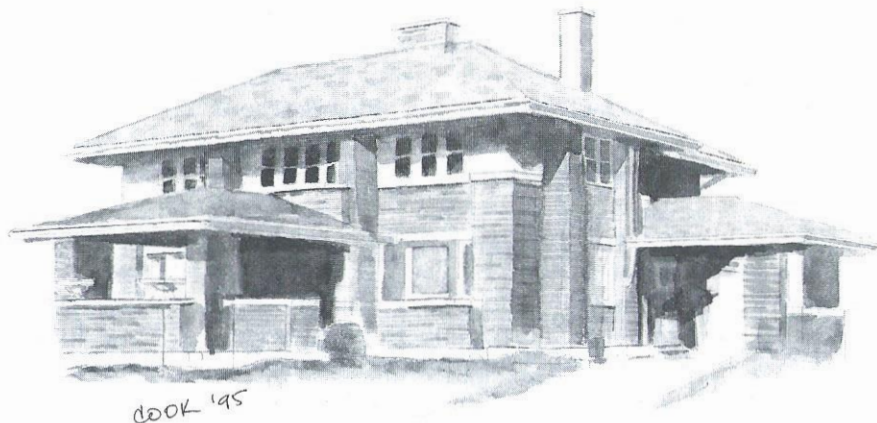




Mrs. Fredricka Halbach House
129 East Avenue
1912
Prairie Style
E.M. Wood, architect

owners - Jerry and Gingie Holzgrafe

The home of Frederick Halbach's widow, Fredricka, is a fine example of the Prairie Style. It is a two-story, red brick and stucco house with a low-pitched, hipped roof and widely overhanging eaves and with a single-story front porch having massive brick supports and four flattened urns (originally there were six).

The central hearth is considered the vital heart of the house both spiritually and physically, it is fundamental to the plan with room and circulation surrounding it. Upon entering, the fireplace is the central element in the front entrance hall. The hall is flanked by a living and dining room on either side in an open plan with vertical circulation behind flanking either side of the fireplace. Walls are treated as panels, reinforcing an open plan. Doors are enframed with dark wood trim and transoms. Ernest Wood integrated a chevron motif that is a recurring element throughout the entire house — it appears in the wood trim, the door frames, the brick of the fireplace, the windows, it is recalled in the stair railing and even the floor tile of the upstairs bathroom.

The Halbachs were married for 35 years and were the parents of ten children. His death occurred in 1905. Fredricka was the daughter of the owner of Kespohl Dry Goods, her future husband's first employer in Quincy. Three years after their marriage Halbach bought the business. Later known as Halbach-Schroeder Company, the dry goods store was located at 660-602 Maine Street.

During their marriage the Halbachs resided at 1225 Maine Street. Shortly before her death in 1914, Mrs. Halbach had the house at 129 East Avenue built where she resided with her daughter, Florence.