

Laura Ingalls Wilder

Author

Laura as a Girl and Young Woman



Born in Wisconsin in 1867, Laura Ingalls Wilder moved often with her family. While she was growing up, her family moved to many different **rural** communities and small towns in the

Midwest and Plains states.

Her father built a home in South Dakota, where she went to school. She worked as a **seamstress** and a teacher.



Laura's childhood home in South Dakota.

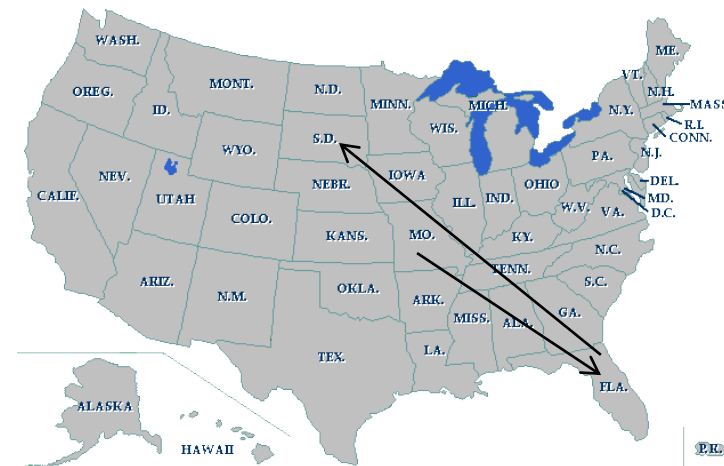
Mrs Wilder the Adult



In 1885 she met and married Almanzo Wilder.

They built a home, but the new family experienced hard times including **crops** dying, fire, and illness. They moved several times, ending up in Missouri, where their daughter Rose grew up.

After her daughter Rose grew up, Laura and her husband moved to Florida. Laura did not like the hot weather so the Wilders moved to South Dakota where they lived for the rest of their lives.



From 1919 to 1927 Laura Wilder worked for the bank that **leant** farmers money, meeting many people from all over the area. Interested in their stories, she began to write **columns** for farming magazines.



Mrs Wilder died in her sleep three days after her 90th birthday in February 1957.

Many of the books won awards, and they became classic stories about life on the **frontier**. Later they became the source for a popular television show of the same name.

Her interest in writing about **rural** life led her to work with her daughter Rose to write books about her own life. Her first book, Little House in the Big Woods, was published in 1932. Each book in the series, now titled Little House on the Prairie, was written from the point of view of Laura as a young girl.



Glossary

column – a special regular written part of a newspaper or magazine



crops – plants grown to eat, sell or make something



frontier – the edge of a settled part of a country



lent – give people money that they have to pay back later.



rural – the country or life in the country



seamstress – a woman who sews for money

