## Farmington Observer

## creative living

Thursday, May 26, 1983 O&E

## Designers, builder offer modern version of Old World grandeur

Opulent fits. So does elegant and impressive and any number of the other superlatives.

The Detroit Symptomy ASID (American Society of Interior Designers) Showhouse which opened last Tuesday is a brand-new \$1.5 million 25-room house in Bloomfield Township, built by the Malcolm Leventen Corporation of Southfield.

The 26 interior designers added some \$1 million in furnishings.

Landscape architecture students from Lawrence institute of Technology did the landscape plan and another group of LIT interior design students did one of the hallways.

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The continuity from room to room is a triumph, for too easily, each room can become a showplace for an individual designer without regard to surroundings. It can and does happen, even in homes done by a single interior designer. But, the flow of color and style here is exemplary.

THE COLORS the designers were given to work with were neutrals, taupe, teal and black, and various accent colors. Miles kept close tabs on the plans for each room, approving color swatches and design. She may have made a few people unhappy for a moment or so as she rejected things she fall wouldn't fit, but the end product is littly bleasing.

ahn fell wouldn't fit, but the end prodset is highly pleasing.
Visitors will note the mix of periods and colors, antiques interpersed
with late Art Nouveau, country
French, Orleand and American, With
this it becomes more like a family
home in which treasures have been
collected over the years, rather than
a newly created showhouse.
The house lends itself to elegant,
expensive treatment. There is a lavsish use of Italian marble, not only in

the two-story foyer with a classic winding staircase, but in the master bathroom and family room and master beforom suite itreplaces. All the marble was carefully matched on site by European craftsmen.

The use of crewn moulding is extensive, giving an old world look to these new surroundings. The oak trins, sometimes natural, sometimes painted and treated to achieve a pickled oak look, warms the atmosphere, which by dist of size alone, could be cold.

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The Georgian fixtures, wealth of textures and soft accent colors also help make a hospitable atmosphere. A soft teal shows up frequently as does rose, for instance, in the charming upstairs sitting room by Ural Designs & Interiors of Livonia.

Turquoise, sometimes considered hard to work with, is one of the dominant colors in the living room by Gorman's Gallery of Southfield.

Here it reaches an exciting level used as a wall color and repeated in the elaborate crown mouding. Against a honey-colored carpet, muted tones of sea foam green and mauve for accents give a sophisticated, continental ambiance to the living room.

At the far end, on a carpeted dais, is a Louis XVI harpsichord in bright

THE ETCHED pattern on the glass coffee table matches the small, overall upholatery print on matching chairs.

The family room, about the same size as the living room, with pickeled oak paneling, was done by Walter Herz Interiors Inc. of Southfield.

Because, as expected, it is iess formal than the living room, the colors of the family room are bolder and the wicker and contemporary French furnishings more casual. But even this casual is in keeping with the formality of the home.

The kitchen and adjoining solarium (a passive solar energy room), designed by Pastor Interiors Inc. of Bloomfield Hills with cabinetry planned and designed by Kitchens by Lenore of Birmingham, is a wooderful combination of sunshine and artisty. The pickeled oak look continues throughout. The wall treatment is a laminated, large print, navy blue fabric with tangerine and neutrals.

The shaded teal, tile floor, a color to fall in low with, has pale peach grouting.

to tain in love with, has pare peacing grouting.

In fact, the color of the grouting in all of the ille installations is something to pay attention to, along with a myriad of other details which add so much to the overall look.



The graceful drama of the circular steirway is enhanced by the five-part skylight and a sweeping curve of molding on the inner wall.

NOT TO BE missed is the \$10,000 19th century French needlepoint rug in the French bedroom (hardly a detail) by Perinutter Freiwald Inc. of Franklin, and the coffee table with a 19th century gas lanters from a Belgian bake shop in the grand guest suite by John Mitchell Interiors of Birmingham.

For the \$5 fee at the door, visitors will have a chance to see what's happening in the home furnishings field (which often leads the apparel field), the new colors and trends.

It is more than a visit to a 10,000-square-foot house with a rather staggering price tag, it's a delightful learning experience.

Helen Peterson of Bloomfield Hills

is the symphony chairman of the showhouse and Brian Collins represents the local chapter of the American Society of Interior Designers.

There's a boutique with lots of greenery and hand-cratical terms by Mchigan artisans on the premises along with a tea room.

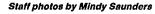
Hours are 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Tues-

## Designers give talks

A series of Thursday lectures, "An Evening with the Designers," begins at 730 p.m. this evening at the Detroit Symphony/ASID showhouse and continues on June 2, 9, 16.

Tickets for the programs are availed at the door, 1711 Morningside Way, North Wabeek, Bloomfield Township, north of Long Lake between Franklin and Middlebelt.
All of the speakers are members of the Michigan Chapter of the American Can Society of the Amer

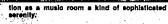
can Society of Interior Designers.
The programs are: May 28, "Eclecticism/How to Mix Periods," Daniel E. Glancey, June 2, "Accessories and Lighting," Brian Clay Collins, June 9, "Color/Does Red Really Make You Rager," and "Window Treatments," by Margie Cockie Cunningham.
Each program will include a silde presentation followed by a question and answer period.

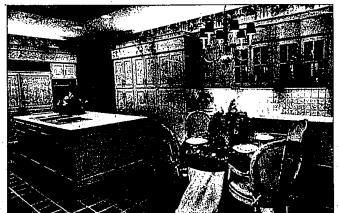




Blues, greens, shades of mauve and neutrals tion as a give the living room which is designed to tune-serenity.

The bathroom of guest suite is done in earth tone tile. The three imported boxes are leather covered. The effect is a tailored, but hospitable look.





The shaded test tile floor and the light cak cabinets work together to give the kitchen a bright, are contoured.