

F.L. Wright: Precedent, Analysis & Transformation

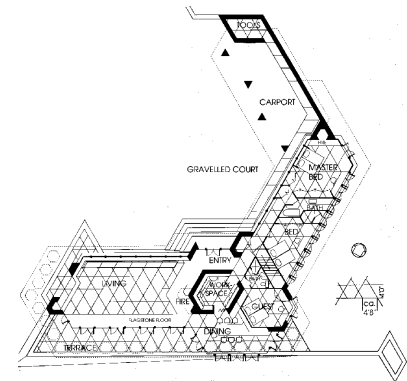
CMU, Arch 48-441 (Project Course)
Spring 2005, M/W/F 11:30-12:20, CFA 211

Prof. Kai Gutschow
Email: gutschow@cmu.edu
Off. Hr: M/F 12:30-1:30pm & by appt. in MM307

11/12/05

HAGAN HOUSE ANALYSIS - OVERVIEW

In order to thoroughly analyze and understand I.N. & Bernadine Hagan's House on Kentuck Knob in Chalk Hill, PA (1954-56), we will divide the investigation into several subsidiary, inter-related parts. Each student will be responsible for researching and analyzing several aspects of the house and submitting a report summarizing their findings. A short second phase of the project will investigate possible transformations of the design based on our analysis (drafts due Mar. 25 & Apr. 8; final project May 8).



PART I, HEXAGON:

The hexagonal motif that underlies nearly all aspects of the Hagan House design will be the subject of several lectures in class and separate comparative investigations. In our analysis we seek to understand both how the Hagan House relates to FLW's other diagonal designs, as well as the unique aspects and implications for this house. All students should speculate and seek to find innovative ways to understand, analyze, and highlight the special nature of the Hagan hexagon, especially as it relates to their analysis of the parts.

PART II, WOODWORK:

Although masonry, flagstones and concrete are clearly important materials in the Hagan House, the class will focus on the impressive woodwork that undoubtedly shapes the most important architectural experiences and design features of the house. Each student will research one of the following three primary components of the woodwork. Work to compare your woodwork with that of earlier FLW houses, particularly of the Prairie and Usonian styles. Speculate on why and in what ways the Hagan House woodwork is both unique and similar to other buildings by FLW.

1. Walls & Structure, construction system of the main exterior & interior walls
2. Furniture, the built-in furniture, & furniture originally approved or designed by FLW, including couch, dining, hallway shelving, bedrooms
3. Ornament, the cutout clerestories, dentils, triangular lights, hexagonal skylights, doors and windows, color/grain/species of wood material

PART III, FUNCTIONAL SPACES:

All students will study one of the main spaces listed below. Record it in text, sketch, plans, photos, and verbal description. Analyze it in relation to FLW's earlier work, in relation to "ordinary" vernacular architecture, as well as in relation to other contemporary high-design buildings. Particular emphasis should be placed on comparing your space in the Hagan House to similar spaces in the Prairie Houses (esp. Martin) and other Usonian houses (esp. Pope-Leighey). Be sure to focus on the experiential relationship of your space to the rest of the house (i.e. how it fits into the overall plan).

1. Entry & circulation; location in plan, width of halls, flow
2. Kitchen; also called "work room," relation to living, size, role of women
3. Living Room; views, hearth, planters, "community", relation to terrace
4. Dining Room; table & cabinets, relation to kitchen, liv.rm. & terraces
5. Bedrooms & Baths, separate wing, master & children, bath geometry



PART IV, OTHER ASPECTS

All students will study one of the other important aspects of the Hagan House, documenting the unique aspects of the house with respect to your topic, and comparing it to related work by FLW and other architects at the time.

1. Siting, orientation, landscaping, topography, relationship of interior & exterior
2. Non-Living spaces & structures: roof, foundation, basement, overhangs, planters, carport, terraces
3. Systems: heating, water, ventilation, solar gain, fire places
4. Program & Clients, relationship of architect & client, client satisfaction, program vs. delivered house, living in the house, alterations, etc.

All students should obtain a separate sketchbook/notebook in which all thoughts about the Hagan house can be recorded, assembled, compared and developed.

BIBLIOGRAPHY:

Hagan, Bernadine. FLW's House for I.N. and Bernadine Hagan (forthcoming, 2005)

Webb, Michael. Modernism Reborn: Mid-Century American Houses (2001), pp.80, 88-93.

Hoffmann, Donald. FLW's Kentuck Knob (2000)

Storrer, William. The FLW Companion (1993), p.405.

Pfeiffer, B.B & Y. Futagawa. FLW Selected Houses vol.7 (1991), pp.162-175

Pfeiffer, B.B. & Y. Futagawa. FLW Monograph, 1951-1959 vol.8 (1988), pp.124-125

Interview Bernadine Hagan, by R. Cleary & R. Taylor, Aug. 15, 1988

National Register Nomination form, prepared by Clinton Piper, 2000:

<http://www.cr.nps.gov/nhl/designations/samples/pa/hagan.pdf>

HABS Photos on-line at Library of Congress: http://www.loc.gov/rr/print/list/103_flw.html#pa

Restoration As-Built Plans, 1988, in Hunt Library Architectural Archives

Working Drawings, set from Taliesin Archives

Collection of newspaper & magazine articles, including:

"Portfolio of Houses by FLW," House and Home (Sept. 1960): 118-119

Van Trump, J. "Caught in a Hawk's Eye," The Charette (Apr. 1964);
reprinted in Hagan (2005).

Miller, D. "Visiting the State's other Wright House," Pgh. Post-Gazette (Aug. 4, 1983)

Giron, K. "Kentuck Knob," Tribune Review (Apr. 28, 1996), Focus magazine, p.8-13

Miller, D. "All the Wright Moves," Pgh. Post-Gazette (May 4, 1996) Homes

Beyer, S. "From Cows to Cantilevers: Kentuck Knob and the Kaufmanns," Friends of Fallingwater n.15 (Oct. 1996): 1-6.

Zukowsky, D. "Kentuck Knob Stonework is a Legacy to their Skill," Pgh. Post-Gazette (Apr. 11, 1999), "Arts & Entertainment"

"The I.N. Hagan House-Kentuck Knob," FLW Quarterly 15:4 (Fall 2004): 14-23.



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HAGAN HOUSE ANALYSIS – ASSIGNMENT

0. READ

McCarter, Robert. "The Integrated Ideal: Ordering Principles in the Arch. of FLW," as well as other essays in FLW: A Primer on Arch'l Principles (1991) as model of exemplary analyses.

1. RESEARCH

- A. Find articles (Avery) and books (CAMEO & Worldcat) containing material related to each of your assigned research subjects (see chart below). If CMU does not own, order them via ILL (ASAP). Look in literature about FLW, but also in other sources that will give you comparative examples and material (contemporary architectural magazines, Arch'l Graphics Standards from the time, sources on modern design/houses/furniture/ etc.)
- B. Flip through the most comprehensive books and monograph series on FLW from the list below and pick FIVE (5) FLW or other houses that you would like to compare to the Hagan House with respect to your particular analysis subjects (they can be five different houses for each subject):

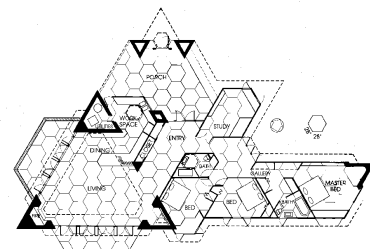
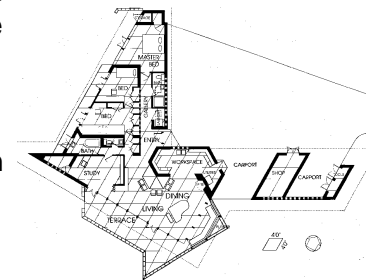
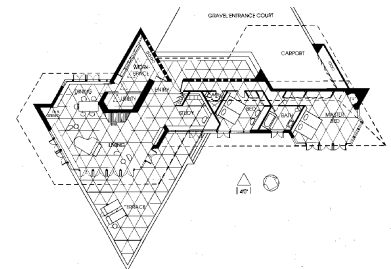
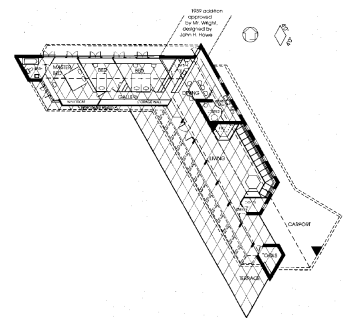
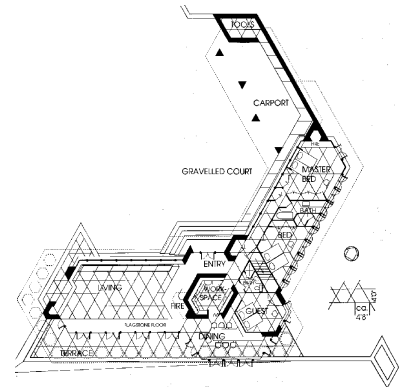
- Storrer, FLW Companion (1993)
(720.8 W94STAAA in ref. and CD in Music Library)
- Pfeiffer & Futagawa, FLW Monograph, 12 vols. (1984-88)
(720.8 W94WAAQ in ref.), esp. vol.8
- Pfeiffer & Futagawa, FLW. Selected Houses, 8 vols. (1989-91)
(720.8 W94WAAS, in ref.), esp. vol. 7
- Sergeant, Usonian Houses
- McCarter, FLW; Levine, The Arch. of FLW; Riley, FLW, Architect

2. GRAPHIC ANALYSIS

- A. Compare photographs, plans, sections, and details of the Hagan House with the other houses you have selected. Using your own knowledge about FLW, his sources and design principles, work to find *significant and meaningful similarities and differences*.
- B. Speculate as to WHY FLW or another architect might have made the different or similar design decisions you discover through comparison
- C. Present your findings in a series of 11x17 sheets using photographs, sketches, drafted analyses as well as captions or explanatory paragraphs.

3. WRITTEN ANALYSIS

- A. Prepare a 3-5pp. written, text-based summary of your findings on each subject (9-15pp. total). Be aware of how *writing* down the findings of your research and comparative evaluations should bring a different level of awareness about the issues raised in the graphic comparison. Writing and drawing each help clarify thoughts and discoveries in different ways!



4. TEAM ANALYSIS SUBJECT ASSIGNMENTS (see outline above):

II: WOODWORK	III: FUNCTIONAL SPACES	IV: OTHER
Wall/Struct. Will Hopkins Emily Brayton	Entry & Circ. Brian McKinney Kitchen Diego Bauza	Siting Josh Cummings Carole Aspeslagh
Furniture Elizabeth MacWillie Josh Cummings Diego Bauza	Living Elizabeth MacWillie Josh Cummings	Non-living Kevin Wei Will Hopkins
Ornament Kevin Wei Brian McKinney Carole Aspeslagh	Dining Room Carole Aspeslagh Will Hopkins Bed & Bath Kevin Wei	Systems Emily Brayton Brian McKinney Progr./Client Elizabeth MacWillie Diego Bauza

5. SCHEDULE:

- Feb. 25 Lecture on Hagan Hse. and assignment of subjects, Assign Hoffmann & McCarter readings
- Mar. 2 Discuss assignment details, start research
- Mar. 4-13 Spring Break
- Mar. 20 Field Trip to Hagan House & Fallingwater
- Mar. 25 **DUE:** Rough draft of "Graphic Analysis"
- Apr. 8 **DUE:** 2nd Draft of "Graphic Analysis and rough draft of "Written Analysis"
ASSIGN Design transformation sketch project
- May 8 **DUE:** Final report, including Graphic & Written Analysis, and transformation design



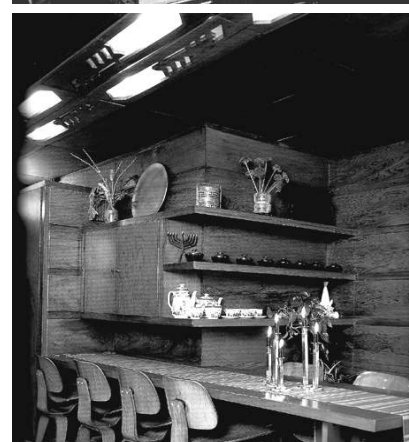
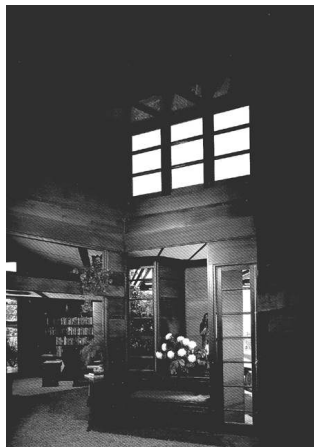
6. BIBLIOGRAPHY (see also books listed in "Overview" above!)

GENERAL FORMAL ANALYSIS

- Laseau, P. FLW, Between Principle & Form (1992), E.g. Ch.2, pp.15-25
- Hildebrand, G. The Wright Space (1991)
- Hanks, D.A. The Decorative Designs of FLW (1979)

HEXAGON / DIAGONAL

- Hanna, P.&J. FLW's Hanna House (1981)
- Joncas, R. "Pedagogy & Reflex: FLW's Hanna House," JSAH 52 (1993)
- Hersey, G. Monumental Impulse(1999) Ch.4, pp.62-72
- Hamilton, M.J. FLW & Madison (1990) pp.179-88 (Unitarian, Sundt)
- Morosco, G. "Forward," to B. Hagan, Kentuck Knob... (2005)
- Levine, N. "FLW's Diagonal Planning," in H. Searing, In Search of Modern Architecture (1982) pp.245-277 (cf. Levine, FLW Architect, p.497 n. ??)
- De Long, D. Auldbrass: FLW's Southern Plantation (2003), esp. pp.46-89.
- Ramirez, J.A. The Beehive Metaphor (2000), esp. pp.109-114
- Alofsin, A. FLW: the Lost Years 1910-1922 (1993), esp. Ch.9, pp.261-286
- Hoppen, D. "Third Age: Triangle," in The Seven Ages of FLW (1993) pp.58-72
- FLW, The Natural House (1953), esp. "Furniture," etc.
- Sergeant, J. "Woof and Warp," Environment and Planning B 3 (1976): 211-224



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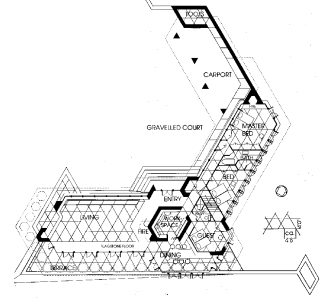
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HAGAN HOUSE ANALYSIS - CONTEXT IN CONTEMPORARY PERIODICALS

DUE: Draft Mon. Apr. 18; Final due with overall Analysis, May 8

One of the most productive modes of analysis, indeed of all understanding, is through COMPARISON to a VARIETY of CONTEXTS. The original Hagan House Analysis Assignment urged you to explore at least five other houses in relation to your Kentuck Knob analysis topics, either other houses by FLW, or contemporary houses.

In order to promote more intense investigation of the contemporary architectural scene as a means to understanding Kentuck Knob, every student will be asked to search through one professional architectural periodical and one domestic home magazine from 1953-1956 to find specific comparative images. Find AT LEAST 20 images related to your particular analysis topics in EACH journal you sign up for. Scan images, save on a disk, and print out on 8.5"x11" or 11"x17" pages, with title and brief caption & source for each image. For EXTRA CREDIT, search through a foreign architectural magazine and/or bring back images related to other analysis topics of your peers.



Be sure to look at feature articles, notes, and advertisements. Try to get a feel for the color schemes, the fashion, style and mood of the era. What are the dominant themes? What are the dominant companies? Who is the target audience? What is the "ideal" house represented in the magazine? What is the role of women? What is the approach to machines? How is wood shown and used in architecture? What kind of ornament is depicted?

DOMESTIC HOME MAGAZINES

House and Garden (New York, 1901-1977)

House Beautiful (New York, 1951-1975)

(NOT v.97, Oct.-Dec. 1955)

House and Home (New York, 1953-1977)

Arts & Architecture (Los Angeles, 1945-1966)

EXTRA CREDIT

Domus (Milan, 1950ff.)

Werk (Bern, 1947-1976)

Shinkenchiku / Japan Architect (1955-pres.)

L'Architecture d'aujourd'hui (Boulogne, 1953-pres.)

Bauen & Wohnen (Munich, 1952)

PROFESSIONAL ARCHITECTURE JOURNALS

Architectural Forum (New York, 1917-1974)

Progressive Architecture (New York, 1946-1995)

Journal of the A.I.A. (Washington, 1944-1957)

Architectural Review (London, -present)

ANALYSIS TOPICS

Woodwork: Walls/Structure, Ornament, Furniture

Function: Entry, Kitchen, LR, DR, Bed/Bath

Other: Site, Non-living, Systems, Client/Program

A small kitchen needn't be inconvenient!

Just see how skillful planning transformed a scant 10'x11' area into a beautiful kitchen of smooth, work-saving convenience! The secret—generous work surfaces and a place for everything handily near where it's first used, thanks to Republic Steel Kitchens. And who would't treasure that "kissed"? It serves as dining bar, window work counter, storage area...and deftly discourages cross-kitchen traffic.

REPUBLIC STEEL Kitchens

Small kitchen—big possibilities! Republic Steel Kitchens make you get the most out of every inch of space. Republic Steel Kitchens make you get the most out of every inch of space. Republic Steel Kitchens make you get the most out of every inch of space.

Small kitchen—big possibilities! Republic Steel Kitchens make you get the most out of every inch of space. Republic Steel Kitchens make you get the most out of every inch of space. Republic Steel Kitchens make you get the most out of every inch of space.

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Usable wall space in living room totals 370", a big asset to furniture arrangement and a rarity in small houses today. This seating group is backed by triple windows draped floor to ceiling in a price and customer mesh.

Left: View from front door. Long run of floor space is increased by dining L, whose actual distance, diagonally from fireplace corner, is 32". This allows for two oversized seating groups, plus a desk area.

Seven 30" oval ottomans placed together to form sofa permit a flexible seating arrangement. We liked idea of two distinct groupings and could manage it on a budget, because we used foam rubber cushioned ottomans.

House Beautiful's Decorating Staff furnished this 7-room house on a total budget of \$6,000 for everything except the outdoor terrace furniture. All draperies and bedspreads are ready-made. All merchandise can be bought in fall offerings of stores

Please turn this page

The famous "Falling Water" house, world's most publicized residence, designed by Frank Lloyd Wright, is equipped with

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HAGAN HOUSE ANALYSIS: TRANSFORMATION

DUE: with overall Analysis, May 8

"Do not try to teach design. Teach principles." FLW, 1936.

"I hope [my] buildings. . . illustrate basic principles which give to them all such vitality, integrity, and magic as they have. I still hope to see these basic principles more comprehended, therefore the effects imitated less. No man's work need resemble mine. If he understands the working of the principles behind the effects he sees [in my buildings], with similar integrity he will have his own way of building." - FLW 1951.

"I am convinced that the pattern made by a cross section of a honeycomb has more fertility and flexibility where human movement is concerned than the square. The obtuse angle is more suited to human to and fro than the right angle. Flow and movement is, in this design, a characteristic lending itself admirably to life, as life is to be lived in it." - FLW 1938.

"Remember the impression one gets from good architecture, that it expresses a thought. It makes one want to respond with a gesture." - Ludwig Wittgenstein.

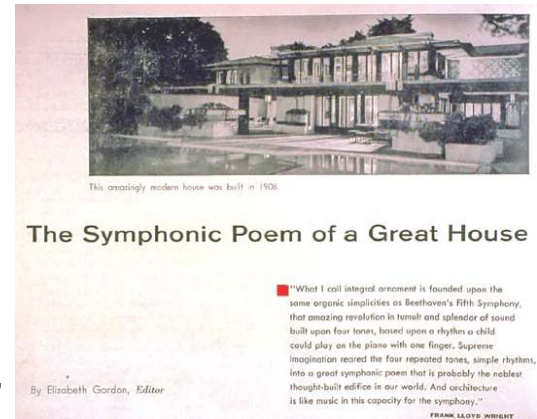
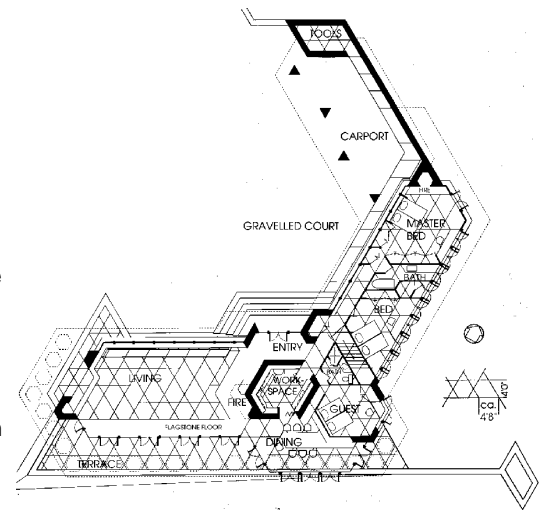
Inspired by the quotes above, and using all the knowledge, experience, and intuition about FLW buildings and Kentuck Knob in particular that you have gathered over the course of the semester, "respond" to the Hagan House by designing a small addition, remodeling, or additional element for some part of the house. Your design can either "blend in" and "resemble" Wright's aesthetic, OR it can be based on the "principles" that he espoused, including "vitality, integrity, and magic." Consider also the hexagonal "unit system" that is at the core of the entire Hagan House, and the idea of architecture as a "symphonic poem." Your design can be "retro" for 1953, or "contemporary" for 2005. You can use any appropriate material, as long as it conforms to Wright's principles.

Your design should be communicated through a series of sketches on a 8.5"x11" or 11"x17" page to be appended to your Hagan House Analysis. To accompany and justify your design as fitting the Hagan House, you should compose a 100 word "concept statement" or explanation of principles.

Examples of the items you might design are taken from the list of items that Mrs. Hagan took with her when she left in 1986, or for features that might need to be renovated or updated over time:

- Dining Room Chair
- Living Room Chair (wood or upholstered)
- Coffee Table
- End Table
- Chest for Entry
- Wood Screen
- New Rug
- Exterior Planter
- Kitchen Skylight
- Improved Toolshed
- Entry Sign for Kentuck Knob
- Ticket Booth for estate
- Interpretive Sculpture or Design-Build Element
- ?

The list is not complete, meant more to illustrate a scale and complexity. You are free to choose any element you wish, or to compose an interpretative art work or design of any kind.



COMPARISON BUILDINGS for KENTUCK KNOB

HEXAGONS & 30/60°

Bay Windows on early homes
Martin House, Buffalo, NY, 1904 (windows)
Midway Gardens, Chicago, IL, 1914 (decoration)
Imperial Hotel, Tokyo, 1915-1923 (esp. furniture & decorative work)
Bogk House, Milwaukee, WI, 1916-17 (decoration)
A.M. Johnson Desert Compound, Death Valley, CA, 1922-25 (project)
Nakoma Country Club, Madison, WI, 1923-24 (project)
Kindergarten & Playhouse for Barnsdall, Los Angeles, 1923 (project)
Doheney Ranch, Los Angeles, 1923 (project)
Lake Tahoe Summer Resort, CA, 1922-1924 (project)
Freeman House, Los Angeles, 1923-1924 (concrete block pattern)
Taliesin III Apprentice Quarters & Chicken Coops, 1925
San Marcos in Desert Resort, Chandler, AZ, 1928-1929 (project)
Cudney House, Chandler, AZ 1929 (project)
Steel Cathedral, NYC, 1926 (project)
St. Marks Towers, NYC, 1927-31 (project)
Ocatilla Camp, AZ, 1928
Taliesin Drafting Studio, 1932 (hearth & structure)
Wiley House, Minneapolis, MI, 1933 (terrace)
Fallingwater, 1935-38 (30/60° used to lay out plans)
Kaufmann Office, Pittsburgh, 1937
Hannah House, Stanford, CA, 1936
Herbert Johnson House, Racine, WI, 1937 (playroom)
Manson House, Wausau, WI, 1938
Florida Southern College, Lakeland, FL, 1938ff.
(Pfeiffer Chapel, Roux Library, Minor Chapel)
Sidney Bazett House, Hillsborough, CA, 1939
Armstrong House, Gary, IN, 1939
Auldbrass Plantation, Yemassee, SC, 1938
Stevens House, Yemassee, SC, 1940
Community Church, Kansas City, MO, 1940
Wall Residence, Plymouth, MI, 1941
Richardson house, Glen Ridge, NJ, 1940
Nesbitt House, Carmel, CA, 1941 (project)
Sundt House, Madison, WI, 1941 (project)
Guggenheim project, NYC, 1944
Friedman Vacation Lodge, Pecos, NM, 1945
Unitarian Church, Madison, WI, 1947
McCartney Residence, Parkwyn Village, Kalamazoo, MI, 1949
Hughes House, Jackson, MS, 1948
Lamberson House, Oskaloosa, IO, 1948
Walker Residence, Carmel, CA, 1948
Anthony House, Benton Harbor, MI, 1949
Reisley House, Pleasantville, NY, 1951
Davis House, Marion, IN, 1950
Berger House, San Anselmo, CA, 1950
Mathews House, Atherton, CA, 1950
Palmer House, Ann Arbor, MI, 1950
Smith House, Jefferson, WI, 1950

Gillin, House, Dallas, TX, 1950
Kraus Residence, Kirkwood, MO, 1951
Glore Residence, Lake Forest, IL, 1951
Kinney House, Lancaster, WI, 1951
Rubin House, Canton, OH, 1951
Edgar Kaufmann Chapel, Mill Run, PA, 1951-52 (project)
Chahroudi Cottage, Lake Mahopac, NY, 1951
Teater Studio, Bliss, ID, 1952
Price Tower, Bartlesville, OK, 1952
Andreton Court Shops, Beverly Hills, CA, 1952
Point View Residence, Pittsburgh, 1952-53 (project)
Boomer Residence, Phoenix, AZ, 1953
Cooke House, Virginia Beach, VA, 1953
Dobkins, Residence, Canton, OH, 1953
Beth Shalom, Synagogue, Elkins, Park, PA, 1954
Arnold House, Columbus, WI, 1954
Hagan House, Chalkhill, PA, 1954
Thaxton House, Bunker Hill, TX, 1954
Fawcett House, Los Banos, CA, 1955
Heritage-Herrredon Furniture Line, 1955
Friedman House, Bannockburn, IL, 1956
Arizona State Capitol, Phoenix, 1957 (project)
Olfelt House, St. Louis Park, MN, 1958
Albin House, Bakersfield, CA, 1958
Stromquist House, Bountiful, UT, 1958
Pilgrim Congregational Church, Redding, CA, 1958

OCTOGONS & 45°:

FLW Home & Office, Oak Park, IL. 1898
Bagley House Library, Hinsdale, IL 1894
Chauncey Williams House, River Forest, IL 1895
Romeo & Juliet Windmill, Taliesin, 1896
Furbeck House, Oak Park, 1897
River Forest Golf Club, 1898
Husser House, Chicago, IL, 1899
Willits House, Highland Park, IL 1901 (ceiling, prow)
Glasner Residence, Glencoe, IL 1905
Robie House, Chicago, IL, 1909 (prow)
Beach Cottages, Dumyat, Egypt, 1927
T-West, Scottsdale, AZ, 1937
Guggenheim Scheme, NYC, 1944 (project)
Walter house, Quaqueton, IO, 1945
Elam House, Austin, MI, 1950
Lindholm Service Station, Cloquet, MI, 1956

OTHER

Fallingwater, 1935-38 (30/60° used to lay out plans)
Usonian Model House, "60 Years of Living Architecture" Exhibit, Guggenheim Site
Notz House, Briery/Berndtson
Douglas House, Ross, PA, P. Berndtson, 1962