



1420 Kentucky
The John F. C. and Selma Schott House
Free Classic Queen Anne Style • 1901
Architect: Frederick C. Ledebrock
Current Owner: Carolyn Kolodziej

John F. C. Schott was vice president and secretary of the Schott Saddlery Company. His father, John B. Schott, trained in Germany as a tanner, founded the company, which employed 100 workers.

This well-appointed Free Classic Queen Anne home is almost a twin to the Charles and Julia (Schott) Lauter House at 1428 Kentucky. Blueprints and specifications called for only the best materials to be used in its construction. The architect's contract stated the contractors employ only "first class mechanics" and gave him the right to choose all workers.

Costs of the "finest work, using the best materials and workmanship" are interesting. Bids submitted from general contractors/builders ranged from \$1932.50 to \$2493.00. Bids for plastering, using "sufficient quantities of 'plasterer's hair'", ranged from \$298 to \$402. Electric wiring bids came in at \$42.45 and \$47.50.

Before entering the vestibule, note the decorative transom cover above the front door. It is from a piece of house trim that was found in the barn and made into a transom cover. Also, note the door knocker, which is a replica of a Viking belt buckle.

The partly paneled reception hall showcases a grand white oak staircase, with a heavily carved and ornamented newel post. Its wheat and ribbon motif is repeated on other millwork in the house. The corner guard on the right of the staircase replicates the corners of the newel post. Similar corner guards appear throughout the house. Note the gas and electric overhead light.

The French doors leading to the parlor are not original, but the pocket doors are intact and functional, as are the pocket doors to the sitting room and dining room. In the parlor, note the burled wood nesting tables, which came from Carolyn's family home in Scotland. The architect's specifications said that the front window's leaded glass transom should cost \$2.00 per foot. Trim in the parlor is white oak and other main floor rooms' trim is red oak.

The sitting room has a striking corner fireplace, which specifications said should cost \$75. The insert is original to the home. Egg and dart molding and carved flourishes decorate the mantle.

The floors are oak and were probably installed in the 1920s. Original dining room plans called for a three-foot wide border of white oak boards surrounding number one grade yellow pine. Specifications called for yellow pine on other floors.

The second floor has 5 rooms. One is the maid's room and one is noted on the architect's plans as a storage room. The back stairs lead to the family-sized kitchen, which has its original bead board on the walls.

CHRISTMAS CANDLELIGHT TOUR DEC. 11, 2005