

AH Then & Now – Twain House over time



We are fortunate to have these two photos of the Twain house from the early 20th century. The one on the left, from the Detroit Publishing Co, was taken in 1900.

The Clemens family no longer lived there after 1891, when Sam, began his European speaking tour. With his family along he toured Europe giving speeches to regain much of his lost fortune. But when Suzy died there in 1896 during a visit, Livy refused to live there ever again. Still Sam did not sell the house until 1903.

The photo on the right was taken 15 years after that. It is part of the National Photo Company Collection. It shows ivy covering much of the brick exterior, and it is clear that the owner at that time did not have the considerable fortune of Sam Clemens to maintain it. Fortunately for us today, The Mark Twain House and Museum is able to, and also share its beauty and his story with the world.

Larger copies of these photos are available on the LOC website;

<https://www.loc.gov/item/2016811666> and <http://hdl.loc.gov/loc.pnp/npcc.00217>

