

# Make a House

by Kay Chambers

You can re-create the famous house in the background of Iowa artist Grant Wood's painting *American Gothic* by making a shoe-box model.

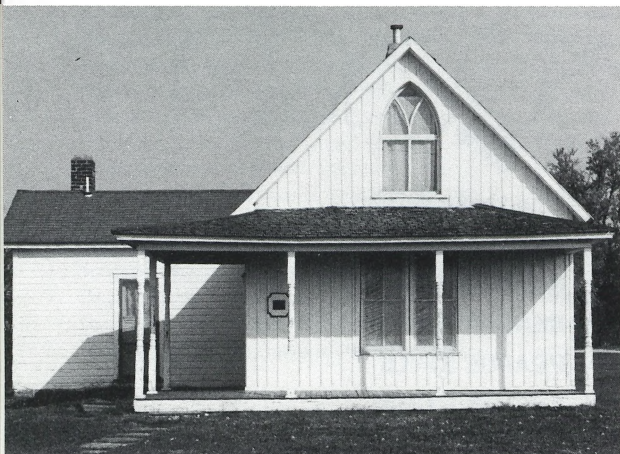
## You need:

- 1 shoe box
- scissors
- glue or tape
- 2 sheets blue construction paper
- 1 sheet green construction paper
- 6 round toothpicks
- colored pencils or crayons
- (access to a photocopy machine)

## Steps:

- 1 Make a photocopy of the illustrations on these two pages.
- 2 Cut out the house and porch roof.
- 3 Fold along lines marked V. One line marked VL must be folded toward you to make the L shape of the house.
- 3 Glue or tape the roof tabs to the house sides.
- 5 Fold under porch roof and position it around the house corner. Glue one tab to the front and one to the side of the house so that the top of the porch roof is straight along the dotted lines.
- 3 With shoe box on its side, glue blue paper to represent sky and green paper to represent grass.
- 7 Center house against the long side of shoe box. Fold under tabs and glue them to the bottom of the box.
- 8 Cut and glue toothpicks to the bottom of the box and the porch to make pillars as shown in the photograph.
- 9 Color the flowers and cat pieces. Cut, fold, and glue as shown to make stand-up figures.

The original *American Gothic* house in Eldon, Iowa.



Steven Ohrn

