

Connemara ^[1]

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Connemara, late 1930s. Photograph by Bayard Wootten. North Carolina Collection, University of North Carolina

by Jo Ann Williford, 2006at Chapel Hill Library.

Connemara ^[2], located in **Flat Rock** ^[3] was the last home of famed poet and historian **Carl Sandburg** ^[4]. **Christopher Gustavus Memminger** ^[5] of Charleston, S.C., former **Confederate** ^[6] secretary of the treasury, built the property as a summer house in 1838. Memminger called the property Rock Hill, but a later owner, Capt. **Ellison Smythe** ^[7], renamed it Connemara. Sandburg bought the property in 1945, seeking peace and solitude for his writing as well as a place for his wife Lilian to raise champion dairy goats. He wrote almost one-third of his works during his 22 years at Connemara. On 17 Oct. 1968, Congress established Connemara as the **Carl Sandburg Home National Historic Site** ^[2] to be administered by the **National Park Service** ^[8]. The historic site consists of the antebellum house, a dairy goat barn complex and a representative goat herd, sheds, rolling pastures, mountainside woods, walking/hiking trails, two small lakes, ponds, flower and vegetable gardens, and an orchard.

Additional Resources:

Carl Sandburg Home National Historic Site: <https://www.nps.gov/carl/index.htm> ^[2]

Carl Sandburg Tributes, UNC Libraries: <http://www.lib.unc.edu/mss/inv/s/Sandburg,Carl.html> ^[9]

Our State, UNC-TV Carl Sandburg: <http://www.unctv.org/ourstate/episode208/index.html#sandburg> ^[10]

Learn NC: <http://www.learnnc.org/lp/multimedia/8636> ^[11]

Subjects:

[Places](#) ^[12]

[Post War 20th Century \(1946-2000\)](#) ^[13]

[World War II \(1941-1945\)](#) ^[14]

[Writers, journalists, and editors](#) ^[15]

Authors:

[Williford, Jo Ann](#) ^[16]

Origin - location:

[Henderson County](#) ^[17]

From:

[Encyclopedia of North Carolina, University of North Carolina Press.](#) ^[18]

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Source URL: <https://ncpedia.org/connemara>

Links

^[1] <https://ncpedia.org/connemara> ^[2] <https://www.nps.gov/carl/index.htm> ^[3] <http://www.flatrockonline.com/> ^[4] <http://www.biography.com/people/carl-sandburg-9470854> ^[5] <https://ncpedia.org/biography/memminger-christopher> ^[6] <https://ncpedia.org/confederate-party> ^[7] <https://www.nps.gov/carl/faqs.htm> ^[8] <https://ncpedia.org/www.nps.gov> ^[9] <http://www.lib.unc.edu/mss/inv/s/Sandburg,Carl.html> ^[10] <http://www.unctv.org/ourstate/episode208/index.html#sandburg> ^[11] <http://www.learnnc.org/lp/multimedia/8636> ^[12] <https://ncpedia.org/category/subjects/places> ^[13] <https://ncpedia.org/category/subjects/post-war-20th-cen> ^[14] <https://ncpedia.org/category/subjects/world-war-ii> ^[15] <https://ncpedia.org/category/subjects/writer> ^[16] <https://ncpedia.org/category/authors/williford-jo-ann> ^[17] <https://ncpedia.org/category/origin-location/mountain-7> ^[18] <https://ncpedia.org/category/entry-source/encyclopedia->