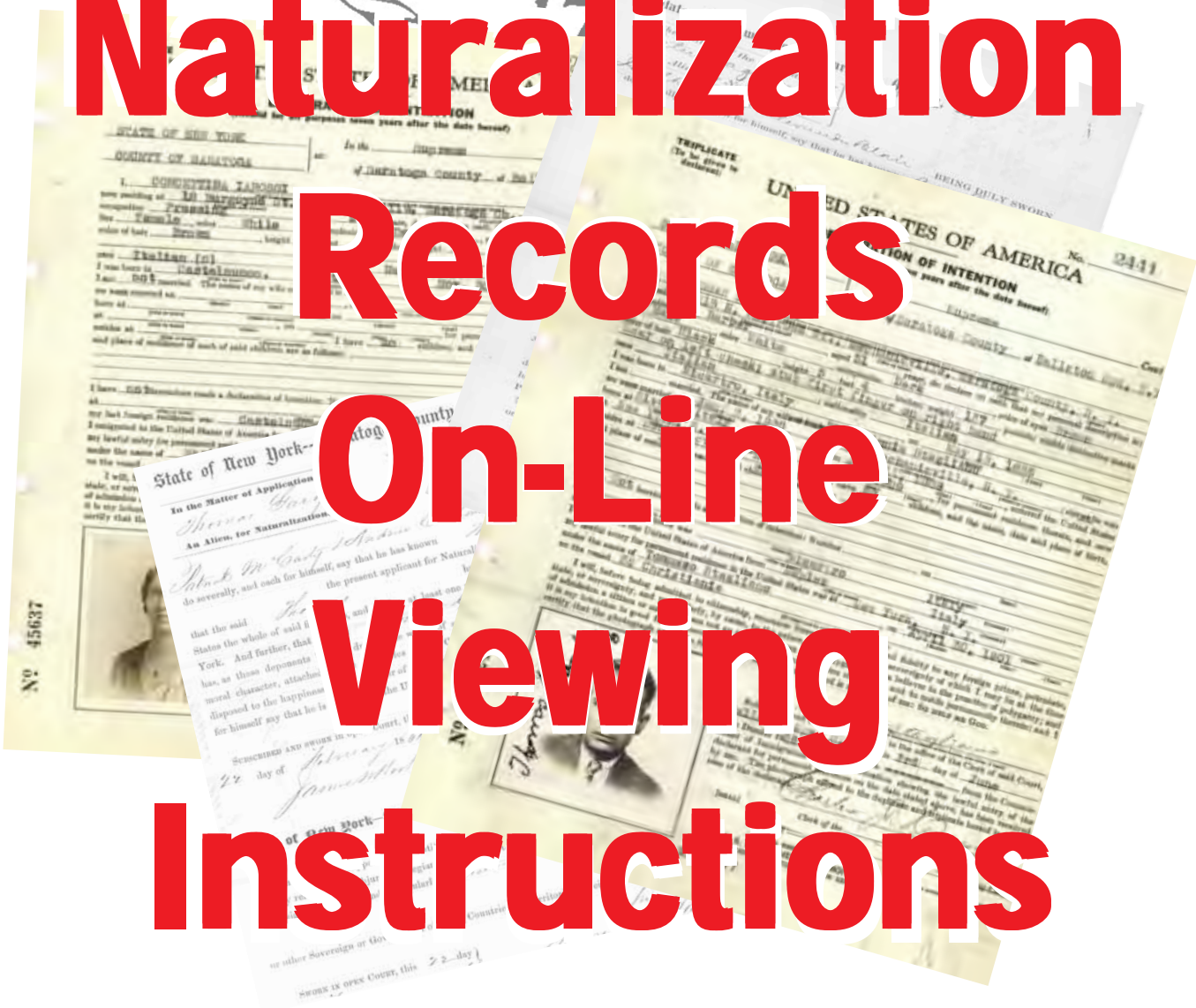
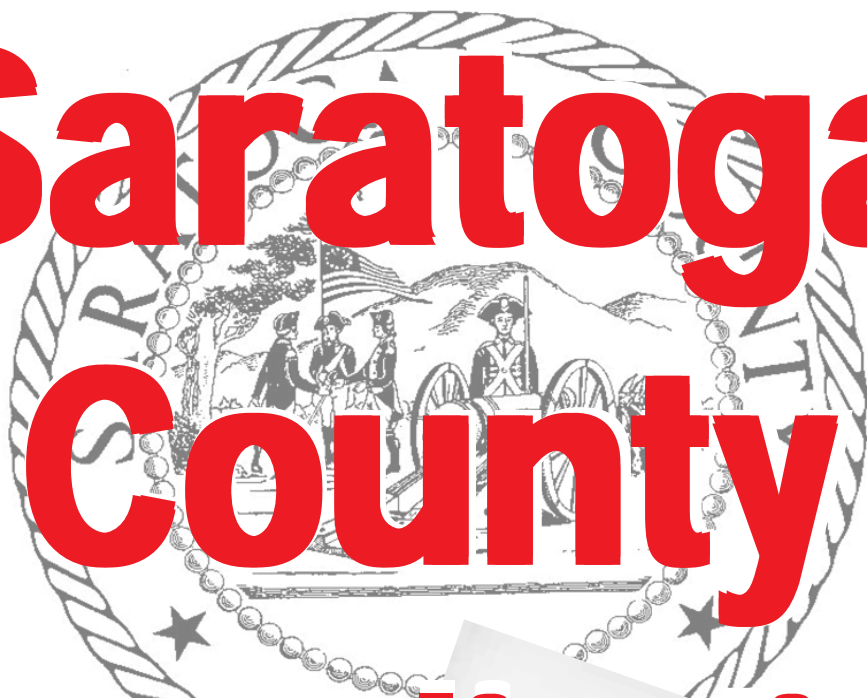


Saratoga County

Naturalization Records

On-Line Viewing

Instructions





Welcome to the Saratoga County Clerk's On-line Naturalization Records

Saratoga County now has Naturalization Records digitally imaged for your convenience. At the present time, we have the Declaration of Intention and Petition and Record, from the years 1906 to 1928. Also available is the 1896-1906 Final Application to Become Citizen (index only). The naturalizations years 1800 to 1905 and 1929 to 1956 will be added in the near future. The records can always be found in their original format here in our office. I hope that you will find the instructions for searching easy and simple to follow. Your comments are always welcome and we look forward to hearing from you at countyclerk@saratogacountyny.gov.

Happy searching!

TABLE OF CONTENTS

<u>INTRODUCTION</u>	
<u>AN OVERVIEW OF THE NATURALIZATION PROCESS</u>	4-5
<u>DECLARATION OF INTENTION</u>	6
ON-LINE USE INSTRUCTIONS	
STEPS 1 THRU 5	7
STEPS 6 THRU 10	8
<u>PETITION AND RECORD</u>	9
ON-LINE USE INSTRUCTIONS	
STEPS 1 THRU 5	10
STEPS 6 THRU 10	11
<u>FINAL APPLICATION TO BECOME A CITIZEN (INDEX ONLY)</u>	12
ON-LINE USE INSTRUCTIONS	
STEPS 1 THRU 4	13

INSTRUCTIONS PREPARED BY:
CHARLES A. FOEHSER II
RECORDS MANAGEMENT COORDINATOR
OFFICE OF THE SARATOGA COUNTY CLERK

An Overview of the Naturalization Process

Until the beginning of the 20th century, naturalization petitions could be filed in any court, and citizenship could be granted by a local, state or federal judge. In 1906, the Basic Naturalization Act launched a standardized process administered through the federal Bureau of Immigration and Naturalization and processed through federal court. Immigrants first declared their intention to become citizens, and after a minimum of a two-year waiting period, they were allowed to file formal petitions. Federal agents investigated each case and a citizenship hearing was held. At least two witnesses were required to testify that the applicant was a person of moral character. A federal judge decided whether to grant citizenship.

Declaration of Intention:

With this record, an applicant for US citizenship declared their intent to become a citizen and renounced their allegiance to a foreign government. Early records of this type (before Sept. 1906) usually will have: name, country of birth or allegiance (but not town), date of the application and signature. Some (but very few) show the date and port of arrival in the US. After Sept. 26, 1906 much more detailed information is given including place of birth and port and date of arrival.

A Declaration of Intention normally preceded proof of residence or a petition to become a citizen by two or more years. Exceptions: a person who entered the country while a minor, honorable military discharges, a person married to a citizen.

Beginning with 1795, a person could declare their intent to become a citizen at any time after they arrived here. A few people did this almost immediately upon arrival.

The Declaration of Intention requirement ended in 1952 (although immigrants can still file a declaration if they want to - it is optional).

Naturalization Petitions

Following the Declaration of Intention and meeting the residency requirements an applicant then filed this petition for formal application for US citizenship.

There was a 5 year residency requirement to become naturalized (raised to 14 years in 1798, lowered back to 5 in 1802). Generally, minor children who were not born in the US could derive citizenship from their father when their father naturalized. From 1855 to 1922, alien women became citizens automatically if they married an American citizen. After Sept 1922, an alien woman who married a US citizen could skip the Declaration of Intention and file for a Naturalization Petition. But if an alien woman married an alien man, she would have to start with a Declaration of Intention.

Certificates of Arrival

On this form the immigrant listed the port name, date and ship of arrival. Copies of this form were sent to the port of entry and checked by a clerk, who located the immigrant's passenger list. If a corresponding record was found, the INS issued a certificate of arrival and sent it to the naturalization court. Certificates of arrival were first issued under the Basic Naturalization Act of 1906, which went into effect on 27 September 1906. These certificates are generally included in a naturalization records file.

Records of Naturalization and Oaths of Allegiance

This document granted US citizenship to petitioners. It was sometimes called the Certificate of Naturalization.

You may not always find every type of record for your ancestor. Slightly different records were kept during different time periods. In some cases all of the records are combined together in a single petition and record file.

Current Process for Attaining Citizenship

Eligibility - To be eligible, an un-married person must be at least 18 years old and in the country legally with Permanent Resident - or green card - status for five years. If married and living with a U.S. citizen, the age requirement is the same, but the Permanent Resident status is only necessary for three years. The individual, married or single, can't leave the country on trips longer than six months.

Application - A permanent resident obtains the Guide to Naturalization and application from the United States Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS). By first filling out the Eligibility Worksheet, the individual will know if he/she has met the eligibility requirements. The individual then needs to take two photographs, which must resemble the standard photographs seen in a passport. These, along with the application, any other required documents such as photocopies of Permanent Resident Card, and the fee must be sent to the USCIS.

Fingerprints - The USCIS sends the individual an appointment letter with information on where and when the applicant should have fingerprints taken. Applicant only receives the letter after the application is completed and approved. The USCIS sends the fingerprints to the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) for a background check.

Interview - The individual must sit for a face-to-face interview. During the interview, the USCIS officer explains the interview process, places him under oath and asks questions. These questions usually surround a person's background, character and residency. The questions are to ensure the person has a good moral character and adheres to the Constitution. During the interview, an individual takes two tests. One exam tests a person's capacity to write, read and speak the English language. The second exam tests the individual's understanding of U.S. history and government, according to the USCIS. All tests are given in English.

Ceremony - When an individual earns citizenship, the last step in the process is a ceremony. The USCIS sends the individual a letter about attending the Oath of Allegiance to the United States. He must attend the ceremony before citizenship is granted.

**Saratoga County Clerk On-Line
Infodex Instructions for:
Declaration of Intention Instructions
Years: 1906 to 1927**

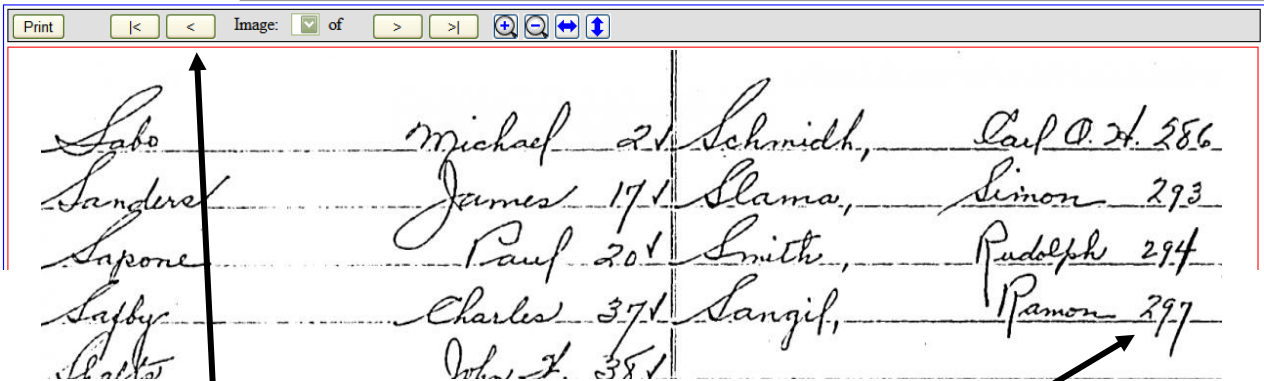
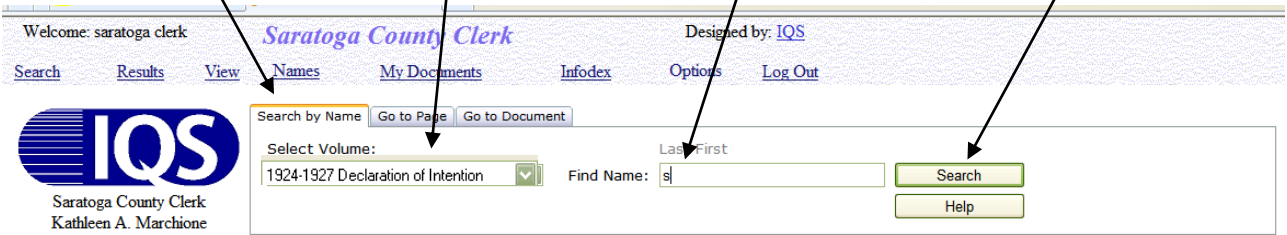
Declaration of Intention / On-Line Instructions, Steps 1-5

Step 1
Select: **Search by Name**

Step 2
Click on the dropdown menu and select Declaration Year

Step 3
Enter first letter of last name

Step 4
Click **Search**
This will bring up the index of names beginning with the letter from Step 3.



Note: There may be more than one page for a letter. Use the page forward and page back functions to view the additional pages.

Step 5
Find the name you are looking for and take down the corresponding page number. Then proceed to page 8, steps 6-10.

Declaration of Intention / On-Line Instructions, Steps 6-10

Step 6

Select: **Go to Document**

Step 7

Click on the dropdown menu and select **Declarations**

Step 8

Enter the beginning year of the volume.

Example: If the book you are look at is the 1924-1927 Declaration of Intention. Then enter 1924.

Step 9

Enter Page Number of the Declaration

The screenshot shows the top navigation bar with links: Search, Results, View, Names, My Documents, Infodex, Options, Log Out, Search Report, Usage Report, Charges Report, Billing Statement, User Maint, Chg Profile, User Views. Below is the IQS logo and Saratoga County Clerk Kathleen A. Marchione. The search interface includes a 'Go to Document' button, a 'Select Book Type' dropdown menu with 'Declarations' selected, a 'Go to Book' input field with '1924', a 'Page' input field with '297', and a 'Go to Document' button. A browser toolbar is visible at the bottom of the screenshot.

No. 1997

U. S. DEPARTMENT OF LABOR
NATURALIZATION SERVICE

ORIGINAL 297

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

DECLARATION OF INTENTION

Invalid for all purposes seven years after the date hereof

In the Supreme Court,
STATE OF NEW YORK, }
SARATOGA COUNTY, } ss:
of Saratoga Co., N.Y.
I, Ramon Sangil, aged 37 years,
occupation laborer, do declare on oath that my personal

Note: There may be one or more pages to the document. Use the page forward and page back functions to view them.

Step 10

Click: **Go to Document**

**Saratoga County Clerk On-Line
Infodex Instructions for:
Petition and Record
Years: 1906 to 1928**

Petition & Record Instructions / On-Line Instructions, Steps 6-10

Step 6

Select: **Go to Document**

Step 7

Select Petitions from dropdown menu

Step 8

Enter the beginning year of the volume.

Example: If the book you are looking at is the 1927-1928 Petition and Record. Then enter 1927.

The screenshot shows the top navigation bar with links: Search, Results, View, Names, My Documents, Infodex, Options, Log Out, Search Report, Usage Report, Charges Report, Billing Statement, User Maint, Chg Profile, User Views. Below this is the IQS logo and the text "Saratoga County Clerk Kathleen A. Marchione". The main search area includes tabs for "Search by Name", "Go to Section", and "Go to Document". Under "Go to Document", there is a "Select Book Type:" dropdown menu with "Petitions" selected. To the right is a "Go to Book:" input field containing "1927", followed by a "Page:" input field containing "98", and a green "Go to Document" button. Below the search area is a browser toolbar with a "Print" button and navigation icons.

Note: There may be more than one page to the document. Use the page forward and page back functions to view the additional information.

Step 9

Enter the page number of the petition

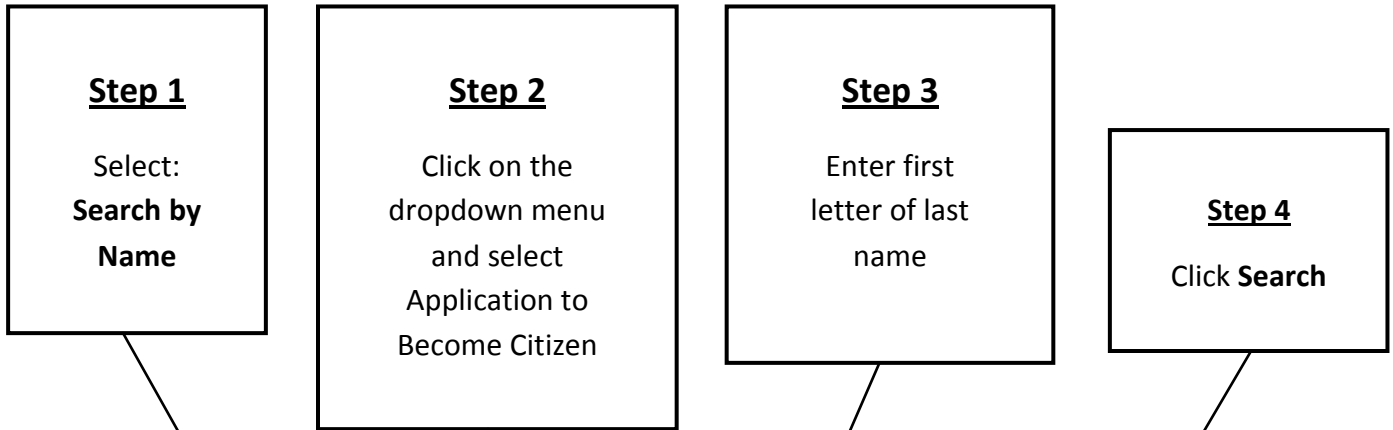
Step 10

Click: **Go to Document**

**Saratoga County Clerk On-Line
Infodex Instructions for:
Final Application to Become Citizen
Years: 1896 to 1906**

1896-1906 Final Application to Become Citizen / On-Line Instructions

Index Only



Welcome: saratoga clerk **Saratoga County Clerk** Designed by: IQS

Search Results View **Names** My Documents Infodex Options Log Out

IQS
Saratoga County Clerk
Kathleen A. Marchione

Search by Name Go to Page Go to Document

Select Volume: 1896-1906 Applications to Become Citiz Find Name: a Search Help

Print | < | < | Image: of > | > | [Zoom In] [Zoom Out] [Refresh] [Print]

RECORD OF FINAL APPLICATIONS TO BE ADMITTED				TO BECOME CITIZENS OF THE UNITED STATES: <small>Sec. 6, Chap. 912, Laws of 1893</small>				
DATE OF FINAL APPLICATION.	NAME OF APPLICANT.	RESIDENCE OF APPLICANT.	NATIONALITY OF APPLICANT.	FORM AND NATURE OF APPLICATION.	NAMES OF WITNESSES ON FINAL APPLICATION.	RESIDENCES OF WITNESSES ON FINAL APPLICATION.	REMARKS.	
June 25 1896	Argiano, Raffaele	Mechanicville	Italy	Declaration of intention	Paquale Diapolino Frank Scaringe	Mechanicville	July 13, 1896	
July 10 1897	Aspland, Robert	Waterford	England	" "	Isaac S. Mincher John Barklam	Waterford	" 16 1897	
" " "	Aspland, Edward	"	"	" "	Frank D. Dick John Barklam	"	" " "	
Oct 20 1897	Anderson, Tolson	Dallston Spa	Sweden	" "	Geo. D. Stony John A. Hennessey	Dallston Spa	Nov 15, 1897	
Oct 14 "	Arfaia, Carmine	Saratoga Springs	Italy	" "	Michael Sabine Edna S. Belle	Saratoga Springs	Nov. 17, 1897	
July 7 1898	Ambuster, Martin	Cornith	Germany	" "	Kenn G. Hartzel Friedrich Schlimm	Cornith	July 20 1898	
July 13 1900	Aspland, Thomas	Waterford	England	Minor	Isaac Mincher Elijah Beddow	Waterford	July 23, 1900	
July 24 1900	Argiano, Pietro	Halfmoon	Italy	"	Paquale Diapolino Frank Scaringe	Halfmoon	Aug 7 1900	

Note: There may be more than one page for a letter. Use the page forward and page back functions to view the additional information.