The Frank House
1300 Luker Lane
Sapulpa, Oklahoma
The Frank House

Report Overview

During the 2016 Fall Semester, students in the Historic Preservation Planning / Historic Buildings of Oklahoma course ventured northeast from Norman, Oklahoma, to work on a specific project, the Frank House in Sapulpa, Oklahoma.

This property is a result of the intersection of three popular “Oklahoma” icons in 1955: Historic Route 66, Frankoma Pottery, and Bruce Goff Architecture.

Historic Route 66 is a historic highway stretching from Chicago, Illinois, to Santa Monica, California spanning 2,451 miles, 8 states, and 3 time zones. Oklahoma has 432 of these miles, including the stretch through Sapulpa.

It is on this stretch that the Frank Family established their Frankoma Pottery facility. In another part of Sapulpa, John and Grace Lee Frank and their children Joniece and Donna built a home on “Thrill Hill.” Constructed of thousands of hand-glazed Frankoma tiles, bricks, and ornamental fixtures, the house promoted a popular pottery of the time, Frankoma Pottery, purchased on Route 66 and carried across the country by Route 66 travelers.

John Frank, a professor in the ceramics department at The University of Oklahoma from 1927 to 1936, moved his 3-year-old company to Sapulpa in 1938. In 1955, the Franks commissioned a special architect for their house. Bruce Goff, then the chairman of the School of Architecture at The University of Oklahoma in Norman, Oklahoma, designed an incredible house that immediately gained worldwide attention.

While much has been written about Historic Route 66, Frankoma Pottery, and Bruce Goff, the students in this class found research to be very easy and plentiful. From many sources as well as a field trip to the Frank House, the students compiled recommendations for stabilizing, restoring, and updating the Frank House for the next residents, the next uses, and the next 60 years.
Fourteen students enrolled in sections of courses titled Historic Preservation Planning (En D 4893 and RCPL 5893) and Historic Buildings of Oklahoma (ARCH 5970). These students represent 7 undergraduate students with majors in Architecture and Environmental Design and 7 graduate students with majors in Adult Education and Regional and City Planning. The students have hometowns in 5 states (Arkansas, Oklahoma, Rhode Island, Texas, and Virginia) as well as 2 other countries (Bulgaria and Cambodia). With such a rich combination of students from many places studying many disciplines, the work on this project was to 1) tap into their previous educational experience, 2) use their current work experience, and 3) learn from their cultural heritage while challenging them to produce a report for this significant house.

This report is divided into three sections with specific issues addressed by different students. As the students had different issues, they produced varying reports with some being more detailed or more graphic. The final report will be presented to the representatives of the Frank House in 3-ring binders so that they may organize the work according to priorities, budgets, or needs. The goal of the report is to assist the representatives with making the Frank House clean, secure, and functional for occupancy.

While this report required on-site work, research at the OU Western History Collection, group discussions, and individual research, this is not the only project completed by the students. All students had individual “Celebrate 100” assignments to study 2 to 4 architecturally significant buildings in Oklahoma. All students also worked with staff members of the Oklahoma State Historic Preservation Office at the Oklahoma Historical Society and the Historic Preservation Office of The City of Oklahoma City to conduct an Intensive-Level Survey of the Heritage Hills East Neighborhood in northwest Oklahoma City, a 10-square block area.

The Frank House project provided both visual and technical educational experiences for the class. We appreciate the “guardians” of the Frank House—Kandy Steeples, Randy McFarlin, and Mary King—who opened the uniquely Frankoma-tiled front doors and let us into an architectural masterpiece.
The Frank House

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Landscaping / Grounds

Entry Water Feature
Retaining Wall Lily Pond

Landscaping
Stacked Stone Retaining Walls
Landscaped Center of Motor Court

Swimming Pool and Deck
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Three Specific Landscaped Areas
Miscellaneous Landscape, Pottery, and Architectural Features

Vireak They
Jane Wyrick
Alex Autry
Julie Benyshek
FRANK HOUSE

Sapulpa, Oklahoma

Vireak They
Historic Preservation Planning
Frank House is one of the greatest masterpieces in the state of Oklahoma. It is a unique piece of art sits on the top of the Sapulpa’s hill. It appears modern, yet it’s a vernacular sculpture. That conveys a sense of beauty and uniqueness to the architecture.

The house was built out of love and passion of the Frank’s family. I can see it through the expressions of each individual piece of material that comes together. Bruce Goff is a true genius in designing the Frank House. He designs in such a way that the house fits in with the site and the surroundings environment. That connects the spirit of the house to the landscape. They are very synchronize and harmony.

The goal is to restore the beauty and original characteristic of the house. At the same time, we rebuild the history of the past. That is very essential for Frank House because this shows respects and appreciations of ours to the historical work.

Therefore, restoring Frank House is necessary. It is not all about trying to restore the history of the past, but also try restore the work of a genius that the world should have known – Bruce Goff. Thus, our next generations could admire his works and his dedications. More importantly, upcoming generation of architects can also learn from his masterpiece.
Frank House is in a pretty good condition. While visiting, I see several issues that need to be fixed in order to turn the house into its original taste, but in this assignment I am going to focus on one – the pond. It is located right in front of the front entrance of the house (image above).
Friends of Kebyar Journal (Volume 28) shows an existence of a pond next to the retaining wall. That is what need to be rebuilding, so that we can bring back the old characteristic of the house.
Now, the area is filled up with dirt and it looks totally different from the past image. That causes to lose the characteristic of the house. This pond is such an important component to the house. It is part of the personality of this masterpiece. The house would not be the same if this component is disappeared. Therefore, it is such an important task to rebuild this pond and turn it to its original state.
Also, I see some plants growing and covering up the area where the original pond used to be. This plant should be trimmed carefully, so that it would not be wildly grown over the pond. So, before rebuilding the pond, I encourage to clean up this area and trim those plants. This is essential because they can also effect the beauty of the pond and the characteristic of the house itself.
Proposed Solution
Frank House Landscaping and Grounds

The following guidelines are included to provide a recommended approach to historical landscape preservation as set forth in the *Guide to Developing a Preservation Maintenance Plan for a Historic Landscape* published by the National Park Service. As seen below, whether performing standard maintenance or preservation maintenance, certain items are considered priority items such as safety issues.

![Figure 4: Priorities for landscape preservation maintenance versus standard landscape maintenance.](https://www.nps.gov/oclp/Guide%20to%20Developing%20a%20Preservation%20Maintenance%20Plan%20for%20a%20Historic%20Landscape.pdf)

**Stacked stone walls**

- The extensive network of stacked stone walls with built-in steps and pottery niches is in good condition.
  - Recommend field inspection of walls on occasion to assess condition and maintain as needed.
**Original center landscaped area of motor court**

- Consider installing courtyard planter that was part of the original design, as shown on page 30 of the Friends of Kebyar Journal, Volume 28.1 No. 77. This central planter can serve as a link between other planting beds to tie them all together. Boston has its Emerald Necklace – a series of connected parks and green spaces in the Boston area – the Frank House can have a Prairie Necklace.

  - Remove concrete in center of motor court.
  - Install stepped layers of glazed red clay tiles as planter border consistent with original design.
  - Plant a monoculture of blue fescue (Festuca glauca) for simplicity, ease of maintenance, drought resistance, and so that attention is not drawn away from central feature.
  - Identify appropriate focal point that may include a sundial, water feature/fountain, or a custom sculpture created with Frankoma Pottery for the center of the planter.
  - An alternative may include planting a shade tree in the center planter as shown in the photo above.
Planting bed adjacent to southwest corner of Frank House

- Develop a plan for curating loose items in the planting bed.
- Evaluate health and branching structure of tree.
  - At a minimum, prune tree for health and aesthetics
  - Consider removing tree. If desired, planted small ornamental tree in its place.
- Prune shrubs as needed.
- Weed planter area.
- Consider placing a sculpture in this planter rather than in the center planter.

Planting bed at lily pond

- Remove loose items
  - Identify location to install John Frank recognition plaque.
- Weed and prune vegetation as needed.
- Once cleaned, determine if new plantings are appropriate. New plantings should be consistent with existing vegetation in that it should be more tropical and introduce color into the landscape.

Source: Friends of Kebyar Journal, Volume 28.1 No. 77
A local company that has worked on historical landscapes is Trigon General Contractors and Construction Managers, Inc. of Tulsa, OK. Projects include the gardens and grounds restoration at the Philbrook Museum of Art and the Harwelden Mansion Arts and Humanities Council of Tulsa. [http://www.trigoninc.com/historical.html](http://www.trigoninc.com/historical.html)
John Frank House
Motor Court Planters

- Remove tree - consider planting small ornamental tree
- Relocate loose items
- Prune vegetation as needed
- Weed planter area
- Plant additional shrubs where needed
- Consider installing courtyard planter
- Install stepped layers of glazed red clay tiles as planter border
- Plant blue fescue (Festuca glauca)
- Install sundial, fountain, or custom sculpture created with Frankoma Pottery
- Remove loose items
- Weed and prune as needed
- Add additional plant material

Jane Wyrick
December 5, 2016
Frank House Revival

Restoration Recommendations for Swimming Pool Area

Screened In Porch

- Top- repaint wood on screened in porch
- Replace broken tiles
- Would there be a better place for a jacuzzi?
Screened in Porch

- Replace Ceiling tiles in screened in porch.
- Maybe use something more durable
- Is this original part of the house?

Broken and missing tiles

- Cleaning existing tiles
- Maybe repainting
- Replace missing tiles around pool
- Make new tiles- molds? Something the class could do (make molds from 3d printing or cnc router)?
- http://home-again-roofing.com/Tile-Roofs_Sapulpa_OK.htm
- http://customtileandmarble.net/
Pool Deck

- Metal railings and chairs need to be sanded down and repainted
- Some bars that are bent may need replacing
- Plexiglass around railings to meet code

Pool Deck

- Concrete Connections are crumbling
Pool Deck

- Square tiles around perimeter need to be either cleaned, replaced
- New mortar between tiles. Maybe find a way to prevent breakage and mortar loss by some support system or preservation system to protect from the elements

Pool Deck

Tree Hole

- Could a new tree be planted to occupy hole?
- Some kind of sculpture?
- Commemorative totem to Bruce Goff or Frankoma pottery
- Pottery is embedded in some of the masonry work
- Maybe an opportunity for one of the unbuilt tower structures in the frank house drawings
What makes the deck hole interesting?

- Connection to nature/site
- Unexpected/surprising
- Can be experienced differently from two levels

Pool Deck

- Crumbling tiles to be replaced
- Maybe all of the tiles on the deck because even if they are not crumbling on the surface they may be loose/prone to crumbling from conditions underneath the tile
Equipment room

- Replace green bricks underneath pool

Pool Improvements

- Interior pool tiles seem to be in pretty good shape; pool just needs cleaning and maybe resurfacing as far as I can tell.
Projects for the Frank House

The Frank House is a unique house built in the 1950’s by the famous architect Bruce Goff. After 60 years, the house is now in need of preservation in order to restore it to its former condition. One part of the preservation task for the Frank House I will focus on is the landscape. The map below shows three areas of landscape around the Frank House that need attention.

The first area of landscape that needs work is the triangular shaped flowerbed at the bottom of the terraces. There is a rock water fountain with shells located in this flowerbed. In order to preserve this water fountain, I would first remove the large, overgrown bushes that are currently in front of it. The view of the fountain improves without the bushes and there will be no maintenance with keeping bush from growing into the water fountain. A local lawn company should be able to easily remove those bushes\(^1\). After the bushes are removed I would get the fountain working again. A company called Historic Fountain and

\(^1\) Local lawn care companies: Cut Right Lawn and Tree (918) 991-9136 and Davis Family Tree & Property Services (866) 427-9004
Masonry Restoration Company Oklahoma City\(^2\) does projects similar to this and could be helpful for the fountain here as well as the water features in the front of the house. Lastly, I would add landscaping in the triangular shaped flowerbed. In the space I recommend adding a stone bench that is customized with pieces of Frankoma pottery in it, similar to what was done on an exterior wall of the Frank House. Also, I recommend adding a small curved path through the space with plants on both sides, which a local nursery could help with. The plants for the space could be coordinated with the ones planted in the front of the house. Lastly, there is a small wall made of stone that divides the triangular bed towards the side, which would be the perfect place for a descriptive sign about the Frank House or a Frankoma sculpture and more plants.

The pictures show a design for the flowerbed and examples of the descriptive sign and type of bench for the space.

\(^2\) Historic Fountain and Masonry Restoration Company Oklahoma City: (816) 500-4198
The next area that needs attention is the space between the pool and the pottery studio. There is minimum landscape there that just needs trimming. Some of the items that need to be removed are the crumbling birdbath and the brick borders near the sidewalk that are falling over. Rather than fixing the brick borders and putting in plants I suggest letting the area be grass. There is also a large garden space enclosed by a brick border. I suggest taking out that garden area and replacing it with two or three raised planters from a home improvement store. The planters could be painted a red or green to match the house. Lastly, there is a grill near the house in this area. It needs to be checked if it is safe to use. If there are any issues with the grill then a home improvement store such as Lowe’s or Home Depot can help fix it.

The design to the left shows three raised planters in place of the large, oval shaped garden.
The final area of landscape that needs taken care of is the front of the house. There are miscellaneous and valuable items that lay in the flowerbeds along the front of the house. The gate needs to be pulled out of the flowerbeds and either made into a custom gate that is installed for added security of the house, posted into the ground to stand as a sign somewhere, or donated to a museum. The Oklahoma Institute for Ceramic Arts (OICA)/Frankoma Museum1 in Mounds might be willing to take it. If the gate cannot be installed I still recommend having one put in for more security. Also, there is a plaque addressed to John Frank as an award from the city of Sapulpa that is lying loosely in the flowerbed. Anyone could walk up and take it, so I would hang the plaque inside the house to keep it more secure. Lastly, there are numerous sculptures strewn in the flowerbeds at the front of the house that need to be checked out and removed if falling

1 Frankoma Museum: (918) 381-0902  http://www.oklahomapotterymuseum.org
The Frank House

Exterior of House

Frankoma Chimney Tiles
Roof Planter and Skylight Structures  Mitchell Moore

Spanish Roof Tiles
Frankoma Tiles and Bricks  Petya Stefanoff

Garage Door Restoration / Reconstruction  Ryan Conner

Rear Screened Porch Restoration  Carlos Moore
Frank House Project

Exterior:

I. Exterior Chimney Tiles
   a. Many of the tiles on the exterior of the chimney appear to be suffering from chips and
      the weathering of the exterior face and glaze. It is my understanding that there is the
      ability to fire replacement tiles in the Frankoma Pottery workshop. It is our
      recommendation that enough tiles are fired and glazed to not only replace the existing
      chimney tiles that need replacing, but to also have extras for future replacements.
   b. The following are some tile companies in the Tulsa area that might be able to replace
      the chimney tiles with the newly fired tiles (it is unknown whether these companies
      perform exterior tile work but they are respected tile companies in Tulsa):
      i. Acme Brick Tile & Stone
         1. 5130 S. 110th E. Avenue, Tulsa, OK
         2. 918-665-6205
      ii. Joy Marble & Tile, LLC
          1. 5931 East 12th Street, Tulsa, OK
          2. 918-728-7899
      iii. Smiley Lopez Tile
           1. 7423 East 31st Street, Tulsa, OK 74145
           2. 918-934-5575
II. Planters on the front of the house

a. While we are not aware of any existing issues with the planters on the front of the house, we feel that with the weight and strain that the planters put on the glass and metal structures below, the possibility of a future problem exists. We believe that these structures should be thoroughly cleaned to ensure that there are no visible signs of cracks or weaknesses in the glass or surrounding structure.

b. The following is a company that we believe could be used to inspect or repair the glass underneath the planters if an issue were to occur. I am aware that they have been recommended in other sections of this report as well. If you were to have them out to look at something on the house, you might consider having them inspect other aspects of the home as well.

i. Wewoka Window Works
   1. 114 W 1st Street, Wewoka, OK
   2. 405-257-3109

Compiled by:

Mitchell Moore
Frank House Project

I. Spanish clay tiles (broken or missing) on house and deck border of swimming pool
   
   1. Current condition: the current condition of the Spanish clay tiles is fair. Some of them are broken, some of them are missing, and some of them need just cleaning.
   
   The Spanish clay tiles have key contribution to the exterior look of the house. They belong to the original design and thus they have major historic significance. Clay tiles have been made by hand in the Frank factory and this fact increase their historical value even more.

   2. Historical background: The origin of clay roofing tile can be traced independently to two different parts of the world: China, during the Neolithic Age, beginning around 10,000 B.C.; and the Middle East, a short time later. From these regions,
the use of clay tiles spread throughout Asia and Europe. Not only the ancient Egyptians and Babylonians, but also the Greeks and Romans roofed their buildings with clay tiles, and adaptations of their practice continue in Europe to the present. European settlers brought this roofing tradition to America where it was established in many places by the 17th century. Clay roofing tiles were also used in the Spanish settlement of St. Augustine in Florida, and by both the French and Spanish in New Orleans.

Dutch settlers on the east coast first imported clay tiles from Holland. By far the most significant factor in popularizing clay roofing tiles during the Colonial period in America was the concern with fire. Clay roofing tiles were also preferred because of their durability, ease of maintenance, and lack of thermal conductivity. A terra cotta red is the color most commonly associated with historic clay roofing tiles. The reddish color comes from clay with a large percentage of iron oxide, and there are
many variations of this natural color to be found. The life expectancy of clay roof tiles is between 30 to 50 years.

3. Preservation and repair: The most difficult aspect of replacing a single broken clay roof tile is doing so without breaking neighboring tiles. A broken tile should be carefully removed with a slate ripper or hacksaw blade inserted under the tile to cut the nail or nails holding it in place. I would suggest more clay tiles to be made and fired to replace the missing, broken or chipped ones, and have stored some as extras.

Existing clay tiles in good condition need to be cleaned for several reasons. First, due to exposure to weather the original color faded. When new tiles are attached they will be in major contrast with the old ones. Second, organisms such as algae and mold most often grow on the north and east sides of a roof. They need to be cleaned and removed to prevent future deterioration of the original clay tiles. Growing organism compromised the durability and intactness of the tiles. The roofs can still be stained by bird droppings and tree debris, although they wash off easily.

The process of cleaning involves spraying with chemicals or eco-friendly biodegradable cleaners that will not harm plants and animals. If harmful chemicals are chosen for cleaning I would suggest to be discussed with the company how to protect the flora and fauna. After the tiles dry the company can spray them with sealant to protect the color, prevent organisms to grow on top and increase the life spam of the tiles.
Suggested companies in Tulsa area:

Perfection Roofing- 4445 S 91st East Ave, Tulsa, OK 74145

Ranger Roofing of Oklahoma- (918) 342-2222 Office or (918) 857-2099 24 Hour Emergency Line

[www.Homeadvisor.com](http://www.Homeadvisor.com) - search engine for more home repair companies

II. Frankoma tiles on clerestory windows and front entry glass and doors

Frankoma tiles are part of the original Bruce Goff design. They are the trade mark of this house. Tiles are been made by hand in Frank factory during the construction.

The most common problem with weather exposed glazed clay tiles is water related. Tiles are highly susceptible to glaze crazing, glaze spalling and material loss. **Crazing** is the formation of small random cracks in the glaze. Over time, the tile expands and absorbs moisture from air. This process continues for many years. The glaze goes into tension because it has lesser capacity for expansion than the body of the tile. When the glaze exceeded its strength it will crack (craze).

**Spalling** is partial loss of material itself. It is caused by trapped water within the material itself. In most cases the trapped water travels to outward through materials
where evaporates. In glazed tiles the water is stopped at the glaze until it builds much pressure to pop off section of the glaze or cause whole destruction of the surface.

Even though the factory is no longer owned by the family of John Frank there are still opportunities for one long time employee to produce by hand more tiles and fire them. I would suggest broken, chipped and missing tiles to be replaced and extra to be fired for future replacement.
Exterior Features:

Garage:

The exterior of the Frank House is one of the most important features to carefully consider renovating as to preserve the history, culture, and uniqueness of the home. Finding the balance between completely new additions and preserving the outdated features can be a tough decision to come to. One of the exterior features that should be addressed is the garage door. The current door might have seen better days as weather and time have started to show their marks. It is important to keep the garage door looking nice for aesthetic reasons, but it is also important to maintain its integrity as some valuables seemed to be stored inside. There seems to be several instances where people interested in the history of the house stop by for a quick peak inside, so we would want the garage to be as secure as possible to deter potential theft.

There are companies out there that specialize in the replacements of panels or even complete renditions of the garage door. Tulsa Garage Door Experts seems to be a company that can do custom paneling parts and full replacement if needed. Wewoka Windows Works would be a company that could fit the bill for any garage door window replacing. Of course there are other options out there in the greater Tulsa area, but a site visit for a plan of action would probably be needed for a company to understand how to help. Like I mentioned earlier, possibly just replacing a garage door panel or two and a coat of paint might be all the garage door needs, but making sure it can still secure the valuables inside is important also.
Tulsa Garage Door Experts

(918) 710-2347 - info@tulsagaragedoorexperts.com

Wewoka Window Works

(405) 257-3109 - info@wewokawindowworks.com
Carlos Moore
2nd Year Graduate Student
RCPL 5893 Historic Preservation Planning

Frankoma House

Existing conditions

The existing back porch is framed in and made of a combination of wood and reused oil field metal materials. The porch is screened in and overall is in fair condition, but could use some upgrades.
**Recommended upgrades**

The porch screens need to be removed and replaced. All wood members appear to need to be replaced and repainted. All metal members appear to be in good condition and only need to have the paint removed and then repainted. The tile floor should be power washed to make clean.

If money is an issue this portion of the project could easily be a do it yourself. If money is not an issue then it is recommended a professional porch remodeler is hired to get the best end results.

Designer Properties

Tulsa, OK 74133

1-866-643-8662
The Frank House

Interior of House

Frankoma Bathroom Tiles and Fixtures
Pottery and Artwork Curation
Frankoma Pottery Studio
Original Furniture and Furnishings
Original Carpet and Textiles
Original Kitchen Appliances and Countertops
Air Filtration System for the Frankoma Pottery Studio

Lora Gwartney
Ian Ruhnke
Rhys Wilson
Collin Power
Grace Sanders
Nolan Aparicio
Bathroom
- Clean out all unused toiletry items
- Hire cleaning service to deep clean entire bathroom, taking care to protect tiles
  - Check for areas that might need new caulk
  - Clean grout between tiles on walls, counters, and floor (some areas have turned black)
- Replace any damaged tiles
- Clean out skylights and check for any leaks or structural issues
- Helpful sites with bathroom renovation resources and ideas:
  - [http://savethepinkbathrooms.com/](http://savethepinkbathrooms.com/)

Examples of black grout that needs cleaning
Ceiling has some water damage
Pottery curation
- Move all pottery items to one area for maximum display potential
- Properly clean displayed and stored pieces
- Identify who crafted the pottery, when, where - document on paper to catalog pieces
- Use existing display cases or purchase new pieces that everything can fit in
- Group displays by categories such as material used, creator, time period, location
- Partner with Gilcrease Museum for curation help (918-596-2700)
  - Might also be interested in displaying Frankoma pieces - possible partnership with rotating or permanent displays

Pottery very unorganized – make use of display spaces and furniture
Frank House Project
Individual Project Summary-Ian Ruhnke

The interior studio usage, both current and future, is one of the most important characteristics of the Frank House. However, the existing pottery, glaze, equipment, artwork, and other items need to be inventoried, stored, or disposed of as necessary to improve the studio.

First, a curator, anybody with documentation experience, or even close friends and caretakers should be placed in charge of the inventory, storage, or disposal of the room’s items. This process will likely cover the entire household. I would recommend bringing in the kilns from the garage area into the studio if possible. The majority of the pottery in the house will most likely be placed on display, auctioned off, or stored.

Second, deep cleaning of the studio space needs to be a priority. The amount of clay dust, standing water, and other scraps is unsuitable for any future display space, living space, or work space. A specialized or industrial cleaning service might be a good option to pursue if it fits in the budget. Additional options that are strongly recommended for ceramic studios are air filtration systems, such as fans or fume hoods.
Third, from a preservation standpoint, there is a need to repair any damaged areas, namely the interior floor tiles. Aside from ventilation, if the space is going to see continued use well into the future, other amenities could be added for personal use, but should focus on being as unobtrusive as possible. Utilizing the studio as an activity area or a pottery display area are both strategies worth considering for this house in the far future.
The legacy of pottery and the Frank House are both important pieces of history that should be maintained for future generations to enjoy, whether they are dedicated collectors or intrigued passersby. Although the pottery and the studio are both physical examples of this history, understanding and explaining the passion, practice, and process behind Frankoma pottery would tie well into future possibilities of tours and exhibits. Infographics about these subjects may also be worth exploring.

Reference Links:

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Frankoma_Pottery
http://collectingbuzz.com/articles/frankoma.html
https://digitalfire.com/4sight/hazards/ceramic_hazard_dealing_with_dust_in_ceramics_372.html
http://www.air-purifier-power.com/art-studio-safety.html
Rhys Wilson

Frankoma House Recommendations

Our group was specifically tasked with restoring the interior of the Frankoma House. Each group member had a particular topic(s), in which they were responsible for evaluating the existing conditions, and offering recommendations to remedy poorly conditioned items. My tasks included examining the original furniture within the house, and properly assessing and cleaning the fireplace. However, the ultimate goal is to renovate and refurbish the interior of the house for the future.

After touring the house, there were many things that were significantly noticeable. The beautiful pottery dispersed through the house, uniquely intimate bathrooms, dirty yet luscious shag carpet, and timeless, deteriorating furniture were all items that were in considerable need to be restored. For the most part, the furniture was intact, but refurbishing and cleaning is highly recommended to regenerate its original effect on the interior of the house. Items such as tables, smoking stands, lamps, and chairs need to be deep cleaned, refinished, reupholstered, and rehabilitated. In order to bring back these furniture pieces to their former glory, a quality furniture restoration firm must do thorough and intricate work. After carefully examining the potential suitors to restore the Frankoma House furniture, one company appears to be the best option for the operation. The Restoration Station in Oklahoma City performs a wide array of tasks related to vintage furniture repair. This company prides themselves on producing quality refurbished items at an affordable rate in a brief timeframe. Given that the
Frankoma House is located in Sapulpa, there are some barriers to transportation, logistics, and cost. It is recommended that all of the items that need to be repaired be placed in a U-Haul truck, and be delivered to the Restoration Station. Once the items are safely at the Restoration Station, the company will have a particular date to have the items ready for pick up. After all of the items have been repaired at the Restoration Station, a U-Haul truck will pick up the rehabilitated furniture and deliver back to the Frankoma House. The Restoration Station can be contacted at 405-524-7226, or estimate@restorationstationok.com and is located at 4901 North Cooper Ave, Oklahoma City.
Another task I was assigned was the retention of the fireplace. The conical chimney is completely comprised of Frankoma tiles. Due to the texture of the tiles and the numerous times the fireplace has been used, there is a need to thoroughly clean the chimney. Deep coatings of dust are persistent throughout this area of the living room because of the unkempt fireplace. In order to better ventilate and clean the fireplace, a company needs to be enlisted to provide effective professional cleaning services. After carefully considering the options for this task, Clean Dean’s Chimney Sweep Service seems to be the best choice. Clean Dean’s is located at 10005 East 44th Place, Tulsa, where they can be contacted at 918-742-2000, or billiesue@breatheeasycleandeans.com. The company does chimney repairs, air duct cleaning, and other fireplace services at a reasonable price. The logistics for work being done at the Frankoma House would include the Clean Dean team to come to the house for an assessment and then perform the services required.
Websites

- The Restoration Station OKC
  - www.restorationstationok.com
- Clean Dean’s Chimney Sweep Service
  - www.breatheeasycleandeans.com
Interior work

A. Removing the odors and stains from the living room carpet

Step 1- Remove the living room carpet and clean the concrete below.
- When removing the carpet, it’s important that it is done very carefully so we won’t damage or ruin it.
- After the carpet is removed then the cleaning of the concrete can be started. The best option for a carpet cleaner would be buying an Enzymatic/ Bacterial cleaner. This type of soap is best used when removing starched based stains and protein based stains. This cleaner will remove any pet stains and eliminate any reaming odors. The most popular cleaner that does the job is Oxi-clean however there are other oxidation cleaners that will work just as well.

Step 2- Clean the carpet
- Although this carpet has taken a beating from all of the wear and tears over the years it is not too late to preserve this characteristic of the Frank House.
- There is a ServiceMaster Clean nearby in Tulsa that should be able to get the job done. They specialize in removing odors and stains from carpets and upholstery.
- ServiceMaster Clean (Tulsa, Oklahoma) Phone number- (918)-615-4099

B. Removing all odors from the fabric dividers

- The ServiceMaster Clean should be able to clean the dividers as well which would remove the odors from the years of smoking in the house.
- If ServiceMaster is not able remove the odors, then a textile conservation specialist will be able to. The nearest respectable textile conservation business that I found is located in Plano, Texas. I know that is a bit out of the way but this business has served many clients. They have a list of clients they have served on their website and many of them are very notable.
- Textile Preservation Services of Texas contact information- Phone number- (214)-995-0696
Compiled by:
Grace Sanders

Kitchen Appliances and Countertops
- Make a decision about whether to keep or replace current appliances and countertops
- If the original appliances stay, they should be inspected and possibly updated/repairsed
  - www.mрапpliance.com/tulsa (918) 877-0435
  - Holmes Appliance (918) 224-6069
- If new appliances are preferred, the decision is then between either trying to match the original style or going with modern pieces
- There are websites that show new and used vintage kitchen appliances for sale
  - www.ebay.com
  - www.bigchill.com
- The countertops looked to be in good condition according to the pictures available

*Atomic Ranch* magazine is a great resource for restoring original fixtures OR finding compatible new ones. These are some recent articles and advertisements from several issues:
Frank House Recommendations: Interior

Upon our visit to the Frank House in Sapulpa, OK, we, as a class, divided up into three groups (interior, exterior, landscaping/grounds) to brainstorm ideas for the Frank House going forward. It is to our knowledge that one of the ladies has a close connection to the Frank family and it would be their wish for her to move into the house at some point. Whether it becomes her primary residence or another viable option (museum, studio, etc.), the house must be brought up to date to ensure the it is structurally sound, aesthetically pleasing and fully functional.

I chose to work with a few other classmates to address the needs of the interior of the home. More specifically, I looked into the accumulation of dust in the studio and how to control dust production moving forward as a byproduct of the pottery work. Because the studio is still used on a daily basis, once cleaned, we feel it is important to try and maintain and clean, safe working environment. In doing so, here are a few recommendations to take into consideration to reduce the accumulation of dust in the studio (listed from simple to more complex/costly):

- After researching and reading forums clay pottery and the dust it produces, potters have found it beneficial to allow a frequent exchange of indoor and outdoor air (via windows, doors, etc.)
- If looking to address the problem with a new system of some type, it is useful to first contact an MEP/ventilation engineer
- Although loud, there are those large exhaust fans that are often seen in old gyms to ventilate

- A hood to capture dust particles and expel them, something similar to a chemistry lab for fumes
Sentry Air System Portable Fume Extractor: Model # SS-300-PFS
  - Allows for mobility, can be rolled to your work station
  - Per the website: “Typical applications for this unit include: welding fume control, chemical fume extraction, soldering, solvent and epoxy fume control, powder filling, light grinding, and a variety of applications involving chemical fumes and dust”
The Frank House

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Nolan Aparicio  Houston, Texas
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Ron Frantz is the Associate Professor of the course and the coordinator of the program.