

National Park Service
U.S. Department of the Interior



NPS History Collection

NPS Women Cartes de Visite Collection



Elizabeth "Betty" Budlong

Southwestern Monuments

HCWP, 1934-1941

- Born Elizabeth French in 1911 at New Rochelle, New York.
- Married Robert Budlong on November 15, 1934 in the desert east of Florence, Arizona.
- Was an “Honorary Custodian Without Pay” (HCWP), a title given to unpaid wives working in the Southwestern Monuments.
- Stationed with Budlong at Canyon de Chelly and El Morro National Monuments where she registered, directed, and entertained visitors.
- Published articles on Navajo ceremonies and dwellings.
- Wrote magazine articles for *Today’s Woman* on the trials of living in the remote wilderness.
- Established and ran the El Morro Women’s Club and a new local public library, providing books to people in isolated communities.
- Divorced Budlong in 1941.
- Little is known about her after the divorce except that she received an R.N. degree, a federal scholarship, and attended the University of Oregon Medical School for public health nursing.
- Died on August 26, 1989.

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