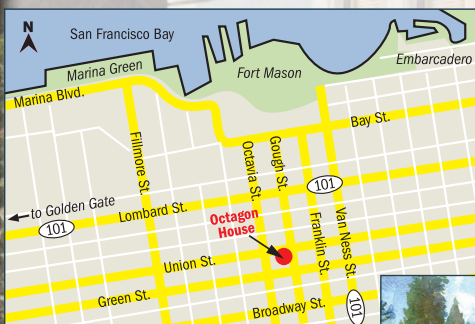


Visitor Information

Octagon House

2645 Gough St. (at Union St.)
San Francisco, CA 94123
415-441-7512

- Open the second Sunday, and second and fourth Thursdays of each month.
- 12 noon to 3:00 pm.
- Closed during the month of January and on holidays.
- Private tours can be arranged. Contact Octagon House at 415-441-7512.
- No entry fee; donations appreciated.
- See www.sfmta.com for public transportation schedules.



Please visit our website at
octagonhouseca.org
or nscda-ca.org



Octagon House

San Francisco, California

A Museum of
Decorative Arts
from the American
Colonial and Federal Periods
and
Headquarters of
The National Society of The Colonial
Dames of America in California

- Designated a *Historical Landmark*, 1968
- Placed on the *National Register of Historic Places*, 1972
- Received *San Francisco Beautiful Garden Award*, 1993

Interior house photos: DavidPhelpsPhotography.com
Watercolor: RobertGSteele.com
Brochure design: MargueriteMeyer.com

History

Octagon House is one of two remaining 19th century octagonal houses in San Francisco and is currently the state headquarters of The National Society of The Colonial Dames of America in California.

Built in 1861 by William C. McElroy, the house was originally located on the opposite side of Gough Street. It was saved from destruction by the Colonial Dames and moved to its current site in 1952. At this time, Octagon House underwent extensive renovation under the guidance of Warren C. Perry, Dean of the School of Architecture at the University of California.

A tin box "time capsule" was found inside a staircase during the renovation and is now on display in the house. Information, placed in the tin by Mr. McElroy, provided previously unknown facts about the house, its owners and a rapidly growing, affluent San Francisco anticipating the pending menace of the Civil War.

Octagon House was designated a Historical Landmark in 1968 by the City of San Francisco and was placed on the National Register of Historical Places in 1972. Its lovely garden was given the *San Francisco Beautiful* award in 1993.

Collections

Octagon House is a museum of decorative arts and furniture from the American Colonial and Federal periods. The collection contains portraits, ceramics, pewter and needlework samplers, as well as an exhibit of historical documents relevant to the founding of the nation. The Victorian setting of the house provides an interesting contrast to these items from a previous century.

The National Society of The Colonial Dames of America

The NSCDA is a women's organization founded in Philadelphia in 1891. It is a federation of autonomous state societies dedicated to colonial history, historic preservation and patriotism. National headquarters are located in Washington, D.C. Nationwide the NSCDA supports and/or owns over forty historic properties, all of which are open to the public.

These properties are dedicated to preserving the memory of our Colonial ancestors, who laid the foundation of our country and procured liberty for their descendants and those in successive generations, who have benefited from the blessings of a free society.

(To learn more please visit www.nscda.org.)

