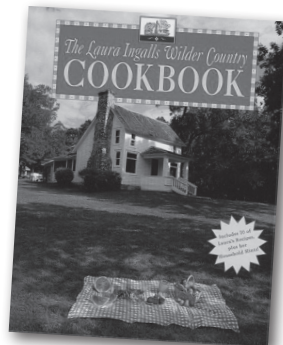


new! Laura Ingalls Wilder's
Walnut Grove
William Anderson

The Laura Ingalls Wilder Country Cookbook
(50 authentic recipes prepared by Laura) \$17.95

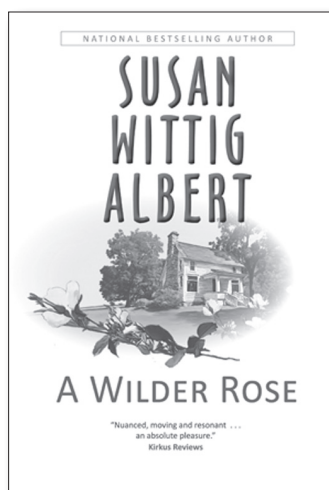


Two New Books

Laura Ingalls Wilder's Walnut Grove
by William Anderson tells the whole Walnut Grove story ... from the Ingalls family's life here, to how Laura wrote *On the Banks of Plum Creek*, how the book was illustrated, TV's *Little House on the Prairie*, and the evolution of the Museum and Plum Creek site.
\$13.95 @ Museum bookstore + \$2.00 s/h

A Wilder Rose

by Susan Wittig Albert is a perceptive novel about the Wilders during the 1920s and 1930s.



A Wilder Rose
Susan Wittig Albert *new!*

Available in hardcover
and paperback
on October 1, 2013.

The ROCKY RIDGE REVIEW

Laura Ingalls Wilder - Rose Wilder Lane Home Association, Mansfield, Missouri 65704

WILDER HOME CENTENNIAL ISSUE • SUMMER 2013



*Laura Ingalls Wilder after moving back to Rocky Ridge Farm in 1910.
She was a busy farm-wife, planning both the completion of her home,
and her beginning writing career when this photo was taken in the corn field.*



BECOME A MEMBER!

The Wilder Home Association is accepting contributions in the form of annual and lifetime memberships to the association. The Wilder Home Association is a not-for-profit organization with a 501-C-3 classification, and your gift is a charitable contribution. You are welcome to contribute online, or contact us directly.

ANNUAL MEMBERSHIPS

These levels of membership entitle bearer to a membership card, free admission on regular Home & Museum tours and 10% discount on purchases over \$10.00 in the Little House Bookstore: • **Student \$25.00** • **Individual \$50.00** • **Supporter \$100.00**

LIFETIME MEMBERSHIPS

- **SPONSOR: \$500.00** Membership entitles bearer to all benefits of annual membership, plus voting privileges in person or by proxy, at yearly association meetings.
- **PATRON: \$1,000.00** Membership entitles bearer to all the above benefits, plus a brick with member's name to be placed outside the new museum.
- **BENEFACTOR: \$5,000.00** Membership entitles bearer to all the above benefits plus, member's name to be placed on a permanent plaque inside the new museum.

Laura Ingalls Wilder - Rose Wilder Lane
HOME & MUSEUM
3068 Highway A
Mansfield, MO 65704
www.lauraingallswilderhome.com





Rocky Ridge’s New Chicken House is Reminder of the Past

As most readers know, Rocky Ridge was known as a fruit, dairy, and poultry farm. When the Wilders returned to the farm in 1910, after many years in town, they pursued farming full time. For over ten years, Laura tended a large poultry business. The Wilders brought chickenS with them when they traveled from South Dakota to Mansfield in 1894. One of Almanzo’s first tasks was to build a log hen house. The flock of Leghorns provided eggs and meat for the family, and product to sell in town. (See *West From Home*, for Laura’s instructions to her husband as to tending the hens.) Several other hen houses must have been built to accommodate the growing business.

An undated sketch, possibly meant for publication in *Missouri Ruralist*, shows Laura’s ideal hen house. Whether it was her goal, or was actually built, is unknown.

All of the farm buildings were demolished in the 1920s and 1930s, when the farm transitioned to a country home — sometimes called an “estate” by the local press!

During this centennial year of the completion of the farmhouse, the LIW Home Association is the recipient of a gift from **Baker Creek Heirloom Seeds** ... a wonderful replica of a vintage hen house, typical of what the Wilders knew. It is now stocked with chickens and their egg production is great! Visitors are enjoying this added attraction already.

For many years, Jere Gettle and his staff from Baker Creek Heirloom Seeds have provided a representative garden for Rocky Ridge. The hen house is another significant gift. Thanks to Jere and Baker Creek!

Baker Creek Heirloom Seeds is located just ten minutes from Mansfield; our visitors are already finding their way there. The locale is the old Rippee homestead, one of the oldest in the region. (The Rippees were well known to the Wilders). In addition to preserving authentic agricultural and culinary history through its heirloom seeds, Baker Creek offers a farm and pioneer village. The originator, Jere Gettle, planted his first garden at age three and when he was seventeen he printed his first catalogue of 19th century heirloom seeds.

Read more about Baker Creek at www.rareseeds.com, and include a stop there when you visit the Wilder Home.

Laura’s Memories Continue



There are several more chances this season to enjoy the outdoor musical pageant, “*Laura’s Memories*,” performed by the Ozark Mountain Players ... a must-see event to add to your visit to the Wilder Home and Museum ... sit under the Ozark sky and watch important vignettes from Laura and Almanzo’s lives relived by talented local singers and actors! Future dates are: **August 30-31, September 6-7, September 13-14, September 20-21.** The last performances are on **Wilder Days**. Plan a visit to the Home and Museum, meet Dean Butler, hear Pa’s fiddle, AND see the pageant. What a package for Wilder admirers! See you in Mansfield. For more details on the pageant, see www.laurasmemories.com

We Need Your Help!

As our members and visitors know, the LIW Home Association has been raising funds to construct a new museum-archives building on Rocky Ridge Farm. This will enable us to de-construct the post-1957 buildings near the 1913 Wilder House. Many of you have been generous with gifts and pledges.

While we are most appreciative of this assistance, we are in need of a substantial amount more to complete the building as it is currently planned. Will you help us ... *now*?

Your donation of \$50, \$100, \$250, \$500, \$1000, \$5000, \$10,000 and on up is needed to make the building a dream come true.

Call the Association at 417-924-3626 to learn how you can donate or pledge and help us fund this worthy project.

We hope to break ground very soon and continue our long stewardship of the Wilder land, homes, and artifacts.

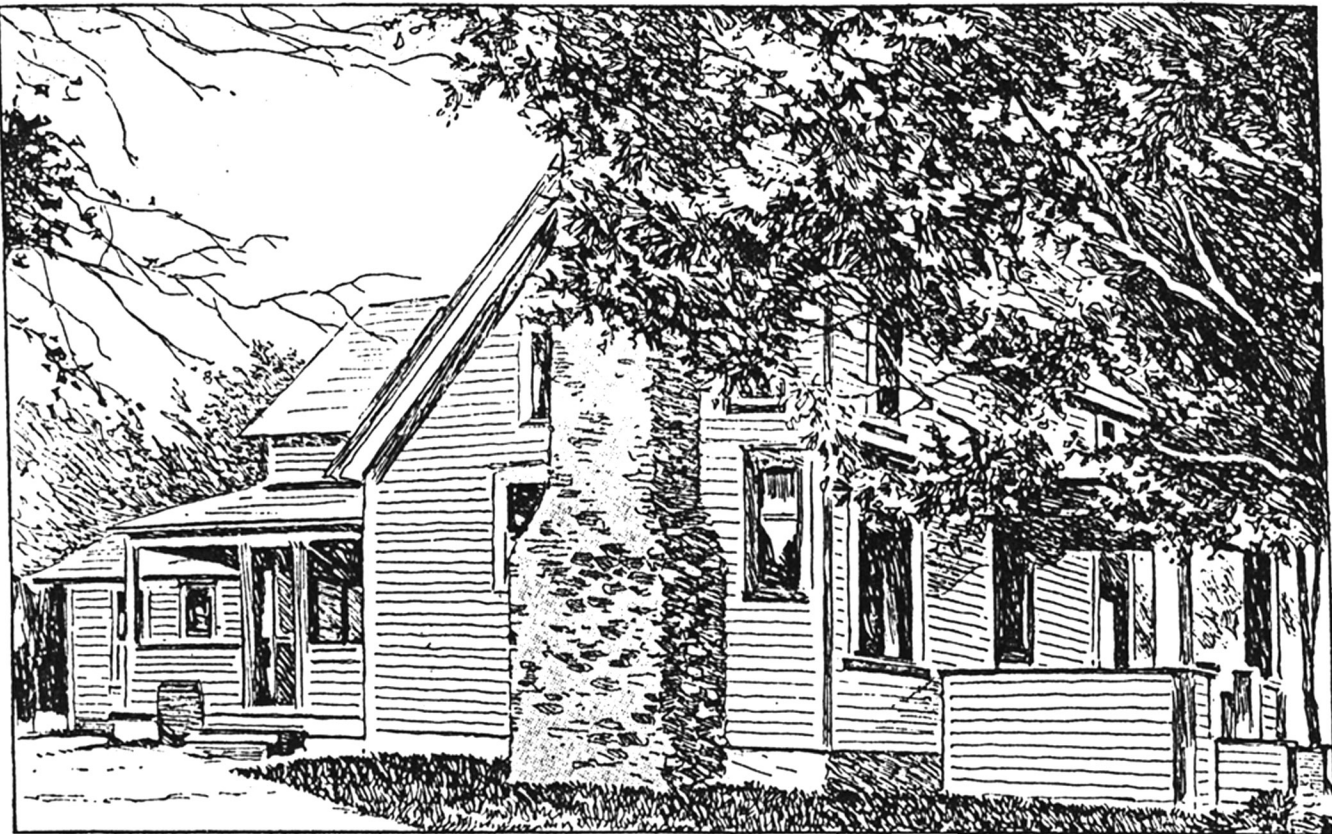
THE TIME TO HELP IS NOW!

Sincerely,
Laura Ingalls Wilder Home Association

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WILDER HOME CENTENNIAL 1913-2013



This sketch was made for a Kansas City daily feature called “*The Heart and Home of Rose Wilder Lane*” in 1925. Back then the white clapboards had a gray trim. The kitchen porch had not been added. And the huge spreading tree near the porch was still shading the last addition to the house. (It was uprooted during the April 1945 tornado.)

A House With A Story

From 9-5, every day in season, the home of the Wilders — Almanzo, Laura, and Rose — tells its story to hundreds of visitors. The Association’s tour guides tell of the house’s simple origins in the 1890s, first one room, then two with a loft, and how it evolved. After a dormant stretch, when the Wilders lived and worked in Mansfield (from 1898-1910) they returned to the farm and vowed to finish their home.

Laura’s ideas and requests were implemented by members of the Dennis family, local builders. No doubt they found her requests somewhat outlandish ... who was using influences of Frank Lloyd Wright and Mission architecture in the Ozarks in 1910-1913? But Laura’s directives helped to make the house as we see it today: one of great interest and appeal.

We realize now that Almanzo did not build the final section of the house. He did not have the skills for

such major construction, nor the ability to handle huge oak beams and rocks for foundation and fire-place. He certainly played a part in the overall job, but remember, he was working hard to build up the farm as a paying proposition in 1912-1913.

Fortunately, a squib in the local newspaper establishes for us today the completion of the Wilder home, in September of 1913: “*A.J. Wilder is building a fine residence...*” A few months later, Laura’s mother wrote her, expressing pleasure at seeing a picture of the completed house.

During the past twenty years, the 1913 house has been extensively repaired, preserved, and stabilized. A gleaming coat of new white paint now covers the old pine board siding. This much-loved home is poised for its second century of welcoming all of the Wilders’ friends.