



Original owner Jennie Spitzer Date of construction 1925

### ELGIN BUILDING PLAQUE PROGRAM DOCUMENTATION FOR 907 CEDAR AVENUE, ELGIN, ILLINOIS

### STATEMENT OF VALUE

### Architectural

This stucco house located on lots 9 and 10 of Burdick and Spillards Addition is an example of the Prairie Style, which enjoyed its greatest popularity from about 1905 until 1915. Prairie Style originated in Chicago, and many landmark examples are concentrated in the city's early 20th century suburbs such as Oak Park and River Forest. Vernacular examples, such as 907 Cedar Avenue, were popularized in house plan books, mail order home catalogs and popular magazines.

The style is defined by a low-pitched hipped roof with wide eaves on a predominantly two-story structure with one-story wings or porches, massive square porch supports, and façade detailing emphasizing the horizontal line. In the case of 907 Cedar Avenue, all these characteristics are present. The contrasting trim between the stories emphasizes the horizontal line. The form of the house is foursquare, that is, hipped roof, two stories, four rooms on each story.

The Arts and Crafts style front door is original. The simple yet elegant interior has original hardwood floors throughout. The downstairs rooms feature crown moldings. A wide cased opening separates living and dining rooms. In the upstairs hall is a built in chest and cabinet. The southeast bedroom was designed to resemble a sleeping porch, lined with windows on the south and east walls. The fireplace design closely resembles that at 903 Cedar, with brick that matches the fireplace and exterior of 903 Cedar. Bricks are marked with the logo of Streetor Brick Company, Streetor, Illinois. The front porch of 907 was enclosed either originally or soon after construction, as was the porch at 903 Cedar.

### Historical

Oral history identifies cement contractor William Hillman as the builder or contractor for this house. Hillman initially owned lots 8-11 of the Burdick and Spillard Addition, and built himself a residence on lot 8 (915 Cedar) in 1911. He lived there until the completion of his new house on lots 10 and 11 (903 Cedar) in 1923. In 1924, he split the lots so that 915 Cedar occupied lot 8 and part of lot 9, and 903 Cedar occupied lot 11 and part of lot 10. The remainders of lots 9 and 10 became 907 Cedar, which was built in 1925. Perhaps Hillman built these three homes as examples of his masonry skills. 915 is faced with ornamental concrete block, 907 is clad with decorative stucco, and 903 (originally pebble dash) was clad with brick by Hillman soon after its construction.

Sanborn Fire Insurance Maps show, in 1913, three vacant lots (9, 10 and 11) adjacent to the residence at 915 Cedar. The 1939 Sanborn map shows 903 and 907 Cedar, as well as the re-mapping of lots 9, 10 and 11 into two lots.

### History of ownership

On May 12, 1925, Jennie Spitzer, a widow, took out a mortgage to build the house at 907 Cedar. The house is first listed in the Elgin City Directory in 1925-26, showing as occupants Mrs. Jennie E Spitzer and William Spitzer, apparently her son. In July of 1957, William Spitzer sold the property to John and Violet Zimmer. In May of 1964, the property was purchased by Alvin M and Janet Rausch. Al Rausch was a school teacher who went to work at Ace Hardware on Spring Street after his retirement from teaching.

In October of 2011, the Rausch family sold to the current owners, Luke and Nicole Preussler. The Preusslers are restoring the interior to original condition. To date, they have removed wall-to-wall carpet and refinished the hardwood floors, replaced non-period wallpaper with paint, and removed 1970's kitchen fixtures. The restored kitchen will feature an old farmhouse sink.

### **Building alterations**

The front door to the porch is a replacement door. The rear dining room windows were replaced by a picture window.

rlh 10/11

1925-26

FOUNDED 1867

## RINEHIMER BROS. MEG Co. SASH, DOORS, MILLWORK

Kimball St. and N. Grove Ave.

Phones 197-198

464

### ELGIN CITY DIRECTORY

### Carr St-Continued South Side

Vacant lots

### CEDAR AVE

From Lovell a to limits 2 w of Dandee ave

- Enst Side 701 Mrs Katherine Healy
- 707 John H Worthy
- 713 Elmer E Ransler
- 723 Joseph Frymark
- 729 Albert H Lorenz Lincoln ave crosses
- \$11 James Hansler
- 813 Paul W Henk
- 823 Edward W Fisk
- \$27 Fred S Taylor
- 535 Leslie S Hayford
- 839 Mrs Mary Amis
- 839 E W Lavender
- \$53 Theodore Seegert Slade ave crsoses
- 903 William A Hillman
- 907 Mrs Jennie E Spitzer
- 997 William E Spitzer
- 915 Frank E Wakefield 919 Fred A Wendler
- 937 Erwin H Secombe Cooper ave crosses
- 1001 Carl Rauschenberger Riverbluff rd crosses
- 1017 Morris Hintt

### West Side

- 702 John W Giertz
- 702 Walter W Batt
- 706 Emil Falbe
- 712 Carl Williamson
- 718 Otto Nimmrich 722 John Buehler
- 725 Alfred Nelson
- 732 John Costello
- 736 John Ballto

- Lincoln ave crosses
- 820 Frank H Haefemeyer
- 830 George E Carlson
- 838 John P Johnson
- 838 Mrs Christena Allison
- 840 Arvid E Johnson
- 844 Ivan J Kelly
- 850 John Witthuhn
- Slade ave crosses
- 904 John C. Hintt
- 920 Henry Groneman
- 932 Oscar Heine
- Cooper ave crosses
- 1000 Roy A Newcomer
- 1050 Hans Sjurseth
- 1100 Walter Ross
- 1120 Theodore F Leidig
- Riverbluff rd crosses 1150 Mrs Mary E Stewart
- 1152 E Bruce Stewart
- 1202 Julius Sell
- 1220 Oscar Iverson

### CENTER ST

From Chicago n to Riverbiuff rd, 2 e of Fountain Square

### East Side

- First Congregational Church
- 13 Rev Irvin L Schweitzer First Evangelical Church
- Milwankee crosses 51-55 Walt-Ross-Allanson
  - Apt 1 Ora A Chapelle, D D S
    - Apt 2 N Amel Gustafson
    - Apt 3 Mrs Emma Nelson
    - Apt 4 Carl Bain
    - Apt 5 F S Madigan
  - Apt 6 Robert A Allanson
  - Division crosses
- 101 Harry E. Johnson
- 107 Charles Lincoln
- 107 Otto C Bargenquast 109 Edward S Ackerman
- 109 Howard Estabrook

# Not

Main Office 162 Milwaukee St. Coal, Coke and Ice. Yard Office 24 Kimball St WEIGHT-QUALITY-SERVICE-GUARANTEED

Wm. Mitchell

Tel. Main Office 2003. Tel. Yard 2004.

W. H. Parker

## 1923-24

# STEAM LAUNDRY

Distinct Services

WET WASH ROUGH DRY FINISHED WORK

Phone Elgin 400

113-117 Division Street. Most Moderaly Equipped Laundry in Northern Illinois.

120

### ELGIN CITY DIRECTORY

Buckeye St-Continued 802 Mrs Preila Schultz 506 Fred Harris

South Side Vacant lots to N Crystal ave 665 John Rosenberger 671 Alfred Hugh

### CEDAR AVE

From Lovell n to limits, 2 w of Dundee ave

East Side 701 Mrs Katherine Healy 767 John II Worthy 713 Elmer E Ransler 723 Joseph Frymark 729 Albert H Lorenz Lincoln ave crosses 811 James Hansler 813 Eugene L Richoz 823 Edward W Fisk \$27 Fred S Taylor \$35 Leslie C Hayford 839 Frank M VanLiew 839 William E Douglas 553 Theodore Seegert Slade ave crosses 903 William A Hillman 915 Frank E Wakefield

919 Fred A L Wendler

1001 Carl Rauschenberger

Cooper ave crosses

West Side 702 John W Giertz 706 Emil Falbe 712 Carl Williamson 718 Otto Nimmick 722 Charles Hartzell 728 Alfred Nelson 732 John Costello 736 John Bahta Lincoln ave crosses 838 Lysander C Beverly : 44 Ivan J Kelly

850 John Witthuhn Slade ave closses 904 John C Hintt 920 Oscar Heine Cooper ave crosses 1000 Louis Guetschow Congdon ave crosses 1100 Walter Ross 1120 Theodore F Leidig Alexander ave crosses 1150 Mrs Mary E Stewart 1152 E Bruce Stewart 1202 Julius Sell 1220 Charles H Holthusen

### CENTER ST

From Chicago n to Grant ave, 2 e

East Side First Congregational Church 13 Rev Irvin Schweitzer First Evangelical Church Milwaukee crosses 51-59 Wait-Ross-Allanson

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125 Mrs Mac Wardlow Dundet ave Intersects Barclay Park

of Fountain Square

101 H E Johnson 107 Charles T Lincoln 107 Fred G Eaton 109 Mrs Katherine Ballinger 109 Frank C Dunning 115 Center Garage 117 George A Barnes 121 M Sedlack shop 125 Clarence Fisk



211 Albert

212 Angelo 213 Frank 215 Charle 215 Frank 217 (rear) 219 Miss I 225 Ebenez 227 John \ 233 Edwar 235 Orsan 241 Morris 241 Isadore Kimba 251 Frank 255 Hen R 255 Walter 261 Paul J 261 Willia: 265 Mrs ic 265 Mrs A 271 Arthur 271 Willia 275 Mrs J Franki 313 Mrs R 313 Hyma: 317 J Pric 321 Wesle 321 Charle 321 Fred ( Ann c 357 Hugh 357 Leo Z 357 Charle 371 Alexai Cherry 405 Edwar 405 Dunen 407 Hermi 115 Charle 415 E L 123 Paul 423 L. H. I 423 Them Sene

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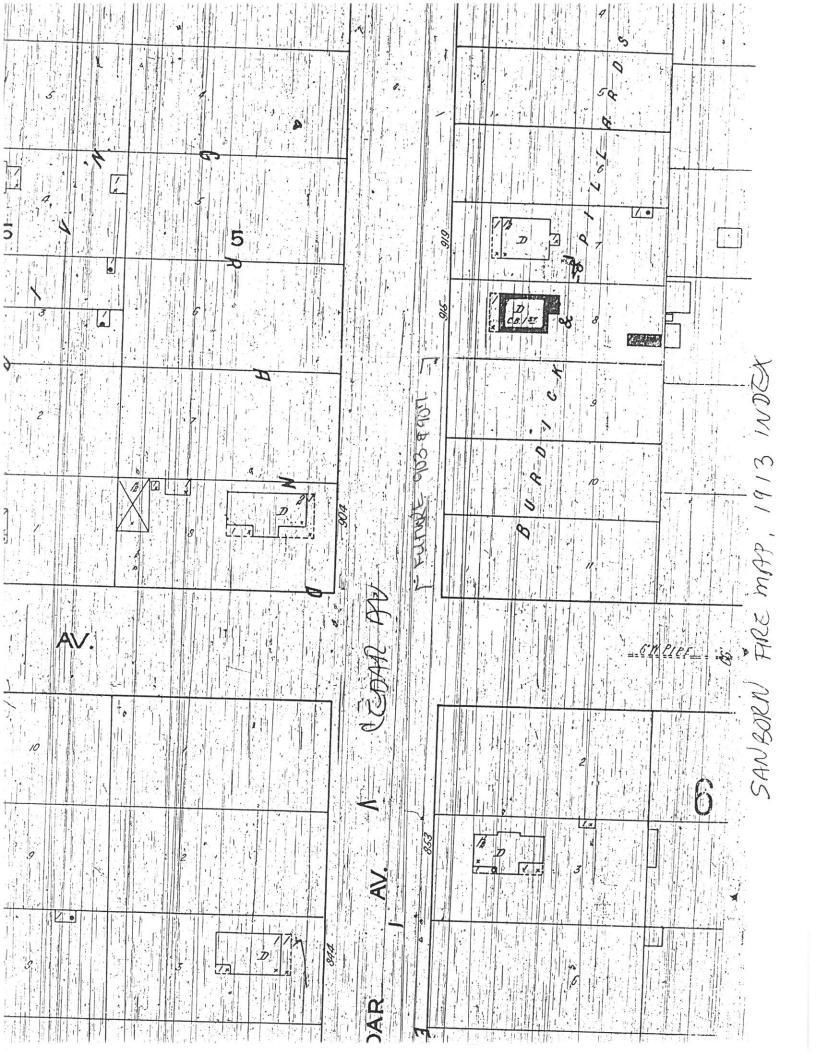
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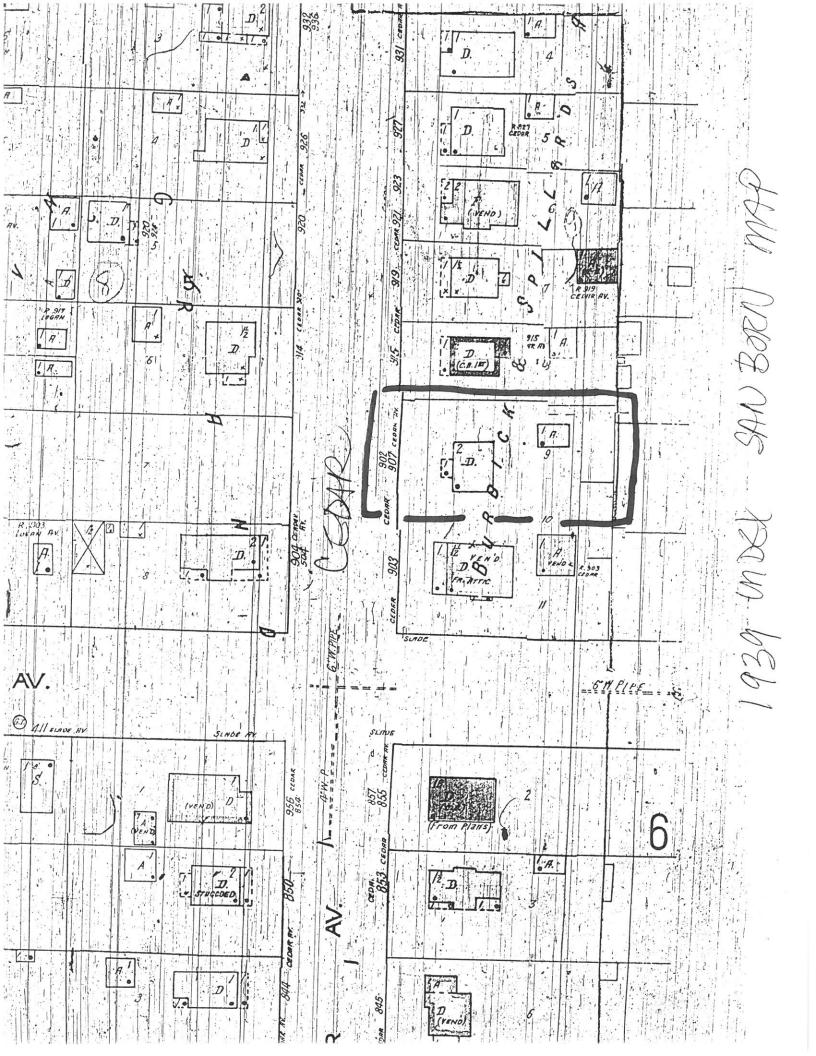
OVERLAND 222 Grove Ave.

REO

Phone 479

Chicago Alotor Club Service. Open Day and Night.





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The style is defined by a low-pitched hipped roof with wide eaves on a predominantly two-story structure with one-story wings or porches, massive square porch supports, and façade detailing emphasizing the horizontal line. In the case of 907 Cedar Avenue, all these characteristics are present, although on a modest scale. The contrasting trim between the stories emphasizes the horizontal line. The form of the house is foursquare, that is, a hipped roof, with two stories and four rooms on each story.

The Arts and Crafts style front door is original. The simple yet elegant interior has original hardwood floors throughout. The downstairs rooms feature crown moldings. A wide cased opening separates living and dining rooms. In the upstairs hall is a built-in chest and cabinet. The southeast bedroom was designed to resemble a sleeping porch, lined with windows on the south and east walls. The fireplace design closely resembles that at 903 Cedar, with brick that matches the fireplace and exterior of 903 Cedar. Bricks are marked with the logo of Streetor Brick Company, Streetor, Illinois. Based on construction details and window styling, the front porch of 907 was enclosed either originally or soon after construction.

### Historical

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History of ownership

On May 12, 1925, Jennie Spitzer, a widow, took out a mortgage to build the house at 907 Cedar. Charles and Jennie Spitzer first appear in the 1911-12 City Directory, living as 275 Center with their sons Fred, a student, and William. By 1914, Charles was deceased, and Fred was working for Cook Publishing. By 1916, Fred married Lois, and moved to 421 Prospect. William, married to Beatrice, was still living with his mother at 275 Center. He also was employed at Cook Publishing. By 1921, Fred was deceased, and his wife Lois continued to live at 421 Prospect. William, then employed at Specialty Printing Company in Dundee, his wife Beatrice and mother Jennie continued to live at 275 Center until Jennie built 907 Cedar in 1925.

The address is first listed in the Elgin City Directory in 1925-26, showing as occupants Mrs. Jennie E Spitzer, a widow, and William Spitzer.

William and Beatrice sold the property to John and Violet Zimmer in July of 1957. City directories show the Zimmers at 907 Cedar beginning in 1951.

In June of 1964, the house was purchased by Alvin Rausch and his wife Janet. Al, a teacher, and his family continued to live there until the current owners, Luke and Nicole Preussler, purchased it in October of 2011. The Preusslers are restoring the interior to original condition. To date, they have removed wall-to-wall carpet and refinished the hardwood floors, replaced non-period wallpaper with paint, and removed non-original kitchen fixtures. The restored kitchen will feature an old farmhouse sink.

**Building alterations** 

The front door to the porch is a replacement door. The rear dining room windows were replaced by a picture window.

### Permits on file

03/08/1968 Revision of electric service August 2000 Electric service upgrade to 100 amp July 2004 Garage roof replaced July 2007 Sewer repair May 2009 Porch roof replaced July 2010 House roof replaced

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This Indenture, winesseth, their the Greener Jennie Spitzer, widow of the City of Elgin, County of Kane and State of Illinois for and in consideration of the sum of Twenty-Seven Hundred Dollars in hand paid, Conveys and Warrants to George W. Glos, Trustee of the City of Elgin County of Kane and State of Illinois and to his successors in trust hereinafter named, for the purpose of securing performance of the covenants and agreements herein, the following described real estate, with the improvements thereon, including all heating, gas and plumbing apparatus and fixtures, and everything appurtenant thereto, together with all rents, issues and profits of said premises, situated in the County of Kane State of Ellinois to-wit: The North twenty-eight (28) feet of Lot ten (10) and the South thirty-two (32) feet of Lot nine (9) in Burdick & Spillard's Addition to Elgin, being a subdivision of Lots 2, 5, 6, 7, 10, 11, 14, and 15 of Block four (4) of Grand View Addition to Elgin, in the City of Elgin, Kane County, Illinois. Hereby releasing and waiving all rights under and by virtue of the homestead exemption laws of the State of Illinois.

IN TRUST, nevertheless, for the purpose of securing performance of the covenants and agreements herein. WHEREAS, The Grantor, Jennie Spitzer, widow, is justly indebted upon one principal promissory note bearing even date herewith, payable two years after date to the order of "Myself" and by her duly endorsed and delivered for the principal sum of Twenty-Seven Hundred Dollars, with interest at the rate of six per cent per annum, payable semi-an mually herewith until maturity of said principal note. at The Elgin City Sanking Co. Elgin, Illinois or such other place as the legal holder hereof may from time to time in a writing appoint.

THE GRANTOR covenants and agrees as follows: (1) to pay said indebtedness, and the interest thereon as herein and in said notes and coupons provided, or according to any agreement extending time of payment; (2) to pay prior to the first day of July in each year, all taxes and assessments against said premises, and on demand to exhibit accepts therefore; (3) within sixty days after destruction or damage to rebuild or restore all buildings or improvements on said premises that may have been destroyed or damaged; (4) that waste to said premises shall not be committed or suffered; (5) to keep all buildings at any time on said premises insured against loss by fire and tornado, to the full insurable value, in companies to be approved by the holder of said indebtedness and delive; to the said holder of said indebtedness between the property in good repair; and (7) not to suffer any mechanic's or other liens attach to said premises. In the event of failure so to insure, to pay taxes or assessments, or to keep the property in good repair; or to prevent mechanic's or other liens attaching to said premises, the grantee, or the holder of said indebtedness, may procure such insurance, or pay sufferments, or make such repairs as he may deem necessary to keep the said premises in a tenantable condition; or discharge or purchase any tax lien or title affecting said premises; and all moneys so paid, the grantor gares 5 to repay immediately without demand, and the same, with interest thereon from the date of payment at seven per cent, per annum shall be so much additional indebtedness secured hereby.

IN THE EVENT of a breach of any of the aforesaid covenants or agreements the whole of said indebtedness, including principal and all earned interest, shall, at the option of the legal holder thereof, without notice, become immediately due and payable and with interest thereon from time of such breach, at seven per cent, per annum shall be recoverable by foreclosure hereof, or by suit at law, or both, the same as if of an anid indebtedness had then matured by express terms.

IT IS AGREED that all expenses and disbursements, paid or incurred in behalf of complainant in connection with the foreclosure hereof—including reasonable solicitor's fees, outleys for documentary evidence, etenographer's charges, cost of procuring or completing an abstract of title showing the whole title to said premises embracing foreclosure decises—thill be paid by the grantor get that the like expenses and disbursements, occasioned by any suit or proceeding wherein the trustee, or any holder of any part of said indebtedness, as such, may be a party, shall also be paid by the grantor; that such expenses and disbursements shall be an additional lian upon said premises, shall be taxed as costs and included in any decree that may be rendered in such foreclosure proceeding, which proceeding, whether decree of sales shall have been entered or not, shall not be dismissed, nor a release hereof given, until all such fees, expenses and disbursements, and the costs of sult, including solicitor's fees, have been paid. The grantog waiveg all right to the possession of and income from said premises pending such foreclosure proceedings, and until the period of redemption from any sale thereunder expires, and agree 8 that upon the filing of any bill to foreclose this Trust Deed, a Receiver shall upon motion of Solicitor for complainant, without notice, be immediately appointed by the court before which such motion for the appointment of a receiver shall come on for hearing, to take possession or charge of said premises, and collect such income and the same, less receivership expenditures, including repairs, insurance premiums, taxes, assessments and his commissions, to pay to the person entitled thereto in reduction of the indebtedness bereby secured, in reduction of any decree of sale entered in any foreclosure proceeding, in payment or reduction of any decree of sale entered in any foreclosure proceeding, in payment or reduction of any decree of sale entered in any foreclosure proceeding, in payment or reduction of any

IN THE EVENT of the death, inability, removal or absence from said Kane County of the grantee or of his refusal or failure to act, then the Elgin City Banking Co. of said County is hereby appointed to be the first successor in this trust; and if for any like cause said first successor fail or refuse to act, the person who shall then be the acting Recorder of Deeds of said County is hereby appointed to b@second successor in this trust. And when all the aforesaid covenants and agreements are performed, the trustee, or his successor in trust, shall release said premises to the party entitled thereto on receiving his reasonable charges.

WITNESS the hand and seal of the granter this 12th

day of May

A. D. 1925

Jennie Spitzer

[SEAL]

(SEAL)

(SEAL)

County of Kane

I. Otto Parlasca, Notary Public in and for and residing in said County, in the State aforesaid, DO HEREBY CERTIFY. That Jernie Spitzer, widow

(Otto Parlasca ) (Notary Public (Elgin, Kane County, Ills) personally known to me to be the same person whose name 18 subscribed to the foregoing instrument, appeared before me this day in person, and acknowledged that given a signed, sealed and delivered the said instrument as her free and valuntary act for the uses and purposes therein set forth, including the release and waiver of the right of Homesteed.

My commission expires July 28th

Given under my hand and Notarial cool, this 13th

May A. D. 125 Otto Parlasca

INSPECTION RECORD NOTES/COMMENTS INSPECTION DATE INSPECTOR SET-BACK EXCAVATION & FOOTINGS CONCRETE REINFORCED STEEL (FOOTING) FRAMING MONTHER FIRE STOPPING A CO ROOM VENTILATION Control of the Contro PLASTERING. SKETCH SPACE KITCHEN VENT BATHROOM VENT SCUTTLE HOLE The second of th GARAGE FIREPROOFING FIREPLACE CHIMNEY FIRESTOP [中国集团结构 SEWER SERVICE WATER SERVICE ROUGH PLUMBING METER ORDERED IN SPRINKLER as a mile to the property of the state of the PLOT PLAN a many a discount of the property of REAR YARD SETBACK\_\_\_\_\_ ELECTRICAL SERVICE ROUGH INSPECTION UTILITY CO. NOTIFIED With mi them? CORRECTION ORDER LEFT CHECKEN TO THE STOP ORDER ISSUED STOP ORDER RELEASED BUILDING CONDEMNATION CERTIFICATE OF OCCUPANCY FINAL INSPECTION LIABILITY INSURANCE WORK STARTING DATE GRADE STAKES REQ'D. STAKES SET OF THE STATE OF