

Carl Sandburg Home National Historic Site



Long Range Interpretive Plan



Prayers of Steel

Lay me on an anvil, O God.
Beat me and hammer me into a crowbar.
Let me pry loose old walls.
Let me lift and loosen old foundations.

Lay me on an anvil, O God.
Beat me and hammer me into a steel spike.
Drive me into the girders that hold a skyscraper together.

Take red-hot rivets and fasten me into the central girders.
Let me be the great nail holding a skyscraper through blue
nights into white stars.

Carl Sandburg, *Cornhuskers*, 1918

Prepared By:

Carl Sandburg Home National Historic Site
Visitor Services Division

National Park Service
Southeast Regional Office
Interpretive Planning – May 2008

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I: Goals

Mission

Carl Sandburg Home National Historic Site is dedicated to preserving the legacy of Carl Sandburg and communicating the stories of his works, life and significance as an American poet, writer, historian, biographer of Abraham Lincoln, and social activist. The Carl Sandburg Home National Historic Site preserves and interprets the farm, Connemara, where Sandburg and his family lived for the last 22 years of his life (1945-1967)

The purpose of Carl Sandburg Home NHS is:

- to carry on the legacy of Carl Sandburg's works and life for the benefit of future generations through preservation, interpretation, education and inspiration.
- to preserve Carl Sandburg's last home, associated structures and landscape, original furnishings, personal belongings, and library.

Carl Sandburg Home National Historic Site is significant because:

- the site is where one of America's most versatile and recognized writers completed a literary career that captured and recorded America's traditions, struggles, and dreams in his poetry, histories, biographies, novels, and folk songs. Sandburg relentlessly advocated for social justice and his writings reflect a deep respect for people as individuals.
- the home, associated buildings, farm scene, wooded hills, and gardens of Connemara embody the presence of Carl Sandburg more vividly than any other place he lived.
- the museum collection which preserves Carl Sandburg's personal belongings, furnishings, farm equipment, library, and papers, provides a unique and rare perspective of this American author's lifestyle, philosophy, intellectual pursuits, and life experiences.

Management Goals

Management will:

- protect all resources within the site for future generations.
- preserve the site's integrity and the appearance to that of the Sandburg occupancy from 1945-1967.
- create an opportunity for visitors to understand and appreciate Carl Sandburg, his life and works, and the significance of the park's resources during a meaningful park experience.
- provide outstanding customer service to all visitors provide a safe visitor experience first and foremost, then engage visitors in learning.
- Promote Sandburg's relevancy in the community and beyond.

Visitor Experience Goals

Visitors will have an opportunity to:

- Understand the contributions of Carl Sandburg to American history and literature.
- Forge an emotional or personal connection to Carl Sandburg, his family, and the Site.
- Foster a sense of stewardship to understand their role in preserving the cultural and natural resources of Carl Sandburg Home NHS.
- Find solitude and contemplation.
- (Especially younger visitors) engage in enjoyable experiences at the park.

I: Themes

Theme Statement	Concepts and Ideas included in theme	Tangibles	Intangibles
<p>Life</p> <p>Carl Sandburg captured the American people's struggles, dreams, and voice through the lecture platform, poetry, newspaper columns, novel, collection of folk music, children's stories and biography of Abraham Lincoln.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Inspiration to America • Philosophy of life and work • Self-sustainability • Writing achievements • Value of education and life-long learning • Role of media in America • Three influences; Edward Steichen, Lilian Steichen, Phillip Green Wright • Guitar • Value of nature for renewal • Humor 	<p>Artifacts (all items within collection)</p> <p>Sandburg's Writings</p> <p>Historic Structures</p> <p>Historic Landscape</p> <p>Park Operations</p> <p>House</p> <p>Goat Barn</p> <p>Farm Animals</p> <p>Trails</p> <p>Lectures</p> <p>Poetry</p> <p>Visitor Contact Station</p> <p>Books</p> <p>Music (instruments, recordings and sheet music)</p> <p>Magazines</p> <p>Family: Mrs. Sandburg, Margaret Sandburg, Janet Sandburg, Helga Sandburg and grandchildren</p> <p>Newspaper columns</p> <p>Novel</p> <p>Collection of folk music</p> <p>Children's stories</p> <p>Biography of Abraham Lincoln and memorabilia</p> <p>Exhibits</p> <p>Goats</p> <p>Amphitheater</p> <p>Performances</p> <p>Garage</p> <p>Nature</p> <p>Birds</p> <p>Natural Environment</p> <p>Wildlife</p> <p>Gardens</p> <p>Plantings</p> <p>Trees</p> <p>Pastures</p> <p>Outcrops</p> <p>Overlooks</p> <p>Staff</p> <p>Water Systems</p> <p>Library</p> <p>Roads</p> <p>Orchard</p>	<p>Encouragement</p> <p>Success</p> <p>Family</p> <p>Love</p> <p>Security</p> <p>Passion</p> <p>Dreams</p> <p>Learning</p> <p>Death</p> <p>Sorrow</p> <p>Challenge</p> <p>Persecution</p> <p>Place</p> <p>Time</p> <p>Contentment</p> <p>Comfort</p> <p>Struggle</p> <p>Friendship</p> <p>Change over time</p> <p>Adaptation</p> <p>Nostalgia</p> <p>Experimentation</p> <p>Achievement</p> <p>Work</p> <p>Simplicity</p> <p>Preservation</p> <p>Pride</p> <p>Solace</p> <p>Safety</p> <p>Enjoyment</p> <p>Curiosity</p> <p>Anticipation</p> <p>Planning</p> <p>Creativity</p> <p>Discovery</p> <p>Reflection</p> <p>Exploration</p> <p>Leisure</p> <p>Partnership</p> <p>Appreciation</p> <p>Legacy</p> <p>Life</p> <p>Inspiration</p> <p>Use of Space</p> <p>Operations</p> <p>Functionality</p> <p>Enjoyment</p> <p>Health</p> <p>Exercise</p> <p>Solitude</p> <p>Conviction</p> <p>Representation</p> <p>Choice</p>
<p>Family</p> <p>Each Sandburg family member played an influential role in the life of Carl Sandburg.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Supported each other • "Typical" family life • Farm operations • Dealing with the obstacles of children with disabilities • Enjoyment of nature 	<p>Family: Mrs. Sandburg, Margaret Sandburg, Janet Sandburg, Helga Sandburg and grandchildren</p> <p>Newspaper columns</p> <p>Novel</p> <p>Collection of folk music</p> <p>Children's stories</p> <p>Biography of Abraham Lincoln and memorabilia</p> <p>Exhibits</p> <p>Goats</p> <p>Amphitheater</p> <p>Performances</p> <p>Garage</p> <p>Nature</p> <p>Birds</p> <p>Natural Environment</p> <p>Wildlife</p> <p>Gardens</p> <p>Plantings</p> <p>Trees</p> <p>Pastures</p> <p>Outcrops</p> <p>Overlooks</p> <p>Staff</p> <p>Water Systems</p> <p>Library</p> <p>Roads</p> <p>Orchard</p>	<p>Adaptation</p> <p>Nostalgia</p> <p>Experimentation</p> <p>Achievement</p> <p>Work</p> <p>Simplicity</p> <p>Preservation</p> <p>Pride</p> <p>Solace</p> <p>Safety</p> <p>Enjoyment</p> <p>Curiosity</p> <p>Anticipation</p> <p>Planning</p> <p>Creativity</p> <p>Discovery</p> <p>Reflection</p> <p>Exploration</p> <p>Leisure</p> <p>Partnership</p> <p>Appreciation</p> <p>Legacy</p> <p>Life</p> <p>Inspiration</p> <p>Use of Space</p> <p>Operations</p> <p>Functionality</p> <p>Enjoyment</p> <p>Health</p> <p>Exercise</p> <p>Solitude</p> <p>Conviction</p> <p>Representation</p> <p>Choice</p>
<p>Being an American</p> <p>Being a first-generation American had a profound affect on Carl Sandburg and he spent a life-time defining what it meant to be an American through his writing.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Swedish immigrant parents • Hobo experience • Spanish-American War • College years • American values and dreams • Citizenship • Idea of "Where to? What next?" • Great appreciate for the diversity of America 	<p>Garage</p> <p>Nature</p> <p>Birds</p> <p>Natural Environment</p> <p>Wildlife</p> <p>Gardens</p> <p>Plantings</p> <p>Trees</p> <p>Pastures</p> <p>Outcrops</p> <p>Overlooks</p> <p>Staff</p> <p>Water Systems</p> <p>Library</p> <p>Roads</p> <p>Orchard</p>	<p>Anticipation</p> <p>Planning</p> <p>Creativity</p> <p>Discovery</p> <p>Reflection</p> <p>Exploration</p> <p>Leisure</p> <p>Partnership</p> <p>Appreciation</p> <p>Legacy</p> <p>Life</p> <p>Inspiration</p> <p>Use of Space</p> <p>Operations</p> <p>Functionality</p> <p>Enjoyment</p> <p>Health</p> <p>Exercise</p> <p>Solitude</p> <p>Conviction</p> <p>Representation</p> <p>Choice</p>

I: Themes

Theme Statement	Concepts and Ideas included in theme	Tangibles	Intangibles
<p>Social Activism Carl Sandburg, through his writings and letters, encouraged critical and independent thinking for the common good and betterment of humankind.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Giving back to society • Leaving your mark • Social journalism • Equal rights for all • Child labor • Political affiliations 	<p>Untold Stories Japanese-American workers Tuberculosis campaign, Chattaqua lecture series daughters with disabilities Eugene Debbs Chicago Race Riots Poetry as music Edward Steichen self-sustainability Sandburg in popular culture everyone is born with purpose – can make change in their world</p>	<p>Dependency Independency Democracy Happiness</p>
<p>Place Connemara; the home, associated buildings, artifacts, farm, wooded hills, water and gardens, offered to each member of the family an opportunity to live life fully.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Memminger and civil war • Smythe and textile industry • Farm operation • Dairy goat breeding • Solitude and inspiration • Self-sustainability 	<p>Mrs. Sandburg's work with scientific journals and goat commerce Love letters attitude on war relationships to press Sandburg's poetry was different from accepted form when it was first published</p>	
<p>National Park Service Carl Sandburg Home National Historic Site was authorized by congress as a unit of the National Park Service because of Carl Sandburg's significant contributions to American history and literature.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Service-wide initiatives • Preservation of resources 		

I: Themes

Topics Associated with Carl Sandburg

Political activist
Champion of the working class
Folk singer
Biographer
Novelist
Children's author
Movie critic
Scriptwriter
Husband
Father
Uncle
Brother
Grandfather
Lecturer
Student
Imaginatist
Humanitarian
Swedish Heritage
Socialist
Social democrat
Immigrant

First-generation American
Guitarist
Basketball player
Baseball player
Traveler
Salesman
Fireman
Child laborer
Soldier
Witness to a century
Philosopher
Letter writer
Idealist
Nature enthusiast
Spiritual
Frugal
Ambitious
Performer/Promoter
Lifetime learner/contributor
Work ethic

Topics Associated with Mrs. Sandburg

Farm
Goats
Cheesemaking
Geneticist
Political advocate
PBK college graduate
Women's activist
High school literary and expression teacher
Self-made scientist
Sandburg's primary sponsor
Letter writer
Idealist
Philosopher
Catalyst
Household manager

"Rock of Gibraltar"
Mother
Sister
First-generation American
Steichen
Humble
Gracious
Personable
International dairy goat farming
Flowers
Gardening
Nature appreciation
Spiritual
Unitarianism
Protector

I: Issue and Influences Affecting Interpretation, Education and Visitor Services

Programs

- Funding/Endowing the Poet in Residence Program, National Poetry Contest or Vagabond School of the Drama performances.
- Carrying capacity of historic structures, cultural and natural landscapes
- Need for alternative to house tours – tour capacity at maximum
- Fundraising and grant writing
- NPS Initiatives (National Park Week, Junior Ranger Day, Centennial Initiative, Earth Day, History Months, Children in Nature, etc. . .)
- Park Operations
- Interpretive Development Program
- Federal, State and Local education mandates (Leave no child behind)
- Lack of ONPS funding and staff
- Local demographics and community interest in programs
- Waning visitation

Preservation

- Tour size, route, and management
- Use of reproductions in house to preserve original artifacts
- Large volume of artifacts, structures and landscapes
- Recreational use and dog waste
- Electric service issues in the main house
- Climate controlled exhibit spaces
- Climate effects on artifacts
- Security
- Vehicle traffic in historic district
- NPS mandates, Section 106 compliance
- Lack of ONPS funding and staff

Accessibility

- Site orientation for visitors
- Transportation
- Trail and building access
- Federal and NPS mandates
- Entrance station function, configuration, and access
- Amphitheater accessibility and impact on historic scene
- “Top of the hill” restroom navigation
- Confusing signage
- Information Technology, A/V accessibility initiative, Section 508 compliance
- Lack of ONPS funding and staff

I: Visitor Profiles

Visitation History 1989-2007* (# of visitors on house tour plus 20%)

2008	
2007	28,820
2006	28,799
2005	26,640
2004	28,372
2003	32,570
2002	38,052
2001	34,769
2000	35,240
1999	36,442
1998	37,911
1997	41,402
1996	42,879
1995	48,634
1994	54,478
1993	56,992
1992	54,941
1991	65,157
1990	54,568
1989	55,435

* The park conducted a year-long visitor use survey November 2006 through October 2007 to update formulas used to compute site visitation. Statistics above reflect adding only 20% to the number of house tour tickets sold to determine total site visitation. The survey reflected a much higher factor of multiplication. Statistics as reported through the NPS statistics office will be adjusted in 2008 using the new tables.

Visitor Groups

The park is conducting a Visitor Survey Project in April 2008 to better define site visitors. An glimpse at tour tickets sold during FY 2007 indicates the following user groups:

Adults 17-61: 56%

Seniors 62 older: 29%

Children 0-16: 15% (includes education groups)

Government Performance and Results Act

The visitor services division reports on the following GPRA goals annually:

Goal IIa1A – Visitor Satisfaction

- By September 30, 2008, 95% of park visitors to CARL are satisfied with appropriate facilities, services and recreational opportunities.
- By September 30, 2009, 95% of park visitors to CARL are satisfied with appropriate facilities, services and recreational opportunities.
- By September 30, 2010, 95% of park visitors to CARL are satisfied with appropriate facilities, services and recreational opportunities.
- By September 30, 2011, 95% of park visitors to CARL are satisfied with appropriate facilities, services and recreational opportunities.
- By September 30, 2012, 95% of park visitors to CARL are satisfied with appropriate facilities, services and recreational opportunities.

IIb1 – Visitor Understanding

- By September 30, 2008, 79% of visitors understand and appreciate the significance of CARL.
- By September 30, 2009, 79% of visitors understand and appreciate the significance of CARL.
- By September 30, 2010, 80% of visitors understand and appreciate the significance of CARL.
- By September 30, 2011, 80% of visitors understand and appreciate the significance of CARL.
- By September 30, 2012, 80% of visitors understand and appreciate the significance of CARL.

IIb2 – Visitor Satisfaction with Facilitated Interpretive Programs

- By September 30, 2008, CARL will achieve 95% satisfaction among visitors served by facilitated programs.
- By September 30, 2009, CARL will achieve 95% satisfaction among visitors served by facilitated programs.
- By September 30, 2010, CARL will achieve 95% satisfaction among visitors served by facilitated programs.
- By September 30, 2011, CARL will achieve 95% satisfaction among visitors served by facilitated programs.
- By September 30, 2012, CARL will achieve 95% satisfaction among visitors served by facilitated programs.

IVb2 – Facilitated Program Attendance

- By September 30, 2008, CARL's attendance at facilitated programs will be at 206,494.
- By September 30, 2009, CARL's attendance at facilitated programs will be at 210,623.
- By September 30, 2010, CARL's attendance at facilitated programs will be at 214,835.
- By September 30, 2011, CARL's attendance at facilitated programs will be at 219,132.
- By September 30, 2012, CARL's attendance at facilitated programs will be at 223,514.

Part II: Interpretive Program Description - Current Conditions

Facilities

The park has more than 50 historic structures. Six are open to the public and offer visitor services and several offer an outdoor exhibit space for farm machinery. There is also a non-historic contact station facility at the park entrance, and an amphitheater.

Sandburg Home – Main House

This building is staffed during park business hours, 9am-5pm daily. Tours of the Sandburg home are offered at least once every hour, and twice every hour during the busy season. Reservations for groups can be made in advance for additional tours. This building also functions as the park's visitor center, and features an Eastern National bookstore, small audio visual space, and tour ticket sales operation.

House Garage

The house garage is used for education programs, cheese-making demonstrations, special events, meetings, overflow audio visual space, training, and temporary exhibits. It is only open to the public when a special use is occurring.

Barn

The barn is open for visitation 9am-5pm daily, and is staffed from April-October all day, and 4-5 hours/day from November to March, by both park staff and volunteers. Informal interpretive programs and contacts, and an occasional formal barn tour are offered. Exhibits and a brochure depicting Mrs. Sandburg's use of the space as a dairy goat operation are available. Occasional milking demonstrations are offered during the Spring kidding season. Due to risks of disease associated with goat fecal matter, cheese-making demonstrations have been relocated to another site.

Barn Garage

Farm equipment and a few other large historical items are located in this structure. Two older displays provide information about the contents. Occasionally, a special music program or cheese-making demonstration is offered. This structure is not staffed, except for special programs.

Milk House

Exhibits portray the storage of goat milk and the family's use of the space.

Horse Barn

Serves as a space for education classes at the barn, and used by staff to groom goat (trimming hooves and clipping coats)

Jennifer's House

Structure used to house adult bucks.

Swedish House

Used as an inclement weather education space for Middle School Program.

Farm Manager's House

Houses temporary staff and will also lodge the park's writer-in-resident.

II: Current Conditions

Contact Station

A restroom, exhibit panels and park information is posted at this building. It is not currently staffed.

Amphitheater

Mainly used for Flat Rock Playhouse summer performances and an introduction and activity area for school group visits.

Park Headquarters

Conference room is used for special programs, training, workshops and other activities which serve park visitors.

Features

Gardens

The Sandburg's tended 3 garden areas – a vegetable garden, Margaret's garden, and Mrs. Sandburg's Lilly garden around the main house.

Rock Outcrop

Used for visitors to find private reflection, and share a space that Sandburg used for writing and reflection.

Non-Personal Services

Website

The park's website www.nps.gov/carl is a resource for teachers and schools groups that provide tips for visiting the park and educational materials that can be downloaded to be used in advance of a visit. An interactive education component, Imagine It!, offers any young internet visitor a great way to explore and learn about the site. The Jr. Ranger is available online in both Spanish and English versions and can be completed using the virtual visit component of Imagine It!. A new feature to the park website is a museum object online exhibit which will be accompanied by lesson plans which can be downloaded and used in classrooms everywhere.

Exhibits

Non-climate controlled artifacts are found in various locations throughout the park, most representing the farming activities at the site.

Historic Furnishings

The historic home is furnished as when the Sandburg's lived at Connemara, 1945-1967, and is the only location for sensitive museum objects to be displayed.

Waysides

Most waysides are installed as either trail waysides or on the walls of the contact station and barn area structures. These panels are relatively new, with the oldest installed in 2002.

II: Current Conditions

Audiovisual Programs

Four short films are shown in the audiovisual room at the main house. A 1954 interview between Carl Sandburg and Edward R. Murrow, Carl Sandburg's Connemara, a production by UNCTV which provides a nice overview of Sandburg's time spent at Connemara, an animated poem Arithmetic, and an outdated house tour film produced by the park and Blue Ridge Community College. These films all need to be brought up to current accessibility standards with captions, audio description, and assisted listening equipment.

Wayfinding Signs

Signs located on park trails are in various stages of deterioration and are not all of similar design, with none reflecting current NPS sign plan standards. Ages vary, but most are over 20 years old. Only three signs are new and those are located at the barn area, installed in 2008. A request has been made for a comprehensive sign plan to be produced by Harper's Ferry Center sign program staff.

Publications

The park's primary publication is the NPS unigrid brochure with map. There are a handful of other in-house produced publications, including: the Jr. Ranger program booklet in English and Spanish, quarterly volunteer newsletter, annual events rack card, poetry reception booklet, site rack card, barn brochure, bird brochure, and special events materials.

Personal Services

The park's division of Visitor Services provides a handful of interpretive programs. The main program is a 30-minute historic home tour. Uniformed staff of 2 permanent and 4 summer seasonal employees offer this program, but most tours are provided by a staff of 30 house tour volunteers. Other uniformed ranger programs include a cheese-making demonstration, historic property walks, playhouse performance introductions, special programs by request of the community, and special events.

Special Events

Folk Music Festival

Poetry Festival

Lincoln Festival

Christmas at Connemara

VIP recognition luncheon

Shuttle service is provided by visitor services staff and volunteers during busy visitation times.

Orientation to the park is offered primarily by seasonal park guides who staff the information desk in the main house visitor center, and a team of over 30 volunteers who staff the barn operation. However, all park employees and over 130 volunteers provide orientation to visitors on a regular basis at various locations.

Natural and Cultural Resources staff also provide programs about their activities; behind the scenes museum collection and storage, exotic pest management, Hemlock treatments.

II: Current Conditions

Curriculum-Based Education Program

The park's education program is led by an Education Program Coordinator. The coordinator and education volunteers offer a formal 3.5 hour Middle School Program, and curriculum-based house tours to other grade levels. Two publications are available: a Middle School curriculum guide and teacher packet for *Something About Sandburg*. Also available are pre and post visit materials for 4th, 5th, and K-2nd. Many of these materials are available on the park website for download or can be e-mailed on request. Upcoming projects include lesson plans based on the the park's museum collection which will tie into a museum web exhibit, and "Sandburg Satchels" for Elementary, Middle and High Schools.

Positions (as listed in the Organization Chart, approved in 2008)

Chief of Visitor Services- Supervisory Park Ranger 0025-11

Park Ranger Interp – 0025-09 Full-time

Park Ranger Interp – 0025-09 Part-time, 4 days/week VACANT

Education Program Coordinator – 1701-09 PSF

7 Seasonal Park Guide Positions – 0090-04 (combination of STEP and seasonal employees, no more than 4 at one time, usually in summer, and only two are for the full 1039 hours)

1 Seasonal Visitor Use Assistant – 0404-05 (this is a new position added in 2008 in anticipation of renovating the contact station to be staffed) VACANT

Partnerships

Numerous stakeholders support the mission of Carl Sandburg Home National Historic Site. Current partners who contribute regularly are:

Volunteers

Eastern National

Friends of Carl Sandburg at Connemara

Flat Rock Playhouse

Henderson County Travel and Tourism

Henderson County Sheriff's Office

Blue Ridge Parkway

Arts Council of Henderson County

Community Foundation of Henderson County

Blue Ridge National Heritage Area

Times-News

WHKP

WTZQ

Historic Flat Rock

Pisgah Mountain News

National Park Foundation

Unilever

Boys and Girls Club of Henderson County

II: Proposed Interpretive Program

This part describes the mix of services and facilities, both personal and non-personal, that are necessary to communicate the park themes and facilitate identified visitor experiences. The elements in this section will be based on the goals and visions established in Part 1 and as established in the park's 2003 General Management Plan.

Personal Services

Programs

Expand programming to reach underserved and diverse audiences through targeting youth to participate in Jr. Ranger Programs. Partner with a local school, Bruce Drysdale, which is title 1. Implement a writer-in-residence program through support from Friends of Carl Sandburg at Connemara and others. Expand interpretive programming to reflect the depth of interpretive themes.

Curriculum-Based Education

Implement the Sandburg Satchel traveling trunk program in local schools, then regional and nationwide. Create a formal on-site Elementary School program. With increased staffing, provide ranger programs in the schools. Create an education plan.

Van

Ideal opportunity for a short video introduction to Sandburg story. At a minimum, van should be playing recordings of Sandburg musical performances. Evaluate cost benefit of shuttle service being a contract service provided by a third party and not staff.

Facilities

Contact Station

Expand contact station, perhaps to two stories with elevator from parking lot to lake level, with visitors required to pass through an enclosed entry area, but with a way to walk around the building outside of operating hours. Suggest cantilever walk over lake bank between trail head and contact station to prevent further soil erosion and silt pollution (constant problem). Would also provide for attractive walkway around building but provide adequate space for building expansion. Take angles out of building, get rid of bunker look, provide softer edges more akin with Sandburg "taste." Building should be designed to hold about 50 people. Will house ticket sales and a park bookstore. Will also provide an audiovisual opportunity and museum exhibits.

Main House

Reduce bookstore inventory to include only Sandburg titles, and works by his contemporaries, and create a space conducive to immersion in Sandburg's writings. Including a space for children to read. (Reading corners, etc. . .) This change occurs when a bookstore is opened in the Contact Station.

Consider modifying tour route with guidance from Museum Management Plan to accommodate a more refined thematic tour route, and to furnish the front room in a more historic fashion (move piano against the door to Margaret's room once again).

House Garage

Continue use as classroom and meeting space, improve acoustics and appearance through use of less institutional color scheme.

II: Proposed Interpretive Program

Barn

Improve drainage conditions in barn yard. Create a barn management plan to guide operations. Replace ramp in small side pasture. Rewrite barn site bulletin or add a new one to capture how Mrs. Sandburg managed the herd versus how we do today. Add programs to portray how Mrs. Sandburg managed the herd. Train volunteers to understand and provide these programs. Clean up barn entrance (remove bench, relocate hand sanitizer station and trash can across the road).

Buck Shed

Shed near the current buck quarters needs to be rehabilitated.

Horse Barn

Improve lighting for education programs. Use as an interpretive program location for barn programs.

Amphitheater

Relocate amphitheater per recommendations of General Management Plan. New facility will provide more seating, accessibility, and amplified sound. Might have some sort of covering/shade/roof for visitors.

Tenant House

implement mitigation strategies to address environmental discomforts (excessive humidity, possible mold, inaccurate thermostat and climate control). Use as staff office and volunteer comfort station continues.

Barn Garage

Replace text panels. Add audio of Mrs. Sandburg working the farm, motion-sensored as you enter the building.

Museum Exhibits

Contact Station

Need to introduce all Sandburg primary themes, perhaps bas relief of family either on or inside the building. Media should include audiovisual introduction, other exhibits with soundbites, statue of "Carl on a bench" so visitors can have a life-like visualization of Sandburg and linkage through photo opportunities. (statue is a public request, staff and Sandburg family need to be consulted)

Main House

Add exhibits over historic shelving and elsewhere in basement. Create a "reading corner" or comfortable reading space for adults and children. Incorporate rear lower-level room that housed kid goats so visitors can perhaps see through the window from outside into this space. Museum plan requests staff breakroom be removed, and no food be allowed inside.

House Garage

Use more compelling images of Sandburg and family painted on wall, along with a timeline or hobo adventure, Rootabaga characters, perhaps enlarged family photos. Improve audio quality with baffling and/or banners. Install audio-visual system and storage for education program materials.

Wood Shed

Assess items on display to determine if they are appropriate. Consider adding interpretive text to displays.

II: Proposed Interpretive Program

Swedish House

Develop and install exhibits on immigration story, Swedish immigration in particular, and Sandburg's early years in Galesburg. Media to include in-depth audiovisual presentation. Accessibility and stability of the structure are issues with this space.

Chicken House

Tell "Three Families Story" here: Memminger, Smythe, Sandburg, (and National Park Service)

Wayside Exhibits and Wayfinding

- Move "Entrance" sign at Main House in front of bush from present location to other side of the walkway, closer to the house.
- Install an arrowhead and park name on contact station to improve NPS identity.
- Install arrowhead and "Welcome to Carl Sandburg Home National Historic Site" sign over fireplace mantel in main house.
- Update all wayfinding signs to incorporate NPS sign standards. Include sign plan and new signs in PMIS requests.
- Remove current bulletin board from Contact station and move to park entrance by parking lot. Also remove the large brown "Welcome" sign and incorporate in to a 3-paneled kiosk (with all sides facing the parking lot) which includes rules and regs, telephone, schedule of programs, and interpretive welcome.
- National Register / National Historic Landmark plaque removed from hidden place under tree to more prominent location upon entry into the historic zone
- First wayside on trail from parking lot is fine, but needs landscape improvement and a pad for picture takers, to the left and slightly in front, for safety and erosion control. Otherwise the cantilevered walkway should include this bank.
- Waysides at contact station are very good, but dark because overhang limits light. In the next rehab cycle, they should be located somewhere with more natural or artificial lighting.
- Replace the wayside exhibit that had been located at the top of Glassy Mountain.
- Small waysides needed at Margaret's Garden and the lily/dahlia garden by the amphitheater.
- Add relief touch-friendly image to some of the waysides to increase accessibility.

Media

- Need for two orientation programs shown with top of line audio/video technology. One 5-7 minute video will introduce the Sandburg story. The other should be a virtual tour – maybe 3-D experience/surround sound/image - for folks who can't/don't have time to walk to the house. The orientation video can also be shown in the Main House basement. The house tour video could also be made available but not in the elaborate format envisioned for the contact station.
- In the Main House basement, the video equipment needs to be replaced with a flat screen LCD monitor in order to provide more seating and better visual experience.
- Introduce podcasting, perhaps through a partnership with a university to produce the content. Think about new technologies to enhance visitor experience.
- Consider adding audio in the main house so visitors can experience Sandburg's voice in his home on the tour.
- Continue updating and adding resource materials to the website. Create new content to share the Sandburg story through the History and Culture pages.

II: Proposed Interpretive Program

Publications

Develop a park publications plan which may include the following: education materials to support pre and post visit activities, a natural resource site bulletin series that includes: birds, trees, and flowers of Connemara, a walking tour brochure which further identifies each numbered structure and its history, reservation guideline booklet for groups and schools, milk house brochure to explain its use.

Historic Furnishings

Add a replica willow chair to the Rock adjacent to the Main House.

Other Landscape Features and Services

- Parking lot landscape restoration and improved accessibility from lot to contact station.
- Install a doggy-bag pole for distribution of collection bags and interpretive text for proper pick up and disposal.
- Explore ways to improve uneven stone walking way to and under the front porch of the Main House with a safer, wheelchair friendly surface.
- Evaluate access to Swedish House if it is to house museum exhibits.
- Consider placing a statue of Sandburg within the community to increase awareness of Sandburg for visitors to Hendersonville. (this is a community idea, further consult with staff and Sandburg family is needed).

Other Findings

Buck House

Evaluate possibility of cost effective for adaptive re-use; also has accessibility issues.

Farm Manager's House

Continue use as park housing either for current staffing or for Poet In Residence program once it's established.

Partnerships

Eastern National

Increase non-traditional interpretive products offered for retail in the bookstore. Work with EN staff to find new products to increase sales. Continue working with Print on Demand to bring out of print Sandburg works back into retail.

Friends of Carl Sandburg at Connemara

Continue working with the Friends and their support of youth and curriculum-based education programs.

New partnership opportunities

- Johnson Farm and Carl Sandburg Home as a day trip, market as an activity through Travel and Tourism.
- Linking education with family visits.
- Link Carl Sandburg Home with other state, regional, and NPS literary sites.
- Partner with local state parks or state historic sites, such as Thomas Wolfe for programming.
- Partner with local camps.
- Develop strong community linkages through outreach to meet important needs and programs that cannot be accommodated on-site.

II: Proposed Interpretive Program

Library and Collection Needs

- Acquire all Sandburg titles that were published for the library.
- Convert older media to digital format.
- Continue to purchase images from the Vachon collection.
- Acquire floor covering reproductions to minimize visitor impact from walking over historic textiles.
- Acquire copy of books that Sandburg sold to University of Illinois to fill in gaps of Main House display.

Research Needs

- Research Mrs. Sandburg's dairy operation and breeding program.
- Catalog Mrs. Sandburg's and the park's goat lineage through a software system.
- Identify copyright holders for frequently used archival materials.

Staffing Needs

Additional staffing requests:

- Develop a fee collection plan and analysis.
- Add one permanent and 1-2 seasonal VUA's (through OFS) and EN staff for entrance station once building is remodeled.
- Education Technician to assist Education Program Coordinator with education program for planning and outreach.
- NPS Volunteer coordinator to manage VIP program, special events and partnerships.

II: Interpretive Program Costs

This section contains annual and projected budgets, and also identifies alternative management and funding strategies for projects.

Personnel costs

	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012
Chief of Visitor Services GS-11	74,600	81,000	87,600	93,900	100,200	107,400
Park Ranger GS-09 PFT	vacant	vacant	82,500	88,690	95,340	102,490
Park Ranger GS-09 PPT vacant	63,852	70,941	76,260	81,980	88,130	94,740
Education Program Coordinator GS-09 PSF	67,582	74,193	81,130	86,538	93,460	100,940
Park Guide GS-04 NTE1039	14,200 x 2	15,000 x 2	15,800 x 2	16,600 x 2	17,500 x 2	18,445 x 2
Park Guide GS-04 12 weeks	7,600 x 3	8,100 x 3	8,500 x 3	9,000 x 3	9,500 x 3	10,000 x 3
VUA GS-04 NTE 1039 vacant				54,200	58,700	61,900
Centennial Park Guide GS-04 (\$13,000)	13,000	13,000	13,000	13,000	13,000	13,000

- Shaded areas are budgeted from non-ONPS sources

2008 Annual Expenses

Training/Travel	\$3,000
Visitor Service supplies	\$2,000
Farm Operation	\$7,500
Volunteer program	\$4,000
	\$16,500.00

Future Projects - PMIS

132923	2008	\$32,500.00	Audio Visual Accessibility Initiative
114050	2008	\$24,250.00	Rehabilitate House Garage for Visitor Services and Education Groups
94201	2008	\$54,000.00	Replace Accessible Van
139264	2008	\$20,200.00	Replace Park Benches, Trash, and Recycling Containers
101728	2008	\$10,500.00	Revise Curriculum-Based Teacher Packet for On-site Middle School Program
22992	2008	\$15,000.00	Plan Swedish House Exhibits
101726	2008	\$11,170.00	Replace Ticket Hardware and Software
139258	2009	\$3,750.00	Support Park VIP Program FY09
40221	2009	\$23,200.00	Develop and Produce an Elementary School Teacher's Guide
139278	2010	\$19,000.00	Develop Interpretive Audio System for Sandburg Home
56682	2010	\$327,500.00	Replace Outdated Park Film
83442	2010	\$9,500.00	Create an Online Junior Ranger Program
94163	2010	\$5,000.00	Initiate Writer-In-Residence Program
101734	2010	\$750.00	Distribute "Sandburg Satchel"
101962	2010	\$9,600.00	Develop Exhibit for Historic Wash House

II: Interpretive Program Costs

The park often seeks alternative fund sources to meet program needs. Almost all temporary positions are funded through tour ticket sales. Additionally, one-third of the farm operations budget is provided through a public goat auction. Volunteer program expenses are 75% covered through special project funding. The Friends of Carl Sandburg at Connemara pursue grants to fund three special events: Folk Music Festival, Poetry Celebration and A Celebration of Lincoln. Eastern National percent donations fully support the Sandburg Summer Stage performances. The only costs to the park for these programs are staffing.

II: Implementation Plan

Implementation Plan

This plan chart lists those actions necessary to implement the Long-Range Interpretive Plan.

Fiscal Year 2008

- Complete the Teaching with Museum Collections online exhibit and accompanying lesson plans. Develop an Interpretive Notebook for house tour guides, incorporating primary themes and tangible/intangible resources.
- Improve Audio-Visual accessibility for video programs at the main house.
- Mitigate environmental discomforts in the Tenant House.
- Update audio visual equipment in main house and house garage.
- Purchase all Sandburg titles for inclusion in the park library.
- Research best use of shuttle van – continued staff driving, concessions, interpretive media opportunity.
- Improve barn entrance area.

Fiscal Year 2009

- Develop lesson plans for “Sandburg Satchel” traveling trunks.
- Improve acoustics and ambience of house garage for education programs.
- Begin entering the parks goat breeding program into a database.
- Develop a farm management plan.
- Develop a sign management plan.
- Plan exhibits for the Swedish House.
- Develop a natural resource series of publications.
- Explore partnerships with local historic sites to increase visitation and marketing.
- Partner with local schools/organizations to increase underserved audiences served by education programs and the Junior Ranger program.
- Improve lighting in the horse barn for education program use.
- Assess current technologies to determine those most appropriate to visitor experiences.

Fiscal Year 2010

- Begin entering Mrs. Sandburg’s goat breeding information into a database.
- Install a new information kiosk at the park entrance, and relocate historic register plaque.
- Relocate amphitheater and restore existing site to historic landscape.
- Develop a media plan for adding audio to historic buildings: house, barn, wash house, and Swedish house.
- Plan exhibits for the Chicken/Wash House.
- Replace park signage with those recommended in the sign management plan, adding bas relief images to increase accessibility.
- Replace wayside exhibit at top of Glassy Mountain.
- Implement the first Writer-in-Residence program.

Fiscal Year 2011

- Develop exhibits for renovated Contact Station/Entrance Station.
- Improve trail erosion by front lake by installing a new walk or cantilevered walkway.
- Develop a new park film for use at Contact Station and main house.
- Develop an Elementary School Program.

Fiscal Year 2012

- Renovate Contact Station
- Renovate main house book store to reflect a Sandburg Reading Room
- Study using Buck House for exhibit/program space.

