

Campbell House Courier

Campbell House Museum Newsletter

Winter 2004

IN THIS ISSUE

Museum and Museum Store Hours

Wednesday through
Saturday
10 a.m. to 4 p.m.
Sunday
12 p.m. to 4 p.m.

CAMPBELL House Museum SAINT ‡ LOUIS

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campbellhm@earthlink.net www.campbellhousemuseum.org

City Living Since 1851

Parlor Restoration Begins

After almost ten years of research, planning and fundraising, work has begun on the restoration of the complex decoration scheme in the Museum's most opulent space—the Parlor.

The Parlor was the focal point of the Campbell's house—the scene of extravagant social gatherings and a place for special family occasions. Consequently the room was the largest space in the house and was finished with the finest decoration and furnishings.



The restoration of the Parlor began in 1998 when Robert Furhoff of Restoration of Interiors in Chicago began extensive physical analysis of the room. To everyone's astonishment, the analysis uncovered entire sections of the 1880s painted decoration under layers of paint and wallpaper. Using his analysis and the 1880s photo-



In January, plasterers began working on the Parlor ceiling.

graphs of the room from the Museum collection, Furhoff completed detailed blueprints for recreating the painted wall and ceiling decoration.

These blueprints have made possible one of the most accurate recreations of any mid-19th Century interior anywhere.

The painted decoration to be recreated is in a style called "Neo-Grec". This style utilizes motifs inspired by ancient Greek and Roman art and was very unusual for a 19th Century residential interior. The decoration already completed in the hallway uses similar motifs but on a much simpler scale. While the hallway incorporates 18 colors and four sten-



Continued on page 4

Campbell House Foundation

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President

Ms. Julie Greenspoon-Kelly First Vice President

Mrs. Betsy Vogt Second Vice President

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Mr. Fritz Z. Clifford, Jr. Secretary

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Mr. John N. Hoover
Executive Director
St. Louis Mercantile Library
Mr. John Karel
Director
Tower Grove Park



President's Message

Jan Broderick *President*

Campbell House Foundation

A very big thank you to all our members and other donors who made it possible to match Jack Taylor's challenge grant in just three short months! Generous contributions

and extraordinary efforts by Board members sped the fundraising on. I want to thank Board member Sam Clark, who hosted a holiday party at the Museum to raise awareness of the restoration project. Sam is a sparkling host with a wide spectrum of interested friends. Two of his guests, Eric and Evelyn Newman, donated a critical, missing item to the Museum collection—a large 19th Century icebox. From their basement to our kitchen came an icebox in near-original condition.

Another special effort was led by Board member Dr. Louis Gerteis. Gerteis, Dr. John Works, Dr. James Neal Primm of the UM-St. Louis history department and John Karel, director of Tower Grove Park, donated funds in honor of past Board president Donald Bergmann, to restore the Campbell's library. The surprise announcement was made at the January Board meeting. It is the only time I've seen Don speechless. It is a truly fitting tribute to one of the Museum's most dedicated supporters.

With \$300,000 already raised by the Taylor challenge grant campaign we are finally able to begin the restoration of the Parlor. We are still in need of another \$100,000 to finish the stairway and special exhibit rooms on the third floor. Thus our fundraising goes on. Please come visit this spring and see the restoration of the Parlor underway!

Board Honors and Updates

At the December meeting of the Campbell House Foundation Board of Directors two special honors were presented. Marvin Mueller was given the President's Award in recognition of his outstanding commitment and service to the Museum. Lynell Mueller was honored for her 26 years of unwavering dedication as a Museum docent with the Volunteer of the Year award.

The Board also welcomed new members Celeste Sprung and John McAtee. Celeste is a senior banker with Northern Trust and John is a vice president



(left to right) Marvin Mueller, Jan Broderick and Lynell Mueller

with A.G. Edwards and manager of their Festus branch.

The following Board officers were recently elected to one year terms: Jan Broderick was re-elected president; Julie Greenspoon-Kelly was elected first vice president; Betsy Vogt was elected 2nd vice president; Fritz Clifford was elected secretary; and Jack Swanson was re-elected treasurer. Melissa Higgs, Lisa McLaughlin and Richard Nangle were re-elected to three-year terms on the Board.

The terms of Board members Fran Baker and Marvin Mueller recently expired. Fran's dedication to the Museum's education programs will be missed. Marvin will continue his involvement as a honorary Board member.

Remembering Vernon Piper

Museum friend and dedicated supporter Vernon W. Piper died on November 20 at the age of 90.

Mr. Piper and his late wife Marion K. Piper were untiring supporters of the Museum and its mission. Mrs. Piper served on the Campbell House Foundation Board of Directors for more than 20 years.

Both the Pipers were recognized for their extraordinary efforts on behalf of the Museum as the recipients of the first President's Award, given annually by the Foundation. However, together they worked for historic preservation and education all over St. Louis.

The Pipers were leaders in the restoration of Tower Grove Park's historic Palm and Plant Houses, both of which are now named in the family's honor. Mr. Piper was the president of the DeMenil Mansion Foundation, Landmarks Association of St. Louis, the Museum of Transportation and the Civil War Roundtable of St. Louis. Mr. Piper endowed scholarships at his alma mater Washington University and in honor of his wife established



Vernon W. Piper

the Marion K. Piper Academic Center at McKendree College in Lebanon, Illinois.

It's a comfort and great tribute that Mr. and Mrs. Piper's friendship and hard work for the Museum continues with their daughter and Foundation Board member Mrs. Jane Piper Gleason.

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MEMORIALS AND TRIBUTES

In Memory of Mr. Vernon W. Piper

Dr. and Mr. Kenneth A. Baker

Ms. Janice K. Broderick

Dr. and Mrs. Francis J. Burns

John and Libby Donnell

Ms. Barbara J. Gore

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Mr. and Mrs. Lawrence J. Horgan

Mr. and Mrs. Richard W. Kniep

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Loren and Ken Ludmerer

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Margery M. Miller

Mr. Richard P. Nangle

Mr. and Mrs. Edward J. O'Connell

Mr. and Mrs. Thomas J. Purcell. Jr.

Mr. and Mrs. Frederick W. Scherrer In Ho

The Waidmann Family

Mark and Davin Wenner

Margaret Whitehead

Peggy Wolf

In Memory of Mr. Frank Thomson, Jr.

Mrs. Nancy H. Johnston

In Memory of Mrs. Dorothy C. Jaudes

Mr. and Mrs. Marvin Mueller

In Memory of Mr. Lawrence Stoneman

Dr. and Mrs. Francis J. Burns

In Memory of Mr. William E. Barnes

Mr. Richard P. Nangle

In Honor of Mr. Donald H. Bergmann

Dr. Louis Gerteis

Mr. John Karel

Dr. James Neal Primm

Dr. John A. Works, Jr.

In Honor of Mr. & Mrs. Robert G. Stolz

Mrs. Earl C. Lindburg

In Honor of Miss Lauren Thomas

Mr. and Mrs. Louis T. Maull IV

Winter 2004 Page 3

Parlor Continued from page 1 cils, the Parlor requires

cils, the Parlor requires 42 colors, copious gold leafing and more than 50 stencils.

The walls are being painted with a continuous "grape vine and leaf" pattern surmounted by Greek keys. The ceiling has 12 stripes, a large painted central medallion and four corner ornaments. The colors of these details range



from pale yellow to bright red and green.

It is important to note that the Campbell's decorated the walls and ceiling of their Parlor in three distinctly different styles. Like most Victorians of the era they liked sharp, contrasting patterns and colors.

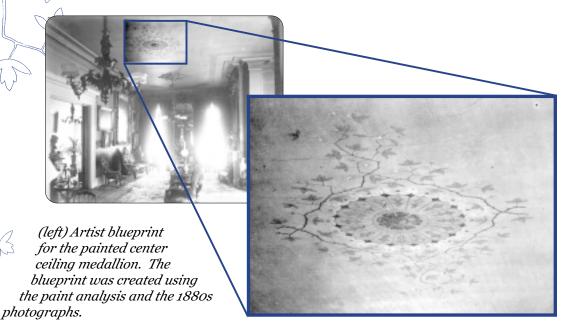
Plastering and Painting Begins

Plastering of the walls, ceiling and molded cornice was finished at the beginning of February. During the 30 days the plaster needed to cure, the wood baseboard and window trim was sanded and primed and now stands ready for the final finish coat.

During the first two weeks of March the walls and ceiling were entirely covered with canvas, giving the artists a clean slate to begin painting.

Continued on next page

One of the decoration focal points of the Campbell's Parlor was a large painted medallion in the center of the ceiling. The medallion is visible in the 1880s photos of the room (above) and in detail (below).



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Over the next few months artists from Master Artisans, Inc. of St. Louis will be carefully stencilling and painting the decorative details according the restoration blueprints. The painting of the room is expected to be completed by the end of June.

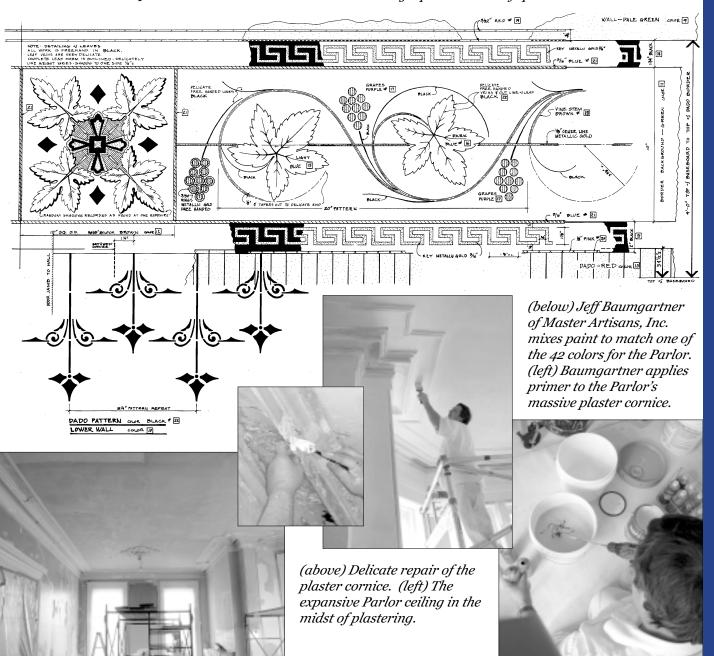
The last step in the Parlor restoration will be the installation of a large colorful Rococo Revival floral pattern fitted carpet.

When the restoration is complete more than 50 paintings and pieces of furniture belonging to the Campbell's will be returned to this room.

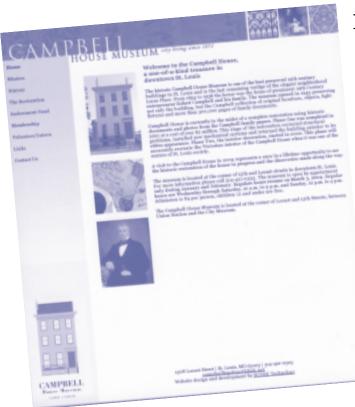
In the meantime, visit the Museum this spring for a oncein-a-lifetime opportunity to see the progress of the historic restoration of the Campbell's Parlor.



(above) Parlor ceiling in December 2003, before restoration work began. (below) Blueprint for "grape vine and leaf" pattern wall decoration.



Winter 2004 Page 5



New Museum Website Debuts

This winter the Museum launched a new internet address and website design (left).

The new site can be found on the internet at http://www.campbellhousemuseum.org.

The site contains basic information about the Museum in addition to facts about the Campbell Family, the Restoration and volunteer and internship opportunities.

Over the next few months more information will be added, including a history of the museum and links to other Campbell Family and St. Louis history websites on the internet.

It is a long-term Museum goal to make many of the original Campbell family documents and photographs available online through the website.

Visit the Museum's New Website at

www.campbellhousemuseum.org

Welcome New Members

The Museum is pleased to welcome the following new members for the months of November and December 2003 and January 2004.

Mr. Larry Dolan, Jr. Mr. Richard J. Eppich Mr. and Mrs. William E. Hahn Mrs. Benjamin M. Hilliker Harold and Karen Karabell Mr. George M. Kinsey

Ms. Christin K. Klaber **Koch Family Charitable Foundation** Mrs. Cynthia B. Medart Peter and Alice Sargent Mr. Donald P. Thebeau Ms. Mary C. Wollbrinck



CAMPBELL HOUSE MUSEUM VOLUNTEERS

Docents

Mrs. Shirley Berg Mrs. Vad Black Dr. Nick Colosi

Ms. Karen Humphrey Davis

Mr. Justin Davis Mrs. Pat Deffry Mrs. Jane Gleason Mrs. Esther Guebert Mr. Harry Hall

Ms. Ann Harris Mr. Bill Julius Mrs. Dorthy Lesch Rev. Bill Mugan, S.J. Ms. Herta Milhous Mrs. Lynell Mueller

Mrs. Kay O'Connell Mrs. Helen Pogorzelski Mrs. Kim Scherrer Mr. Frank Snyder Ms. Barbara Stadtmiller Ms. Kathy Sullivan Mrs. Shirley Thorn Mrs. Sally Tofle Ms. Laura Watt

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Hawksbee

Ms. Teresa Johnson

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Mrs. Mary Jo Thornburgh Ms. Laura Watt

Garden

Mr. and Mrs. Leo and Katie

Krobath Mrs. Mary Rich Mrs. Margaret Saak

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Holn Finish The Restoration

tax deductible gift of:	□ \$1,000	□ \$500	\$100
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CALENDAR OF EVENTS



Campbell House Museum • Tower Grove Park • The Victorian Society • Lafayette Park Conservancy

APRIL 4

Tower Grove Park – 2004 Lecture Series Beyond the "Big Muddy": Promoting the West in American Art, 1840 to 1904. Tower Grove Park, Stupp Center 2 p.m., FREE (Call 865-2394 for more info.)

APRIL 13

Tower Grove Park - St. Louis Symphony Chamber Concert Series Tower Grove Park, Piper Palm House 7 p.m., FREE (space is limited)

MAY 4

Tower Grove Park - St. Louis Symphony Chamber Concert Series Tower Grove Park, Piper Palm House 7 p.m., FREE (space is limited)

MAY 31

Tower Grove Park - Compton Heights Concert Band Memorial Day Concert Tower Grove Park, Music Stand 3 p.m., FREE (call 776-2227 for more information)

JUNE 5 and 6

Lafayette Square House Tour 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. both Saturday and Sunday Tickets \$15 in advance, \$12 for groups of 20 or more, \$18 day of the tour. (Call Lafayette Square Restoration Committee, 772-5724 for more info.)

JUNE 23

Tower Grove Park - Children's Concert Series "1904 St. Louis World's Fair" Tower Grove Park, Piper Palm House 9:30 to 10:30 a.m., FREE (Call 865-2394 for more info.)

JUNE 28

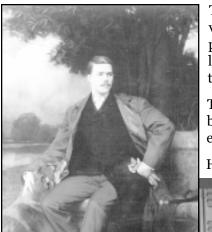
Tower Grove Park - Compton Heights Concert Band Tower Grove Park, Music Stand 7:30 p.m., FREE (call 776-2227 for more information)

JUNE 30

Tower Grove Park - Children's Concert Series "Bach to the Future" Tower Grove Park, Piper Palm House 9:30 to 10:30 a.m., FREE (Call 865-2394 for more info.)

Winter 2004 Page 7

FROM THE MUSEUM ARCHIVES



The Campbell brothers were great dog lovers. Around 1884, Hugh, Hazlett and James vacationed in Europe. Travelling in high-style and comfort, they naturally took their pets with them. Part of their trip was spent at a rented villa on Lake Geneva, Switzerland. Below is one of six photos from the Campbell family albums that shows their two dogs enjoying the villa's verandah and expansive lawns.

The life-size portrait of James (left) in the Museum collection shows the same two beloved collie dogs. Hugh Campbell went so far as to provide for the dogs in the event of his death.

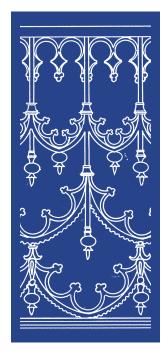
Hugh wrote his first will in Paris in 1891, just nine months after his brother James



had died there. It reads, "...the trustees shall not sell or otherwise dispose of my two collie dogs now with me here in Paris, and that said dogs shall be left in the care of a proper custodian and suitable provision be made of their care and support so long as they live, and all expenses incident to their care."

Hugh's next will signed just a few years later made similar provisions for the last remaining dog. In this case the dog, Guy, is named.

The Campbell photo albums contain more than 15 different photographs of their dogs.



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