

Historical Marker - S648 - Gerald R. Ford Boyhood Home / President Gerald R. Ford (Marker ID#:S648)



Front - Title/Description

Gerald R. Ford Boyhood Home

Gerald R. Ford, the thirty-eighth president of the U.S., lived here from age eight to seventeen (1921-1930). Of all his boyhood homes, Ford remembered this one most vividly. In his autobiography, Ford recalled that he and his friends used the garage behind the house as a social club. "We learned to play penny-ante poker . . . it was a great hideaway because my parents wouldn't climb the ladder to get to the second floor--or so I thought." Ford served Grand Rapids in the U.S. House of Representatives, 1949-1973.

Significant Date:

Two World Wars and the Depression (1915-1945)

Registry Year: 1994 **Erected Date:** 1995

Marker Location

Address: 649 Union SE

City: Grand Rapids

State: MI **ZipCode:**

County: Kent

Township: Grand Rapids

Lat: 42.95089600 / **Long:** -85.65416300

Web URL:

Back - Title/Description

President Gerald R. Ford

In 1973 President Richard M. Nixon nominated Congressman Gerald R. Ford vice president. He was confirmed by a vote of the House and Senate. Upon Nixon's resignation in 1974 because of Watergate, Ford ascended to the presidency. At his inauguration Ford said, "My fellow Americans, our long national nightmare is over. Our Constitution works; our great Republic is a government of laws and not of men. Here the people rule." Ford ran for reelection in 1976, and was narrowly defeated by Jimmy Carter.