

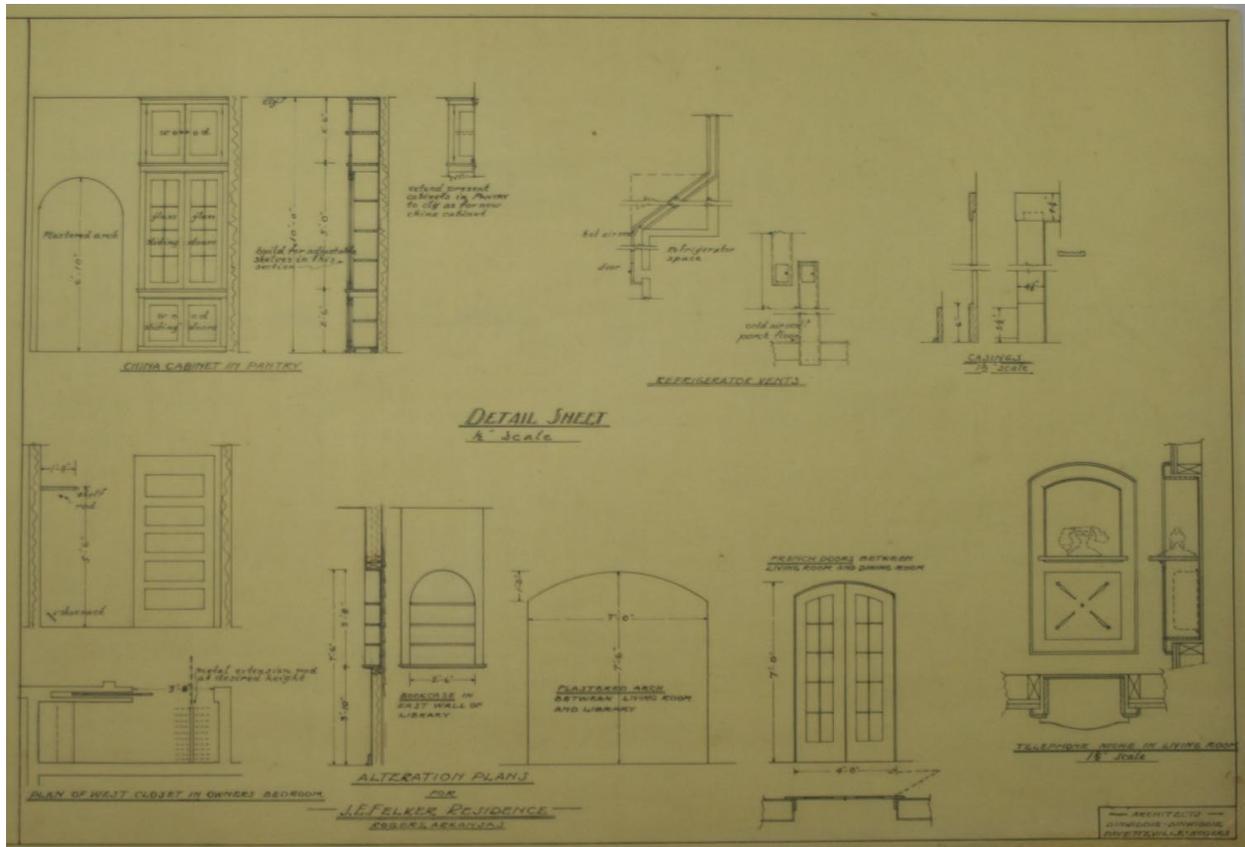
# Donation of the Month

Blueprints

1985.11

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All buildings start life as a set of drawings on paper. Every detail mapped out to make sure nothing gets missed and all will pass inspection upon completion. These sketches are called blueprints. Drawn by architects they give the potential contractors a guide for bidding and the builder a construction plan.

Architects draw more than one blueprint, leaving no detail too small to be overlooked once the project is turned over to the builder. This also allows the architect to make sure nothing was missed and all is correct to the owner's specifications. Two types of drawings called the plan and section show how components of the design relate to one another. The sketch of the desired elevation also shows relationships; however, design details are also shown. Each sketch gets more and more detailed as a three-dimensional drawing shows perspectives and details in a view that is close to the final experience. Finally, there are large scale views called plans and detail drawings; both of which use elevations and section drawings to provide details about specific materials and dimensions. Once, all is satisfactory construction can begin. In the end, the blueprints map out the architects vision of the final product and if followed the final product should look exactly like the blueprints.

By looking at the blueprint one can see how the building, whether still standing or gone, looked like at the time it was constructed. One can also see how it was constructed, giving future architects working on a remodel the ability to understand its construction without tearing down any walls. This can also help researchers understand the particular style and design of architectural trends, or of a particular architect. Due to architectural trends and a long list of architects, Rogers has an eclectic mix of buildings

styles.

Rogers has several notable architects designing everything from church buildings to resort hotels to homes. The most famous architect was A.O. Clarke. Clarke was brought in by Coin Harvey to design hotels out at Monte Ne. He ended up staying and designing several public buildings, churches and homes throughout Rogers and Benton County even Kansas and Missouri. One of the least well known is Belle Dinwiddie. Although she worked throughout both Fayetteville and Rogers we know nothing about her. Her work done in the 1940s and 1950s was mostly renovations and additions to local homes and a few businesses; however, her drawings show she was an accomplished architect. The blueprint shown here are two of hers; one is an elevation, the other a detail sheet for alterations to the J.E. Felker home. In more recent times Rogers has been home to Perry L. Butcher & Associates as well as JKJ Architects.

Architects and architecture go hand in hand. What the architect designs and plots on the blueprint is often influenced by the architectural style of the day; but also the particular style of the architect. Many architects designed their own styles and influenced other architects throughout the Nation. This is true of Frank Lloyd Wright, who didn't design any homes in Rogers but certainly influenced Faye Jones who designed several homes such as the Applegate house East of Rogers. While Rogers has some unique designs like the Applegate house, much of Rogers architecture follows style trends. Homes built around the turn-of-the-century are Victorian inspired, while those built in the 1930s are craftsman style bungalows. With the long list of architects in Rogers, the city has an eclectic architectural history.

Today's architects are part of a long line of accomplished architects that have worked in and around Rogers. Each of these architects has placed their mark on the city, from the grand designs of A.O. Clarke to the prairie style of Faye Jones. All of these architects' designs were brought to life using blueprints to guide the builders. Blueprints are invaluable to understanding the workings of an architect and the architectural style in which they worked. And whether the blueprint is a section or detail drawing they continue to tell the story of the building they were designed for.