



NPS Women Cartes de Visite Collection



Laura Eleanor Wilson, 1983. (NPS History Collection Photo).

Laura Eleanor Wilson
WODC & Southwest Region
Landscape Architect, 1957-1983

- Born on July 9, 1930 in Columbus, OH.
- Grew up with her family in Brazil.
- Graduated from Iowa State University with a Bachelor's of Science in Landscape Architecture from Iowa State University in 1953.
- After graduation, worked for private landscape architecture firms for four years in Washington, D.C. and San Francisco, CA.
- In 1957, became the NPS's first woman landscape architect at the Western Office of Design and Construction (WODC) in San Francisco.
- In 1972, moved to the NPS's Southwest Regional office in Santa Fe, NM.
- Was the principal landscape architect for visitor centers at Death Valley, Jewel Cave, Redwoods, and Golden Spike, among others.
- Received two Department of the Interior awards, for work at Cabrillo National Monument and Yellowstone National Park.
- Throughout her NPS career, was a noted sculptor whose work is sometimes influenced by the NPS.
- Retired from the NPS in 1983.
- Received many awards from New Mexico and Santa Fe governments, including the Santa Fe Living Treasure award in 2003.

This research was made possible in part by a grant from the National Park Foundation.