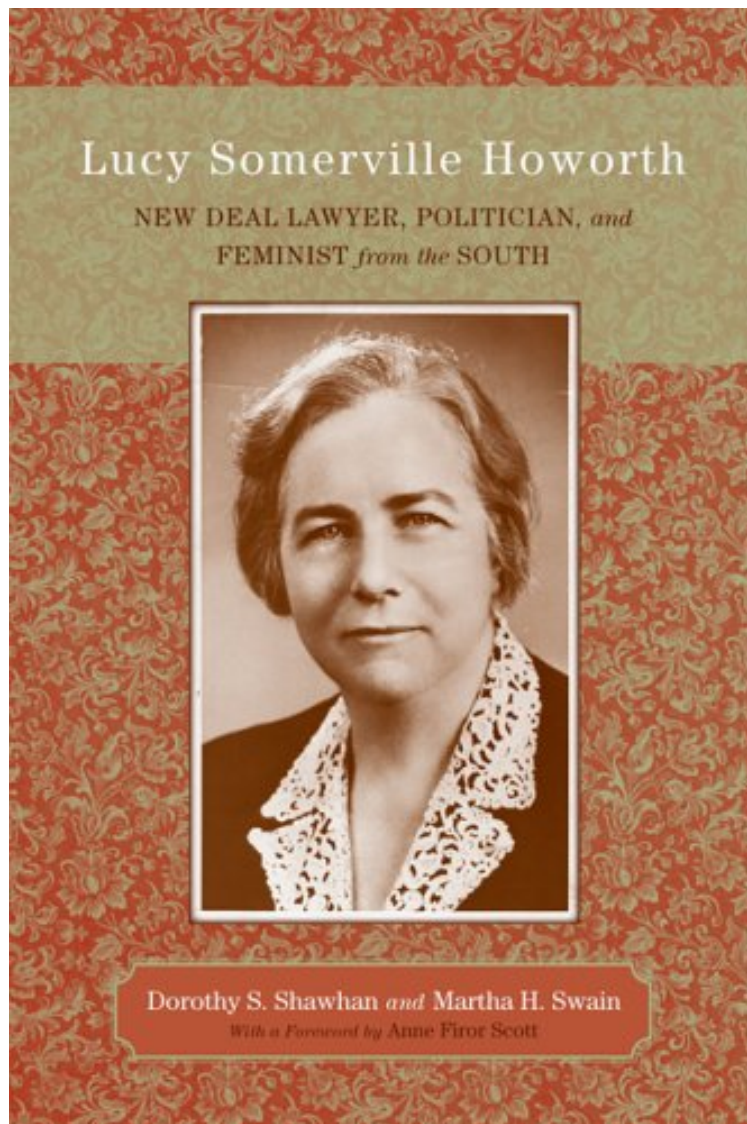


[Ebook pdf] Lucy Somerville Howorth: New Deal Lawyer, Politician, and Feminist from the South (Southern Biography Series)

## Lucy Somerville Howorth: New Deal Lawyer, Politician, and Feminist from the South (Southern Biography Series)

*Dorothy S. Shawhan, Martha H. Swain*  
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**Dorothy S. Shawhan, Martha H. Swain : Lucy Somerville Howorth: New Deal Lawyer, Politician, and Feminist from the South (Southern Biography Series)** before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Lucy Somerville Howorth: New Deal Lawyer, Politician, and Feminist from the South

(Southern Biography Series):

Born, raised, and retired in Mississippi, Lucy Somerville Howorth (1895--1997) was a champion for the rights of women long before feminism emerged as a widely recognized movement. As told by Dorothy S. Shawhan and Martha H. Swain, hers is a remarkable life story--from a small-town upbringing to a career as an attorney, an activist, and the last of a generation of New Deal women in Washington, D.C. She held a presidential appointment under every chief executive from Franklin Roosevelt to John Kennedy. Howorth was a fervent believer in the power of organizations to bring about change, and she became known for her leadership qualities, acumen, and quick appraisal of social problems, particularly as they affected women. Shawhan and Swain point out that her winsome personality, small stature, and delightful sense of humor also aided her as a female aspiring in a man's world. In 1931 she was elected to the Mississippi House of Representatives and, after campaigning for Roosevelt, was rewarded by the new president with a federal appointment. She served in a number of subsequent roles, rising to become general counsel of the War Claims Commission, at that time the highest legal position in an executive commission ever filled by a woman. Howorth worked relentlessly for the advancement of women, especially through the American Association for University Women and the National Federation of Business and Professional Women. She lobbied for equality in the workplace, helping to effect significant advances in government and the professions. In 1944, at the request of Eleanor Roosevelt, Howorth delivered the keynote speech at the White House Conference on Women in Postwar Policy-Making, the most memorable of her many public addresses. This first-ever biography of Howorth bestows long-overdue recognition of her many notable achievements and illuminates the activism of women in the decades often considered to be the doldrums of the women's movement.

"The book provides a detailed, insightful, and thorough account of Judge Lucy's long, eventful, and wonderful life." -- The Southern Register "With this biography Lucy Somerville Howorth... takes her rightful place in U.S. feminist history. Shawhan and Swain's treatment of Howorth, whom they knew personally, illuminates the multigenerational evolution of twentieth-century feminism and the central roles Howorth and her associates played in the advancement of a new liberal politics that emphasized universal human rights and economic justice." -- Journal of American History "This biography is much more than an oral history of Howorth's life. Supplementing their interviews with wide-ranging research in archival and manuscript collections, Shawhan and Swain provide a dispassionate assessment of the life of an extraordinary woman who was decades ahead of her times." -- Journal of Southern History

From the Back Cover

Mississippi native Lucy Somerville Howorth (1895--1997) championed the rights of women long before feminism emerged as a widely recognized movement. Dorothy S. Shawhan and Martha H. Swain tell her remarkable life story -- from a small-town upbringing to her career as an attorney, to her role as a New Deal activist in Washington, D.C. Howorth became known for her leadership qualities and quick appraisal of social problems, particularly as they affected women. She became general counsel of the War Claims Commission and held a presidential appointment under four different presidents. This first-ever biography of Howorth bestows long-overdue recognition of her many notable achievements and illuminates the activism of women in the decades often considered to be the doldrums of the women's movement.

Dorothy S. Shawhan is the author of the historical novel *Lizzie*. She lives in Cleveland, Mississippi, where she is chair of the Division of Languages and Literature and a professor of English at Delta State University.

Martha H. Swain is the author of *Pat Harrison: The New Deal Years* and *Ellen S. Woodward: New Deal Advocate for Women*, winner of the Eudora Welty Award from the Mississippi University for Women. She is Cornaro Professor Emerita of History at Texas Woman's University and lives in Starkville, Mississippi, where she most recently has taught history at Mississippi State University.

About the Author

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