

K.S.A.C.
Graduating theses:
A PRACTICAL HOME FURNISHING ESTIMATE.

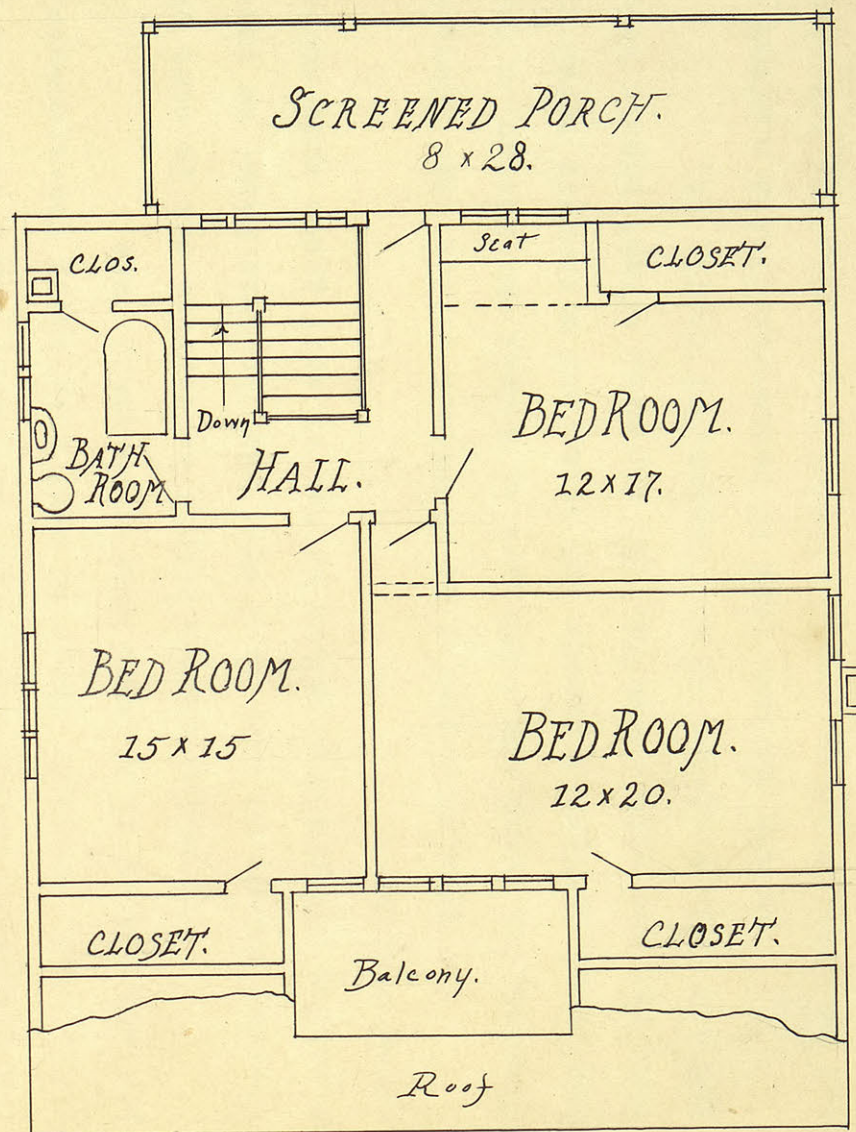
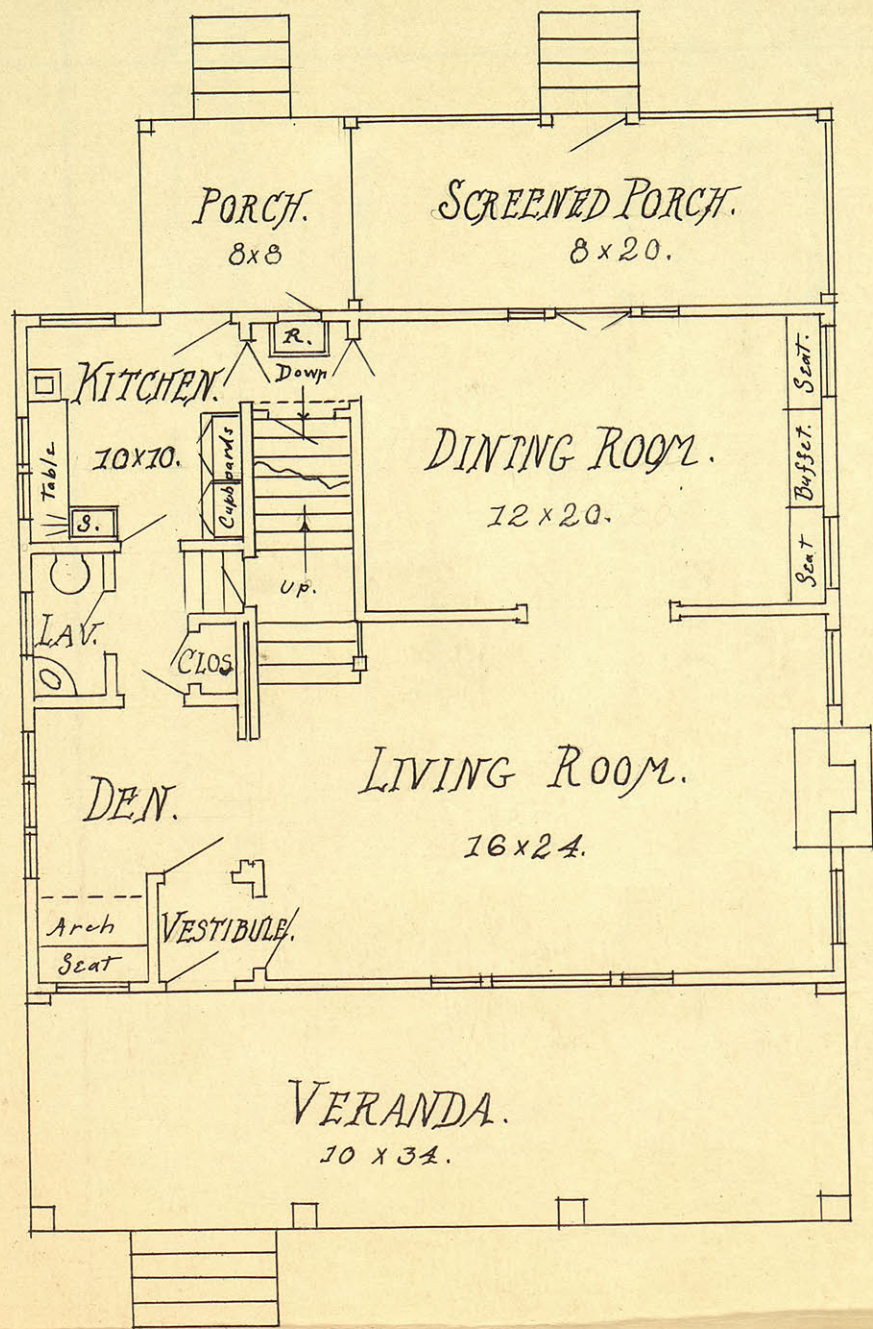
Caroline Morton. 1906

A PRACTICAL HOME FURNISHING ESTIMATE.

The expenditure of some real thought and interest in the planning and furnishing of our middle-class homes would give greater returns in real livableness than can be estimated.

If we would but strive for simplicity and fitness of things, we should have real homes rather than the usual over-furnished homes that we put forth so much effort to care for. The ideal home is a place in which every member of the family can really live, grow, rest, and enjoy life, and every home should be planned and furnished on such a basis.

We give here an excellent plan for a small house, which can be made into an ideal home for a small family. This plan will be used as the background for planning and estimating the cost of furnishings for any moderate home.



In the following estimate great care was taken to select only that which will be needed, and to combine the artistic and durable. In no case was durability sacrificed to cost.

Silver, table linen, china, and pictures were not included, as they are usually a possession.

LIVING ROOM.

As this is the family room, it must be large, well-lighted, inviting, furnished substantially, and in such a way that it can be easily cared for. It will demand plain furniture and no useless pieces. If possible, this room should always have a fireplace, nothing can add ^{more} to its charm and cheer.

The floor covering is the first item to be considered. A rug should be chosen that will look well, stand wear, and clean easily. Body brussels seems to best fill these requirements. Always protect places of hardest wear with small rugs .

The color scheme should be carried out in soft shades of blended colors as they will wear best in this room; an especially pleasing color scheme would be tan or soft green side walls with cream ceiling.

This room should be furnished with either quarter-sawed, Flemish, or fumed oak furniture in a dull wax finish, a rug of conventional design in greens and tans, and with soft brown or green hangings and ecru curtains. An especial effort should be made to get all the furniture in one finish, or nearly so.

On the curtain item of house-furnishing a great saving may be made by buying yard material and making the curtains. Very artistic curtains may be made with a little thought and effort. For

instance in the living room some of the pretty, heavy nets or case-ment cloth may be used. In the dining room and bed room unbleached muslin, scrim cheesecloth, or Russian crash, stenciled, are much more suitable than expensive lace curtains.

The necessary furniture and costs for living room, in the suggested finish are:

Body Brussels Rug 9x15 ft.	\$30.00
4 small Rugs	12.00
Davenport or Couch	25.00
Sectional Bookcase (3 sections)	13.00
Library Table	18.00
Desk	8.00
1 Large Rocker	12.00
3 Small "	18.00
Curtains	6.00
Magazine Rack	4.00
Total	<u>\$146.00</u>

DINING ROOM.

In this room we need only room enough for comfortable seating and serving. Plenty of light and sunshine are good appetizers, and the good window arrangement will furnish these. A porch opening from the dining room is a good arrangement, for it makes a delightful summer dining room. In the dining room the entire floor should be finished and only small rugs used. These may be made from short ends of carpeting bought for a very reasonable sum and can be easily removed and cleaned and all dust avoided.

The color scheme here may be any of a variety. Soft yellows and brown, or gray with touches of red, and curtains stenciled to match, used with mission style furniture would be very effective.

Dining Table	\$20.00
Six Chairs (solid wood)	15.00
Buffet	18.00
Serving Table	8.00
Rugs (as suggested)	5.00
Curtains (as suggested)	2.50
Total	<u>\$68.50</u>

KITCHEN.

The model kitchen in a modern home will be as small as possible for comfort. With well-arranged cupboards and furniture, many steps may be saved in the "workroom" of the home.

The kitchen should be connected with the dining room by a good-sized butler's pantry, to prevent fumes from entering the dining room from the kitchen. In this pantry should be a china cupboard, drawers for the kitchen and dining room linen, a stationary table, and the refrigerator arranged to be filled from the outside and drained into the sewer.

The most satisfactory arrangement of cupboards that I have found is either a good kitchen cabinet or the lower part of a cabinet placed beneath a built-in cupboard, and in addition to this a cupboard or rack for the heavy kitchen utensils. The essential thing being to have everything necessary for cooking at arm reach. Under the stairs is the closet for rubbers, wraps, and brooms.

The floor should be either oiled or covered with linoleum and the walls, above a 1/3 wainscott of oilcloth, should be painted some light tint.

Plan to purchase only the necessaries for the kitchen. We would suggest buying the first grade of granite utensils, or better still, as many aluminum ones as possible, with a few of the cheaper granite, which may later be replaced by aluminum ones.

Iron.

1 Skillet	\$.45
1 Frying Pan	.50
1 Griddle (soapstone or aluminum)	1.50
1 Scotch Bowl	.75

Tin.

4 Bread Pans	.40
2 Cake Pans (loaf and layer)	.45

Granite.

(Prices on 1st and 2nd Grade.)

1 Savory Roaster		\$1.50		
2 Small Pails		.75	\$.30
Muffin Pans		.50		.30
1 Double Boiler		1.50		.60
2 Sauce Pans	\$.40 or	.60	\$.20 or	.50
2 Kettles	.75 "	1.00	.35 "	.50
3 Bowls		1.20		.65
1 Colander		.85		.30
2 Dish Pans	1.50	.60	.25 "	.60
3 Pie "		.60		.40
1 Sink Strainer		.50		.30
1 Spoon		.20		.10
1 Cup		.25		.10
Wash Pan		.65		.45
Fruit Jar Filler		.25		.15

Nickel or Aluminum.

Al.

Ni.

1 Tea kettle	\$4.00	1.25
1 " pot		1.00
1 Coffee Percolater	4.50	1.00
Tray	2.00	.75

Earthenware.

2 Bowls	.20
2 Covered Jars	.20

Miscellaneous.

1 Food Chopper	1.50
1 Frying Basket	.10
1 Heavy Dover Egg Beater	.25
1 Small " " "	.10
1 Egg Whip	.05
2 Strainers	.20
1 Wooden Spoon	.10
1 Steel Spatula	.35
Bread Knife	.90
Scales	1.50
2 Paring Knives	.25
Nutmeg Grater	.10
Cake Rack	.15
Broom	.30
2 Towel Racks	.30
Toaster	.20
Can Opener	.10
Potato Masher or Fruit Press	.10
Grater	.10
Flour Sifter	.25
Candle Stick	.10

Furniture.

Refrigerator (Porcelain Lined)	\$18.00
Coal or Gas Range	20.00
Kitchen Cabinet	20.00
Movable Table	2.00
High Stool	1.00
Total	<u>\$61.00</u>

Kitchen Linen.

12 Crash Hand Towels	\$1.80
12 " Dish "	2.00
12 " " Cloths	.50
Total	<u>\$4.30</u>

LAUNDRY.

With very little extra expense a laundry may be fitted up in the basement. This will save labor and take the laundry work from the house. The cellar should, of course, be cemented and drained, and as it is the place for the water tank, the only extra expense will be a stove for boiling the clothes.

1 Copper Boiler	\$3.50
1 Washer	4.50
2 Galvanized Tubs	1.50
1 Clothes Basket	.50
1 Wash Board	.50
1 Ironing Board	1.25
1 Set Irons	1.50
4 doz. Clothes Pins	.05
100 ft. Line	.45
Clothes Rack	.69
Total	<u>\$14.44</u>

BED ROOMS

The bedrooms in this plan are three good sized ones and have good light and ventilation. The sloping roof gives ample closet and storage room.

The rooms, of course, must be furnished according to the size of the family. If the family is small, nothing could be more of a delight, to the ^{whole} family, than to have the back bedroom, which

is a large one, converted into a family play and work room. If this is not possible, the "hobbies" will find room elsewhere. This room would, aside from table, sewing machine, and chairs, furnish itself.

The best possible finish for bedroom walls is tinting; either water color or oil; for the floors hard finish with small rugs, or matting and art squares, but never tacked carpet.

Either twin or double iron, or brass beds of simple pattern with a good quality of woven wire supported spring and cotton or wool felt mattress, make a comfortable and sanitary bed.

BED ROOM No.1.

4 Rugs (made from short lengths of carpet)	\$4.00
Iron or brass bed (strong)	18.00
Woven wire supported spring	3.00
Felt mattress	7.50
Dresser	25.00
Chiffonier	20.00
Rocker & Chair	7.00
Total	<u>\$84.50</u>

BED ROOM No.2. (Maple or French Enamel.)

4 Rugs (same as No.1.)	\$ 4.00
Iron Bed	15.00
Mattress (cotton felt)	6.50
Spring	2.50
Table	2.00
Chiffonier	17.50
Rocker & Chair	7.00
Dressing Table	12.50
Curtains for both bedrooms (as suggested)	5.00
Total	<u>\$72.00</u>

FAMILY ROOM.

Sewing Machine	\$50.00
Long Carpenter-made Work Table	8.00
3 Chairs (used in summer as porch chairs)	8.00
Total	<u>\$66.00</u>

LINEN CLOSET.

This will be a delight to the housekeeper for it is easily reached from all the rooms and in it is room for storing extra bed clothes. To furnish this allow at the very least three sheets and two pairs of cases to each bed.

8 sheets	\$ 5.40
6 prs. cases	2.10
1 doz. hand towels	1.50
1 " bath "	1.80
1 " wash cloths	.60
2 spreads	3.85
2 pads	1.80
2 prs. woolen blankets cut & finished	8.00
3 comforters.	6.00
	<u>\$31.05</u>

BATH ROOM.

A very pretty little bath room is possible in this plan. Paint the upper wall a tint of blue or green and finish the lower part in imitation of tile or enameled brick; the floor varnished. Have in it a glass shelf, a built-in medicine closet, and mirror.

Bath Rug	\$1.00
Shoe Stool	.75
White Swiss or Muslin Curtains	.50
	<u>\$2.25</u>

Total aside from Kitchen Utensils \$550.04

The plan of this little house will be found to be most complete and artistic. It has most of the essentials of successful house building. The rooms are good sized; the windows are large and numerous and placed with a view to good arrangement of furniture, closet and store room are ample and there is practically no waste space.

The most artistic and comfortable living room, and the kitchen with its cupboard arrangements, are especially good.

The furnishings figured are, of course, only suggestive and were chosen with a view to fitness and harmony with this particular plan. In each case the furnishings should be chosen to best comply with the particular needs and ideas of the family and plan of the house, and the result will be more economically and harmoniously furnished homes.