



Media & PR Contact:  
Sandy Traub  
SPATIOR Storyline Marketing  
912/398-9828  
[straub@spatior.com](mailto:straub@spatior.com)

## **Politics Spark at The Presidents' Quarters, a Top-Tier Bed and Breakfast Inn Named to Honor America's Presidential Visitors to Historic Savannah, Georgia**

*Savannah has had the honor of hosting 23 United States presidents, beginning with George Washington in 1791. From the twin mansions of The Presidents' Quarters overlooking Oglethorpe Square, diplomats, governors, generals, and business leaders have shaped the history of Savannah and beyond. New owner Stephen S. Green, himself no stranger to public service, continues that legacy.*

SAVANNAH, Georgia – September 27, 2007 -- No doubt the 2008 presidential race will spark its share of spirited debate within the historic walls of The Presidents' Quarter, an Historic Savannah bed and breakfast inn. And while the custom of naming a room for each of the presidents who has visited Savannah is non-partisan, some of the guests certainly aren't. Consider this tale.

"A well-spoken lady called to reserve a room," relays Fred Morris, house manager at The Presidents' Quarters. "I advised that the Richard Nixon room was available, at which point the incensed lady quickly remarked, 'My husband would never sleep in a room named for a Republican, especially Richard Nixon!' The John Kennedy room was reserved instead."

### **Trail of U.S. Presidents to Visit Savannah**

Succumbing to Savannah's persuasively polite hospitality, twenty-three United States Presidents have come to Savannah to parlay with pacesetters, supporters, world leaders and military. The world's most powerful men have come with varied intent. Some to touch their own family roots in the South, to meet with international world leaders and U.S. Military troops, to honor the City's founder, host the inaugural meeting of The World Bank, or to tap insightful Savannahians as touchstones to real world issues and visionary possibilities.

### **Presidential Moments**

One of President George Washington's diary entries failed to record his impressions of the Savannah terrain or the architecture during his 1791 visit. However, he did mention "about 100 well dressed and handsome ladies." He is not the first, nor will he be the last to comment on Savannah's beautiful women.



In 1819 President James Monroe came to launch the *S. S. Savannah* (the first steamship to cross the Atlantic Ocean). Architect William Jay built a platform in Johnson Square for the Monroe presidential celebration.

In 1885 Woodrow Wilson married Anne Axson in First Presbyterian Church, founded by colonial-era Scotsmen.

President Franklin D. Roosevelt spoke in Grayson Stadium during the 1933 bicentennial to honor Savannah's founder, James Edward Oglethorpe.

President George Washington visited more than once, riding on horseback through muddy trails between Augusta and Savannah, and arriving by boat at Mulberry Grove Plantation to visit the widow of Nathanael Greene, Washington's second-in-command during the Revolutionary War.

### Modern Savannah

In 1970, author Anthony Wolf described Historic Savannah Foundation's philosophy for a "vital central city, not a Colonial Williamsburg." Businessman Stephen S. Greene has charted a vision to showcase what is exclusive in Savannah, beginning at his newly acquired small trophy hotel – The Presidents' Quarters on Oglethorpe Square.

Innkeeper Jane Sales points out, "Millions of travelers, including U.S. Presidents, are curious to discover Savannah's uniqueness. Quintessential Savannah -- old and new -- is the grand places, people and adventures found only in Historic Savannah," Mrs. Sales explains.

From the presidential namesake address of 225 East President Street, Mrs. Sales concludes, "We will entertain 32 guests each night at a price which covers the elegant surroundings and distinguishing services, but won't eat into 401K plans."

### Curious About the Tally of Presidential Visitors to Savannah?

With renewed interest to keep score of presidential hopefuls, The Presidents' Quarters will be keeping track to see who seeks out Savannah voters before the 2008 U.S. Presidential elections. Meanwhile, of the 23 U.S. Presidents -- from President George Washington to President George Bush -- who visited Savannah while in office, more Republicans than Democrats have visited Georgia's first city.

#### U.S. Presidents Who Visited Savannah

Party	President	Savannah Visit	President #
[None]	George Washington	May 12-15, 1791	1st
Democrat-Republican	James Monroe	May 8-13, 1819	5th
Democrat	James K. Polk	Mar 10, 1849	11th
Whig & American Party	Millard Fillmore	Apr 21-25, 1853 and again in 1854	
Republican	Ulysses S. Grant	Jan 2, 1880	18th
Republican	Chester A. Arthur	Apr 18, 1883	21 <sup>st</sup>
Democrat	Grover Cleveland	Feb 22, 1888	22 <sup>nd</sup>



The Presidents' Quarters  
HISTORIC BED AND BREAKFAST INN  
ON OGLETHORPE SQUARE

Republican	William McKinley	Dec. 17, 1898	& 24th
Republican	Theodore Roosevelt	Oct. 19, 1905 & Apr 1917	25 <sup>th</sup> 26th
Republican	William H. Taft	Nov 5-6, 1909 & May 12, 1912	27th
Democrat	Woodrow Wilson * married his 1 <sup>st</sup> wife, Ellen Louise Axson, in Savannah	Jun 24, 1885 * & Apr 19, 1912	28th
Republican	Warren G. Harding	1920	29 <sup>th</sup>
Republican	Calvin Coolidge	about 1926	30th
Republican	Herbert Hoover	Dec 24, 1932	31st
Democrat	Franklin D. Roosevelt	Nov 18, 1933	32nd
Democrat	Harry S. Truman	Mar 16-18, 1962	33rd
Republican	Dwight D. Eisenhower	Oct 4-5, 1947	34th
Democrat	John F. Kennedy	Nov. 26, 1962	35th
Democrat	Lyndon B. Johnson		36th
Republican	Richard M. Nixon	October 8, 1970	37th
Democrat	Jimmy Carter	1978	39th
Republican	George H. W. Bush	1992	41st
Republican	George W. Bush	2000	43rd

Sources: Georgia Historical Society, historian Joy Beall, and WhiteHouse.gov.

## ABOUT THE PRESIDENTS' QUARTERS

Showcasing one of the most beautifully panoramic social settings in downtown Savannah, plus the best of nearly three centuries in Georgia history, The Presidents' Quarters is acclaimed as an influential place where generals, governors, politician and industrialists have shaped Savannah and the nation's history. The breakfast inn's two stately Federal mansions (ca. 1855-1860) feature 16 guest quarters, each named to honor U.S. Presidents who visited Savannah. Occupying a full city block on Oglethorpe Square in the entertainment hub of the world-famous historic district, the twin town-home Federal mansions (circa 1860) were adapted to a tourism lifestyle in 1987. Reported to be a prominent movie location for the television mini-series, *Roots*, the Oglethorpe Square property was home (ca. 1752) to Georgia's first Governor, John Reynolds, and a British colonial Georgia fort. New owner, Stephen S. Green, is reincarnating The Presidents' Quarters as Savannah's *Toast of the Town* -- "Luxury with a Lineage. A Tradition of Hospitality, a Legacy of Style" <sup>SM</sup>. In concert with the property's 2007 renovations, the hospitality-pacesetter is benchmarking distinctive services that portray exclusive Savannah.

Visit The Presidents' Quarters Web site at [www.presidentsquarters.com](http://www.presidentsquarters.com). Toll Free Telephone is 800/233-1776, FAX 912 / 238-0849, and email to the Inn is [info@presidentsquarters.com](mailto:info@presidentsquarters.com). For additional information, please contact Sandy Traub, SPATIOR Storyline Marketing, at (912) 398-9828. E-mail is available via [straub@spatior.com](mailto:straub@spatior.com).