

## THE SAINT-GAUDENS NATIONAL HISTORIC SITE

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The Saint-Gaudens National Historic Site is the only property of the National Park Service in New Hampshire, and one of only two parks in the country devoted to an American artist.

The mission of the park is to preserve the home, studio and gardens of Augustus Saint-Gaudens (1848-1907), one of the most important sculptors of the late nineteenth century, and to educate the public through interpretation of the Cornish Colony of artists and the period of American art from the last quarter of the nineteenth century through the first quarter of the twentieth century.

First visited by the sculptor in 1885, and purchased in 1894, the 150-acre property became the center of a gathering of artists, musicians, writers and public figures known as the Cornish Colony.

After the artist's death his widow, Augusta Homer Saint-Gaudens created the Saint-Gaudens Memorial in 1919 as an educational non-profit organization to preserve her husband's legacy. Transferred to the National Park Service in 1965, the property is still supported in its mission by the Memorial to this day.

### **For Further information:**

Researchers should first check the park website:  
[www. Nps.gov/saga](http://www.Nps.gov/saga)

Requests for access to the collection should be addressed in writing to the Superintendent, Saint-Gaudens National Historic Site, 139 Saint-Gaudens Road, Cornish, NH 03745.

Requests for photo permission are addressed to the Division of Visitor Services.

To reach the Curatorial Department contact the Division of Cultural Resources, Curatorial Department, at (603)675-2175 x 112.

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## AN OUTLINE OF THE COLLECTIONS

### SAINT-GAUDENS NATIONAL HISTORIC SITE, CORNISH, NH

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# HIGHLIGHTS OF THE COLLECTIONS

## AUGUSTUS SAINT-GAUDENS (1848-1907):

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The National Park Service *Scope of Collection* (1991) directs the preservation of historic buildings landscape and objects associated with Augustus Saint-Gaudens, his family and associates. The work of his assistants and other artists who formed the Cornish Colony are also within the scope of our collecting. The *Interpretive Prospectus* (1977) states: "The broad objective... is to foster public appreciation of the life of Augustus Saint-Gaudens, the significance of the great sculptor in the cultural heritage of the nation... and the relationship of Aspet, its setting, and the Cornish community to his character and works."

The collection encompasses the contents of the artist's studio, including 10,000 works of art in plaster, bronze and other materials. Primarily preparatory works in plaster, highlights include full-scale models of the *Amor Caritas*, *Puritan*, *Brooks*, *Bellows*, *Farragut*, *Robert Louis Stevenson*, and *Diana*. Most of the artist's over 100 portrait reliefs are represented, and the collection of models for the US Gold Coinage of 1907 is particularly extensive with over 200 examples. There are busts in plaster of *President Abraham Lincoln*, *Admiral David Farragut*, *General William T. Sherman*, *Secretary of State John Hay*, and other notables of the Civil War and later nineteenth century period.

Completed works in bronze are represented by most of the important portrait reliefs, as well as reductions of monuments such as the *Sherman Victory*, the *Standing Lincoln* and the *Amor Caritas*. Full-scale monuments in bronze include

the *Robert Gould Shaw Memorial*, the *Admiral David Farragut Monument*, the *Adams Memorial* and the *Amor Caritas*.

The collection also includes caricatures and preliminary models and finished works such as coins, medals and cameos. The collection also contains family furnishings and decorative arts from America, Europe and Asia.

## THE SAINT-GAUDENS FAMILY:

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Other artistic members of the Saint-Gaudens family were:

### *Augusta Homer Saint-Gaudens* (1848-1926)

The wife of the sculptor was a painter, represented here by portraits of family and friends, landscapes, and copy pictures after Old Masters.

### *Louis St.-Gaudens* (1854-1913)

The brother of Augustus was a sculptor in his own right. His works are found here in an unusually complete set of studies and documentation for his major commission, the decoration of Union Station in Washington, DC. Among other works are the *Pan*, the relief medallion of *Benjamin Franklin*, and medals.

### *Annetta St.-Gaudens* (1869-1943)

The sister-in-law of Augustus and wife of Louis, Annetta St.-Gaudens is represented by pottery, a large selection of her small terracotta portrait medallions, and preparatory pieces for her *Bird Masque*.

## *Paul St.-Gaudens* (1900-1954)

Son of Annetta and Louis, and nephew of Augustus, Paul St.-Gaudens was a ceramic artist specializing in the revival of Mayan imagery in the 1920s to 1940s. With over seventy-five examples of his pottery and extensive drawings and archival materials, this is the largest public collection of this artist. The park published the catalogue raisonné of this artist in 2000.

Other family members such as *Carlotta Saint-Gaudens*, *Margaret Parry St.-Gaudens* and *Marie Saint-Gaudens* are represented by small holdings.

## THE CORNISH COLONY AND OTHERS:

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Artists associated with the Cornish Colony such as Frances Grimes, Maxfield and Stephen Parrish, Edith Prellwitz, Frances Houston and Henry Hyde are found in single or small numbers of pieces. Friends of the sculptor such as John Singer Sargent, John LaFarge, George DeForest Brush, Thomas Dewing, Stanford White, Herbert Adams, and others are found as well. Works by Saint-Gaudens' assistants (John Flanagan, Henry Hering, etc.) are also collected. At the park is a computerized database providing an encyclopedic presentation of the artists and their works.

## ARCHIVES:

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The Archive includes the *DeWitt Clinton Ward Photograph Collection* (750 pieces) from the artist's official photographer, the *Louis and Annetta St.-Gaudens Collection of Glass Plate Negatives* (615 pieces), a small collection of photographs of European travels, and letters, documents, ephemera, and the libraries of Augustus and Homer Saint-Gaudens.

Dartmouth College, Rauner Library holds the major collection of Saint-Gaudens papers, as well as other members of the Cornish Colony.