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Woodward Exhibition Opens October 21

Paintings, etchings and sculpture among media represented in sixth collaborative venture between THNOC and NOMA

[Hi-res images available upon request.]

NEW ORLEANS (Wednesday, March 7, 2009) — William Woodward 1859–1939: An American Impressionist in New Orleans, the sixth collaborative exhibition between The Historic New Orleans Collection and the New Orleans Museum of Art opens Saturday, October 17, at NOMA, One Collins Diboll Circle, City Park. The public and members of the media are invited to an opening reception on October 21, from 5:30 to 8:30 p.m.

Drawing from the holdings of both institutions, the exhibition features more than 70 paintings, etchings, sculpture and ephemera related to Woodward's life and works. A native of Massachusetts, Woodward came to New Orleans in the 1880s to teach fine arts, mechanical drawing and architectural drawing at Tulane University.

Woodward was involved with every facet of architecture in New Orleans, consulting on the design of Tulane's new building for architecture classes. He also designed and built his own home in Uptown New Orleans. His interest in architecture evolved into a passionate commitment to preservation. The first artist to focus intensely on the Vieux Carré, Woodward documented the Quarter's rich cultural heritage in vignettes of daily life—women at market, street cleaners, deliverymen and milkmaids driving drayage carts and residents engaged in their daily activities. Woodward's depictions of French Quarter buildings focused public attention on the heedless destruction of historic properties. The exhibition offers an opportunity to view a large selection of Woodward's renderings of the French Quarter and to judge the strength of his artistic contribution.

William Woodward 1859–1939: An American Impressionist in New Orleans 2/2/2/2

Seven decades after Woodward's death, his work continues to "speak" in a distinctive voice. *William Woodward 1859–1939: An American Impressionist in New Orleans* will remain on view through February 28, 2010. Admission to this exhibition is free for Louisiana residents through November 14; regular NOMA admission rates apply after that date. NOMA is open Wednesday, 12–8 p.m., and Thursday–Sunday, 10 a.m.–5 p.m. For more information, contact The Historic New Orleans Collection at www.hnoc.org or (504) 523-4662 or contact NOMA at www.noma.org or (504) 658-4100.

About The Historic New Orleans Collection

Founded in 1966, The Historic New Orleans Collection is a museum, research center and publisher dedicated to the study and preservation of the history and culture of New Orleans and the Gulf South region. For more information about The Historic New Orleans Collection, please visit www.hnoc.org or call (504) 523-4662.

About NOMA and the Sydney and Walda Besthoff Sculpture Garden

The New Orleans Museum of Art, founded in 1910 by Isaac Delgado, houses more than 30,000 art objects encompassing 4,000 years of world art. Works from the permanent collection, along with continuously changing temporary exhibitions, are on view in the Museum's 46 galleries Wednesdays from noon to 8 p.m. and Thursdays to Sundays from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Discounted admission to the Museum for Louisiana residents is made possible through the generosity of The Helis Foundation.

Admission to the adjacent Sydney and Walda Besthoff Sculpture Garden, featuring work by 59 artists, including several of the 20th century's great master sculptors, is always free during regular Museum hours.

The New Orleans Museum of Art and the Besthoff Sculpture Garden are fully accessible to handicapped visitors and wheelchairs are available from the front desk.

For more information, call (504) 658-4100 or visit www.noma.org.

