 54)

An interesting envelope addressed to the Principal Immigration Officer.

IMMIGRATION SOURCES: 2014 August
### Archives of the Secretary, Cape Town Chamber of Commerce (Reference: CC)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Volume</th>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Period</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Registers of Arrivals and Departures of Ships, Table Bay and Simon's Bay</td>
<td>1822 – 1917</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Registers of Arrivals and Departures of Ships, Algoa Bay</td>
<td>1846 – 1901</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Registers of Arrivals and Departures of Ships, various ports excluding Table Bay and Simon's Bay</td>
<td>1900 – 1913</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

These registers provide the captain's name and sometimes names of 1st class passengers.

3/8/1-3/8/3  Passenger Lists per various ships (mostly newspaper cuttings)  1880 – 1884

Consult inventory 4/1 for volume numbers.

### Archives of the Secretary of Public Works (Reference: PWD)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Volume</th>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Period</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2/401</td>
<td>Passenger Lists: Emigrants per various ships</td>
<td>1872 – 1884</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2/402 – 2/404</td>
<td>Application Forms received for Aided Immigration</td>
<td>1875 – 1889</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2/405 – 2/407</td>
<td>Indexes of Applications for Aided Immigration</td>
<td>1878 – 1881</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2/408 – 2/410</td>
<td>Registers of Applications for Aided Immigration</td>
<td>1882 – 1902</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2/750 – 2/760</td>
<td>Immigration Papers (including German, Swiss and Scottish Agricultural Immigrants, 1877-1883; Immigrants from St Helena, 1882-1884)</td>
<td>1873 – 1902</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Archives of the Principal Immigration Officer, Cape Town (Reference: PIO)

**Various sources relating to German Immigration**

**Archives of the Lieutenant-Governor of the Eastern Districts (Reference: LG)**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Volume</th>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Period</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>148</td>
<td>German Military Settlers</td>
<td>1858 – 1863</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Archives of the Governor (Reference: GH)**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Volume</th>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Period</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>39/1 – 39/4</td>
<td>Letters: British-German Legion and German Military Settlers</td>
<td>1857 – 1862</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>40/1 – 40/4</td>
<td>Military Returns: Monthly Return of Troops and Military Settlers</td>
<td>1855 – 1879</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Archives of British Kaffraria (Reference: BK)**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Volume</th>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Period</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>40</td>
<td>German Military Settlers</td>
<td>1856 – 1861</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>Irish Female Settlers and German Military Settlers</td>
<td>1857 – 1865</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>42</td>
<td>German Military Settlers, Captain Mills</td>
<td>1858 – 1865</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>43</td>
<td>German Military Settlers: Claims for Tities</td>
<td>1863 – 1864</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Archives of the Colonial Office (Reference: CO)**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Volume</th>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Period</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>696</td>
<td>Immigration, England and Cape</td>
<td>1857 – 1858</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Archives of the Magistrate, East London (Reference: 1/ELN)**

| E5/1 – E5/2 | Lists of German Immigrants                  | 1858 – 1878 |

**Cape Colony Publications (Reference: CCP)**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Volume</th>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Period</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>8/1/53 – 8/5/54</td>
<td>Government Gazette</td>
<td>1857 – 1878</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
4. **Library Publications**

Essential knowledge for any genealogical researcher is to determine which publications or articles are available in his or her specific field of research. The following listing is an extract of publications available at the library of this repository that can be used for research relating to immigration:

- Bull, E: Aided Immigration from Britain to South Africa, 1857–1867
- Calpin, GH: Indians in South Africa
- Dickason, GB: Irish Settlers to the Cape. A History of the Clanwilliam 1820 Settlers from Cork Harbour
- Genealogical Society of South Africa: Quarterly journal Familia (consult indexes)
- Heese, JA & Lombard, RTJ/GISA: South African Genealogies (17 volumes A–Z)
- Hermann, L: The Jews in South Africa
- Hockly, HF: The Story of the British Settlers of 1820 in South Africa
- Hoge, J: Personalia of the Germans at the Cape, 1652–1806
- Kuparinen, E: An African Alternative: Nordic Migration to South Africa, 1815–1914
- Linder, A: The Swiss at the Cape of Good Hope, 1652–1971
- Mendelsohn, R & Shain, M: The Jews in South Africa
- Morse-Jones, E: The Role of the British Settlers in South Africa
- Nash, MD: The Settler Handbook – A New List of the 1820 Settlers
- Philip, P: British Residents at the Cape, 1795–1819
- Schnell, ELG: For Men Must Work (German Military Settlers)
- Standard Encyclopedia of South Africa

![Dutch East Indiaman 'Africa', 17th century (A 263 No. 142)](image-url)
Sailing vessel of about 1850 (A 263 No. 152)

The first steamship (A 263 No. 136)
5. **Useful Websites**

**www.sa.indianarchives.co.za**

For the arrival of indentured Indians in South Africa: arrived 1861 – 1911 on 384 vessels (262 from Madras and 122 from Calcutta): University of Durban-Westville: shipping lists: 91 volumes.

**www.ancestoronboard.com**

Comprehensive transcribed lists of passengers leaving British, Irish and Northern Irish ports for destinations such as Australia, Canada, India, New Zealand, South Africa and the USA, 1890 – 1949.

**www.findmypast.com**

British ancestors and topics related, such as emigration.

**www.gisa.org.za**

For finding out what books are available on family research at the Genealogical Institute of South Africa. These publications normally give detailed information on the arrival of the family progenitor in South Africa.

**www.nlsa.ac.za**

For finding out what books are available on family research at the National Library of South Africa. These publications normally give detailed information on the arrival of the family progenitor in South Africa.

**www.genza.org**

The aim of the Genealogical Society of South Africa (GSSA) is to encourage family research.

**www.eggsa.org**

The virtual branch of the Genealogical Society of South Africa. Useful are the other internet links given and the Society’s quarterly journals which give comprehensively researched information.

**www.tanap.net**

The TANAP website contains transcriptions of series of VOC documents (1602–1796) including a search facility and an introduction. In the short run these transcriptions are limited to records from the Cape of Good Hope. It also contains a list of finding aids of all record groups in the Netherlands, Indonesia, India, Sri Lanka, South Africa, Malaysia and the United Kingdom that jointly make up the archives of the Dutch East India Company.
Finally:

Search your Family name on Google. Useful websites can be traced this way.

The slave ship 'De Leijdsman' (C2246; also AG17842)

6. Research facilities and reading room services

Research can be undertaken in the public reading room of this repository, where staff will assist the researcher with archival and published sources and the relevant finding aids.

Please note that a copy of publications/dissertations/CDs/DVDs generated through the use of the records at the Western Cape Archives and Records Service must be provided to this institution, as stipulated in the Provincial Archives and Records Service of the Western Cape Act, 2005 (Act 3 of 2005), section 5(2)(g):

"Any person who made use of records in the custody of the Western Cape Archives and Records Service, while researching a publication or dissertation, shall furnish a copy of his/her publication or dissertation to the Western Cape Archives and Records Service."

The publication/dissertation/CD/DVD should be hand-delivered to 72 Roeland Street, Cape Town, or posted by pre-paid registered mail to the Head, Western Cape Archives and Records Service, Private Bag X9025, Cape Town 8001.
7. **Reproduction services**

The Western Cape Archives and Records Service offers the following reproduction services to researchers:

- Photocopies;
- Digital prints (in paper format only); and
- Photographic prints from our many collections.

Please take note that a waiting period is applicable after placing an order.

8. **Website of National Archives and Records Service of South Africa**

**Website:** [www.national.archives.gov.za](http://www.national.archives.gov.za)

Go to [www.national.archives.gov.za](http://www.national.archives.gov.za) to access references to archival records in possession of the Western Cape Archives and Records Service.

- Select National Automated Archival Information Retrieval System (NAAIRS).
- Select Search.
- Select the KAB database for records of governmental bodies.
- Select the MAN database for photographs, maps, library materials and non-public records.

9. **Opening hours**

Mondays–Fridays: 08:00–6:00

Our extended reading room opening hours:

- Thursdays: 08:00–1:00
- The first Saturday of each month: 09:00–13:00

To help you plan your visit, we recommend that you contact us in advance to find out when we will be open.