

PH 364665

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

FOR NPS USE ONLY  
RECEIVED  
DATE ENTERED  
FEB 11 1976  
MAY 3 1976

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM**

SEE INSTRUCTIONS IN *HOW TO COMPLETE NATIONAL REGISTER FORMS*  
TYPE ALL ENTRIES -- COMPLETE APPLICABLE SECTIONS

**1 NAME**

**\*\*** HISTORIC  
The Reverend Jesse R. Zeigler House  
AND/OR COMMON  
"The Frank Lloyd Wright House"

**2 LOCATION**

STREET & NUMBER  
509 Shelby Street  
CITY, TOWN  
Frankfort  
STATE  
Kentucky  
VICINITY OF  
Sixth  
COUNTY  
Franklin  
CODE  
021  
CODE  
073  
NOT FOR PUBLICATION  
CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

**3 CLASSIFICATION**

CATEGORY	OWNERSHIP	STATUS	PRESENT USE
<input type="checkbox"/> DISTRICT	<input type="checkbox"/> PUBLIC	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> OCCUPIED	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> BUILDING(S)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE	<input type="checkbox"/> UNOCCUPIED	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSEUM
<input type="checkbox"/> STRUCTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> BOTH	<input type="checkbox"/> WORK IN PROGRESS	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCIAL
<input type="checkbox"/> SITE	<b>PUBLIC ACQUISITION</b>	<b>ACCESSIBLE</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATIONAL
<input type="checkbox"/> OBJECT	<input type="checkbox"/> IN PROCESS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> YES: RESTRICTED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PRIVATE RESIDENCE
	<input type="checkbox"/> BEING CONSIDERED	<input type="checkbox"/> YES: UNRESTRICTED	<input type="checkbox"/> ENTERTAINMENT
		<input type="checkbox"/> NO	<input type="checkbox"/> RELIGIOUS
			<input type="checkbox"/> GOVERNMENT
			<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRIAL
			<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY
			<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER:

**4 OWNER OF PROPERTY**

NAME  
Mrs. W. C. Weitzel, Jr.  
STREET & NUMBER  
509 Shelby Street  
CITY, TOWN  
Frankfort  
STATE  
Kentucky  
VICINITY OF

**5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION**

COURTHOUSE,  
REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.  
Franklin County Courthouse  
STREET & NUMBER  
St. Clair Street  
CITY, TOWN  
Frankfort  
STATE  
Kentucky

**6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS**

TITLE  
Survey of Historic Sites in Kentucky  
DATE  
1970  
DEPOSITORY FOR  
SURVEY RECORDS  
Kentucky Heritage Commission  
CITY, TOWN  
Frankfort  
STATE  
Kentucky  
FEDERAL  STATE  COUNTY  LOCAL

## 7 DESCRIPTION

### CONDITION

EXCELLENT  
 GOOD  
 FAIR

DETERIORATED  
 RUINS  
 UNEXPOSED

### CHECK ONE

UNALTERED  
 ALTERED

### CHECK ONE

ORIGINAL SITE  
 MOVED DATE \_\_\_\_\_

---

#### DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The Zeigler house is set on a narrow lot with more conventional turn-of-the-century houses--to which it forms an instructive comparison--on either side. The site slopes up steeply from the street, giving the house the appearance of being perched above the passerby and emphasizing the underside of the overhanging eaves. (It is not known whether Wright realized the nature of the site when he prepared by the design; one story has it that the unusual and challenging site was what prompted him to accept the commission.) [See photos 1, 2, and 3.]

(Sclarenco, pp. 7-16, 18) "[The Zeigler house] belongs to the type of 'prairie house' that has as its core a main block that is approximately square. In both plan and appearance it bears resemblances to several other houses of the type, including the Stephen M. B. Hunt house in LaGrange, Illinois, (1907) the L. K. Horner house in Chicago, and even the much more sophisticated and abstractly complex Mrs. Thomas H. Gale house in Oak Park (1909). The plan itself is almost identical with that of the third Ladies' Home Journal house (1906). There are, additionally, certain features, such as the stairwell and the shallow protruding balconies for plants, which may be observed in a sketch for the Curtis project and which are echoed almost exactly in the Zeigler house four years later. [Perhaps the executed structure that the Zeigler house most resembles is the central block of the Robert W. Evans house in Chicago with the Frankfort loggia a truncated vestige of the Evans extended wings.<sup>1</sup>] [See photo 10.]

"The main block of the Zeigler house is 30' wide and 32' at the sides and its two stories extend to a height of approximately 23'. From the front there extends a low terrace that runs the length of the facade and is connected with the living room by a set of glass doors that, in a manner rather bold and open even for Wright at the time, form almost a solid wall of glass, interrelating interior and exterior space in a fresh and daring way. This is the more remarkable since the terrace itself, unlike those in other similar houses of the period, is neither high nor enclosed. It is, on the contrary, low, and opens at the end near the entry. It is also connected at this end to the entrance walk by steps. The open quality of the glass doors is counterbalanced on the upper level by a shallow cantilevered balcony which runs almost the length of the front and which extends upward from the doors to the strip windows on the second floor. With the wide projecting eaves of the roof, that seem almost to press the building into the ground, it combines to help reaffirm the character of the house as a shelter, a private retreat [see photos 1 & 2].

"On the south side of the house there are similar balconies on both levels. These not only repeat and balance on the exterior the terrace and balcony projections of the front, but also combine with the leaded strip fenestration on this side of the building to afford an internal counterbalance to the open front within the L-shaped living-dining space itself. All these shallow balconies were designed for continuous banks of plants and have built-in metal troughs. They are accentuated by heavy timber stripping at the tops and bottoms and, on the upper level, are further integrated into the design of the structure by means of a continuous wooden strip that carries their top trimming almost completely around the house. [Photo 4.]

<sup>1</sup>Reproduced in Henry-Russell Hitchcock, In the Nature of Materials (1942 edition), Plates 130, 136, 160-61, 128-29.

(continued)

# 8 SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD		AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW				
<input type="checkbox"/> PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNITY PLANNING	<input type="checkbox"/> LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> RELIGION		
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> CONSERVATION	<input type="checkbox"/> LAW	<input type="checkbox"/> SCIENCE		
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> ECONOMICS	<input type="checkbox"/> LITERATURE	<input type="checkbox"/> SCULPTURE		
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATION	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY	<input type="checkbox"/> SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN		
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> ART	<input type="checkbox"/> ENGINEERING	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSIC	<input type="checkbox"/> THEATER		
<input type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCE	<input type="checkbox"/> EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> PHILOSOPHY	<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION		
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNICATIONS	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRY	<input type="checkbox"/> POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY)		
		<input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION				

SPECIFIC DATES      1909-10

BUILDER/ARCHITECT      Frank Lloyd Wright

## STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The design of the Zeigler house--the only building by Frank Lloyd Wright erected in Kentucky during his lifetime, and his first commission south of the Ohio River--comes at the end of the "Prairie Houses" phase of Wright's career. In its modest way, it is a quintessential Prairie house, of a type that Wright had hoped could become a model for popular suburban housing, and had allowed Edward Bok of the Curtis Publishing Company to publicize nationwide in The Ladies' Journal at the turn of the century. And it was just this type of design that European architects assimilated as the basis of their own "modern" architecture just before and after World War I.

Although the Zeigler house design belongs to an earlier sequence that ended about 1909 (what Manson calls "The First Golden Age") and marks no important new departure in Wright's work--in fact, he had completely forgotten it until reminded 35 years later, and in any case did not participate in its execution nor even see it until that late date--the circumstances of its commission belong to one of the most interesting and crucial episodes of Wright's career.

These circumstances were recounted by Carl Sclarenco in a 1949 paper, "A Prairie House in Kentucky," prepared for Professor Walter L. Creese of the University of Louisville.

"In 1910, the architect felt himself spent and creatively at a dead end. He describes it thus in his autobiography:

This absorbing, consuming ~~phase~~ of my experience as an architect ended about 1909. I had almost reached my fortieth year: weary, I was losing grip on my work and even interest in it. Every day of every week and far into the night of nearly every day, Sunday included, I had 'added tired to tired' and added it again and yet again, as I had been trained to do by Uncle James 'on the farm' as a boy. Continuously thrilled, too, by the effort that now seemed to leave my mind up against a dead wall. I could see no way out. Because I did not know what I wanted, I wanted to go away. Why not to Germany and prepare the material for the Wasmuth Monograph? I looked longingly in that direction. . . .<sup>1</sup>

"His solution to the dilemma was of necessity no less than a complete break with the stultifying set pattern of his life: friends, family, all. Forced to choose between an artistic ideal and the life that was making him creatively sterile, he elected, not without painful deliberation, to keep the ideal high. 'Turning my work, plans, draughtsmen and clients over to a man whom I

1. Frank Lloyd Wright, An Autobiography, p. 162 (1943 ed.).

## 9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Henry-Russell Hitchcock, In the Nature of Materials (N.Y.: Duell, Sloan and Pearce, 1942).  
 Frank Lloyd Wright, An Autobiography (N.Y.: Duell, Sloan and Pearce, 1943).  
 Carl Scларenco, "A Prairie House in Kentucky: Frank Lloyd Wright's House for the Reverend  
 J. R. Zeigler in Frankfort" (Dept. of Fine Arts, University of Louisville, 1949).

(continued)

## 10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY less than one acre

UTM REFERENCES

A 

1	6
---	---

6	8	5	9	8	5
---	---	---	---	---	---

4	2	2	8	8	7	0
---	---	---	---	---	---	---

B 

--	--

--	--	--	--	--	--

--	--	--	--	--	--	--

C 

--	--

--	--	--	--	--	--

--	--	--	--	--	--	--

D 

--	--

--	--	--	--	--	--

--	--	--	--	--	--	--

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE
STATE	CODE	COUNTY	CODE

## 11 FORM PREPARED BY

NAME / TITLE

Walter E. Langsam, Coordinator, Designation Program

ORGANIZATION

Kentucky Heritage Commission

DATE

June 9, 1975

STREET & NUMBER

401 Wapping Street

TELEPHONE

(502) 564-4476

CITY OR TOWN

Frankfort

STATE

Kentucky

## 12 STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER CERTIFICATION

THE EVALUATED SIGNIFICANCE OF THIS PROPERTY WITHIN THE STATE IS:

NATIONAL

STATE

LOCAL

As the designated State Historic Preservation Officer for the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (Public Law 89-665), I hereby nominate this property for inclusion in the National Register and certify that it has been evaluated according to the criteria and procedures set forth by the National Park Service.

SIGNATURE

*Eddred W. Melton*

TITLE

SHPO

DATE

2/5/76

FOR NPS USE ONLY

I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THIS PROPERTY IS INCLUDED IN THE NATIONAL REGISTER

ACTING

*W. J. ...*

DATE

5/3/76

DIRECTOR, OFFICE OF ARCHEOLOGY AND HISTORIC PRESERVATION

ATTEST:

*Charles ...*

DATE

5-3-76

KEEPER OF THE NATIONAL REGISTER

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM**

FOR NPS USE ONLY	
RECEIVED	FEB 11 1976
DATE ENTERED	MAY 3 1976

The Reverend Jesse R. Zeigler House

CONTINUATION SHEET

ITEM NUMBER 7 PAGE 2

"On the north side of the house, set back from the front of the main block and extending from its side, is a rectangular protuberance about half the length of the building which incorporates an entry and a passageway to the rear and to the kitchen. This projection is but one story high and there rises from it the somewhat smaller volume of a stairwell which extends from the main block only as far as the overhanging eaves, which serve to roof it. The space atop the entry in front of this stairwell is utilized as a tiny open porch which leads into the main bedroom on the second floor. The top of the stairwell is continuously glassed on all three sides so that light flows abundantly all during the day, and in this respect as well as in general feeling and design it is nearly identical to that of the Ladies' Home Journal project.

"The manner in which entry and stairwell interpenetrate is echoed in the design of the loggia which extends from the main block beside the entry. The low slab roof is supported by two monumental rectangular pillars, between which is a . . . wood screen of thin, square, vertical strips, narrowly spaced and broken only by a horizontal strip running through the center. A somewhat similar but much smaller screen forms part of one wall of the stairwell inside. . . . The loggia provides a passage to the rear that is open but both sheltered and private, and which relaxes and counterbalances the comparative rigidity and monotony of the square mass of the house. [Photos 5 and 6.]

"The only remaining extension of the main block occurs in the rear where a projection half the width of the house and nearly square serves as a screened-in porch connected with the interior by glass doors similar to those leading to the front terrace. An additional door on the north side of this extension leads to the rear yard. The upper part of this projection formed originally an unroofed, shallow-ledged sun porch connected with rooms on the second floor. This has been since altered . . . into an enclosed, separately roofed sleeping porch. [Photo 7.]

"The entire structure is surmounted by a hipped roof of the type made famous in the 'prairie houses,' through which there rises slightly toward the front and centered from the sides a rectangular chimney typical of such houses. With the exception of the rear, the eaves project far over the house, affirming the strong quality of shelter characteristic of the mature work of Wright in the first quarter of the twentieth century.

"Henry-Russell Hitchcock has pointed out that the restrictions of the square plan make many of the houses of this type dull and uninteresting. Despite this, however, the architect managed to achieve in the interior of the Zeigler house a spatial arrangement that is, on the ground floor at least, at once flexible, subtle and masterfully handled. From the entry a short series of steps leads up into the front arm of a continuous L-shaped living-dining

(continued)

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM**

FOR NPS USE ONLY
RECEIVED FEB 11 1976
DATE ENTERED MAY 3 1976

The Reverend Jesse R. Zeigler House

CONTINUATION SHEET

ITEM NUMBER 7 PAGE 3

space. This portion of the room features at the front the doors leading to the terrace, and at the rear--as is common in the 'prairie houses,' serving as a core for the entire plan--a yellow Roman-brick fireplace. Above the fireplace is a shelf-like enclosure that also forms the lowered ceiling for a passageway behind. It is faced with moveable leaded-glass doors which impart to it a hovering, almost floating appearance. The function of this shelf-like extension, however, is ambiguous. It may have been designed for either air-conditioning or indirect lighting, but there is also the possibility that it was intended for books or as a display shelf for china or glass articles. Wright's own guess was that it was designed for air conditioning, but the presence of the glass doors would seem to make this unlikely. A somewhat similar device for lighting and air conditioning is to be found in the Robie House (see Hitchcock, pl. 166). It serves, at any rate, to integrate into the design the passageway behind the fireplace which leads from the juncture of the L to the stairwell, making the fireplace itself at the same time a free-standing volume. Not only does it thus increase and enhance the dimensional qualities of the fireplace, but it also forms a secluded spot in the midst of the sweeping continuity of the L-plan. [Photos 8 and 9]

"The side arm of the L occupies the south half of the structure, . . . The outside wall has inset a continuous strip of windows leaded with the geometric pattern carried uniformly through most of the fenestration and glass partitioning of the house, while the opposite wall is fitted with a built-in china cabinet and sideboard with storage drawers. An oval lighting fixture attached directly to the ceiling is the only fixed source of light in the entire living-dining space. The treatment of wall and ceiling is here, as throughout the house, of the type common to Wright's houses of the period; a smooth plaster skin with unpainted wood trim. The continuous spatial flow of this living-dining room, the free-standing fireplace, the glass doors at both front and rear which extend and interrelate interior with exterior, the quantities of light afforded and the pure, plain walls with their warm, natural trim, all contribute to a sense of airiness, spaciousness and comfort. . . .

"The kitchen forms a self-contained, almost enclosed and isolated block that is yet completely accessible, connected on the one side to the dining space through a little passageway and pantry at the rear, and to both the rear yard and the front of the house. . . . Like the rest of the main block, it is elevated slightly above the entry and is connected to it by a short series of steps. Although the kitchen is small, it is both spacious and light. Windows are set into both outside walls and there are built-in cabinets in the longer inside wall similar to those in the dining space. The windows here are not leaded but are clear, in keeping with the character of the kitchen as a work room in the rear of the house where privacy is not so much desired as light. These windows, and for that matter all those in the building, are not of the familiar "guillotine" sash type but are of the casement variety,

(continued)

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM**

FOR NPS USE ONLY	
RECEIVED	FEB 11 1976
DATE ENTERED	MAY 3 1976

The Reverend Jesse R. Zeigler House

CONTINUATION SHEET

ITEM NUMBER 7 PAGE 4

opening outward by means of cranks, screens being placed on the inside; the type which Wright says in his autobiography he would have invented had they not already existed.

"The second floor is, as one might expect, more conventional, less interesting and less exciting than the ground floor. . . . Around the center hall are grouped in the front a master bedroom and a connecting smaller chamber, and in the rear a large room opposite the master bedroom, a recessed bathroom in the center, and beside it another smaller room. Yet the master bedroom has rising through it, rather awkwardly perhaps, the chimney, which occupies the rear corner near the adjoining room. Here the Roman brick of the downstairs room is replaced by conventional red brick and the execution is somewhat less satisfactory. . . .

"The stairwell is . . . one of the most attractive and important features of the house. Its hollow rectangular volume rises the full height of the building, partially divided in the center by a partition which forms a wall between the doubled-back stair levels and serves as a low retaining wall on the second floor. A light fixture attached to this partition illuminates the stairwell by night. Into the three outside walls are set built-in storage cabinets at the landing, while set into the wall on the first floor which divides the stairwell from the living room is a wood screen similar to that of the entrance loggia. "

Aside from the unexplained cabinet over the fireplace, there are other minor features unlike those in houses supervised directly by Wright and his assistants: the use of two different woods for the exterior trim and the lack of colored glass inserts in the leaded exterior panels (both perhaps the result of economy during construction).

The structure has undergone some slight alterations, most noticeably the enclosure of the sleeping porch mentioned above. In spite of a general lack of maintenance, particularly during some of the rental period, the house is largely intact, both outside and in.

The house was recorded for the Historic American Buildings Survey by a team under the supervision of Professor Philip A. Noffsinger of the School of Architecture, University of Kentucky, in 1972 (14 sheets deposited with the Library of Congress, Washington, D. C.).

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM**

FOR NPS USE ONLY	FEB 11 1976
RECEIVED	
DATE ENTERED	MAY 3 1976

The Reverend Jesse R. Zeigler House

**CONTINUATION SHEET**

ITEM NUMBER 7

PAGE 5

As the house is at present difficult of access and virtually unchanged, the majority of the photographs included in the form were taken from glass slides made at an unknown date by an unknown photographer and deposited in the slide collection of the Department of Fine Arts at the University of Louisville, Kentucky. Note that the trees surrounding the house (particularly the birch at the left of the entrance, which seems to be a planned and integral part of the composition) are not significantly smaller than at present.



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM**

FOR NPS USE ONLY RECEIVED DATE ENTERED	FEB 11 1976 MAY 3 1976
--	---------------------------

The Reverend Jesse R. Zeigler House

CONTINUATION SHEET

ITEM NUMBER 8 PAGE 2

had just met,' he writes, 'Von Holst, a young Chicago architect, and making the best provision I could for my family for one year, I broke with all that was as it was.'<sup>2</sup> Wright left Chicago and 'Usonia' and set sail for Europe.

'In the course of that most important voyage, the architect met a young Presbyterian minister from Frankfort, Kentucky, the Reverend Jessie R. Zeigler.<sup>3</sup> Whether or not the minister had heard of Wright before or was acquainted with his work is uncertain, although it seems possible that he may have been familiar with one or more of the Ladies' Home Journal projects. In any event, the Reverend Zeigler asked the architect to design him a house and Wright drew up a number of sketches for the building while en route. Here the origin of the house becomes obscure and complicated. The architect himself remembers only having made these preliminary sketches and disclaims any other connection with it.<sup>4</sup> There is little reason to doubt his memory and it is most likely that the sketches were sent back to the Oak Park workshop to be elaborated into a complete set of detailed plans. All efforts to locate the plans have failed; therefore, the degree of Wright's participation in their formulation and the question of their actual execution must remain matter of conjecture. The matter is of particular importance not only to the problem of placing this work in relation to the body of Wright's production, but especially because of certain features of the house, . . . responsibility for which the architect disclaims and even the function of which, in one case, is uncertain. Regardless, the house is unmistakably authentic and bears a strong resemblance to the third Ladies' Home Journal house, as well as others of Wright's work. The employment of a similar plan may be coincidental or it might, on the other hand, indicate that the Reverend Zeigler was familiar with the third Ladies' Home Journal project and desired a similar house. The house is listed in Hitchcock's catalogue as unsupervised, but whether this means that not even an assistant from the workshop helped in construction is uncertain.

'After his shipboard meeting with the Reverend Zeigler and the consequent sketches for a house, Wright went on to Italy to his 'voluntary exile at Fiesole.' The minister, apparently taking only a short summer vacation, returned to Kentucky, and in the winter of 1910, under the supervision of a Frankfort contractor named Scott [since deceased], construction was begun on what was to be one of the last of the 'prairie houses' and the first building by Wright to be erected south of the Ohio River. The house was built on a plot of hillside property located at what was to be 509 Shelby Street in the old section of Frankfort, a few blocks from the new State Capitol.

<sup>2</sup> F. L. Wright, op. cit., p. 164.

<sup>3</sup> The story of this meeting was corroborated by Wright during a 1948 lecture-visit to the University of Louisville which included a trip to the Frankfort house. This was the first time Wright had seen the building. Rev. Zeigler was the minister of the First Presbyterian Church of Frankfort.

<sup>4</sup> See the letter from Wright to Sclarenco transcribed below.

(continued)

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM**

FOR NPS USE ONLY	
RECEIVED	FEB 11 1976
DATE ENTERED	MAY 3 1976

The Reverend Jesse R. Zeigler House

CONTINUATION SHEET

ITEM NUMBER 8 PAGE 3

"The property had been purchased by the minister from Russell McRery of Frankfort in May 1909. The house was partially financed by a mortgage, dated September 23, 1910, between the Reverend Zeigler and his wife Charlotte and the Capital Trust Company of Frankfort. These documents are to be found in Deed Book 55, p. 21, and Mortgage Book 38, p. 307, in the office of the Franklin County Clerk, Frankfort. The mortgage is in the amount of \$4,650 which might be some indication of the cost of the house since the Ladies' Home Journal project had been subtitled 'A Fireproof House for \$5,000.' On the other hand, the Frankfort house probably cost more than this since it is larger than the project. "

The Zeiglers left Frankfort about 1916 and the property changed hands several times before being purchased in 1948 by the present owner and her late husband. In the interim it had been used as rental property. Thanks no doubt to its location there were several distinguished tenants, including Judge (later Governor) and Mrs. Simeon Willis.

Letter from Wright to Sclarenco dated September 6, 1948:

My dear Mr. Sclarenco: I did build the house and we have the drawings. The plans were sent to the Zeiglers and they employed a builder.

I never saw the house until my visit to Lexington last spring.

It all seems normal except the strange cabinet above the fireplace. Some liberties taken there?

Sincerely yours,

Frank Lloyd Wright

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES  
INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM**

FOR NPS USE ONLY	
RECEIVED	FEB 11 1976
DATE ENTERED	MAY 3 1976

The Reverend Jesse R. Zeigler House  
CONTINUATION SHEET

ITEM NUMBER 9 PAGE 2

---

Justus Bier, article in The Courier-Journal (Louisville, December 3, 1950).

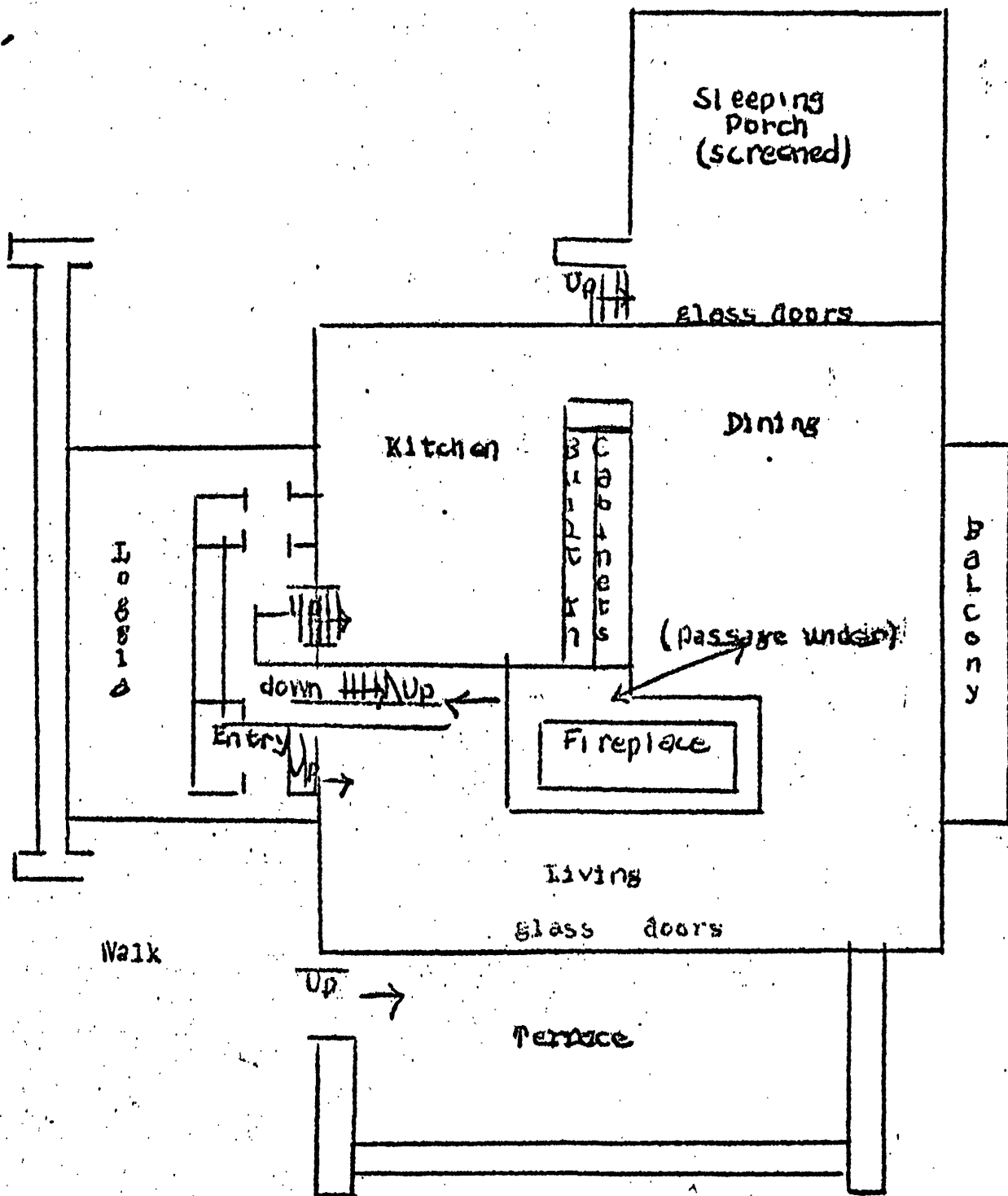
Grant Carpenter Manson, Frank Lloyd Wright to 1910, The First Golden Age (N. Y. : Reinhold Publishing Corp. , 1958).

Edgar Kaufmann and Ben Raeburn, eds., Frank Lloyd Wright: Writings and Buildings (N. Y. : Meridian Books, 1960), Catalogue II. g. 1.)

H. Allen Brooks. The Prairie School. (Toronto: University of Toronto, 1970).

Kentucky Heritage Commission survey forms prepared by Thomas R. Martinson (1967) and Mrs. C. A. Julian (1970).

ZEIGLER HOUSE: First Floor



ZEIGLER HOUSE: Second Floor

