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ANCESTRAL HOME OF FRANKLIN D. ROOSEVELT
BECOMES U.S. NATIONAL HISTORIC SITE

(DO NOT RELEASE BEFORE APRIL 12, 1946)

The ancestral home of the late Franklin Delano Roosevelt, thirty-first President of the United States, at Hyde Park, New York, becomes a National Historic Site on April 12, 1946, the first anniversary of the Chief Executive's death. The site, on the east shore of the Hudson River, is about five miles north of Poughkeepsie, approximately midway between New York City and Albany, capital of New York State.

President Harry S. Truman will deliver the principal dedication speech. Mrs. Eleanor Roosevelt, widow of the President, will deliver an address donating the property to the government and Julius A. Krug, Secretary of the U.S. Department of the Interior, will accept the gift in behalf of his department. Among the many people attending the dedication ceremonies will be several hundred personages from all over the world who will be present as specially invited guests.

Although the late President reserved for Mrs. Roosevelt and their children a life interest in the estate, all of them waived their rights so that the government could have immediate and unencumbered possession of the 33-acre site as an historic site belonging to the people of the United States.

The fireplace in the library of the Roosevelt home at Hyde Park, New York. The portrait over the mantel is that of Isaac Roosevelt, great-great grandfather of the late President, and was painted by Gilbert Stuart. Flanking the portrait are two Chinese vases, heirlooms of the Delanos, who were Far Eastern traders in the early days of the 19th Century. The chair, in which Fred L. Rath, Jr., historian of the National Historic Site, is seated was used by Mr. Roosevelt when he was Governor of the State of New York.

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