

A GUIDE TO THE BEST RESTAURANTS & ENTERTAINMENT

OKLAHOMA

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Created by noted architect Jack Arnold, European Copper chimney pots bring high design and functionality to the chimney.

Jack Arnold, AIA, Residential Architect

Renowned throughout the U.S. for his design of European residential properties, Jack Arnold has been an architect for 30 years. He is a graduate of the Engineering School at the University of Oklahoma. Arnold's companies include a custom design and construction company, European Attic, as well as Homes of Elegance and European Copper, LLC.

A home is luxurious because or when...

Luxury means different things to different people. I believe a home is luxurious when it is a place the owner loves to be — where they love waking up in the morning and can't wait to come home to in the evening.

In the next 10 years, the most important new trend in architecture will be...

Most definitely, advances in technology. I'm already seeing new home-building materials that are changing the way we build. But technology also shows up inside the home — electronics, home gyms, entertainment choices, even security devices are really popular. The next 10 years will be very exciting in this regard.

My favorite new or recent building material to incorporate into my designs is...

European Copper chimney pots. These chimney pots are not only a design element, they also improve the draw on the chimney, they're easy to install, they last forever and they protect the home from moisture and pests.... Plus they are a huge design enhancement over what you see on many chimneys today.

The architectural style of my own home is...

European. Susan and I are influenced by the architecture we see in our travels to southern France. Like the other homes I design, my home is a mix of European elegance and livable amenities.

My dream project would be...

There are so many creative outlets in this profession that, honestly, I approach every project as if it were my ideal. It's what gets me up in the morning. That and golf!

Architect Do:

Listen to your client. What's their lifestyle? What stage of life are they in? What do they foresee in their future? You must first answer those questions to come up with a design that works for an individual or a family. The only way to get those answers is to listen.

Architect Don't:

Never do anything that would compromise your integrity or your values. And don't become complacent with your creativity.

When integrating new technology into a blueprint, I...

Spaces that integrate new technology are contemplated much like other spaces in the home. After I know the client's needs, wants and comfort levels, it's not a problem. Technology is not the issue; it's how to make the space that holds the technology pleasing to the people who are going to live with it.



Photo courtesy Hawks Photography

This custom European-cottage style home by Jack Arnold is located in midtown Tulsa. The new construction project was completed in 2003.

Handcrafted woodwork is...

A combination of three things: good design, fine detailing and skilled execution. Woodwork today should be the same level of quality and timelessness as a Shaker chair or a Chippendale table. The beauty and practicality of this sort of craftsmanship stands the test of time.

A single word to describe architecture is...

Essential. Good architecture is imperative to society in both how it inspires and in how it helps people live their lives. The best architecture is both shelter and an art form, and it elevates those who experience it.

When I begin with a new client, I always...

Begin with an extensive interview. I want to hear every dream they have about the new home they want and every concern they want me to address in the process.

The style of this project...

Was inspired by the look of an Old World cottage and, I think, the client's ideal of a cottage lifestyle. The challenge was to take their space requirements — they're an active couple with many interests and children and grandchildren — and still keep the look they wanted.

The European-inspired back patio fulfills form and function with its peaceful ambiance and space enough for entertaining.

Something that surprised me about this project was...

The final design was pretty large, and yet we were able to keep the quaint, European feeling intact.

Photo courtesy Hawks Photography

