

Committee of Sabatino Rodia's Towers in Watts.

c/o Mrs. Mae Babitz 1955^N Wilton Place Hollywood 90068 California

June 24, 1972.

Mr. Pellegrino Cirino
c/o Rinaldo Rinaldi
Notary Public
1809 North 21st Avenue
Melrose Park, Ill. 60160

My dear Mr. Cirino:

I received a copy of your letter written to Professor Paul Laporte. In fact the correspondence on the case you are referring to was transferred to me and to Mrs. Mae Babitz who both are taking care of the Archives of the Simon Rodia Towers of Watts. These interesting towers were built by an Italian tile setter and craftsman who called himself Sam, but in fact was Sabatino Rodia of Serino, Province of Avallino, deceased in 1965. He had built these towers with his own hands through 35 years then abandoned them to retire close to his relatives in Martinez in California. To preserve these unique towers artists, university professors, students, all sort of intellectuals and art lovers in Los Angeles got together in 1959. The Building Department of the city thought that the peculiar construction was not safe, but the towers held out and kept stable through a test.

We knew very little about Sabatino's early years, not even the place of his birth was known to us. Only recently we got in touch with the sindaco of Serino who immediately gave us the desired information. I am enclosing a booklet which the committee had printed a few years ago. It contains an excellent picture of Sam (Sabatino) and will give you an idea of the towers. We are preparing a report to the sindaco in Serino and an album with pictures for the sindaco and the family of Sabatino in Serino. Not to let you wait longer I am sending you this letter and booklet now. We are grateful for your interest. In the name of the committee for the Rodia Towers in Watts

yours truly

Kate Steinitz, Mae Babitz
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Members of the Board of Directors of the Committee
for Sabatino Rodia's Towers in Watts