

The Collective Memory of Early America

The gift of a beaded bag in 1890 marked the modest beginnings of the DAR Museum that today is a treasure of 30,000 historical relics that form a collective memory of the decorative and fine arts in America from 1700 to 1850. From hand-carved dominoes to exquisite examples of domestic silver by renowned silversmiths, the museum offers visitors a visual feast reflecting the artistry and craftsmanship of America prior to the Industrial Revolution.

Furniture, silver, ceramics, glass, paintings, costumes, and textiles made and used by Americans, both famous and ordinary, are showcased in two

spacious galleries, while period rooms maintained by DAR state societies mirror domestic life and artistic taste in different regions of the country.

Today, after more than a century of gathering aesthetic objects that honor our country's founders, the DAR Museum proudly presents one of the premier collections of decorative and fine arts in the country.

We invite you to visit the museum and enjoy a journey through a "looking glass" back to an age of connoisseurship and beauty.

"... one of Washington D.C.'s undiscovered gems"

J. Carter Brown, Chairman Emeritus, National Gallery of Art and former Chairman of the D.C. Commission on Fine Arts



Furniture

Ceramics

Glass

Paintings

Silver

Costumes

Textiles



Location & Hours

The DAR Museum is located at the headquarters of the National Society Daughters of the American Revolution, 1776 D Street NW, adjacent to the White House Ellipse.

The museum and gift shop are open Monday-Friday 9:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m., and Saturdays 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.; closed Sundays, national holidays, and during the DAR annual meeting. To verify hours, call (202) 879-3241.

The museum is handicapped-accessible; please call to make arrangements.

Tours

Guided tours of the period rooms are offered Monday-Friday 10:00 a.m. to 2:30 p.m., and Saturdays 9:00 a.m.-4:30 p.m. Self-guided tours are available. To reserve a group tour or school tour, call (202) 879-3241. Admission is free.

Parking & Metro

Metered on-street parking is limited.
Metro stops: Red Line - Farragut North - 8 blocks
Orange and Blue Lines - Farragut West - 7 blocks

For more information about future exhibitions and upcoming events, please write or call (202) 879-3241.

DAUGHTERS OF THE AMERICAN REVOLUTION
DAR MUSEUM
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DAR

MUSEUM

Decorative & Fine Arts Collection

More than 300 years of artistry and craftsmanship

An elegant teapot, cup, and spoons made by patriot and silversmith Paul Revere for wealthy Boston families, and a simple felt pen wiper doll reflect the broad range of decorative arts displayed in the museum galleries. Each is an eloquent expression of a pre-industrial age when beauty and functionality coexisted in the furnishings of the early American home.

View fine examples of silver, glass, ceramics, furniture, needlework, textiles, and costume

that silently speak of pride in hand craftsmanship. Revolutionary War artifacts speak, too, of the patriotism of the men and women who formed this nation from courage and conviction.



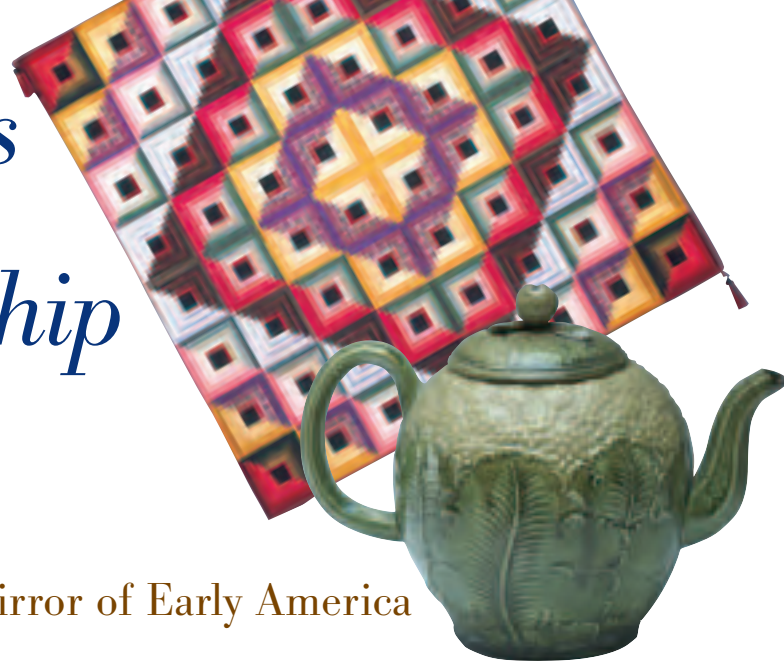
A Mirror of Early America

In the spacious galleries, view permanent and changing exhibits that highlight fascinating objects of American material culture. The most recent museum acquisitions are often displayed in the main gallery before being placed in the permanent collection.

The ceramics and glass collections feature tin-glazed earthenware (Delft), salt-glazed stoneware, creamware, pearlware, agateware, and Chinese export porcelain along with early American blown, pressed, and cut glass.

The museum's collection of American antique quilts, each having identifiable makers, is one of the most historically important in the world. Quilts range in date from 1750 to 1900. Woven coverlets and quilts are encased in sliding racks that allow the visitor a close-up view of the exquisite handwork. Temporary loans from public and private collections invite repeated visits.

The Yochim Gallery on the lower level features some of the finest furniture and artwork in the museum's collection. Here you can view paintings by John Singleton Copley, Ruth Henshaw Bascom, and Jacob Eichholtz, as well as important pieces of furniture from the 18th-century.



more than a century of collecting

The Period Rooms

A highlight of a visit to the museum is viewing the period rooms. More than thirty rooms, each maintained by individual DAR state societies, reflect regional identities in the design and the decorative art objects displayed, imparting a sense of time and place. They transport you from the birth of a nation across the expanse of the country with its melting pot of cultures and styles.

View the "long room" in Peter Tondee's Tavern in 18th-century Savannah, Georgia; the 1775 New England bed chamber in Massachusetts; and the New Jersey Room, with paneling and furniture carved from oak timbers salvaged from the British frigate *Augusta*, sunk in the 1777 Battle of Red Bank.

Travel westward to the Oklahoma Room, a kitchen displaying more than 150 years of kitchen wares and technology. The Tennessee Room, in the form of an 1820s parlor, features furnishings from the Monroe White House, while the

parlor recreated in the California Room is reminiscent of that region's adobe architecture of the 1860s. Enjoy the charming collection of 18th- and 19th-century children's toys, dolls, and games in New Hampshire's "Children's Attic," designed by noted cabinetmaker and illustrator Wallace Nutting. Picture gowned ladies sitting in sophisticated drawing rooms in prosperous post-Revolutionary New York and Maryland, sipping tea from Chinese porcelain cups.

Enjoy your journey back to the way America once looked and lived.



Missouri Room



Georgia Room



New Jersey Room