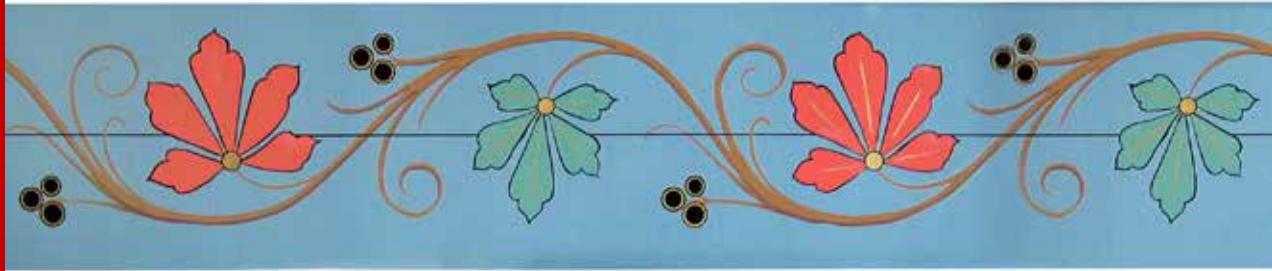




CAMPBELL
House Museum
SAINT † LOUIS

CAMPBELL HOUSE *Courier*



City Living Since 1851

Summer 2025 Newsletter

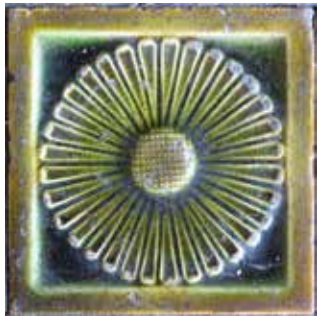
Museum Hours

March to December
Wednesday to Saturday
10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Sunday
12 to 4 p.m.

Monday & Tuesday
By Appointment

January & February
By Appointment



1508 Locust Street
St. Louis, MO 63103
314-421-0325

CampbellHouse
Museum.org



'As ever, your affectionate mother, Lucy Ann Kyle'

Lucy Ann Kyle, the mother of Virginia Campbell, lived with the Campbells on and off for over 30 years and has left her mark as an outspoken, yet caring member of the family. Research, primarily of letters in the Campbell House Museum archives, provide insight into Lucy's life and times.

Early Life

Lucy Ann Winston was born in 1801 in Richmond, Virginia and raised in a Quaker household. She was the 7th of 14 children, 10 of whom lived to adulthood and all of whom she remained close to her entire life. Her father, George Winston, built the Quaker Meeting House at Richmond in 1798 with emancipated slaves that trained. Her mother, Judith Harris Winston, although devout in her faith, had conflicts with her church. Records show that she was disowned from the group for "declining to attend the religious meetings, and encouraging her daughter in going to plays and dances" – a parenting decision that Lucy practiced with her own children.

As a Quaker, Lucy espoused progressive values of the time. Quakers believe every



*Lucy Ann Winston Kyle (1800-1883).
Portrait miniature circa 1835.*

Continued on page 4

In This Issue

Director's Message...page 2
Special Events Calendar ...page 3

New Weekend Manager...page 3
Perry Rathbone...page 6
From the Archives...page 8

CAMPBELL HOUSE MUSEUM

The Campbell House Museum enlivens the history of St. Louis and Westward Expansion through the story of the Campbell family and their home.

Since opening, the Campbell House Museum has served the greater St. Louis area as one of the region's premier historic property museums. The Museum not only preserves the Campbells' house, but also their collection of original furniture, fixtures, paintings, objects and thousands of pages of family documents. After a meticulous five-year restoration the building reflects its opulent 1880s appearance, when the house was one of the centers of St. Louis society.



Board of Directors

Patricia H. Schlafly,
President

Thomas Gronski,
1st Vice President

Ms. Suzanne Corbett,
2nd Vice President

Scott R. Dolan,
Treasurer

Louis Gerteis, Ph.D.,
Secretary

Jackie Chambers, Ph.D.
Fritz Z. Clifford, Jr.

Jane P. Gleason
Kathleen Horgan
Lynne Johnson
Karen Kroger

Lisa D. McLaughlin
William Meyers
Eleanor Mullin
Dennis Rathert
Ginger Reinert
James Sherby
Matthew Sherman, Ph.D.
Jack B. Swanson
Richard M. Wise

Museum Staff

Andrew W. Hahn,
Executive Director
Zoe Luna Vega,
Operations Manager
Ethan Grant,
Weekend Manager

Memorials & Tributes

In honor of Jane P. Gleason
Jeffrey L. Huntington
In honor of Kathleen & Larry Horgan
Jeffrey L. Huntington

New Members

Bryan Barroqueiro
Barnes Bradshaw
Jessica Grant
Michael W. Hackett, Jr.
Marla Jentsch
Harold Kalde
Dawn Kelly
Laura Koontz
Lynne M. Marstall
Nicole Nidea
Michele Nieuwendaal
Rob Riggins
Caryl Sunshine
Gayle Waller

Director's Message

By Andy Hahn



This summer I made my first ever visit to the historic city of Boston, Massachusetts. My tour of the city's sites included the world renowned Boston Museum of Fine Arts

(MFA). This massive museum contains impressive collections, especially of ancient and American art. To my surprise it also displays portraits of the MFA's one-time director Perry Rathbone and his wife Euretta by German expressionist painter Max Beckmann. The portraits were completed in St. Louis in 1948. At that time, Rathbone was the director of the Saint Louis Art Museum. He was also one of the founders of the Campbell House Museum. Read more of Rathbone's story on page 6.

In early September the Campbell House was visited by the Museum's first executive director Jeff Huntington. It was Huntington's first visit in many years and it was a wonderful experience to roam the entire building and hear stories of Campbell House from 30 years ago. I am very grateful for the vision and dedication of all those board members, employees and volunteers who created such a strong foundation for the Campbell House of today.



Andy Hahn at the MFA in Boston with Max Beckmann's 1948 portrait of Perry Rathbone.



Jeff Huntington, Jane Gleason, Kathleen Horgan and Andy Hahn. (left to right)

Special Event Calendar

FALL MEMBER & FRIENDS PARTY

Sunday, October 19, 3-6 p.m.

Enjoy light hors d'oeuvres and Roman Punch in the garden. Members receive 20% off all purchases in the Museum Store, which will be stocked with new merchandise. *Free, reservations not required. Limited parking on the Museum lot, free street parking on Sunday.*

TWILIGHT TOURS & SPIRITS IN THE GARDEN

Friday, October 24, 5:30-8:30 p.m.

Join us for our annual *Twilight Tours* of the house and new this year *Spirits in the Garden*, where a hauntingly good time awaits. At *Spirits in the Garden*, sip on a variety of whiskey, wine, and beer, and enjoy the featured mixed cocktail of the evening. The *Twilight Tours* by the **Mourning Society of St. Louis** offer a chilling exploration of Victorian mourning traditions, burial customs, and spiritual beliefs surrounding death. *Spirits in the Garden* will run from 5:30 to 8:30 p.m., where you'll also have the opportunity to purchase a reading from a spirit reader and enter your name in the raffle to win a sip out of President Ulysses Grant's Mint Julep Cup. Timed *Twilight Tours* (approx. 60 minutes) run from 6 to 8 p.m.

Reservations required. Tickets for Spirits in the Garden are \$25. Tickets for Twilight Tour are also \$25. A special combined ticket for both events is \$35. Free parking. Members please call 314-421-0325 for discounted tickets.

VICTORIAN ORNAMENT CLASS

Sunday, November 9, 1-3 p.m.

Learn how to craft traditional Victorian-style tree ornaments while

learning the rich history of these holiday decorations. This intimate workshop offers a cozy, hands-on holiday experience. Participants will take home their handmade ornaments and materials, perfect for adding vintage charm to your tree or gifting to loved ones. *Limited tickets are \$35 a person. All supplies will be provided.*

GILDED TABLE COOKING CLASS

Tuesday, November 18, 11 a.m.-1 p.m.

Food historian and author of *The Gilded Table* **Suzanne Corbett** will host a cooking class showcasing a few of Virginia Campbell's recipes. See first hand how to prepare three of Mrs. Campbell's favorite dishes and taste them yourself!

Limited tickets \$75 per person and includes a full lunch.

HOLIDAY HISTORIC HOUSE TOUR

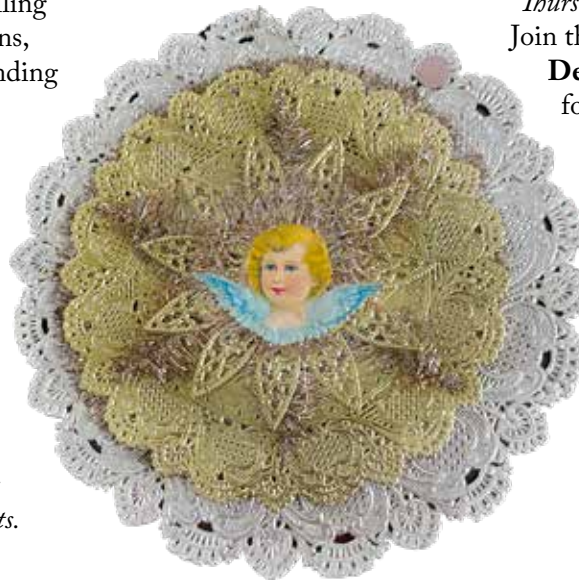
Thursday, December 4, 3-8 p.m.

Join the **Campbell House Museum, Chatillon-DeMenil House, and Field House Museum** for a delightful holiday tour that takes you back to yesteryear! Along with light holiday refreshments at each of the locations, guests will be able to explore these historic sites in a one-night-only peek into the past. *Advance tickets are \$30.*

For more information and event tickets (when needed) visit CampbellHouseMuseum.org/events or call 314-421-0325.



THE MOURNING SOCIETY
OF SAINT LOUIS



New Weekend Manager Ethan Grant

Ethan Grant is the Campbell House Museum's new Weekend Manager. He took over this position in May and is very excited about working at the Campbell House.

Growing up in Wildwood, Ethan has lived in St. Louis his whole life. He received his BA in History with a minor in anthropology from Webster University in 2024 and is now currently working on his MA in history at UMSL. He is very passionate about studying history and he hopes to become a history teacher or an archivist.

"Being able to work here at the Campbell House is such a unique and fulfilling opportunity. Working in a house filled to the brim with history and with such an amazing group of people has already become one of the best experiences of my young adult life," he said.

In November 2024, Ethan started as a regular docent volunteer but quickly became attached to the Campbell House and was eager to take on the Weekend Manager position which had just recently opened.

As his role suggests, he manages the house on the weekends and helps maintain the grounds. He hopes to be more involved with upcoming events at the Campbell House as well as do research on the museum's collection in hopes of improving our knowledge of the lives of the Campbells and their staff.



Lucy Kyle – Continued from page 1

person has equal access to God. Quakers were steadfast abolitionists who believed in the dignity of all humans. Lucy's views on slavery are both complex and contradictory. While she emancipated the enslaved adults she inherited from her husband, she supported the acquisition of enslaved children into the Campbells' household.

Marriage

It is not known how Lucy Winston met Irish immigrant and merchant Hazlett Kyle. He was born about 1793 in County Tyrone, Ireland – the same county where Robert Campbell was born. He came to the United States in 1810 and initially settled in Richmond. In January 1820, at the age of 27, he married Lucy Ann Kyle (age 18).

Their first daughter, Eleanor, was born in September that same year. Virginia, their second daughter and future wife of Robert Campbell, was born at Richmond in January 1822.

As a result of her marriage to a non-Quaker, Lucy was expelled from the Quaker church.

Nevertheless, Lucy claimed to continuously follow the Quaker ideals: *Though my lot is cast far from them, still my heart goes with them and though I have attended the Ministry of many other denominations, for near 40 years, the principles and Doctrines of Friends are still mine.* In May 1859 Lucy Kyle was reinstated into the Quaker Society of Friends at a meeting in Cincinnati.

In November 1823, Hazlett Kyle and his brother Robert opened a mercantile store in Raleigh, and this is where Lucy raised her two daughters. But Hazlett Kyle died in 1833 due to alcoholism at age 40, leaving Lucy, at age 32, a widow with two young daughters.

Motherhood

Lucy was extremely devoted to her children. In June 1834, she sent them to boarding school, first in Massachusetts, and then, most notably, to Philadelphia at Julia Hawkes' Female Seminary. Philadelphia was also the home of Mary Kyle (also born in County Tyrone, Ireland) – a cousin to the Kyle sisters. She was the wife of Hugh Campbell, the brother of Robert, and it was at their home that Virginia Kyle (age 13) first met Robert Campbell (age 31). The two began a correspondence that continued for the next several years. When Virginia turned 16, Robert asked Lucy for Virginia's hand in marriage. But Lucy Kyle declined. Lucy

specified that Virginia could not marry before the age of 18 and that her autonomy was of equal importance: *If at the age of eighteen you are still the choice of my daughter Virginia, and it is still her wish to unite her destiny with yours, I will then give my most cordial consent.* Over time, Lucy's admiration for Robert Campbell grew. After their marriage in February 1841, Lucy's letters to Virginia always spoke endearingly of Robert: *My dear Virginia you certainly have one of the best husbands in the world.*

Lucy's relationship with eldest daughter Eleanor was more problematic. She was disappointed in Eleanor's marriage. Eleanor (age 18) married Walter Leake Otey in 1839. Their only child, Frances Elizabeth (Bettie) Otey, was born in 1841.



Walter Otey owned land, but also invested in a hotel and horse racing. In addition, he engaged in the purchase and sale of enslaved persons, which Lucy detested. Though they both lived in Raleigh, Lucy's interactions with Eleanor were limited: *Eleanor I see frequently but not half as often as I would like... I never part with her*

without feeling melancholy and a pang of the most bitter disappointment and distress to think of so lovely a being as she is (though her faults are many) united for ever to a man of so little principle as Otey... If I had \$1,000,000 I would cheerfully give it to have her Eleanor Kyle again...

Lucy Kyle remained in Raleigh following the death of her husband in 1833. She traveled with her daughters to boarding schools at both Massachusetts and Philadelphia in 1834, but was back in Raleigh by January 1838, where it appears she resided with her brother-in-law and sister, George and Amelia Simpson. In December 1840 Lucy spoke of "keeping house" at a rental property and this may be the location where Robert Campbell and Virginia Kyle were married in February 1841. However, by October 1841 Lucy was back with the Simpsons, *fixed in my own little room as*



(top) Lucy Kyle signs off a letter in 1856

(bottom) Lucy Kyle circa 1855.

formerly.

Lucy's first known visit to St. Louis occurred in the months of May and July 1842, which coincided with the birth of the first Campbell child, James Alexander, on May 14th. At this time, the Campbells were residing at the Planters' House, their home for the first three years of their marriage.

Continued on page 7

Letter from Lucy Kyle to Robert Campbell, 1841

Editors Note: *In December, 1841, when the widowed Lucy Kyle wrote this letter from Raleigh, North Carolina, Robert and Virginia Campbell had been married only 10 months. The Campbells were living in St. Louis, and Lucy's strained relationship with older daughter Eleanor and her husband Walter Otey was on full display. The enslaved people (named in the letter—Ben, Linda, Robert, Martha, Caroline, Simeon, Virginia, Haslett) that were part of Lucy's husband's estate had now been "distributed" to his wife and children. Lucy's melancholy over her daughter's absence, her poor opinion of Walter Otey, and her apprehension in the best way to emancipate the enslaved, created an emotional conflict for someone typically so forthright and determined. Note too Lucy's support for the Temperance Movement, given that alcoholism had contributed to her husband's death. The letter has been edited for length.* **Thomas W. Gronski**

Dear Mr. Campbell, Raleigh, Dec. 28th 1841

Your kind affectionate, and as Virginia called it, elegant letter was duly received...I think I told you and Virginia when you were in Raleigh that it would be out of my power to return with you in the spring. You cannot therefore be surprised or disappointed at my apparent perverseness. Your plans I think are all most excellent and I believe are all intended to promote my happiness, but unfortunately mine are always formed long before yours; I have been thinking that I would try to make you a visit next fall though that is a long time off and no one knows what may happen between now and then. Mr. Campbell I suppose you and Virginia will think me very unfeeling, very unmotherly, hardhearted, obstinate etc.

Shall be it so. I cannot help it. I can only say that nineteen years of my life have been devoted almost exclusively to my two children. When they were separated from me, my heart and my prayers were with them and now that I am old I see the folly of such devotion sacrificing every selfish feeling for their happiness interest and promotion. In fact my feelings are so changed since Eleanor's marriage I am hardly myself. Almost every week something new occurs to arouse my feelings. Otey has been purchasing for the last two or three months black people for the purpose of carrying them south to speculate on. This is a fact not mere report, and everybody is now pointing at him as the Negro speculator and he looks as much like one as possible. Has thrown off all his fine clothes and looks like some old wagoner in his homespun. He would have been off long ago but found it was not so easy to dispose of Eleanor...I do not know what arrangement he will make next – he finds it is not so easy to dispose of a wife and child and the expense of keeping house too. I do not know what Eleanor's feelings must be to see him engaged in such a horrible and disgraceful traffic, I suppose however, he has such influence over her that he can make her believe white is black and black is white.

I have not as yet been able to come to any decision how to dispose of Ben, Linda, and Robert. I only wish I knew how to get them emancipated and off of my mind. I would give \$50 today besides giving them up to get them off of my conscience but the question and difficulty with me, is, in what way can it best be done to promote their happiness. I do not know whether the laws of Missouri are any more lenient towards emancipated slaves than N. Carolina and the expense of getting them out would be very considerable. I think perhaps I had better try to send them to a free state at once, though I shall

be sorry to see them separated from their children no doubt forever. The arrangement you have made to take Caroline, Simeon, and Hazlett home in the spring I expect is a very good one; provided you think there is no risk in sending three so young as far as Baltimore without a protector all the way. You know there are a good many stopping places between here and there. If any one should be going on about that time they could be put under their charge. Caroline and Simeon I believe are anxious for the time to come. Ben and Linda seem perfectly willing for them to go. They seem a little loath at parting with Haslett so young but they have all confidence in you and think it is best for all to go together. Otey I understand is going to carry Martha and Ben with him to the south to sell.

Little Virginia is as interesting as ever. Still sleeps with me and is my pet. Every morning we have a long confab about "der Wobbet Cam and der Ginny" [dear Robert Campbell and dear Virginia]. She wakes and says now let's talk about der Ginny and der Wobbet Cam. She does not talk must plainer than she did. The children all send love. John says I must tell you he belongs to the W. Temperance society. 40 or 50 boys have a society of their own. John is one of the smallest even Caroline belongs to the colored people's society.

Dear Virginia our friend Mrs. Wilkerson is no more. She breathed her last this morning about 3 o'clock. Sister Amelia was with her most of yesterday and assisted in shrouding her. She was perfectly sensible to the last and died as calm and easy as though she had just fallen asleep full of faith and hope in her Savior. O that my last end may be like hers. Mr. Campbell if I ever see you again I hope I shall not be in such a state of excitement as I was when you were last in Raleigh. I will try to keep cool anyhow.

Raleigh is very dull at present. Nothing of much interest going on except the temperance cause. I think I never beheld a more glorious sight than was present on Christmas day. The whole Washington temperance society with their appropriate badges flags mottoes etc. in a procession marching through the streets and then to the Presbyterian Church to hear an oration delivered by a reformed drunkard old Mr. Gales' grandson. Sister Amelia desires me to present her respects. I intend to write Virginia a long letter very soon full of advice.

Your affectionate mother in law,
Lucy Ann Kyle

Museum Founder Perry Rathbone

Perry Rathbone (1911–2000) was a significant and influential figure in the American art world during the mid 20th century, known for his dynamic leadership as a museum director and his vision in modernizing art institutions. He was also one of the founders of the Campbell House Museum in the 1940s.

Rathbone began his career in art after graduating from Harvard University in 1933, where he studied art history. His first major position came in 1938 when he was appointed director of the Saint Louis Art Museum at just 27 years old. In St. Louis, he gained recognition for revitalizing the museum with innovative exhibitions and programming. He introduced modern art (particularly the work of Max Beckmann who painted Rathbone's portrait, see page 2) to a conservative St. Louis and placed emphasis on educational initiatives.

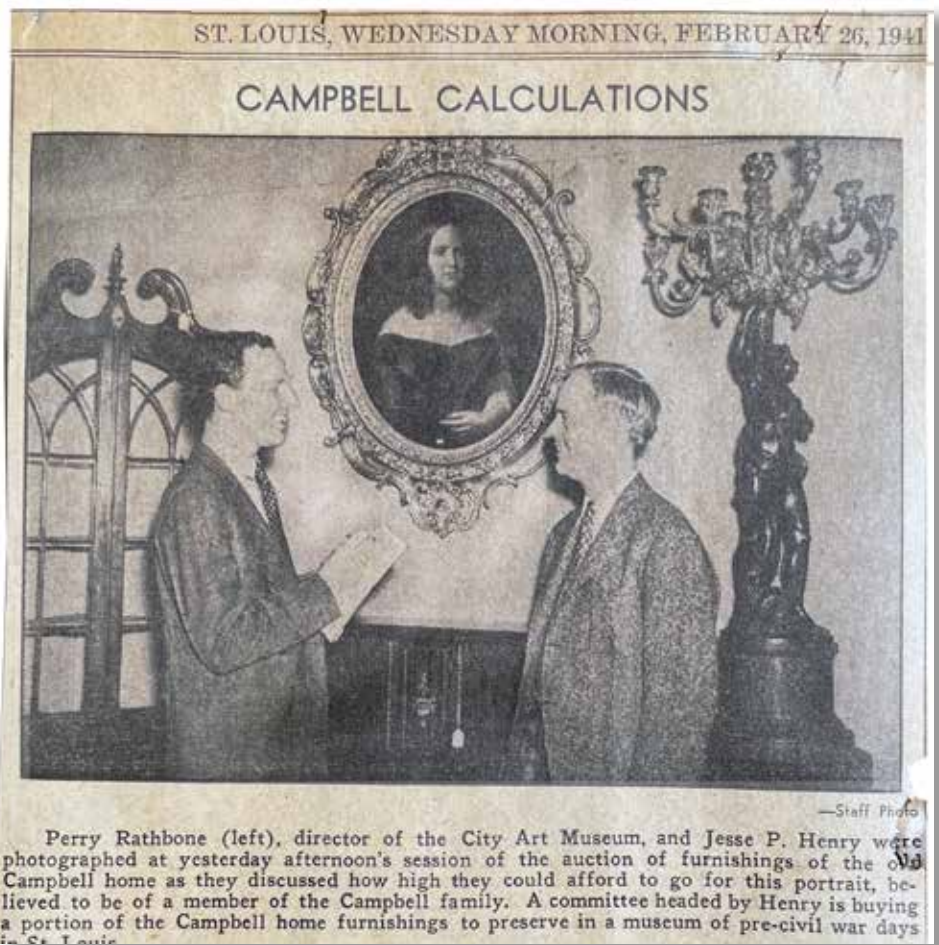
In 1941, Rathbone became a key member of the committee to save Campbell House from demolition and the scattering of its collection at public auction. At the time, Rathbone was quoted in St. Louis newspapers describing Campbell House "as a treasure house of extremely interesting examples of period pieces; something the city should preserve." Noting that if the building and collection were saved, "it will be a mirror of the past, a page of living history."

Rathbone would hold a place on the Museum's first board of directors, serving until 1953.

In 1955, Rathbone took the helm at the Museum of Fine Arts, Boston (MFA). His tenure at the MFA (1955–1972) was transformative. He focused on expanding the museum's collection, diversifying its exhibitions, and making the institution more accessible to the public.

One of Rathbone's most controversial moments came in 1969, when the MFA acquired a portrait believed to be by Raphael, titled "Portrait of a Young Man." The acquisition sparked intense debate among art historians and critics over the painting's authenticity. The controversy ultimately led to the painting being returned to its original seller, and although Rathbone stood by the decision, it contributed to his resignation from the MFA in 1972.

After leaving the MFA, Rathbone remained active in the art world as a curator, consultant, and lecturer. Rathbone championed the idea that art museums should be vibrant, living institutions that challenge and inspire their audiences.



St. Louis Globe-Democrat, February 26, 1941. The portrait in question is of Mary Kyle Campbell (1810–1901) by noted American portraitist Samuel Bell Waugh.



Former executive director Jeff Huntington (left) with Perry Rathbone in the Campbell House dining room in 1996.

Lucy Kyle – Continued from page 4

Letters indicate that Lucy Kyle did not return to St. Louis until March 1845, at which point she would have stayed with the Campbells at their rented (later purchased) property at #40 South Fifth Street. During this stay, she went to New Orleans for six weeks to visit her brother Thomas and also her brother George who lived in Illinois. She left St. Louis in November 1845, stopping in Mount Pleasant, Ohio, a Quaker community, to see her sister Elizabeth on her way back to Richmond.

In July 1846, the Campbells' 4th child (and first girl) was born – Lucy Ann Campbell. There is no record that Lucy Kyle was present for this birth, and sadly Lucy Campbell died of the measles just over one year later during a family trip to Philadelphia.

Letters are missing between 1848 and 1850, but we know that Lucy Kyle was with the Campbells in Philadelphia during the summer of 1850 when Robert's brother Andrew came to visit from Ireland. In the Fall of 1850, Lucy was in Covington, Kentucky, the new home of her sister Amelia Simpson. Whether she returned to Raleigh is unclear, but in December 1851 she was back at Mount Pleasant, and from there to St. Louis, where she remained through the Spring of 1852, then back to Covington, KY for the Summer, and back again to St. Louis in the Fall.

By November 1852, St. Louis appears to be Lucy Kyle's (fairly) permanent home. Besides enjoying the comforts of the Campbells' home on South Fifth Street, Lucy's migration to the Midwest was facilitated by the Otey family's relocation to Memphis, Tennessee in 1852. In 1848, Walter Otey had founded the town of Marianna, Arkansas, where he kept a large plantation. Marianna was roughly 60 miles southwest of Memphis, along the L'Anguille River, and part of the Mississippi River watershed. Lucy Kyle would visit Memphis periodically (4 to 7 days by steamboat down the Mississippi River), but, from this time on, excluding summer excursions with Virginia Campbell and children, or extended trips to Mount Pleasant, Ohio or Covington, Kentucky to visit family, Lucy Kyle's residence was in St. Louis. This pattern continued even after the Campbells purchased their new residence at 1508 Lucas Place in November 1854. At that specific time, Lucy Kyle was in Covington. She then went to Memphis for the winter, not returning to St. Louis until April 1855, at which time she is described as "enjoying her new home."

For the next 28 years, Lucas Place would be Lucy Kyle's primary residence. Lucy did not go on the Grand Tour of Europe with the Campbells in 1867-68, but it was during this time that a former servant's bedroom to the rear of the master bedroom suite on the second floor of the Campbell House was widened and a fireplace



Lucy Kyle's room at Campbell House.

installed for Robert's mother-in-law. And it was here that Lucy Kyle would pass away on June 12, 1883, at the age of 82, nearly four years after the death of Robert Campbell and 1½ years following the death of her daughter Virginia. By then, it was just Lucy, a few servants, and her two grandsons, Hugh Campbell and Hazlett Kyle Campbell, the namesake of her long departed husband, still residing at the house. She was interred in the Campbell family plot at Bellefontaine Cemetery.

Amelia Dorsey (summer student intern)
Thomas W. Gronski (Campbell House senior researcher)

JOIN THE FAMILY

RENEW or Become a Friend of Campbell House

(choose a membership level or make a donation)

- 1851 Society.....\$750
- Campbell Associate.....\$300
- Century.....\$100
- Sustaining.....\$75
- Active.....\$50
- Junior (age 40 and under).....\$40
- Other donation.....\$_____

All members enjoy these benefits

- Unlimited free museum admission and tours
- A 10% discount at the Museum Gift Shop
- Advance notice of member events & program
- Subscription to this newsletter

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone _____ Email _____

Enclosed is my check for \$ _____
or

Credit Card number: _____
Expires ___/___ CVV: ___

Signature: _____

My gift will be matched by my employer.

Contact me about volunteer opportunities.

Contact me about a making gift of stock or about making a gift through my estate plan.

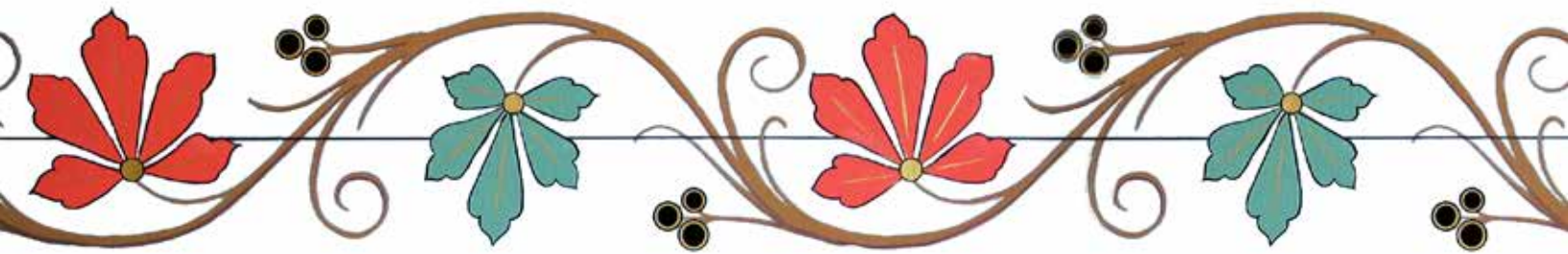
Please send to: **CAMPBELL HOUSE MUSEUM**
 1508 Locust Street
 St. Louis, Missouri 63103



CAMPBELL HOUSE FOUNDATION

1508 Locust Street
Saint Louis, MO 63103-1816

Non Profit Org
US Postage
PAID
St. Louis, MO
Permit 22



From the 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 in Switzerland.

Below is one of six photos from the Campbell family albums that shows their two dogs enjoying the villa's verandah. 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.