



Sandburg's Lifetime

Before the Sandburg family moved to Connemara in 1945, they spent their lives in the American Midwest. Carl Sandburg was a poet, lecturer, journalist, biographer, editor, and activist. His writings on industrialization, wartime, and labor reform captured America's tumultuous social issues. He became known as the "Poet of the People" for his insightful and empathetic portrayal of the lives and struggles of working men and women.



1883
Lilian Steichen is born in Hancock, Michigan.

1902
Sandburg's first poem "The Falling Leaves" is published.

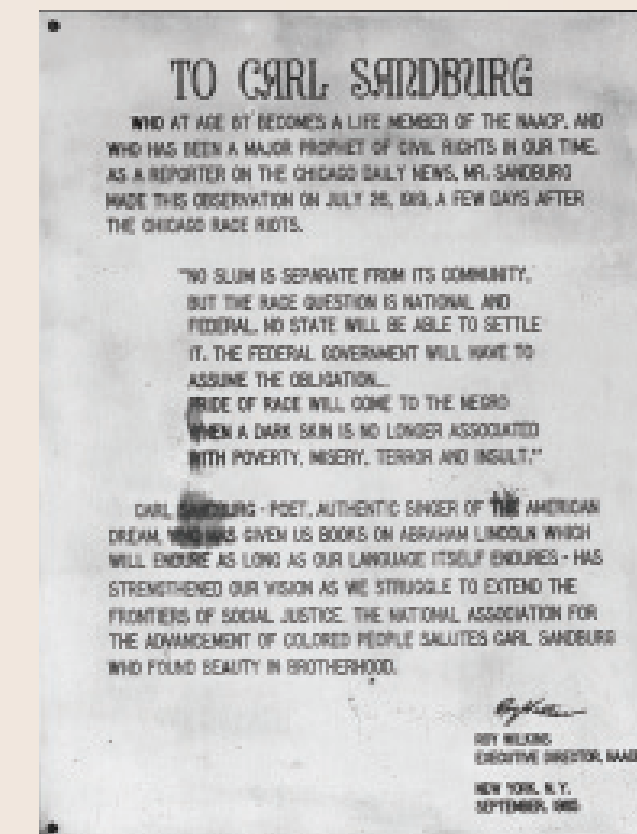
1908
Carl Sandburg and Lilian Steichen marry on June 15.

1922
Sandburg writes the fanciful "Rootabaga Stories" for his three daughters.



Photograph by National Geographic Society

1959
Sandburg addresses a Joint Session of Congress (one of the first private citizens to do so) on the 150th anniversary of Lincoln's death.



1965
Sandburg is awarded an NAACP Life Member Award.

1967
Sandburg dies here at Connemara.

1968
Carl Sandburg Home National Historic Site becomes the first national park unit to honor a poet.

1800s



1878
Carl Sandburg is born in Galesburg, Illinois.

1898
Sandburg serves in the Spanish-American War.

1907
Sandburg joins the Wisconsin Social Democratic Party, advocating for better working conditions and wages for adults and the end of child labor. He meets fellow party member Lilian Steichen.



1919
Sandburg covers the Chicago Race Riot, one of the few mainstream reporters to do so.

1926
Sandburg publishes "The American Songbag," an anthology of American folksongs.

1900s

1945
The Sandburgs purchase Connemara and move the family and goat herd to North Carolina.



1964
Sandburg is awarded the Presidential Medal of Freedom.

1977
Lilian Sandburg dies in Asheville, North Carolina.

1940 - 1951
Sandburg wins the 1940 Pulitzer Prize for "Abraham Lincoln: The War Years." Sandburg wins the 1951 Pulitzer Prize for "Complete Poems."

I could never live long enough to write the dreams of man and the dynamic drive of those dreams.

"The People, Yes," Carl Sandburg



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