

Creative Living

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Georgian goes well in modern Southfield

By Corinne Abalt
staff writer

It's surprising to see a 434-unit apartment community of Georgian architecture being built in the heart of modern Southfield. That's a style for staid communities that have been around longer than 28-year-old Southfield — or is it?

Somehow Village Green, situated on 28 acres on 12 Mile between Telegraph and Northwestern, appears comfortable and compatible in this contemporary neighborhood.

The red brick and white exterior, brick arches, wrought iron gates, period light posts along curved walkways, paneled windows and paneled doors give it a pleasant, timeless look.

INSIDE ARE more surprises. The one and two bedroom model apartments done by interior designer Susan Winton-Feinberg, owner of Walter Herz of Birmingham, have a modern sleek look that borders on high tech.

That combined with French doors instead of door walls to the balconies, those traditional windows and paneled doors puts these apartments right in the middle of no period at all.

You get the same impression when you see contemporary furnishings used in some of those beautiful old, renovated apartment buildings in Boston or New York.

Anyway, there are no interior design clichés here nor cookie-cutter floor plans. In the Kremer, director of marketing for the Village Green, said, "There are a variety of floor plans which we feel is the key our market," adding that it is essentially young professionals. While some are from out of town, the majority come from the immediate area.

THE ONE-BEDROOM apartments, about 600 square feet, start at \$600 a month. These have an 11-by-17-foot living room, a 14-by-12 bedroom and 9-by-6 foot dining area. Euro-style kitchen, breakfast nook and some pleasant extras such as wood-burning fireplace, windows in the breakfast nook and bathroom, microwave oven,

washer and dryer hook-up and large closets.

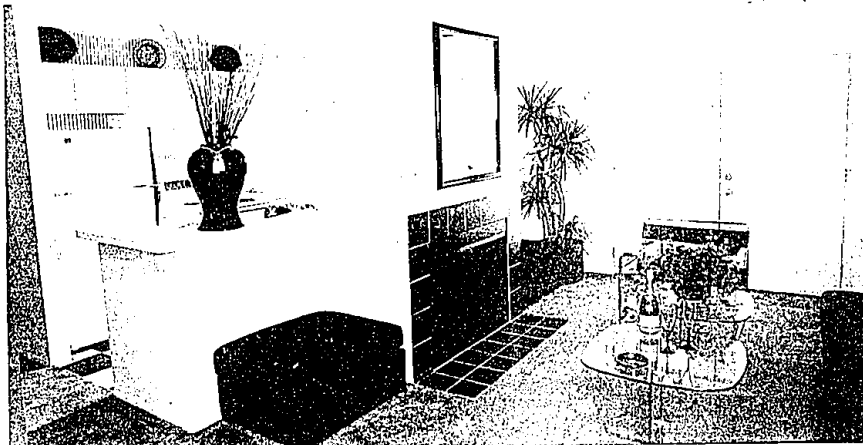
Other floor plans available are one bedroom with den, two bedroom one bath, and two bedroom and two baths.

Rents vary depending on which of the three floors the apartment is on, (some first floor apartments have private gardens and patio), the location in the building and the view.

But the apartments themselves are only part of the story — the clubhouse is the rest. Here there is a glass enclosed jacuzzi overlooking and accessible to the outdoor pool with a large deck area.

WINTON-FEINBERG WORKED with a black and white theme with touches of red in one of the models and she carried that feeling of high tech, art deco into the clubhouse. The walls and floor of the jacuzzi area are black and white tile. She used pink for an accent color in the clubhouse instead of red as she did in the apartment.

In addition to the expected gathering area in the clubhouse, there



Interior designer Susan Winton-Feinberg chose black, gray and white with touches of bright red to give the one-bedroom apartment a very contemporary look. The kitchen, pictured below,

with its black and white floor and all-white cabinetry has a fresh, crisp appearance.

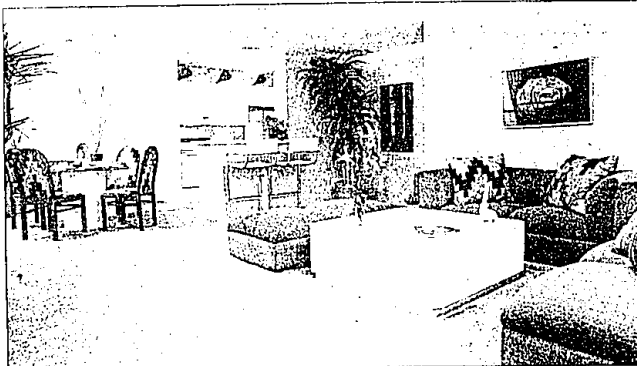
Staff photos by Stephen Cantrell

is a weight room, aerobics studio, sauna and pool table.

Kremer said the idea of builder/developers Holtzman & Silverman was to create a sense of community, a warm atmosphere that had an

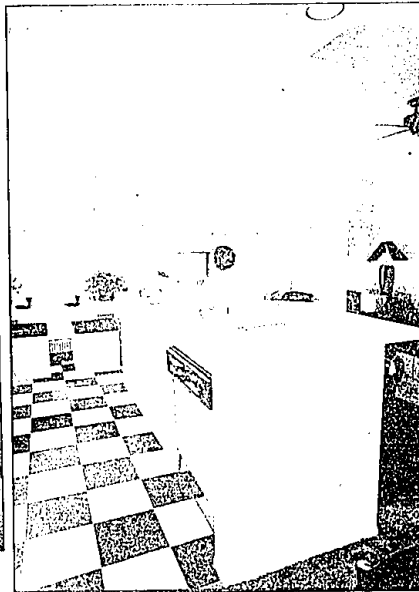
identity. They wanted to build in a style that would age well and gracefully. So far, so good.

The leasing center is in the clubhouse, 25500 W. 12 Mile, Southfield, 356-6570.



The model of two-bedroom apartment, also by Susan Winton-Feinberg, is in shades of gray, camel and taupe. It is comfortable, so-

phisticated, slightly less dramatic in impact than the black, white and red color scheme.



Variety adds sparkle to Artists Series

By Corinne Abalt
staff writer

About the time when the dullness of January becomes oppressive, the sun gives off a cold light and little warmth and the mercury hovers around zero, along comes the American Artists Series.

Just a minute you say, how can a chamber music series at Kingswood/Cranbrook School Auditorium counteract that?

Well, this series, under artistic director Joann Freeman, has a 17-year track record of generating a kind of musical excitement that warms the heart and gets the blood moving on a cold day.

Freeman takes a particular pride in unearthing musical gems, which have had little or no play. For the opening concert of the new season on Sunday, Jan. 18, Freeman and the American Artists Series Chamber Players, a cadre of Detroit Symphony Orchestra musicians, will perform two works by English composer Gerald Finzi (1901-1956), a quartet for oboe and strings by Lennox Berkeley and a quintet for piano and strings by Cesar Franck.

Freeman said she discovered composer Gerald Finzi, who is fairly well known in England, much less so here, through a woman she met at a cocktail party in London.

She said of his works on the Jan. 18 program, "They are so beautiful, kind of ethereal."

The AAS Chamber Players, Donald Baker, oboe; Ronald Fischer and Linda Snedden Smith, violins; Freeman, piano; Hart Hollman, viola; and John Thurman, cello, she said, "are a very compatible group, very congenial. They love the idea of doing new stuff."

The second concert, Sunday, Feb. 15, will spotlight the chamber ensemble. An die Musik, in



Douglas Campbell, An die Musik

works chosen by Helen Frankenthaler. David Hockney, Robert Motherwell and Kenneth Noland. In conjunction with these, there will be a photographic display of the painters and framed four-color posters by each. Additional posters will

be available to buy.

This program, establishing a link between these two disciplines, is titled "The Painter's Art, The Musician's Art."

The AAS Chamber Players will return to the stage on Sunday, March 15, in a program of works by Ludwig Spohr, William Alwyn, Grazyna Bacewicz and Anton Dvorak.

Freeman said, "Grazyna Bacewicz is a Polish woman who died in the '60s. She was a violinist and composer. . . Her Quintet No. 2 (on the program) is very avant garde without being difficult to listen to. She was a very romantic person herself and still a 20th-century composer."

The fourth program, Sunday, April 12, will be a complete change of pace with Douglas Campbell in "Blake" by Elliot Hayes.

"Douglas Campbell is one of the great actors from Stratford — a wonderful sort of big actor," Freeman said. "This is a one-person play on Blake, a visionary, artist and poet."

The final program of the season, Sunday, May 3, will have the AAS Chamber Players in a program of works by Ernest Bloch, Felix White, Arthur Bliss and Brahms. Freeman described the Bloch Piano Quintet No. 2, which has never been recorded, as "very, very difficult."

Season subscription tickets, \$42.50 for the five concerts and three previews, are on sale now at Birmingham Bookstore, 263 Pierce, Birmingham, Harmony House Records & Tapes, 2412 Woodward, Royal Oak, I Browse Book Store, 7365 Orchard Lake, West Bloomfield and Metro News Center, 6608 Telegraph at Maple, Birmingham. All concerts except the last one are at 3 p.m. For information, call 647-2230 or 477-5699.



American Artists Chamber Players are good friends as well as fine musicians. From left they are John Thurman, Linda Snedden Smith, Ronald Fischer, Joann Freeman and Hart Hollman. Related story and picture on 8-E.