

Where and When - Changing Borders

Geographical History/ Historical Geography

Do you know the name of Your Town and Who Ruled it When?

If your family lived in Belarus, their town was once ruled by another country before it was in the Pale of Settlement. The Pale of Settlement borders were finalized by 1795 by the Third Partition of Poland.

Skill Building Exercise #4: Maps, Borders and Coordinates

- Using Google, find a **map of the Grand Duchy of Lithuania before 1795**.
- Using Google, find a **map of the Pale of Russia before 1900**.
- Using Google, find a **current map of Belarus after 1991**

The Effects of History on Geography— Partitions of Grand Duchy of Lithuania

The Revision Census' for the Grand Duchy of Lithuania did not record surnames. At that time the populace used patronymics. Unique surnames were established by the Napoleonic Code on 1804. However, set surnames did not appear until the Revision Census of 1816 and were not stabilized until the Revision Census of 1834.

- Visit the [Jewish Family History Website](#) and find if your shtetl appears in the Grand Duchy of Lithuania [Revision Census' Alphabetical Index of Towns](#).
- If you find your town, what was the name of the District in 1784?

