

Date Vessel Port of Embarkation

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CREW LISTS OF VESSELS ARRIVING AT MANITOWOC, WISCONSIN, 1925-1956

Introduction

On the single roll of this microfilm publication, M2045, are reproduced crew lists of vessels arriving at Manitowoc, Wisconsin, from June 30, 1925 to September 24, 1956. These lists were submitted to the Immigration and Naturalization Service (INS) by the captain or master of each vessel. These records are part of the Records of the Immigration and Naturalization Service, Record Group 85.

Background

Customs Passenger Lists (1819-1882)

Early records relating to immigration originated in regional customhouses. An Act of March 2, 1819 (3 Stat. 489) required the captain or master of a vessel arriving at a port in the United States or any of its territories from a foreign country to submit a list of passengers to the collector of customs. The act also required that the collector submit a quarterly report or abstract, consisting of copies of passenger lists, to the Secretary of State, who was required to submit such information at each session of Congress. After 1874, Collectors retained the lists of passengers and forwarded only statistical reports to the Treasury Department. The lists themselves were retained by the Collector of Customs. Customs records were maintained primarily for statistical purposes. The U.S. Customs Service conducted its business by designating collection districts. Each district had a headquarters port with a customhouse and a collector of customs, the chief officer of the district. There were also ports of entry and subports, usually called ports of delivery.

Immigration Passenger Lists and Manifest Cards (1882-1957)

In 1882, Congress passed the first Federal law regulating immigration. Between 1882 and 1891 the Secretary of the Treasury had general supervision over immigration. The Office of Superintendent of Immigration of the Department of the Treasury was established under an act of March 3, 1891, and was designated a bureau in 1895 with responsibility for administering the alien contract-labor laws. In 1900, administration of the Chinese-exclusion laws was added. In 1903, the Bureau became part of the Department of Commerce and Labor. Functions relating to naturalization were assigned to the Bureau in 1906, and its name was changed to the Bureau of Immigration and Naturalization. It was transferred in 1940 to the Department of Justice.

Initially, the Immigration and Naturalization Service retained the same administrative structure of ports of

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entry and ports of delivery that the Customs Service had used. By the turn of the century INS began to designate its own immigration districts, the numbers and boundaries of which changed over the years.

Records Description

The crew lists were generally recorded on two INS forms:

INS Form 680 (later known as Form I-480), *List or Manifest of Aliens Employed on the Vessel as Members of Crew*, usually contains the names of vessels and shipmasters, ports of arrival and embarkation, dates of arrival, and the following information about each crew member: full name; position in ship's company; whether able to read; age; sex; race; nationality; height; weight; physical marks or peculiarities. The "race" column indicates the crew member's ethnic background, such as Irish, German, Polish, etc. It also indicates the date and place at which he was engaged for employment and whether he was to be paid off or discharged at the port of arrival. Although the primary purpose of this form was to record pertinent information about aliens, many U.S. citizen crew members are included on these lists. Masters of some vessels submitted Canadian Immigration Service Form 200, *Crew List or Manifest of Seamen and Other Persons Employed on the Vessel*, in lieu of INS Form I-480.

INS Form 481, *List or Manifest of all Persons Employed on a Great Lakes Vessel*, usually contains the names of vessels, shipmasters, ship owners, and local agents; ports of arrival and embarkation; dates of arrival; and the following information about each crew member: full name, citizenship, position in crew, whether to be discharged at the port of arrival, whether medically examined during the current season or year, and identification card number or alien registration number.

Both the I-480 and I-481 generally indicate whether the immigrant inspector admitted the crew member or detained him on board the vessel. If the alien had another identification document, such as a passport or declaration of intention to become a citizen ("first papers"), it may be noted in the "remarks" column.

INS Form I-489, *Statement of Changes in Crew*, sometimes accompanies the Form I-481. This form indicates names and other information of any crewmen who (1) deserted, (2) were discharged, (3) were left in a hospital at the port of arrival, or (4) signed on at the port of arrival

These records were microfilmed by the INS on August 17, 1956, February 14, 1957, and July 15, 1957, and were transferred to the National Archives on microfilm. The original records were destroyed by the INS. Some of the records may be difficult to read. Errors in arrangement, omission, or microfilming cannot be corrected.

These arrival records were generally filmed in chronological order, although a few were filmed out of place. The Table of Contents that follows contains a complete listing of the arrival records in the order in which they were filmed. All ports of embarkation are in the province of Ontario, Canada, unless otherwise noted. Although most of the crew members were Canadian citizens, others were citizens of the United States, Norway, Sweden, Denmark, Finland, Turkey, Malta, Luxemburg, Great Britain (England and Scotland), Ireland, Germany, Poland, Spain, Holland, Germany, Estonia, Italy, and other nations.

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<u>Roll</u>	<u>Date of Arrival; Vessel; Port of Embarkation</u>
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	Aug. 22, 1925; Rein; Port Alfred, Quebec
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