

# Cotswold influence seen in historic Hills home



If this house reminds you of the English countryside, there's a reason. Designed by architect Marcus Burrowes, the house was built for Edward Moseman who wanted to recreate a bit of his English family heritage with the Cotswold-style house. It features Bedford limestone, casement windows and slate roof.

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In Detroit — is similar to the stone used in Cotswold houses in Wiltshire County. The main facade of the house displays casement windows and copper gutters and downspouts.

**TOPPED WITH** a slate roof and square limestone chimney, the house also features 12-16-inch thick walls constructed of wet plaster. The European style of the house — and many of its features — are common characteristics used by Burrowes in the many buildings he designed in the Farmington and Detroit areas.

In Fox's house, for example, there's the occasional oval topped windows and the wooden firewood door right next to the chimney. These are Burrowes signatures.

"On this house he (Burrowes) supervised the building," said Fox, who has the architect's original specifications and plans for the house.

The heavy Oak doors and woodwork in Fox's house are other features used by Burrowes. The house still retains its original woodwork, including the hardwood floors.

Burrowes' design with the thick stone and plaster walls helps keep the house cool in the summer and warm in the winter. Burrowes style also was to build houses one-room deep to maintain good ventilation.

"The whole house is his style because he features

**When you walk up to Jean Fox's house, you get a distinctive feeling you're walking through a bit of the old English countryside.**

English (style)," Fox said.

The top floor of the house features a large room — the Moseman's used it as a billiard room — Fox uses as a guest room, plus servants rooms and a bathroom. The kitchen is the only room Fox has changed a little. She put new doors on the cabinets in the simply designed room, Fox says was designed as a servants kitchen.

The house today sits back off Biddlestone on two acres surrounded by wild flowers, spruce and cedar trees and encircled by a dirt driveway.

Others estate houses designed by Burrowes include the Eleanor Spicer estate house in Heritage Park and the Goodenough house, which now serves as the Farmington-Farmington Hills Community Center. Another is the Kirby White house, which is used by the First Presbyterian Church of Farmington and the house Marcus Burrowes built for himself on Locust Drive.

"His house, though, was a French country design, which is very interesting," Fox said.

## Anniversary will recognize Farmington's village heritage

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Preparation of a commemorative quilt will begin this fall and continue through the winter months. The finished quilt will be presented to the Farmington City Council as part of the kickoff May 4, with council members dressed in period costume. The quilt will hang at city hall.

An invitation-only kickoff reception will honor the living descendants of Farmington's founding fathers May 6 — the actual anniversary of the village charter adoption. It will be at the Warner Museum, which was built in 1867.

Michigan Week, May 16-23, will encourage a school poster contest and store window displays to commemorate not only the state's history, but Farmington's as well.

The Community Center of Farmington/Farmington Hills will host an "1867 Day" sometime during the summer months with a possible art show or strawberry festival. Community Center staffers are working on the details.

Founders Festival activities will highlight the 125th Anniversary. Organizers of the anniversary are currently seeking a community group to sponsor a float highlighting the theme on behalf of the community.

Family Day in the Park, a Saturday afternoon/evening activity at Shawwassee Park, is scheduled for Aug. 22 and will offer old-fashioned children's games, racing with hand-made boats on the Rouge River, the comeback of the Farmington Area

Jaycees chicken barbecue and a ho-down and square dancing.

Harkening back to the area's farming days, a game of "bovine bingo" is planned, where squares will be marked off on the grass and a cow let out to "pasture" to mark the winning spot.

Area historians are preparing for a fall tour of historic homes in the area.

The steering committee of the group will meet again in September to continue the planning process and begin fine-tuning the events, Richardson said.

More activities could be added as the group moves closer to the festivities.

## Handicap parking sign law takes effect Aug. 5

By Joanne Maliszewski  
staff writer

Beginning Aug. 5, Farmington Hills business and office owners must comply with a new city ordinance requiring proper signs to designate handicap parking spaces.

According to the new ordinance, each handicap parking space must have its own sign designating it as a special parking space. Business owners don't necessarily have to install the new state signs that are white with green lettering.

"As long as it is one sign per space. That's the important thing," said Sgt. Ray Cranston of the Farmington Hills Police Department traffic section.

Just about everyone with sites or buildings other than residential will be affected by the new law. "It's for any place that requires a site plan, other than residential," Cranston

said. Along with the new one sign per space rule, the new ordinance requires business owners to maintain the spaces, including snow removal.

THE POLICE department's handicap parking enforcement volunteers who have been out in the field are aware of businesses that are considered deficient in meeting the new law, Cranston said.

Beginning Aug. 5, businesses will be given a warning when found that they still do not comply with the new ordinance. During the 30-day warning period, businesses that do not comply will be provided with a letter of explanation and a copy of the new ordinance, Cranston said.

Under the new ordinance — and after the 30-day warning period — violators will be ticketed. The maximum penalty for the misdemeanor will be \$500 fine or 90 days in jail.

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