

National Park Service
U.S. Department of the Interior



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Elizabeth M. Conard

Yellowstone National Park
Park Ranger, 1926

- Born on May 2, 1903 in Philadelphia, PA.
- At age 17, moved to Iowa where her father was professor of Botany at Grinnell College.
- Earned a B.S. in Chemistry from Grinnell College in 1925.
- From June 15-September 10, 1926, was a GS-5 park ranger at Yellowstone National Park, where she worked with her father, who trained park naturalists, at Camp Roosevelt.
- Earned a medical degree from the University of Michigan in 1929 and completed three years of internships.
- Dr. Conard taught obstetrics at Shanghai Medical School, spending 16 years in China caring for women, babies, and the sick.
- Married William Harold Corkey, an Irish missionary, on August 24, 1935 in Tientsin, China.
- Moved with her husband to Japanese-occupied Manchuria, where their two children were born.
- In 1941, placed under house arrest for two years and then moved to a concentration camp with 1,700 others. They left the country in 1946.
- Earned a M.A. in Public Health from University of North Carolina-Charlotte.
- In 1955, became assistant director of the Mecklenburg Public Health Department.
- In 1960, started North Carolina's first clinic offering women birth control pills.
- Became an abortion rights advocate and helped start the Charlotte Planned Parenthood chapter.
- Died August 24, 1995 in Raleigh, North Carolina at the age of 92.

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