

# Gypsy the Cat

One highlight of visiting Ashland in the 1960s and 1970s was Gypsy the calico cat. She came to Ashland as a stray in 1962 when Director Lorraine Seay took her in. Gypsy lived for fourteen years in the mansion and became quite well-known. Seay dubbed her the “Assistant Curator.” Gypsy would go home with her every night. Gypsy followed tours through the house and her picture postcard was the largest selling item in the gift shop. Gypsy was also the subject of the 1964 book, “The Cat Who Lives at Ashland” by Louisiana Wood Simpson — also a popular item. Gypsy died in 1976. Her distraught fans raised money for a small tombstone, erected where the popular cat was buried, under the larch tree on the front lawn.