



Laura Ingalls Wilder

February 2014

This pathfinder will be useful in finding more in-depth information about pioneer and author Laura Ingalls Wilder. Unless otherwise stated, dates are for the original publication. In many cases other editions and revisions have appeared since.

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. He's the most well-known Wilder scholar. There are no footnotes. ISBN 0064461033
- *Becoming Laura Ingalls Wilder* by John E. Miller (1998) – The most comprehensive adult biography to date. ISBN 082621648X

Reference Background

- *Laura Ingalls Wilder: An Annotated Bibliography of Critical, Biographical, and Teaching Studies* by Jane M. Subramanian (1997) ISBN 0313299994

Resources

Books

NOTE: This is NOT an attempt to list all Laura books worth reading. I've left out whole classes of books that I could have included. This is my attempt to list what I would consider a basic, general Laura research collection. Your specific interests will no doubt lead you to additional titles or ask me for specific recommendations.

- *Laura's Album: A Remembrance Scrapbook of Laura Ingalls Wilder* by William T. Anderson (1998) – A collection of photographs of Wilder artifacts. ISBN 0060278420
- *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. ISBN 0060972408
- *A Little House Reader*, edited by William Anderson (1998) – A sequel to *A Little House Sampler*. ISBN 006026358X
- *The Anderson Series* by William T. Anderson. (Various) – His series of 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 Laura Ingalls Wilder. ISBN 0883659689
- *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*.
- *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 held at the Herbert Hoover Presidential Library and Museum in West Branch, Iowa. ISBN 0761822852

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: A Writer's Life* by Pamela Smith Hill (2007) – A literary analysis of Wilder's writing process. Quotes heavily from Wilder unpublished autobiography *Pioneer Girl*. ISBN 097779556X
- *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. ISBN 0700607137
- *Laura Ingalls Wilder's Walnut Grove* by William T. Anderson (2013) – Complete known information about Laura Ingalls Wilder's connection to Walnut Grove from founding to the TV show.
- *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. ISBN 0064400808
- *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. ISBN 0064400816
- *Little House Traveler* (Reprint ed.) by Laura Ingalls Wilder (2011) – An edited collection of Wilder's travel journals including a previously unpublished one from a trip to De Smet, SD in 1931. ISBN 0060724927

Journals

- Currently the Pepin, WI; Walnut Grove, MN; De Smet, SD; Malone, NY, and Mansfield, MO Wilder sites offer newsletters.
- Find articles by and about Laura Ingalls Wilder available in Ebsco listed here: <http://www.trundlebedtales.com/laura-articles.html>

Web Pages and Web Portals

- 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.
- Pioneer Girl <http://www.pioneergirl.com/>
One of the most authoritative websites of information, currently not all areas of website are open to the public.
- Trundlebed Tales <http://www.trundlebedtales.com>
The website is just the starting place to take you to a website, YouTube channel, podcast, etc. all focused on Laura Ingalls Wilder and related topics.
- Beyond Little House <http://www.beyondlittlehouse.com>
The group that puts on the national Laura Ingalls Wilder conference every two years.

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, 220 W. Courtland St. Spring Valley, MN 55975 wilderinspringvalley@hotmail.com, <http://www.springvalleymnmuseum.org> 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, <http://www.hoover.archives.gov/>, (319) 643-5301
- Keystone Area Historical Society, 410 3rd Street, Keystone SD 57751 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.