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Boyhood Home of President Woodrow Wilson to Receive Plaque from United States Department of the Interior

The Boyhood Home of President Woodrow Wilson in Augusta was officially designated by the United States Department of the Interior as a National Historic Landmark on October 6, 2008. Owned and operated as a museum by Historic Augusta, Inc., the official plaque provided by the National Park Service, which administers the program, will be unveiled on Friday, May 15, 2009 at 2:00 P.M. in front of the house at 419 Seventh Street, Augusta, Georgia.

On hand to unveil the plaque will be Ray Rivera, Director of External and Internal Affairs at the Department of the Interior. The ceremony will be a part of the activities planned for the annual meeting of the Georgia Trust for Historic Preservation convening in Augusta May 15-17. The ceremony is free and open to the public, and those in attendance will be invited to tour the house following the ceremony.

The Wilson Home was constructed circa 1859 and acquired early the next year, when new, by the Trustees of First Presbyterian Church in Augusta as a Manse for their pastor, Joseph Ruggles Wilson (1822-1903), and his family. Thomas Woodrow Wilson (1856-1924), Rev. Wilson's eldest son, lived in the manse from 1860 until 1870 during the Civil War and Reconstruction period. He served as the 28th President of the United States between 1913 and 1921. Historic Augusta acquired the house in 1991, and completed the award winning restoration in 2001.

National Historic Landmark designation is reserved for only the most significant historic sites in the United States, and is the highest historic designation that can be made by the Federal government. Less than 2,500 historic resources are currently National Historic Landmarks. Previously designated sites in Richmond County include the Augusta Canal Industrial District, the Stephen Vincent Benet House, College Hill, the Old Medical College Building and Meadow Garden.

For more information call Historic Augusta, Inc. at (706) 724-0436, or contact Julia Jackson at Julia@historicaugusta.org.