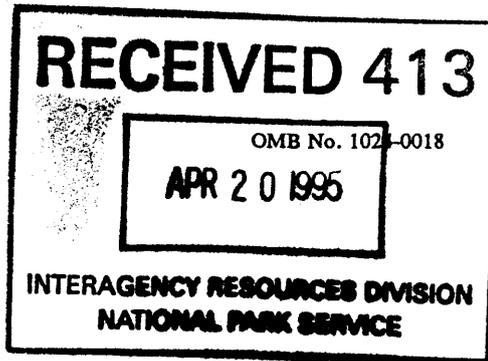


1018



NPS Form 10-900 (Rev. 10-90)

United States Department of the Interior National Park Service

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES REGISTRATION FORM

This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations for individual properties and districts. See instructions in How to Complete the National Register of Historic Places Registration Form (National Register Bulletin 16A). Complete each item by marking "x" in the appropriate box or by entering the information requested. If any item does not apply to the property being documented, enter "N/A" for "not applicable." For functions, architectural classification, materials, and areas of significance, enter only categories and subcategories from the instructions. Place additional entries and narrative items on continuation sheets (NPS Form 10-900a). Use a typewriter, word processor, or computer, to complete all items.

1. Name of Property

historic name: Fournier, Lawrence A. and Mary, House

other names/site number: N/A

2. Location

street & number: 3505 Sheridan Avenue North not for publication: N/A
city or town: Minneapolis vicinity: N/A
state: Minnesota code: MN county: Hennepin code: 053
zip code: 55412

3. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act of 1986, as amended, I hereby certify that this X nomination request for determination of eligibility meets the documentation standards for registering properties in the National Register of Historic Places and meets the procedural and professional requirements set forth in 36 CFR Part 60. In my opinion, the property X meets does not meet the National Register Criteria. I recommend that this property be considered significant nationally statewide X locally. (See continuation sheet for additional comments.)

Signature of certifying official: Ian R. Stewart Date: 4/7/95

State or Federal agency and bureau

In my opinion, the property meets does not meet the National Register criteria. (See continuation sheet for additional comments.)

Signature of commenting or other official Date
State or Federal agency and bureau

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions (Enter categories from instructions)
DOMESTIC;Single Dwelling

Current Functions (Enter categories from instructions)
DOMESTIC;Single Dwelling

7. Description

Architectural Classification (Enter categories from instructions)
LATE 19TH AND EARLY 20TH CENTURY AMERICAN MOVEMENTS
Bungalow/Craftsman, Prairie School

Materials (Enter categories from instructions)
foundation: Cobblestone _____
roof: Asphalt shingles _____
walls: Stucco _____
other: Chimney: Brick _____

Narrative Description (Describe the historic and current condition of the property on one or more continuation sheets.)

=====
8. Statement of Significance
=====

Applicable National Register Criteria (Mark "x" in one or more boxes for the criteria qualifying the property for National Register listing)

- A Property is associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history.
- B Property is associated with the lives of persons significant in our past.
- C Property embodies the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction or represents the work of a master, or possesses high artistic values, or represents a significant and distinguishable entity whose components lack individual distinction.
- D Property has yielded, or is likely to yield information important in prehistory or history.

Criteria Considerations (Mark "X" in all the boxes that apply.)

- A owned by a religious institution or used for religious purposes.
- B removed from its original location.
- C a birthplace or a grave.
- D a cemetery.
- E a reconstructed building, object, or structure.
- F a commemorative property.
- G less than 50 years of age or achieved significance within the past 50 years.

Areas of Significance (Enter categories from instructions)
Architecture

Period of Significance: 1910

Significant Dates: 1910

Significant Person (Complete if Criterion B is marked above)
N/A

Cultural Affiliation: N/A

Architect/Builder Fournier, Lawrence A., Architect

Narrative Statement of Significance (Explain the significance of the property on one or more continuation sheets.)

=====

9. Major Bibliographical References

=====

(Cite the books, articles, and other sources used in preparing this form on one or more continuation sheets.)

Previous documentation on file (NPS)

- preliminary determination of individual listing (36 CFR 67) has been requested.
- previously listed in the National Register
- previously determined eligible by the National Register
- designated a National Historic Landmark
- recorded by Historic American Buildings Survey # _____
- recorded by Historic American Engineering Record # _____

Primary Location of Additional Data

- State Historic Preservation Office
- Other State agency
- Federal agency
- Local government
- University
- Other

Name of repository: _____

=====

10. Geographical Data

=====

Acreage of Property: less than one acre

UTM References (Place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet)

Minneapolis North, Minn
1967 Revised 1993

	Zone	Easting	Northing	Zone	Easting	Northing
1	15	475490	4984880	3	_____	_____
2	_____	_____	_____	4	_____	_____
<input type="checkbox"/> See continuation sheet.						

Verbal Boundary Description (Describe the boundaries of the property on a continuation sheet.)

Boundary Justification (Explain why the boundaries were selected on a continuation sheet.)

=====

11. Form Prepared By

=====

name/title: Holly Wahlberg
organization: N/A
street & number: 3505 Sheridan Ave. N.
city or town: Minneapolis

date: January 20, 1994
telephone: (612) 522-2263
state: MN zip code: 55412

=====
Additional Documentation
=====

Submit the following items with the completed form:

Continuation Sheets

Maps

- A USGS map (7.5 or 15 minute series) indicating the property's location.
- A sketch map for historic districts and properties having large acreage or numerous resources.

Photographs

- Representative black and white photographs of the property.

Additional items (Check with the SHPO or FPO for any additional items)

=====
Property Owner
=====

(Complete this item at the request of the SHPO or FPO.)

name _____

street & number _____ telephone _____

city or town _____ state _____ zip code _____

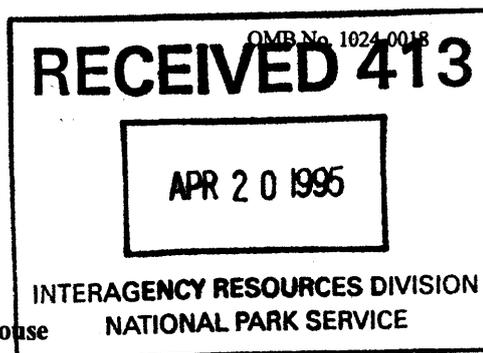
=====
Paperwork Reduction Act Statement: This information is being collected for applications to the National Register of Historic Places to nominate properties for listing or determine eligibility for listing, to list properties, and to amend existing listings. Response to this request is required to obtain a benefit in accordance with the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended (16 U.S.C. 470 et seq.).
Estimated Burden Statement: Public reporting burden for this form is estimated to average 18.1 hours per response including the time for reviewing instructions, gathering and maintaining data, and completing and reviewing the form. Direct comments regarding this burden estimate or any aspect of this form to the Chief, Administrative Services Division, National Park Service, P.O. Box 37127, Washington, DC 20013-7127; and the Office of Management and Budget, Paperwork Reductions Project (1024-0018), Washington, DC 20503.

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
CONTINUATION SHEET**

Section 7 Page 1

**Fournier, Lawrence A. and Mary, House
Hennepin County, Minnesota**



DESCRIPTION

The Lawrence A. Fournier House was designed by architect Lawrence A. Fournier in 1909 and built in 1910 to serve as the personal home of Fournier, chief draftsman at the architectural firm of Purcell and Elmslie from 1912 to 1922. The house is a cross-gabled one and half story frame Craftsman dwelling with some Prairie style elements. The two bay cube is modified by a trellised side entry porch, a front porch and a rear facing two tier porch wing. Windows are a mixture of casement and double hung; doors are paneled with small pane lights. Rough stucco cement covers the exterior walls with two dormers covered by wood shingles. The cement foundation and front porch walls are clad in cobblestone. An interior central chimney is composed of brick. The interior of the house reflects the Craftsman style in its woodwork, rough plastered walls, built-in cabinetry, and fireplace mural. Its spatial arrangement and its inclusion of a "sleeping porch" and "living porch" are indicative of the period. The architect demonstrated his interest in household technology by including a central vacuuming system, laundry chute, rain water filtration unit, and two cisterns.

The house faces Sheridan Avenue North in the Cleveland section of the Camden neighborhood of North Minneapolis, a tree-lined residential area of forty foot lots and mixed architectural styles. The house occupies a triple lot approximately ten feet above street level at the intersection of Sheridan Avenue North and 35th Avenue. A system of wood, stucco and cobblestone retaining walls maintain this elevation. Mature oak, lilac and day lily plantings most likely date from the time of construction. A large lawn slopes down to a two car garage built in 1985 bordering a service alley on the western edge of the property. The property is in very good condition although with modernization of its kitchen and bath and loss or replacement of some original windows and doors.

The front (east) elevation is dominated by a broad moderately pitched roof. Its slope is broken by a wood shingled shed dormer containing a ribbon of four small pane casement windows. The main roof is extended over a partial width, side hall, front entry porch. The front porch roof is supported by square stuccoed piers resting on a wide concrete cap which covers battered porch walls of cobblestone. The openings between porch piers are flattened arches. A low walled single step landing leads to the porch. One corner of the landing is formed by a pedestal urn with a concrete cap and cobblestone cladding. Six hooded casement windows with matching window box form a ribbon wrapping around the southeast corner of the house. A removable stained glass decorative motif was added to the window ribbon in 1987.

The gabled south elevation is punctuated by three triple windows. Two casement groups originally matched in glazing style. The upper story part of this pair was replaced in 1991. The third window group, located on the first story, has two small pane fixed casements set high on either side of a double hung window.

The north gabled elevation has double hung windows spaced around a fixed casement in the middle of the facade. The double hung windows are scattered rather than massed except for one hooded pair set in a first floor alcove bay. Directly under the kitchen window is an icing door. A distinctive feature of this facade is a glazed rectangular side entry porch with trellised beams and battered stucco base. The porch windows are currently being restored. The trellised horizontal porch beams were restored in the mid-1970's. The porch doors were removed at that time.

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES CONTINUATION SHEET

Section 7 Page 2 Fournier, Lawrence A. and Mary, House
Hennepin County, Minnesota

The rear (west) elevation has a fixed first floor fifteen pane casement window at one corner. A second story shed dormer was added at the opposite corner in 1988. Most of the west facade, however, is covered by a centered two tier porch wing with battered foundation. Its roof forms a cross-gable with the main house. A wood trim band marks the line between the two porch floors. The upper story sleeping porch has an accordian folding sash and two drop hinged side vent windows. The first floor living porch was originally outfitted with twelve and six feet long screen-only sashes. The first story porch screening was replaced with eight nine-over-one double hung windows sometime after 1918. At the base of the porch wing, the ground slopes away, making possible a four foot basement entrance.

Wide unenclosed eave overhangs show the exposed "tails" of roof rafters. Gable and dormer ends are pierced at regular intervals by roof beams with triangular knee braces. (These exposed beams and rafters are structural as well as decorative.)

The first floor interior has an L-shaped open plan. Divisions between the dining room, living room, alcove, and hall are merely suggested by cased openings. A library alcove is separated from the living room by two post and partition panels pierced by small display niches. The first floor living porch was originally accessible from either the dining room or kitchen through doubled french doors. A sink was placed in front of the kitchen door opening in the 1970's. Double french doors still connect the rear porch to the dining room. The living porch has a sloped concrete floor and drain at its northeast corner. Its ceiling is wainscoted between encased beams.

The living room has a raised roman brick hearth with a period mural panel, possibly painted by the architect. A recess for another decorative mural was built into the hearth itself. The woodwork and molding retain the natural appearance and simple contours of the period. A picture rail extends around the entire first floor and most of the second floor. Three original Craftsman pendant fixtures remain on the first floor along with two built in window seats. The original front door and screen door survive. In 1988, the front door was glazed with decorative stained glass.

The upstairs floor plan is compact. Two of the three bedrooms have built-in storage systems of closets and drawers. The third bedroom has a built-in wall cupboard and under the roof attic closet. A shed dormer creates two full height dormer nooks. The master bedroom has a raised brick hearth with a period cast iron firebox. A french door from the master bedroom opens onto a sleeping porch with fir flooring. All three bedrooms have original paneled doors with opalescent glass window inserts. A paneled door in the upstairs hall ceiling leads to an attic.

Walls and ceilings throughout the house are of rough finish plaster. Floors, except those on the porches, are of narrow board maple. A side service entrance leads to the basement or kitchen. The original panelled side entry door with small pane lights survives. Of the four basement windows, one was replaced in the mid 1970's and one was fitted with stained glass in 1988. A coal bin room with exterior door serves as the porch wing basement. Evidence of a rain water filter, laundry chute and gutter drain system can be seen in the basement. Two switches and a nozzle hole remain from the central vacuuming system. Two original cisterns are on the north side of the house.

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES CONTINUATION SHEET

Section 8 Page 3

Fournier, Lawrence A. and Mary, House
Hennepin County, Minnesota

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The Fournier House meets Criterion C in the area of architecture as a representation of the growing strength of an emerging Prairie School style operating within the more established context of the Arts and Crafts Movement. The date of its construction in 1910 coincides with the beginning of the Prairie School's most vibrant period when midwestern architects like Fournier increasingly began to include Prairie elements within the familiar Craftsman aesthetic. The property also relates to the Minnesota context of "Urban Centers, 1870-1940" and the Minneapolis context of "Architecture, 1848-present."

Historical Background and Significance:

In 1908, Lawrence Fournier and his wife Mary erected a temporary dwelling on the east half of lot 26 in the Utopia addition to the city of Minneapolis. The Fourniers' selection of a North Minneapolis lot reveals the increasing acceptance of this area of the city for new residential construction. A second generation of Minneapolis real estate developers had begun to promote the area's bucolic setting and its easy access to new street car lines.¹ As the automobile became more popular and dependable, development increased at an even more rapid rate after World War I. The Utopia addition to Minneapolis was unusually slow to develop, however, and the Fournier House was set in a surprisingly rural atmosphere until a post-WWII building boom filled in much of the neighborhood's remaining available home sites.²

By 1910, Fournier had completed the design for his home, purchased its lot and started foundation and framing work.³ But in 1912, the Fourniers were sued for unpaid bills by the lumber company which had supplied materials for the house. Most likely in an effort to raise money, Fournier built a small cottage on the north forty feet of the lot and sold the improved property that same year.⁴ (This cottage, which became 3511 Sheridan Avenue N., was destroyed by fire in 1986. The lot was then purchased and once again made part of the 3505 Sheridan Avenue N. property.) Fournier resided at 3505 Sheridan Avenue N. until his 1917 transfer to Purcell and Elmslie's Chicago office. From 1917 to 1961, the house remained within a single family. Since 1961, there have been five owners.⁵

In its form, the Fournier House is a conventional one and a half story cubed bungalow. Indeed this compact box with its battered foundation and gabled roof seems to have more in common with the modest Craftsman bungalow than the sprawling, grand style Prairie home. But Prairie architects like Purcell and Elmslie whose practice included designing inexpensive homes on small city lots, often used the cube design and L-shaped central hearth floor plan.⁶ The form of the Fournier House is an example of this common ground between the Craftsman

¹Lanegran, David A. *Where We Live., the Residential Districts of Minneapolis and St. Paul* . (Minneapolis: University of Minnesota Press, 1983)

²Borchert, John R. et al. *Legacy of Minneapolis: Preservation Amid Change* .(Minneapolis: Voyageur Press, 1983)

³Fournier House blueprints, Book 690 Deeds page 153

⁴Abstract of Title, Book 40 Liens, Book 712 Deeds page 245

⁵Abstract of Title, *Minneapolis City Directories*

⁶Gebhard, David. "William Gray Purcell and George Grant Elmslie and the Early Progressive Movement in American Architecture 1900-1920" (Dissertation University of Minnesota, 1957) 135-136

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES CONTINUATION SHEET

Section 8 Page 4

Fournier, Lawrence A. and Mary, House Hennepin County, Minnesota

and Prairie styles and ultimately derives from Frank Lloyd Wright's 1906 "Fireproof House" design for the *Ladies Home Journal*.⁷

For most of the exterior detailing, Fournier selected the Craftsman style with its broad sloping roof pierced by shed dormers, wide unenclosed eaves, exposed roof rafter tails, and exposed roof beams supported by knee braces. With a Craftsman sense of economy, the vestibule is eliminated in favor of a sheltered partial width front porch. For private yet well lit dining, Fournier used the Craftsman device of an elevated dining room window grouping with space under the windows for built in china closets.

But Prairie School traits appear within this Craftsman context creating a surprising and sometimes uneasy mingling of the two architectural styles. For example, a formal Prairie pedestal urn is given an informal Craftsman covering of rustic field stones. A Prairie style band rides the perimeter of the foundation but fails to create much of a horizontal accent on a compact bungalow form. A more successful stylistic blend is found in a Craftsman window box given a Prairie flair as it wraps around a corner-set casement window group.

In his choice of materials, Fournier demonstrated concern for a smooth transition between the house and its setting - a concern shared by both Prairie and Craftsman designers. The strong rusticity of the field stone foundation and rugged rough cast stucco are more in keeping with the Craftsman School. However even here, Fournier included sidewalks of smooth, rose colored concrete, a preferred Prairie School color and material for the firm of Purcell and Elmslie.⁸

The fenestration on the Fournier House provides a particularly good example of a mingling of Prairie and Craftsman features. The north side carries out a symmetrical display of Craftsman double hung windows while the south side is treated largely in the Prairie School manner with horizontal bands of casement windows, one band wrapping around a corner. The south side casements have a particularly bold Prairie look in their stark and asymmetrical placement among broad, empty expanses of stucco.

The stylistic dualism of the house also appears in its porches. A Craftsman front entry porch includes the Prairie elements of massive masonry piers and balustrade capping. A rear two story porch wing carries out the Arts and Crafts dedication to the "open air life" but in a distinctly prairie style with such details as horizontal banding between windows and bold expanses of oversized screened windows.

The number of Prairie details in the Fournier house reflects the growing prominence of the Prairie School in 1909 and 1910. With the departure of Frank Lloyd Wright for Europe in 1909, the Prairie School became more decentralized, and its ideas and architects began to blossom beyond the suburbs of Chicago.⁹ In his letters to Purcell, Fournier recalls seeing a 1908 or 1909 art school exhibit of the work of the Purcell and Elmslie firm and twice being told of their fine work by colleagues.¹⁰ Two early Prairie homes by Purcell and Elmslie, the Catherine Gray house of 1907 and the T.W. McCosker house of 1909, may have inspired the floor plan of the Fournier House. Fournier may also have been familiar with other features characteristic of Purcell and Elmslie's work such

⁷ Brooks, Allen H. *The Prairie School*. (Toronto: University of Toronto Press, 1972) 220

⁸ Gebhard, David. Dissertation, 136

⁹ Brooks, Allen H. *The Prairie School*, 201

¹⁰ Fournier letters to Purcell 1938-39, Northwest Architectural Archives, University of Minnesota

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES CONTINUATION SHEET

Section 8 Page 5

Fournier, Lawrence A. and Mary, House Hennepin County, Minnesota

as the wraparound casements of the Harold E. Hineline House (1910) and the asymmetrical fenestration of the P.E. Byrne House (1909).

A possible source for the Craftsman elements of the Fournier House is a 1908 design by Chicago architect, Lawrence Buck. Fournier may have been influenced by Buck's "Commodious-Looking Country Home" plan, an early example of a Prairie influenced Craftsman bungalow (see illustration 1). As a draftsman working for the eclectic designer William Channing Whitney in 1909 and 1910, Fournier certainly would have been familiar with many examples of stylistic blending. Whitney's McMillan House of 1910, completed during Fournier's tenure with the firm, proved that even the Neoclassical tradition was not immune to the influence of Prairie innovations.¹¹

Many of the Prairie elements Fournier experimented with in designing his own home show up with increasing frequency in the work of Purcell and Elmslie. The 1912 Ward Beebe House, a Purcell and Elmslie project on which Fournier worked, makes a bolder use of the same cross gable and corner-set casement ribbon found in the Fournier House of 1910.

The oversized screened window walls of the Fournier House were also to become a special feature in Purcell and Elmslie designs. Examples include the Oscar Owre House (1911), the E.S. Hoyt House (1913) and Purcell's Rose Valley summer cottage (1918).¹² Purcell and Elmslie's C.T. Bachus House of 1915 has a screened window expanse glazed with the same Whitney window folding sash found in the Fournier House sleeping porch of 1910.

Of special interest is the connection between the domestic engineering of the Fournier House and Purcell and Elmslie's often noted achievements in this field. While at Purcell and Elmslie, Fournier served as the firm's expert in the latest domestic engineering gadgetry of the period and was selected to provide "push button living" to the house of one of the firm's most important clients, Josephine Crane Bradley.¹³ Fournier gained experience in this specialized engineering through designing the central vacuuming unit, laundry chute, galley kitchen, and rain water filtration system included in his own home of 1910.

When Purcell and Elmslie briefly permitted him to design under his own name, Fournier applied the Prairie style screened porch wing concept of the Fournier House to his design entry for a contest sponsored by the Minnesota State Arts Commission (see illustration 2). In winning first prize for this 1914 design, Fournier abandoned his Craftsman vocabulary of 1910 in favor of a fully developed Prairie style - a transformation symbolic of larger shifting trends in midwestern architectural history prior to World War I.

¹¹ Conforti, Michael (editor), *Minnesota 1900: Art and Life on the Upper Mississippi (1890-1915)* (Newark: University of Delaware Press)

¹² Gebhard, David. "Purcell and Elmslie Architects" (*Prairie School Review*, First Quarter 1965) 91

¹³ Conforti, Michael (editor), *Minnesota 1900*, 252

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
CONTINUATION SHEET**

Section 9 Page 6

**Fournier, Lawrence A. and Mary, House
Hennepin County, Minnesota**

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**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
CONTINUATION SHEET**

Section 9 Page 7

**Fournier, Lawrence A. and Mary, House
Hennepin County, Minnesota**

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NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
CONTINUATION SHEET

Section 10 Page 8

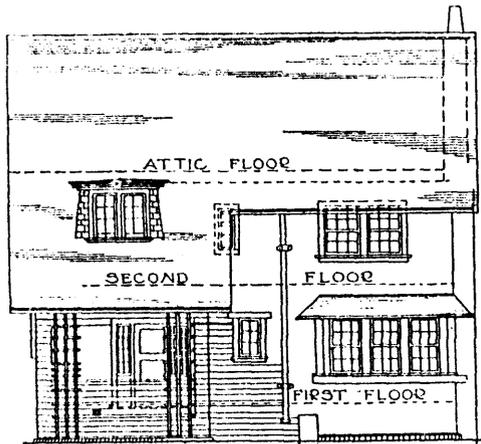
**Fournier, Lawrence A. and Mary, House
Hennepin County, Minnesota**

Verbal Boundary Description:

East Half of Lot 26, Utopia Addition to the City of Minneapolis

Verbal Boundary Justification:

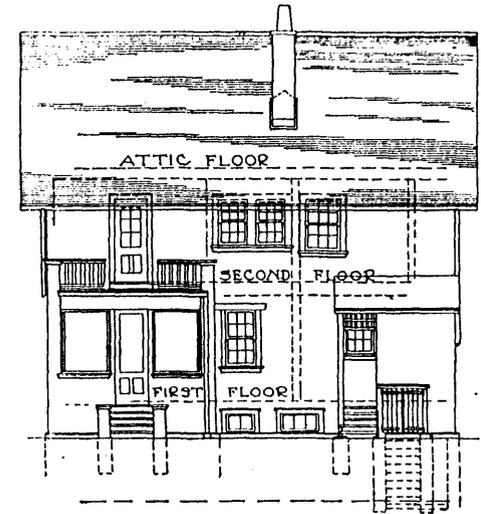
The nominated property includes the entire parcel historically associated with the Fournier house.



• FRONT • ELEVATION •



Reproduction of the Original Water-Color Sketch by the Architect



• REAR ELEVATION •

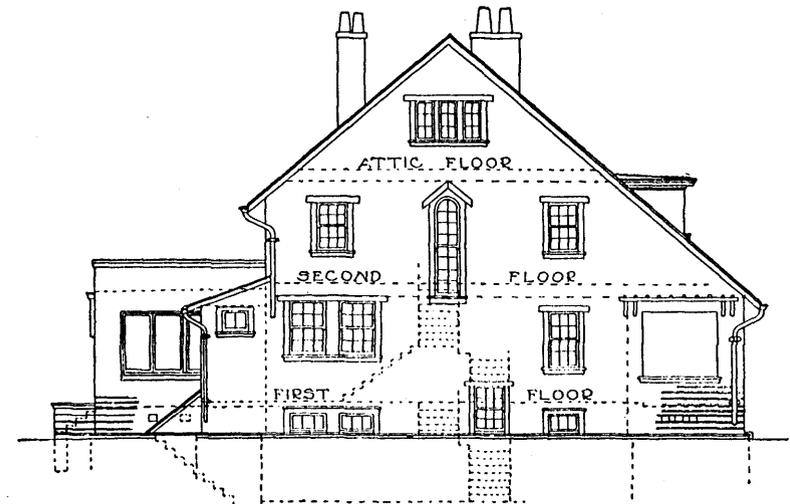
A Commodious-Looking Country Home

*Lawrence Buck, Architect,
Chicago, Illinois*

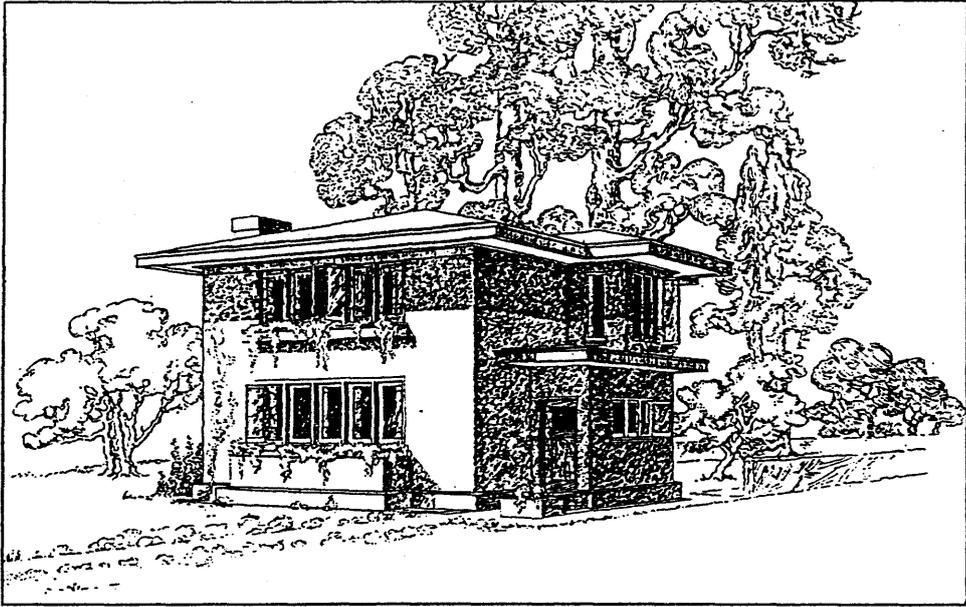
THE exterior walls of this house, the residence of Mr. Max H. Penwell, Pana, Illinois, are of frame, sheathed and felted and covered with 1 inch X 8 inch pine boards, rough side out. The roofs are covered with red cedar shingles. The interior finish is selected red birch throughout the main rooms of the first story. The finished floors are of red oak. The foundations are of brick plastered with Portland cement. For plans and sections see plate following.



• SOUTH • ELEVATION •



• NORTH • ELEVATION •



MODEL VILLAGE HOUSE—FIRST PRIZE DESIGN—L. A. FOURNIER, Architect, MINNEAPOLIS