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Amy Vaill is beginning to answer many of the questions we still have. And she's full of interesting anecdotes that give the house new life; for example, about the furnishings the family had — many of them Stickley!

She has also found three old photos of the exterior of the house circa 1913, confirming that what we have done is faithful to the way it was then. She has also confirmed our choice of wood stain as very close to the original color of the interior. The house is almost as she remembers it 76 years ago.

She told us she hated leaving the house — her favorite spot was the fireplace inglenook — but the war came, and her father enlisted in the army around 1915. The family moved away, never to return.

From 1902 until his magazine The Craftsman ceased publication in 1916, Gustav Stickley published plans for more than 200 houses, ranging in cost from $900 to $30,000. His magazine subscribers were automatically members of the “Home Builders Club,” entitled to one free set of plans per year. What's more, if a reader wanted to modify a plan or have one designed from his or her own ideas, the Craftsman Architectural Department was available. Stickley himself supervised the construction of some homes in the New York City area. No one is sure how many of these homes were actually built, but it was a feature in the magazine that aroused great interest — so much so that when Stickley briefly ceased publishing plans in 1915, there was such a storm of protest he had to reinstate the feature, even though he felt that, with 200 designs in print, the subject had been exhausted. He claimed that Craftsman homes were being built in “all parts of the world, from Alaska to the Fiji Islands.”

The homes ranged from log cabins and cedar-sided bungalows to two-sto-
Mail-order plans have a long history in shaping the residential architecture of the United States. Of the thousands of house plans available today, few exhibit good design and a grasp of historical proportion and detail. So, in response to requests from OHJ readers, the editors have “done the homework”: We've hand-picked plans. In this regular department, we offer the most attractive, authentic, and buildable of the historical designs, from all periods of American architectural history. Let us know what plans you're looking for.

You can order actual blueprints for all the houses featured. Plans conform to national building-code standards — however, modifications are usually necessary for your site and local requirements, so you'll probably need the assistance of a professional designer (your builder may qualify) or an architect.

For the houses shown in this issue, blueprints include:
- **Foundation plan** for conventional crawlspace. (Can be adapted to basement plan by your builder.) Note: The plans for the Greek Revival house show a fully excavated basement.
- **Detailed floor plans** showing all dimensions for framing, plus detailed layout and location of electrical and plumbing components.
- **Interior elevations** are included in some plans, showing interior views of kitchen, bath, fireplace, built-ins, and cabinet designs.
- **A window and door schedule.**
- **Building cross sections:** cornice, fireplace, and cabinet sections when needed to help your builder understand major interior details.
- **Framing diagrams** that show layouts of framing pieces and their locations for roof, first and second floors.
- **Energy-saving specs,** including vapor barriers, insulated sheathing, caulking and foam-sealant areas, batt insulation, and attic exhaust ventilators.

Why order multiple sets? If you're serious about building, you'll need a set each for the general contractor, mortgage lender, electrician, plumber, heating/ventilating contractor, building permit department, other township use or interior designer, and one for yourself. Ordering the 8-set plan saves money and additional shipping charges.

Other notes: (1) Plans are copyrighted, and they are printed for you when you order. Therefore, they are not refundable. If you order additional sets of the same plan within 30 days of your original order you can purchase them for $15 each. (2) Mirror-reverse plans are useful when the house would fit the site better “flopped.” For this you need one set of mirror-reverse plans for the contractor; but because the reverse plans have backwards lettering and dimensions, all other sets should be ordered right-reading. (3) Heating and air-conditioning layouts are not included. You need a local mechanical contractor to size and locate the proper unit for your specific conditions of climate and site.