



Doing Something About The Ecology

The hundreds of beech and maple sentinels that stood watch during the two years of construction of the Observer Newspapers plant can relax now; the ecology of their domain not only has been preserved, it has been heightened.

From the very beginning, Publisher Philip H. Power was determined that every effort be made to maintain the natural beauty of the 38-acre ONI site. In his charge to landscape designer Betty Frankel the emphasis was on creating a plan that would blend into the backdrop of the surrounding forest just as Mother Nature might have selected herself, and this the special Observer columnist has accomplished.

Selecting myrtle as the groundcover (which led to 29,000 individual plants being placed along the north and west sides), Mrs. Frankel also has called for plantings of rhododendrons, cotoneaster shrubs and both dogwood and red maple trees in her over-all landscaping plan. As Bernard Margolis and his workers of the Ypsilanti landscaping firm that bears his name have brought the Frankel design into being, it has become obvious that the environment of nature has prospered.

The Power philosophy was expressed in the words, "News-papers shout a lot about pollution, but darn few ever do anything about it themselves. We felt we had an obligation both to the principle of ecology and to the community to do all we possibly could to preserve and even to enhance the site. Our landscaping, fitting into the mature beech and maple forest, does just that."

