

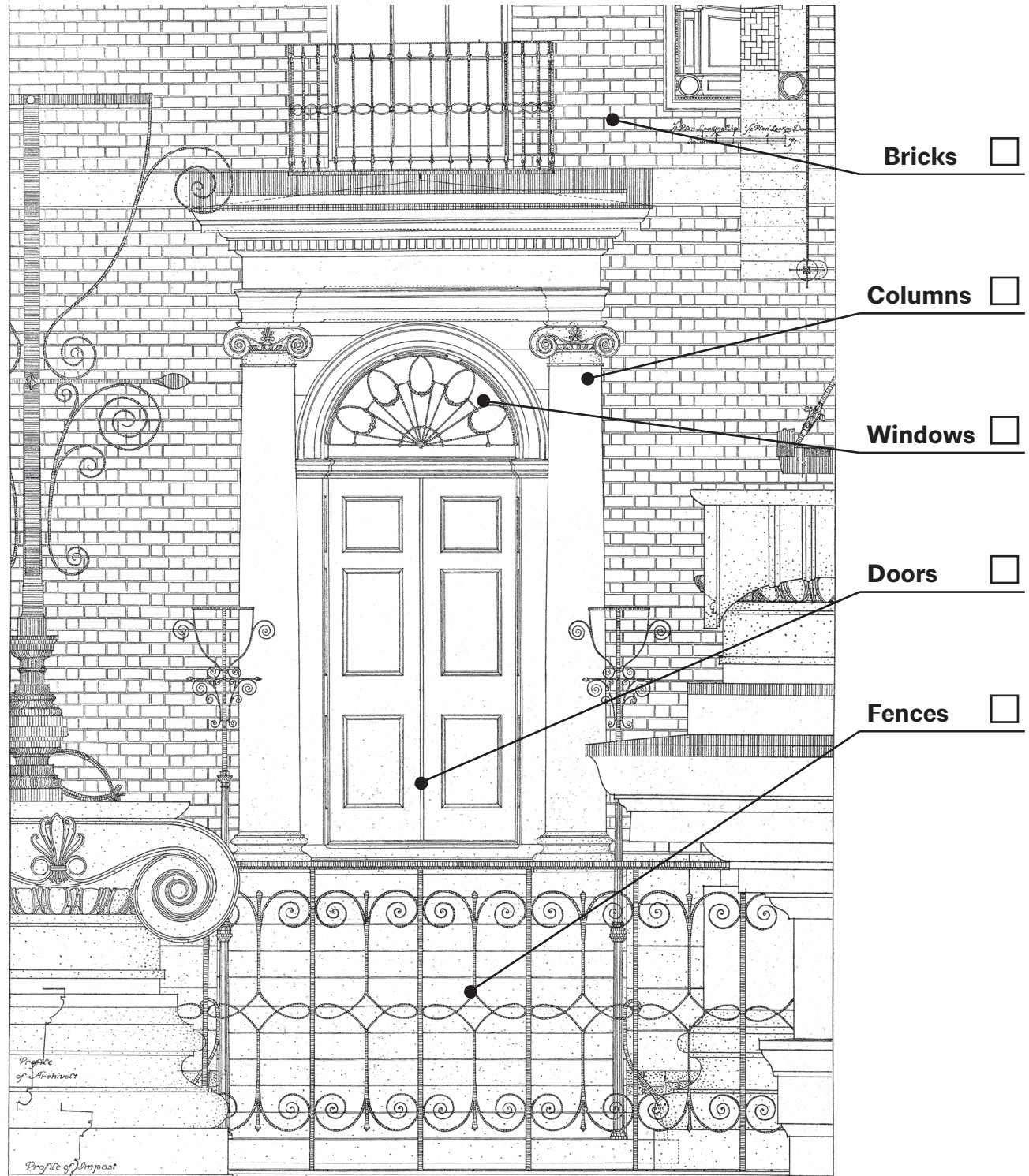
Architecture hunt

The Octagon is one of the oldest houses in Washington, DC. Can you spot any of this historic home's characteristics at your house or in your neighborhood?

1 Check out the features that make up the front of the house. Can you find any of these details at your house?

2 Color in the building. It can be from your imagination or real life.

3 Go on an architecture hunt in your neighborhood! See if you can find all of these characteristics and cross them off as you go!



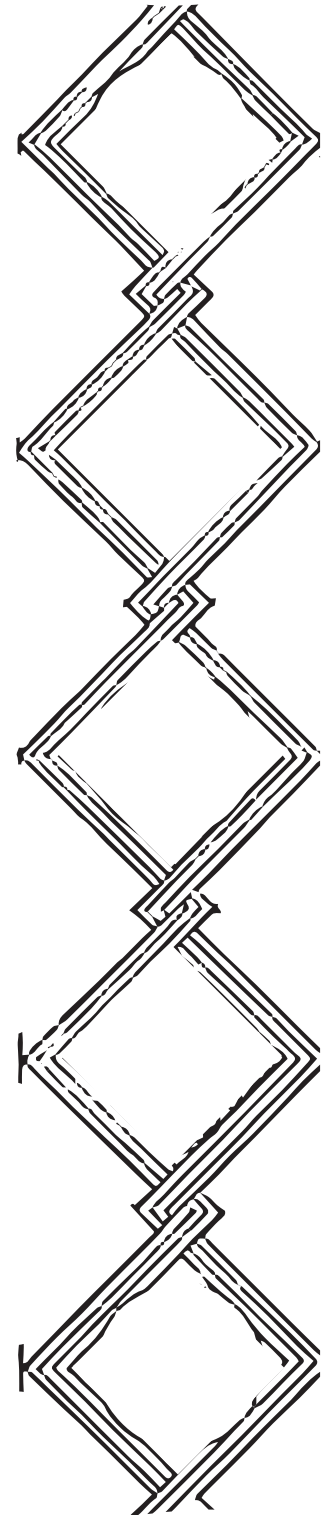
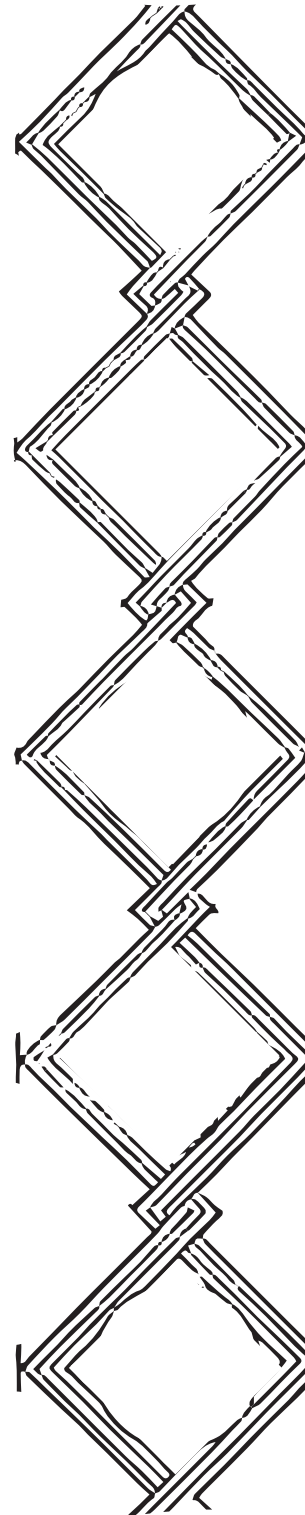
Design your own!

Mouldings are decorative wood patterns that are found around doors and windows. This is a common moulding pattern found at The Octagon.

1 Color in the moulding. What patterns and shapes do you see? What makes each diamond similar?

2 Draw your own moulding! Within each square, add your own design using shapes and colors.

3 Take your design and hold it up to edge of doors and windows in your house. Would you like this moulding in your home?



Room roundup

In its earliest years, The Octagon was a home for the Tayloe family, a well known family in Virginia in the 1800s. The house was big and busy! This drawing shows how the Tayloe family and their enslaved workers used the rooms in the home.

1 This house has four floors! What kind of activities do you think took place in a big house like this 200 years ago?

2 This drawing shows what each room was used for at the Tayloe's house. Which of these rooms do you have in your house?

3 Your turn! Draw what you'd want to do in each space if you lived in The Octagon. What's different about your house and the Tayloe's 1800s house?

