

SLV ✓

10-27-69

U. S. Bureau of Immigration & Naturalization  
Washington, D. C.

Gentlemen:

I am presently investigating the life of Simon Rodia (Sabbatino Rodilla) who is the creator of the beautiful and famous towers in Watts, which are by now known all over the world.

We do know that Rodia was born in the late 1870's or early 1880's.\* He must have come to the United States in the 1890's. He lived in Watts from 1921 to 1954, and then moved to Martinez, California, where he died in 1965.

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The Towers in Watts have been declared a Cultural Monument, and it is of great interest to find out as much as possible about the life of this man who has made a great contribution to the culture of this country.

Since I am planning to go to Italy to see whether there are any records about the birth and family of Simon Rodia, it would be of great help if any documents were available in this country which indicate time and place of his birth, the time of his entry into the United States, and time and place of his naturalization as an American citizen.

Any help that you could give me in this respect would be highly appreciated.

Sincerely yours,

Paul M. Laporte

Paul M. Laporte, Ph. D.  
Chairman

12/19/69

WE HAVE BEEN UNABLE  
TO LOCATE A RECORD  
IN THIS CASE

MIB

PML/md

NR 12-15-69

RECEIVED

Oct 30 12 27 PM '69

I & N SERVICE  
CENTRAL OFFICE  
MAIL UNIT

IMMIGRATION AND  
NATURALIZATION  
SERVICE

Dec 4 2 18 PM '69

LOS ANGELES,  
CALIF.

IMMIGRATION AND  
NATURALIZATION  
SERVICE  
NOV 3 4 51 PM '69  
SAN FRANCISCO  
CALIFORNIA