

Francis W. Wilson (1870 - 1947)

Born in Massachusetts, Wilson moved to California at the age of seventeen. Wilson studied at the San Francisco chapter of the [American Institute of Architects](#) and toured Europe before establishing his own firm in Santa Barbara in 1895.



Shortly after arriving in Santa Barbara, Wilson built up a practice designing homes for the wealthy, as well as designing, building and selling speculative houses. His connections with the wealthy led to commissions for the Santa Barbara Club, the Central Savings Bank, the Central Library, original post office (now the Santa Barbara Museum of Art), and railroad station.

He was the local architect that altered the Hornbostel plans for the Central Library to make them work with local materials. His practice in [Santa Barbara, California](#) included work for the [Atchison, Topeka and Santa Fe Railway](#) and its associated [Fred Harvey Company](#) hotels, as well as many residences.



2426 State Street, 1915

Projects by Francis W. Wilson:

- 1130 Chapala Street, Santa Barbara Club, 1904
- 209 State Street, Southern Pacific Railroad Depot, 1905
- 1731 Santa Barbara Street, American Colonial Revival house, 1907
- 1 Hot Springs Road, Charles Caldwell Trough/Fountain, 1911-12
- 2426 State Street, Craftsman style house, 1915



1 Hot Springs Road, 1911-1912, Charles Caldwell Park Watering Trough and Fountain

Works Sited:

Andree, Herb; Young, Noel; Halloran, *Patricia Santa Barbara Architecture. From Spanish Colonial to Modern.* Capra Press, Santa Barbara, Third Edition, 1995.

Post/Hazeltine Associates. *History of Santa Barbara Club, 1105 Chapala Street,* March 18, 2014. City of Santa Barbara Planning Division Files, 630 Garden Street



209 State Street, Railroad Depot, 1905