



**National Park Service**  
**U.S. Department of the Interior**

Carl Sandburg Home  
National Historic Site

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## Carl Sandburg Home NHS News Release

**Release date:** Immediate  
**Contact(s):** Connie Hudson Backlund, Superintendent  
**Phone number:** 828-693-4178  
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### **Public Invited to 40<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of National Historic Site**

(Flat Rock, NC) Carl Sandburg Home National Historic Site Park Superintendent Connie Backlund invites the public to attend the site's 40th Anniversary Celebration on Friday, October 17<sup>th</sup>, 2008. The celebration will begin at 10:00 a.m. with a program at the park amphitheater featuring the National Park Service Southeast Associate Regional Director Paul Hartwig and poet Glenis Redmond. Refreshments will be served at the conclusion of the program. Local writers and artists will also be on site following the program through 1:00 p.m. to share works that were inspired by Carl Sandburg, his family and home. Among those participating will be poets Glenis Redmond and Martha Adams and photographers Walt and Jan Chase.

In the 1960's the National Park Service was actively seeking to preserve America's cultural heritage including a writer's home. After Carl Sandburg's death in 1967 Mrs. Sandburg began working to ensure her husband's contributions to American literature, song and history were preserved. The Secretary of the Interior at the time, Stewart Udall, traveled to Flat Rock, North Carolina and met with Mrs. Sandburg to discuss the possibility of Connemara becoming a unit of the National Park Service. During his visit in November 1967 the Secretary, Mrs. Sandburg and her family walked to the top of Big Glassy Mountain as conversations continued. With the support from Mrs. Sandburg, the Congressional delegation and the community, Carl Sandburg Home National Historic Site was authorized as a unit of the National Park Service on October 17, 1968 dedicated to preserving our nation's heritage for the enjoyment of present and future generations.

Input from the Sandburg family and the public helped to craft the future of the site including what programs and activities would be offered. Planning efforts are founded on the park's mission and the 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 site preserves and interprets the farm, Connemara, where Sandburg and his family lived for the last 22 years of his life (1945-1967).

Carl Sandburg Home NHS is located three miles south of Hendersonville, North Carolina, off U.S. 225 on Little River Road in Flat Rock, North Carolina. For additional information visit the website at [www.nps.gov/carl](http://www.nps.gov/carl) or call the park at 828-693-4178. There is no charge for this event or to visit the grounds and barn. The house tour fee is \$5 for adults age 16-61, \$3 for adults age 62 and older, and children age fifteen and under are free.

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The National Park Service cares for special places saved by the American people so that all may experience our heritage.