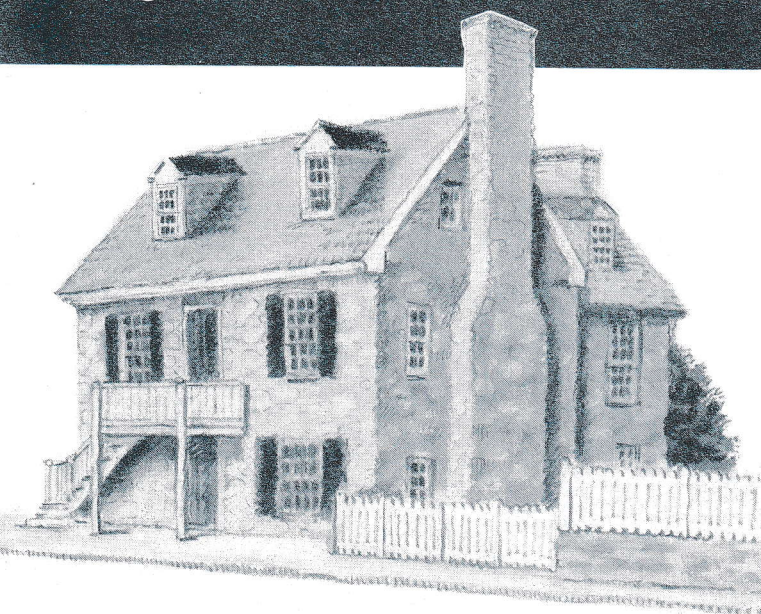


Old Stone House

Washington, D.C.



Believed to be the oldest surviving building in the federal city, the Old Stone House in Georgetown offers a view of middle-class life in colonial days. When the house was built in 1765, a carpenter set up shop on the first floor. The family lived in quarters upstairs where, today, the rooms are furnished to reflect a modest 18th-century life style.

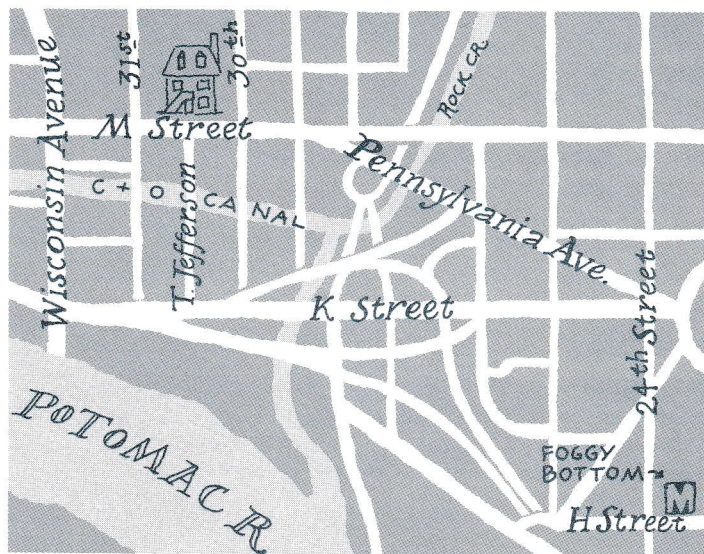
The growth of Georgetown before the American Revolution centered on the tobacco trade. Hogsheads of tobacco were rolled from neighboring Maryland plantations to the tobacco inspection station and warehouse near the waterfront. Situated at the head of navigation on the Potomac, Georgetown became one of the most important tobacco ports on the Atlantic seaboard. As the town grew, visitors were able to find lodging and diversions. Georgetown's hospitable welcome to political leaders in the 1790s made it the staging area for the founding of the nation's capital.

Claims persisted for years that George Washington used the Old Stone House as his headquarters when choosing land in 1791 for the nation's capital. In the same vein, some thought that Pierre Charles L'Enfant worked there while he laid out the city's design. The claims were never proved, but in 1950 the U. S. Congress identified the structure as a historic site worthy of preservation, noting that the house had "great pre-Revolutionary architectural merit," where the story of Georgetown's early history and the founding of Washington could be told. An oasis in the midst of Georgetown's busiest streets, the Old Stone House remains a rare landmark for the capital's bicentennial.

Old Stone House

Washington, D.C.

How to Get There




Old Stone House is located at 3051 M Street, NW, in Georgetown, Washington, D.C. Commercial parking next door. Metro : Blue and Orange lines, Foggy Bottom stop.

Hours

Open 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., Wednesday through Sunday; closed Monday, Tuesday, and holidays.

Features

Six rooms, furnished in colonial style. English-type garden. Guided tours. Demonstrations and programs about colonial life. Free admission. Numbers limited to 25 persons in the house at a time. Schedule group tours by appointment.

 First floor and garden accessible to wheelchairs; slide program to view upper floors.

Information

The Old Stone House is administered by the Superintendent, Rock Creek Park, National Park Service.

Call 202-426-6851 V/TDD, 426-6835, or write:

The Old Stone House
3051 M St., NW
Washington, DC 20007



Number 8 in a series about interesting sites in the Washington area by Parks and History Association, Washington, D.C., 1991, in cooperation with the National Park Service. Printed on recycled paper.

