

Obtaining, losing, and regaining American citizenship

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Why would a woman born in 1895 in St. Louis, Missouri be naturalized as an American in 1936 in Newark, New Jersey?

FEE \$3.00 32012 No. 12154
CITY of ST. LOUIS
 STATE OF MISSOURI
 Department of Health and Hospitals
 DIVISION OF HEALTH
 (Vital Statistics)

CERTIFIED COPY of BIRTH RECORD

Name Sarah Sacharow Sex Female Race White
 Place of Birth 1105 Wash St. Date of Birth June 20, 1895
 Father's Name Benjamin Birthplace Russia
 Mother's Name Rosa Birthplace Russia
 Informant F. Wolpert Certificate Number 4974

I, the undersigned, Registrar of Vital Statistics, hereby certify the foregoing to be a true copy from the birth records in this office.

Issued September 14, 19 83 Countersigned: William E. Hoge Registrar of Vital Statistics
Veronica Brady Register DATE OF FILING NOT STATED
Paul M. Berra CONTROLLER RECORD INDICATES THAT IT WAS FILED AT THIS OFFICE

Form P. W. 54

Between 1907 and 1922, American women who married foreign males lost their citizenship (and foreign women who married Americans automatically became citizens).

So, when my Missouri-born grandmother, Sarah Sacharow married Edward Horwitz, who had immigrated as a toddler but had never been naturalized, she ceased to be an American citizen.

To regain her citizenship, Sarah, who had never been outside the U.S., had to forswear allegiance to the Soviet Union!

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
PETITION FOR NATURALIZATION No. 34794

District Court of United States of Newark, N.J.
 Petitioner Sarah Ruth Horwitz formerly Ed.
 Residence 204 Schoerer Ave. Newark (2) My occupation is Housewife
St. Louis, Missouri on June 20, 1897 My race is Hebrew

The name of my wife or husband is Edward
 born September 29, 1917 at Newark, N. J. he was
 born New York on Dec. 20, 1896 I entered the United States
Newark, N. J. on April 30, 1904 for permanent residence. I have and now I have 3 children, and the names, date,
 and place of residence of each of said children are as follows:
Melen born Oct. 30, 1918 in Newark, N.J. Resides with me
Isabel Jan. 19, 1921 do do
David July 9, 1927 do do

I emigrated to the United States of
 (under the name of
 on the month of
 in the year)

I am not a member of, or affiliated with, or connected with any organization, society, or body of persons teaching, disseminating, or advocating
 (in the past, present, or future) the doctrine of polygamy. I am attached to the principles of the Constitution of the United States
 and fidelity to any foreign prince, potentate, state, or sovereignty, and particularly to
 the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics

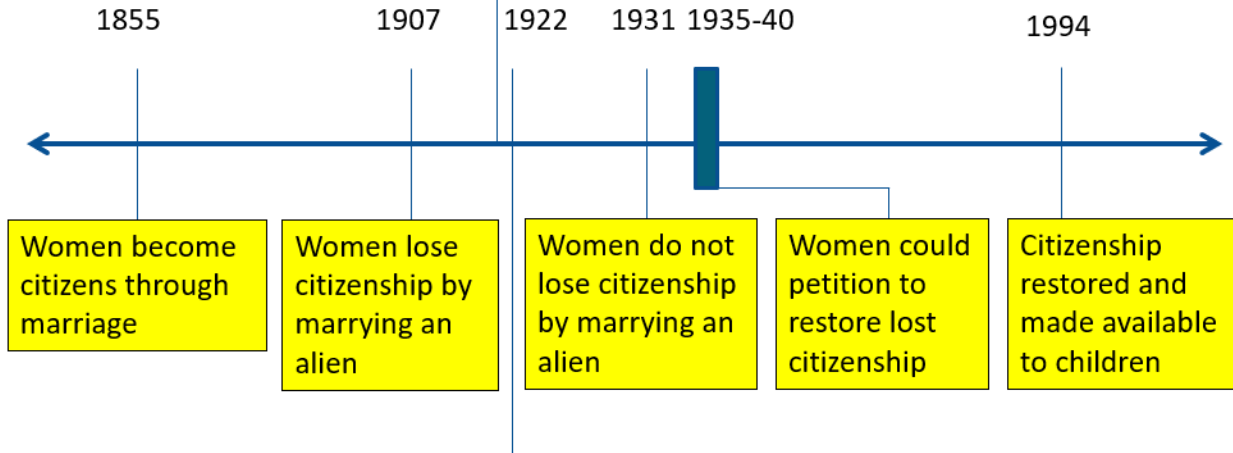
I am able to read the English language.
 June 20, 1897 and in the County of ESSEX
 and preceding the date of this petition, since Dec. 31, 1905
 filed under Sec. 4 Act of Sept. 22, 1922 as amended
 and such petition was denied by that Court for the following reason and cause, to wit:

and such petition was denied for the following reason and cause, to wit:
 I have being duly sworn, depose and say that I have read this petition and know the contents thereof; that the same is true of
 and that as to those matters I believe to be true and that this petition
 (Complete and the date of filing)

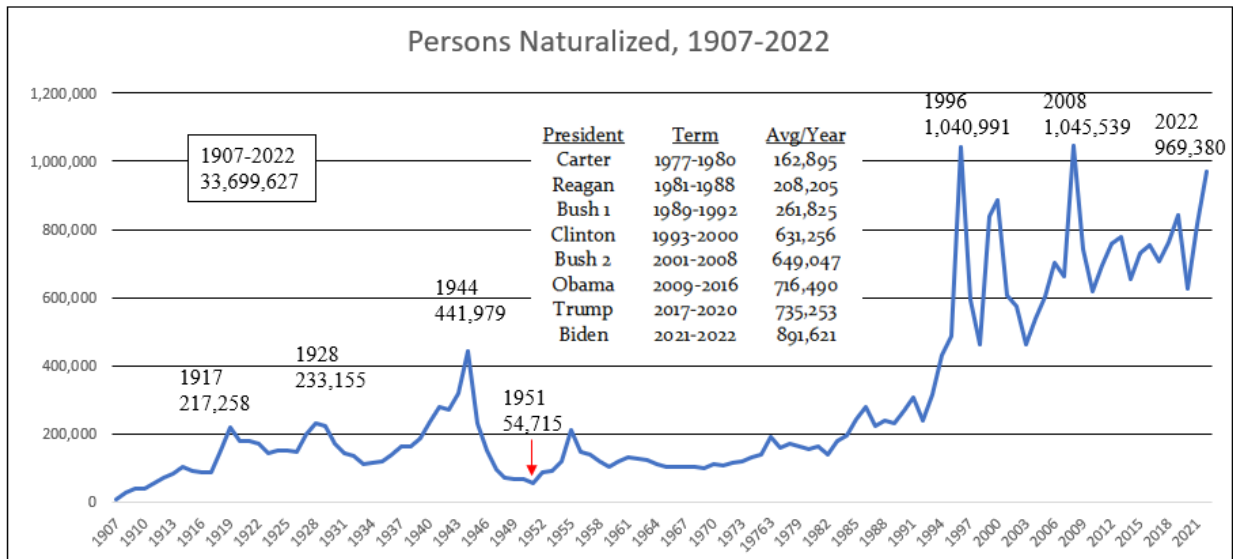
Sarah Ruth Horwitz

1920: 19th Amendment ratified.
(women's voting rights)

U.S. Citizenship of Women

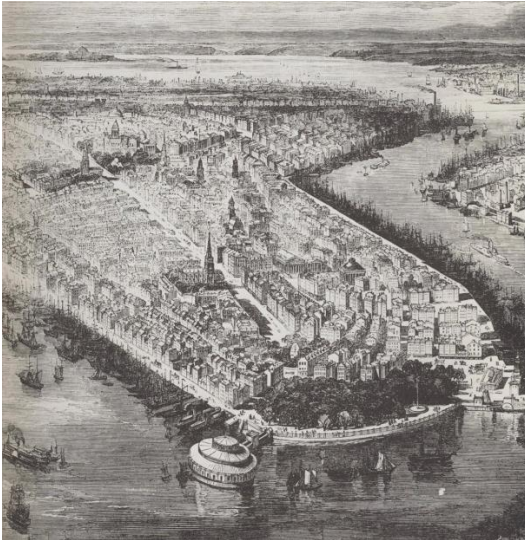


- Women only lose citizenship by marrying an ineligible alien or by marrying an alien and maintaining a foreign residence
- Women no longer gain citizenship due to husband's naturalization



Ellis Island

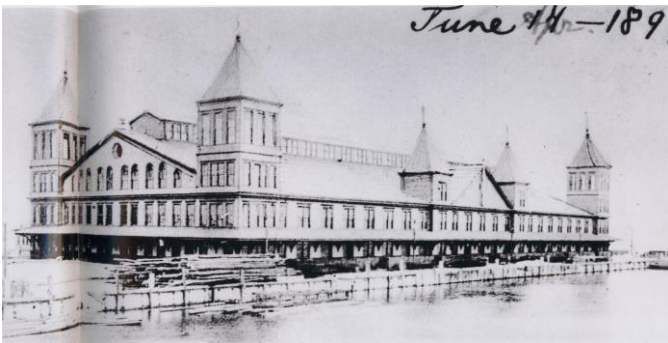
Along with an overview of the varying naturalization laws and the resources for uncovering our ancestors' records, this talk will provide a brief history of Castle Garden, The Barge Office and Ellis Island. These New York immigration centers welcomed about 25 million of our ancestors between 1855 and 1930. Finally, the talk will attempt to dispel some of the myths about our ancestors' experiences in these facilities (the family name was NOT changed on Ellis Island).



Castle Garden



Barge Office



Ellis Island - original wooden reception building.

Ellis Island - replacement brick structure after original building burned.

