A Midwestern Collector: The Life and Travels of I.C.G. Campbell

Several years ago, an archive of original photographs and reproduced postcards dating from the early 1900s was donated to a midwestern university. Thirty-two of the photographs were taken in various parts of the ancient city of Pompeii and the remaining seven were taken in Athens, depicting the Acropolis, the Olympieion, and the Arch of Hadrian. Pompeii is also represented in the postcard assemblage, along with the Italian sites of Paestum, Segesta, and Agreigento and Tebessa, Tunisia. Other than photographs and postcards, the archive did not contain any catalogue or further information about the photographer/owner of this material. Thus, the first task was to seek clues that allowed for association of the photographic archive with individuals who may have donated the collection. Discussions with colleagues led to Iain Colin Gordon Campbell (I.C.G. Campbell) who served as a research associate in classical archaeology a midwestern State Museum starting in the 1950s. In later years, I.C.G. Campbell and his wife Gladys G. Perry Campbell, donated their archaeological and ethnographic collections to this midwestern State Museum. Searching through the records related to the donation of the collection, references to two Roman lamps were discovered with a provenance of I.C.G. Campbell's mother as purchaser during her trip to Pompeii and Athens in the early 1900s. The two lamps were included in the items donated to the Museum. Thus, the association between the photographic archive and Campbell's family was established.

In the past three years we have undertaken a project to identify and analyze the photographs in the Campbell archive. In an effort to make the Campbell collection accessible to a wider audience, the photographs, postcards, and lamps have been digitized using traditional scanning for the 2D objects and photogrammetry to create 3D models of the lamps. Using Geographic Information System's (GIS) ability to map the locations of the photographs and formulate routes, the photographs in the city of Pompeii were mapped and a possible route for the 1900s visit was formed. With the digital materials of the collection, an exhibit was built using the open source platform Scalar as a way to present the collection online.

In this presentation we focus on I.C.G. Campbell, to explore his life, contribution to the museum, and his earlier travels. I.C.G. Campbell was born in 1912 in St. Albans, England. He was educated at private schools in England and graduated with an M.A. from the University of St. Andrews in 1935. From 1930 to 1933 he worked at the excavations of the Roman city of Verulanium. After graduation, he moved to Istanbul, Turkey, to help direct the excavations of the Great Palace of the Byzantine Emperors. Slowly pushed out of his role in running a major archaeological project, Campbell remained in Turkey where he became a teacher and later a principal for an English boys' high school in Istanbul. While in Turkey, he met Gladys Perry, a young Midwestern woman, who was conducting missionary work in Izmir with the Congregational Church. They were married in 1943 and spent several more years living in Turkey. After the end of the Second World War they moved to Campbell's native England and then to the United States. The couple settled in Glady's native state to "put down roots." They remained there for the rest of their lives. At first, I.C.G. Campbell taught history at Doane College in Crete, where he also served as dean of men. In 1952 he became a reverend at the Congregational Church in Weeping Water. He held a number of appointments at the State Museum as Research Associate in Classical Archaeology, Acting Curator, and Lecturer in Classics. He wrote several historical works, including the History of the Weeping Water Congregational Church, and published on numismatics. The Campbell collection, donated to the State Museum in the course of a decade (1965-1977), reflects the wide interests and travels of Gladys and I.C.G. Campbell. This presentation will provide an overview of the Campbell

collection, which is little known, and consists primarily of archaeological and ethnographic materials acquired in Turkey.