

National Park Service
U.S. Department of the Interior



NPS History Collection

NPS Women Cartes de Visite Collection



Roberta Whittington

Carlsbad Caverns National Park

Guide, 1942-1943

- Born December 23, 1915 in Yakima, WA.
- Grew up in Oakland and Inglewood, CA.
- Graduated from the University of California with a degree in geography.
- Joined Carlsbad Caverns National Park as a guide in the fall of 1942.
- Worked as a guide and lecturer in the park in 1943 as well.
- Newspaper accounts from 1944 refer to her as "first woman employed as a guide" at the park. Although it's not clear, this distinction may be because she was not a trained nurse like so many of the other women hired at the park.
- Sworn into Women's Army Corps (WAC), the women's branch of the U.S. Army, in January 1944.
- As a WAC, worked in cartography and topographical drafting, areas which had recently opened to women.
- After WWII, she was living with her parents in Los Angeles, CA.
- In 1958, was living in Orange, CA.
- No additional information has been found to date.

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