

# The Australian Women's Register

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**Entry type:** Person  
**Entry ID:** AWE5699

## Sachs, Zena

(1913 - 2011)

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**Born** 1 January, 1913, Darlinghurst New South Wales Australia

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**Died** 31 July, 2011, Petersham New South Wales Australia

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**Occupation** Barrister, Lawyer, Legal academic, Research assistant

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### Summary

Zena Sachs made a valuable contribution to the law and its practitioners during a long career in academia. The daughter of Jewish immigrants who had originally moved from Poland, she attended North Newtown Primary School and the academically selective Sydney Girls High School. Equipped with a secretarial qualification, in 1947 she went to work for Julius Stone, the then Challis Professor of Jurisprudence and International Law at the University of Sydney. Encouraged by Stone to undertake a university course, she embarked upon a law degree in 1946, graduating in 1950. On 1 December 1950, she was admitted to the New South Wales Bar. She did not practise, however, instead becoming Stone's research (graduate) assistant and remaining with him for four decades. Stone dedicated *Human Law and Human Justice* (1965) to her in recognition of her inestimable support and diligent work. Sachs was a founding member and honorary secretary of the Women Lawyers' Association (WLA) of New South Wales. Made a life member, she was honoured at the WLA's 50th anniversary gala dinner at Parliament House in Sydney in 2002.

### Published resources

#### Resource Section

Zena Sachs was interviewed by Sue Rosen, Rosen, Sue and Sachs, Zena, 1994,  
<http://www.newtownproject.com.au/portfolio-items/zena-sachs/>

#### Site Exhibition

Australian Women Lawyers as Active Citizens, Trailblazing Women Lawyers Project Team, 2016,  
<http://www.womenaustralia.info/lawyers>

### Archival resources

#### National Library of Australia, Manuscript Collection

[Papers of Zena Sachs relating to Julius Stone, 1946-2010](#)

#### Author Details

Marina Loane

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