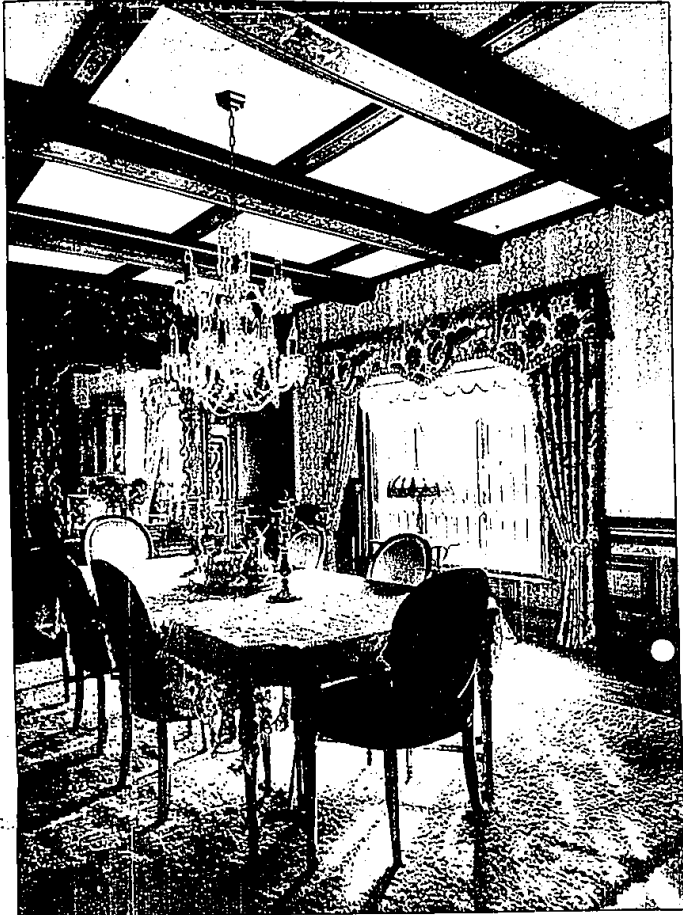


Monday, December 20, 1982 (A&E)

Local mansion gathers antiques for beauty



In the dining room, an antique telephone booth with two doors from the Hoffman estate and side paneling from the Schlotman estate are combined with a crystal chandelier and one of three pool room windows.

Architectural treasures live on in Pine Terrace

By Kathy Parriah
staff writer

HISTORIC FARMHOUSES line the road winding through Stoney Creek Village, where century-old buildings have been preserved by the community.

At nearby Pine Terrace — thanks to one family's efforts — pieces of houses not so lucky also live on.

The Avon Township showplace is just seven years old but more than half its materials are recycled from stately old mansions razed in recent years.

Listed recently at \$1,300,000, the elegant English Tudor has modern conveniences such as counter-top stoves and a giant video screen as well as stone ballisters from Dodge Rose Terrace, hand carved doors once part of the Alfred Glancy estate and paneling from the J.P. Schlotman estate in St. Louis.

Antique paving brick from Detroit's waterfront fills the driveway, lit by old English street lamps from Evansville, Ind.

Throughout the home are historic remnants of former castles, ballrooms, pool halls and even the Robin Hood Flour estate in Adrian.

Builder Sidney Weinberger and his former wife Mariene spent 15 months collecting materials for and building the 13,000-square-foot mansion.

SITUATED ON MORE than four acres on Stony Creek in northeast Avon Township, Pine Terrace was opened in 1975.

More than 60 percent of the house is recycled, salvaged mainly from Grosse Pointe mansions which are no longer standing.

"It's still not done, but it's not going to be," said the owner of Sidney Weinberger Homes, Rochester. Divorced early this year, he plans to build another English Tudor one-fourth the size with materials left over from the Pine Terrace construction.

Dolly Hill, one of two real estate agents handling the sale of the mansion for Ralph Manuel Associates in Birmingham, said Weinberger "really had an eye for finding things."

"I think the brilliance of the man is that he saw these things and could imagine just where to put them," she said. Weinberger, a native of Pennsylvania, has been building homes in Avon and Shelby townships for 35 years. The past 10-12 he has limited the number of houses and combined new materials with glass, floors and other items taken from old homes.

"People have a feeling for the old," he said. "New furniture just does nothing for me. I like old furniture — the quality, wood, beauty," added Weinberger, who became aware of fine antiques and art while in Europe during World War II.

WEINBERGER IS so committed to preservation that he now owns a glass factory in Rochester. At Bygone Gallery of Glass, salvaged leaded glass is beveled into antique patterns for new homes.

"It's like stepping back into the past," he said. "I didn't think they could be duplicated. But they can."

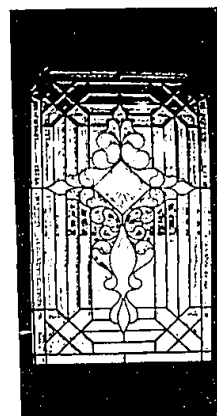
Pine Terrace has six fireplaces, six gold sink sets, and — of course — leaded glass in all the windows. Made of imported fabric from Europe, the draperies once hung in Grosse Pointe mansions.

There are two complete kitchens — a utility kitchen with cabinets from the Glancy estate and another completely modern kitchen with two dishwashers, two ovens, a microwave, two counter top stoves and two built-in side-by-side refrigerators.

"It's the best of two worlds," said Hill, admitting she feels like a museum docent taking clients through the property.

"There's new electrical, heating and appliances, but you feel like you're in a Meadow Brook Hall setting."

HILL AND associate broker Shirley



An antique oak door with leaded glass leads visitors into the foyer.

Gotthelf are working as a team to sell the estate, which will be advertised nationally.

At \$1,300,000, the brokers admit finding the right buyer is a challenge. "It's probably someone who is not second or third generation and wants to buy the image of old Detroit," speculated Gotthelf, who believes the Pine Terrace's biggest asset is the "history that has been preserved in the home."

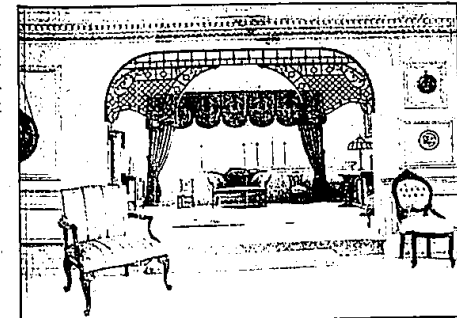
But they are looking forward to the project. "It's no scarier than taking on any home today," said Hill.

Weinberger, who invested more than a year in building the home, said the rising cost of antiques would make it impossible to duplicate today.

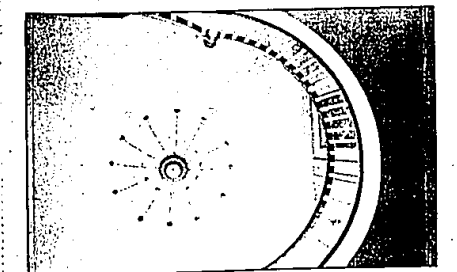
"When I started collecting these items, a lot of people didn't care about antiques. Everyone has nostalgia now," he explained.

"Anybody who buys the home will have to love the old and have the same kind of feeling for it I do."

Staff photos by David Frank



Windows in the sitting area off the living room were in the Glancy estate.



A 5-foot crystal chandelier from a Columbus, Ohio, ballroom hangs in the foyer.



Three Grosse Pointe mansions are represented in the outside of Pine Terrace, which has slate from the Alfred Glancy home, cut stone from the Joseph P. Schlotman estate and stone ballisters from Rose Terrace.

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