

PENN ETA CHAPTER HOUSE

524 LOCUST LANE

THE FACILITY

Penn Eta owns its chapter house at 524 Locust Lane in State College's historic Highlands District, which is just a few blocks from the downtown business district and within easy walking distance to most undergraduate classrooms and other facilities on the Penn State campus. The house was completed in 1927, and has a unique architecture for State College, built in the Mission style. The facility has three floors and a basement.

FIRST FLOOR:

The first floor comprises approximately 3900 square feet of common space for use by all chapter members, listed below right.

The first floor also includes living quarters for a Resident Scholar – typically a graduate student at Penn State who is a Sig Ep brother from another university who has agreed to live in the chapter house and provide academic advice, guidance and perspective.



CLUB ROOM (Above) and FOYER (Below)



FEATURES OF THE 1st FLOOR COMMON AREAS:

- an entry foyer with guest bathroom
- a living room with furnishings for seating and audiovisual equipment
- a dining room with dining furniture to accommodate approximately 100 people
- two kitchen areas, one of which is open 24 hours for use by the residents and the other for the private use of the house cook
- a trophy room
- a corporate office for use by the alumni and storage of records
- a laundry room

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UPPER FLOORS

The second and third floors comprise rooms for personal living space of house residents, as well as one large bathroom on each floor to be shared by the residents. Residential rooms vary in size depending on location. Most rooms are configured for double occupancy, although some rooms can accommodate three residents. Total residential capacity of the house is 45 undergraduate residents, and 1 graduate resident. All residential rooms have steel framed, fire-rated doors, and each room resident is provided a key to their assigned room upon move-in (and is required to return the key on move-out).

BASEMENT

The basement comprises approximately 3500 square feet of common space for use by all chapter members, including:

- Residential Learning Community wing – comprised of a small conference room, large conference room and undergraduate library (total approximately 750 square feet)
- Brotherhood room for memorabilia display and TV lounge
- two general purpose rooms
- utility rooms

FACILITY MANAGEMENT:

The chapter house is inspected on a yearly basis and is compliant with all applicable codes for residential structures of its type. The chapter house is heated by hot water radiant heat through radiators dispersed through the house and in each residential room. Air conditioning is not provided and not permitted (but all residential rooms include operable windows).



Academic Large Conference Room (above) - Undergraduate Library (below)



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SERVICES AND SAFETY

Cable television service is available in each residential room (subject to service fees to the local service provider). Internet service is provided free of charge via RJ-45 connections in each residential room, but no phone service is provided. Fire alarming, emergency lighting and sprinkler systems are deployed throughout the house, and two stairwells are provided for exit to ground from all floors. The chapter house is inspected semiannually by local code officials; we consistently have one of the two safest chapter houses at Penn State (out of approximately 40 houses) based on the results of these inspections.

THE GROUNDS

The house is sited on a 0.4 acre corner lot. A parking area is provided in the rear that can accommodate 12 standard size cars and a driveway on the other side of the house can accommodate an additional 4-5 cars parked in tandem. A dumpster is provided for waste disposal.



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OPERATIONS - CLEANING

Resident brothers are responsible for general cleaning activities. The undergraduate leaders are responsible for putting in place a system of shared responsibility for the cleaning of common areas of the chapter house. The Alumni Corporation expects that kitchen cleaning is performed daily, and cleaning of the common areas is performed twice weekly. It is also expected that cleaning take place before 10am the day after an evening social event.

MEALS AND KITCHEN

The Alumni Corporation employs a professional cook, who cooks lunch and dinner Monday through Thursday, plus lunch on Friday and dinner on Sunday. One dinner each week is specially designated to include the out-of-house members as well. House residents are free to prepare their own breakfast every day and their meals on Friday evening, Saturdays and lunch on Sunday from a large selection. As part of her duties, the cook makes sure that the undergraduate 24/7 kitchen is always stocked with food, including both leftovers from previous meals during the week as well as other items that they can prepare themselves.



Cook's Kitchen – Built 2011

