

Smaller units?

New lifestyles remodel trends

Housing construction trends are continually changing as witnessed by the shifting patterns in the way people live.

At a recent meeting of the Builders Association of Southeastern Michigan, representatives from several fields outlined the changes coming as a result of environmental concerns, government regulation and simple economics.

Some of these predictions include power lines and transformers at streetside rather than hidden at the rear, small condominium groups of 10-12 homes rather than the larger, more economically feasible developments and no single timber larger than a 2x4 in a house's framework.

A new Detroit Edison Co. policy, for example, calls for streetside location of power lines in all new subdivisions. Martin

Lorenz, manager of Edison's Macomb Division and director of its underground policy committee, said the change is important for the company, the consumer and the subdivision developer.

After seven years of working with underground power lines, Lorenz explains, the luster of their environmental benefits has been dimmed by economic realities relating largely to the way an affluent society uses its backyard. In short, the patio-pool-garden-privacy fence era has doomed the backyard power pedestal.

UNDERGROUND SERVICE has proven more costly to maintain than overhead lines because backyard improvements make it difficult and often impossible for Edison (Continued on page 8)

Realtors: 'Buy now'

(Continued from page 2)

ket. "I do not see any major slowing of the market," he said. "In my opinion, the interest rates will hold to around 10 per cent. I also see new types of mortgages entering the market place. I am looking for a solid winter and a good 1979. I see no major signs of deterioration of the market other than a

more normal market."

BUY NOW is the advice of Allen Owen of Earl Keim Realty of Dearborn, Inc. "People are aware that buying a home rates as one of the best investments a person can make," he said. "New home costs are soaring and people are buying sooner because they do not wish to pay 10 to 12 per cent higher in

less than a year from now."

Kay Butcher of Real Estate One believes the market will stabilize somewhat in the next year and interest rates will continue to rise as money tightens. "Many more singles are coming into the market place today," she said. "I believe this trend will continue in the next year.

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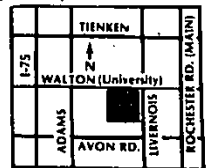


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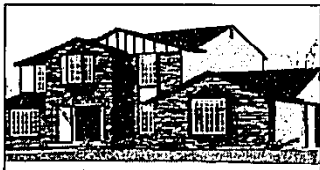
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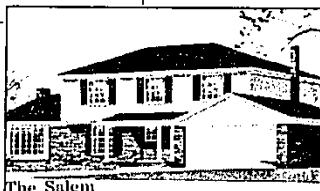
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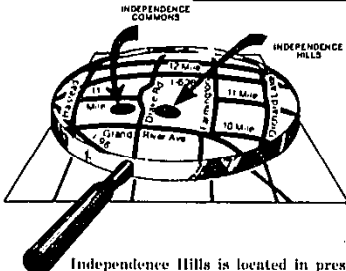


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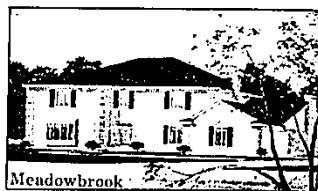
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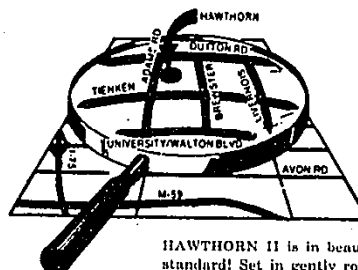


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