

Irish Immigrants—Elizabeth Barrett & Mary McSorley

In 1832, two Irish women, Elizabeth Barrett, and Mary McSorley, applied for their citizenship in Loudoun County. Both women had emigrated from Ireland and had been living in the United States for over a decade before petitioning to be naturalized citizens. Each woman was required to appear in Court and make the following declaration—"I make the following report of myself to the Court of Law for the County of Loudoun, and State of Virginia, that is to say I was born in the Kingdom of Great Britain on the day of ___ about the year ___ and am about ___ years of age-that I am a subject of that Monarch owing allegiance to none other, that I migrated from Ireland into the United States about ___ years ago, and intend to settle myself in the County of Loudoun in the State of Virginia, one of the United States." The complete naturalization petitions for Elizabeth Barrett and Mary McSorley can be found in the Historic Records' Alien Papers, 1814-1912.

Mary McSorley petition & report, Alien Papers, 1814-1912

Mary McSorley
An Alien who many years ago arrived in the United States, and is desirous of being naturalized a citizen thereof this day appeared in Court, and in pursuance of the Act of Congress made report of herself, which report is in the following words to me:
I Mary McSorley make the following report of myself to the Court of Law for the County of Loudoun, and State of Virginia, that is to say- I was born in the Kingdom of Great Britain on the day of ~~is~~ about the year 1798 and am about 34 years of age - that I am a subject of that Monarch owing allegiance to none other that I migrated from Ireland into the United States about, 12 or 13 years ago, and intend to settle myself in the County of Loudoun, in the State of Virginia. One of the United States. Given under my hand this 14th day of June 1832.
her
Mary McSorley
Mark

The Alien records or naturalization records as they are also known, document petitions by immigrants to become citizens of the United States of America. Naturalization was a two-step process where an alien would file a "declaration of intention" after residing in the country for two years to show intent to become a citizen. Three years after the first filing, an alien could file a petition for naturalization, and once the petition was granted a Certificate of Citizenship was issued. The application below contains information that would have been required for naturalization including name; birth place; age; nation of origin; allegiance; country from which they migrated; and intended residence.

Robert Barrett application, Alien Papers, 1814-1912

The report of Robert Barrett an alien who is desirous of becoming a citizen of the United States

Name	Robert Barrett
Birth Place	Tyrone County, Ireland
Age	Thirty six years
Nation	Great Britain & Ireland
Allegiance	King William 4 th of G B & I
Whence Migrated	Ireland
Intended Residence	Loudoun County Va
	Robert X ⁱⁿ Barrett member