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For Immediate Release

Stars of Christmas Past and Present: A Savannah Christmas Retrospective at The Presidents' Quarters Bed and Breakfast Inn on Historic Oglethorpe Square

Succumbing to the words of William Faulkner --"In the South art, to become visible at all, must become a ceremony, a spectacle..." it will become evident to the nighttime visitor to Oglethorpe Square that The Presidents' Quarters breathes history, traditions and vitality into the art of Christmastide in Savannah. The Inn will honor Twelve Days of Christmas through January 6, 2008, offering \$150/night holiday discounts.

SAVANNAH, Georgia (December 6, 2007) – In a lodging place of contemporary storytelling and modern-day vitality, the art of traditional Christmastide in historic Savannah is as much about Christmas past as it is about Christmas present. The Presidents' Quarters, a top-tier Georgia bed and breakfast recently named one of Savannah's Best Bed and Breakfast Inns by Fodor's guide, has taken a cue from the much beloved tradition by White House First Ladies to decorate for Christmas based on a timely theme.

Dashed with its elegant, yet relaxed approach to convention, the inn's theme, "A Savannah Christmas Retrospective," restates the mansion inn's aristocratic heritage, while pointing to little known elements of peace and goodwill found in Savannah's rich cultural heritage. "We, Savannah and our guests will enjoy a memory-filled, culturally rich Christmas, a place where the holidays come alive. Guests who love to relax, stroll, explore and shop unhurriedly love Savannah in December and early January," states Jane Sales at The Presidents' Quarters.

In the nighttime, it will become particularly evident that The Presidents' Quarters has succumbed to the words of William Faulkner --"In the South art, to become visible at all, must become a ceremony, a spectacle..." Dressed up for Yuletide affairs both merry and momentous, simple Moravian stars and 3500 tree lights create a wonder-filled, panoramic holiday setting on historic Oglethorpe Square. The historic downtown atmosphere includes church bells chiming, southern-slow horse drawn carriages passing by, and downtown streetscapes worthy of Norman Rockwell. And there's more inside the inn.

On display is President Calvin Coolidge's 1927 Christmas card, published in newspapers to save expense. In 1953, President Eisenhower expanded the list of Presidential Christmas cards recipients significantly. Today, Stephen S. Green, owner of small trophy



hotel property, received his annual presidential Christmas card from President and Mrs. George W. Bush.

The historic inn will serve Mrs. Laura Bush's *Hot Chocolate* and *White House Fruit Punch*, made popular in the Clinton administration, and southern fare. Anticipate even more traditions -- ambrosia at breakfast, eggnog (a favorite of George Washington), an expansive dessert table on Christmas evening, Moravian cookies to honor Czech missionaries who came to Georgia to introduce Christianity to the Indians, and Chatham Artillery Punch when the spirit directs. A monument to the Georgia's Moravian settlers (ca. 1735-1740) is in Oglethorpe Square.

Savannah, "That spot of spots! That place of places!! That city of cities!!!" General Robert E. Lee wrote to his dear Savannah friend, Jack MacKay. "We, Savannah and loyal guests will enjoy a memory-filled Christmas as we work to make the holidays come alive on Oglethorpe Square. Guests love the comfortably crisp strolls through the historic district, unhurried shopping, and nearness to holiday events," states Jane Sales at The Presidents' Quarters.

When asked, "Who slept here?" the answer is many famous people. Among them is General Robert E. Lee. In 1870, during Lee's final visit to Savannah, he slept in the southeast mansion, then the private home of his West Point classmate, Brigadier General Alexander Robert Lawton. Indeed, The Presidents' Quarters is the perfect place to celebrate 2007, the "Year of Lee," as proclaimed by the Georgia House of Representatives, in honor of the 200th anniversary of the birth of the Confederate General.

The Presidents' Quarters offers a \$150/night holiday rate through the Twelve Days of Christmas, ending January 6, 2008.

ABOUT THE PRESIDENTS' QUARTERS

Superbly located on Oglethorpe Square in the theater and historic districts of colonial Savannah's downtown, The Presidents' Quarters showcases Savannah's 19th Century aristocracy with a contemporary 21-Century perspective. The breakfast inn's two stately Federal mansions (ca. 1855) feature 16 guest quarters, each named to honor U.S. Presidents who visited Savannah. In 2007, Fodor's guide named The Presidents' Quarters one of Savannah's Best Bed and Breakfast Inns.

Marketed with a tagline "Luxury with a Lineage. A Tradition of Hospitality, a Legacy of Style,"(sm) the historic district property was transformed for bed and breakfast lodging in 1987, leading the renaissance of top-tier mansion inns in Savannah. Uniquely, today the historic inn blends personal lodging attentiveness with contemporary hotel efficiencies in Savannah, Georgia USA.

Amid the beautifully panoramic social setting, the historic inn offers the best of Savannah's modern southern society and nearly three centuries in Georgia history.



Acclaimed as an influential place where generals, governors, politicians and industrialists have shaped Savannah and the nation's history, General Robert E. Lee slept here in 1870 as the guest of his West Point classmate, Brigadier General Alexander Robert Lawton.

In April 2007, prominent Savannahian Stephen S. Green purchased the small trophy hotel property. Occupying a full city block on Oglethorpe Square, the hospitality-pacesetter is being reincarnated as Savannah's Toast of the Town (sm). Operations and marketing at actively embedding distinctive services that portray "Only in Savannah" (sm) adventures, offered from the perspective of socially and professionally active city insiders.

Built by two of Georgia's most prominent families, the mansions were the movie location during filming of the popular television mini-series, *Roots*. The lands immediately overlooking Oglethorpe Square (now the parking lot) served as the residence (ca. 1754) of Georgia's first Royal Governor, Captain John Reynolds. In early colonization the British colonial Georgia fort location, just outside the town's palisades along Drayton Street, was approximately where The Presidents' Quarters now stands.

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

ABOUT THE SAVANNAH GEORGIA MORAVIANS

Moravian settlers arrived in Savannah by way of England, Germany and Czechoslovakia in Savannah in 1735. Many of the Moravian missionaries were given lots in the Anson Ward neighborhood of today's Oglethorpe Square to build their homes and church. Moravians brought music to the early colony, playing also for Tomochichi's funeral. At the outbreak of the Spanish American War, the Moravians migrated north to Bethlehem, Pennsylvania, and later to Winston-Salem, North Carolina. Prior to their departure in 1740, General Oglethorpe bought their musical instruments to assist them on their journey to Pennsylvania and to continue the welcome sounds of music in the colony. A monument to the Moravian colonists is in Oglethorpe Square, located in the historic district of downtown Savannah, Georgia, USA.