The National Archives and Records Administration (NARA) holds the microfilmed records of immigrant arrivals from the 1800s to the 1980s, but not all filmed series have been processed and made available for researchers. The unprocessed series are known as accessioned microfilm. As these records are processed for eventual digitization, the microfilm will be transferred to the Federal Records Center at Lenexa, Kansas, for storage.

Since many of these films are the original negatives or positive copies and are often the only existing copies of the passenger manifests, they must be protected from scratches or other types of damage. For this reason, these records are unavailable and will not be used for reference.

**Prior to May 1, 1951**
For records prior to 1951 that are not available online or on microfilm, contact the United States Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS). Fill out a Genealogy Index Search Request, form G-1041. The form can be found at [www.uscis.gov](http://www.uscis.gov).

Requests should be mailed to:

USCIS Genealogy Program  
PO Box 805925  
Chicago, IL  60680-4120

**Post May 1, 1951**
For records after 1951, complete form G-639 FOIA/PA to request the immigrant’s file, which will contain the individual’s official entry record. The form can also be found at [www.uscis.gov](http://www.uscis.gov).

Mail requests to:

U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services  
National Records Center, FOIA/PA Office  
PO Box 648010  
Lee’s Summit, MO 64064-8010

Additional information about USCIS or its genealogy program can be found at [www.uscis.gov](http://www.uscis.gov).

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