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Kelton House Lithograph on Display at State Library

By Georgeanne Reuter, Executive Director
Kelton House Museum & Garden

The Kelton House Museum & Garden is proud to lend the lithograph "Funeral Obsequies of the late Pres't A. Lincoln" from the Museum's collection to the State Library of Ohio to accompany the traveling exhibition, "**Forever Free: Abraham Lincoln's Journey to Emancipation.**"

Referred to as the Lincoln Lithograph, the print depicts the events of April 26, 1865, showing the funeral procession of President Lincoln as it passed along Broad Street on its way to the Ohio Statehouse Rotunda. The framed print also includes a white badge and armband worn by Fernando Cortez Kelton, who served as one of the honorary pallbearers that day. Other pallbearers included prominent Columbus residents Robert Neil and Lincoln Goodale.



Members of the Kelton family were abolitionists and sheltered fugitive slaves in their home at 586 East Town Street, which was on the edge of town during the period when the Underground Railroad was active in Ohio. One particular runaway, a child by the name of Martha Hartway, was found hiding in the shrubbery around the home and taken in. She was sickly and unable to travel further; the Keltos offered refuge to her for ten years until she was about twenty. She married Thomas Lawrence, a freeborn black who worked for Fernando Kelton, in the Kelton parlor.

Docents from the Kelton House will attend the opening reception in costume and be available to discuss the lithograph with reception attendees.

<http://library.ohio.gov/marketing/Newsletters/TheNews/2011/February/KeltonHouse>