



# Laura Ingalls Wilder

January 2008

This pathfinder will be useful in finding more in-depth information about pioneer and author Laura Ingalls Wilder.

**For an introduction to the topic, see:**

- *The Little House* series

## Key Resources at a Glance:

- *Laura Ingalls Wilder: A Biography* by William T. Anderson (1992) – A good basic biography. Anderson is the most well-known Wilder scholar. There are no footnotes.
- *Becoming Laura Ingalls Wilder* by John E. Miller (1998) – The most comprehensive adult biography to date.
- *Laura Ingalls Wilder: A Writer's Life* by Pamela Smith Hill (2007) – A biography/analysis of Wilder's work.

## Reference Background

- *Laura Ingalls Wilder: An Annotated Bibliography of Critical, Biographical, and Teaching Studies* by Jane M. Subramanian (1997)

## Resources

### Books

- *Laura's Album: A Remembrance Scrapbook of Laura Ingalls Wilder* by William T. Anderson (1998) – A collection of photographs of Wilder artifacts.
- *A Little House Sampler: Laura Ingalls Wilder and Rose Wilder Lane*, edited by William T. Anderson (1988) – A collection of writings by the Ingalls and Wilders. Its sequel is *A Little House Reader*, (1998).
- *The Anderson Series* by William T. Anderson. (Various) – His paperback booklets cover a range of Wilder topics. See his website below for details.
- *Little House in the Ozarks: A Laura Ingalls Wilder Sampler: the Rediscovered Writings Laura Ingalls Wilder*, edited by Stephen W. Hines (1991) – This is a highly edited collection of magazine articles by Wilder.
- *Best of Lore* by Laura Ingalls Wilder Memorial Society (2007) – A good collection of articles from *Lore* and other places, without updates. The slick paper makes the photos clearer than in *Lore*.
- *Ingalls Family of De Smet* by Laura Ingalls Wilder Memorial Society (2001) – This collection is a best of selection of articles from over 25 years of *Laura Ingalls Wilder Lore*.
- *West from Home: Letters of Laura Ingalls Wilder to Almanzo Wilder, San Francisco, 1915* edited by Roger Lea MacBride and historical setting by Margot Patterson Doss. (1974) – An edited set of letters Wilder sent home from a visit to San Francisco's 1915 World's Fair.

## Search Aids

### Search Terms

(Use for computer searches)

- Laura Ingalls Wilder
- Rose Wilder Lane
- "Little House" books

### Subject Headings

(Use in card catalogs and print indexes)

- Wilder, Laura Ingalls 1867-1957
- Lane, Rose Wilder 1886-1968

### Call Number

- 813.52 (Dewey Decimal)
- PS3545.I342 (Library of Congress)
- PZ7.W6461 (Library of Congress)

### Indexes and Abstracts

- EBSCOhost
- FirstSearch
- Reader's Guide to Periodical Literature

### Library catalogs

- Your local library catalog
- SILO - State-wide catalog
- WorldCat - World-wide Catalog

- *Laura Ingalls Wilder and the American Frontier: Five Perspectives* edited by Miller, Dwight [ed.] Miller, Dwight [ed.] (2002) – A collection of scholarly Wilder papers from the 1998 Wilder conference sponsored by the Herbert Hoover Presidential Library.
- *Laura Ingalls Wilder's Little Town: Where History and Literature Meet* by John E. Miller (1995) – A collection of essays comparing the *Little House* books with the actual history of De Smet, South Dakota.
- *On the Way Home: the Diary of a Trip from South Dakota to Mansfield, Missouri, in 1894* by Laura Ingalls Wilder (1962) – This book is an edited diary of the Wilder's trip to their final home. It is bookended by a setting by her daughter Rose Wilder Lane with her own memories.
- *Little House Traveler: Writing from Laura Ingalls Wilder's Journeys Across America* by Laura Ingalls Wilder (2006) – A collection of *On the Way Home*, *West from Home*, and a previously unpublished journal of a 1930s trip back to DeSmet, South Dakota.

## Journals

- *The Homesteader* is currently the only site independent newsletter focused on Laura Ingalls Wilder. <http://www.homesteadernewsletter.com/>

## Web Pages and Web Portals

- William T. Anderson - Laura Ingalls Wilder <http://www.lauraingallswilder.com/>  
The website of the major name in Wilder scholarship, and Leslie Kelly, his collaborative photographer, the site is not often updated, but is a good place to link to other information.
- Laura Ingalls Wilder at the Hoover Library-Museum <http://hoover.nara.gov/LIW/index.html>  
The Wilder papers are housed at Hoover and this site not only gives research information, but also outstanding teacher information, including a Dear Laura to allow you to ask questions.
- Laura Ingalls Wilder Speakers <http://prairiemanianetfirms.com/liwpresentations.html>  
A directory of Laura Ingalls Wilder speakers from around the country.
- Pioneer Girl <http://www.pioneergirl.com>  
One of the most authoritative websites of Wilder information and research.
- Trundlebed Tales <http://www.trundlebedtales.com>  
The website of an Iowa-based Wilder researcher and speaker, this is good place to find the updates of the latest Wilder news. See especially "Laura Events" listing Wilder events around the country.

## Organizations and Special Collections

See the elementary level pathfinder for the museums where the books were set.

- Home of Almanzo's Parents: Spring Valley Methodist Church Museum, 221 Courtland St W, Spring Valley MN 55975 [svalley@deskmedia.com](mailto:svalley@deskmedia.com), <http://springvalley.govoffice.com/>  
Place your cursor on "Tourism Information" and click on "Laura Ingalls Wilder Museum when the menu pops up. (507) 346-7659
- Rose Wilder Lane/ Laura Ingalls Wilder Papers: Herbert Hoover Presidential Library-Museum, P.O. Box 488, 210 Parkside Dr., West Branch IA 52358, [hoover.library@nara.gov](mailto:hoover.library@nara.gov), <http://www.hoover.archives.gov/LIW/>, (319) 643-5301
- Keystone Area Historical Society, 410 3rd Street, Keystone SD 57751  
[keygadfly@aol.com](mailto:keygadfly@aol.com), <http://www.keystonechamber.com/kahs/>  
(605) 666-4824, (605) 666-4661, (605) 666-4630

See the elementary Laura Ingalls Wilder pathfinder for more basic works.

\*\* You can evaluate other resources using criteria at: [www.THEpathfinderproject.org/evaluate.html](http://www.THEpathfinderproject.org/evaluate.html) \*\*

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