

To Preserve Our Land...

As ecologists of coming years speed pell-mell along that ribbon which will be the I-96 Freeway through the heart of Observerland, they would do well to tarry at the juncture of Schoolcraft and Levan and examine the diversification which provides its distinctive character.

When the southeast quadrant of that intersection was selected as the site for the new home of Observer Newspapers, pleasant and prideful neighbors came with it.

There is considerable in this special ONI dedication edition about the preservation of ONI's own 38 acres as a garden spot with its beech and maple forest, plus landscaping designed for an eye-pleasing and natural blend so that the new and the old become one.

True, at the beginning it was considered a big order when contractors were challenged to complete the ONI construction without disturbing the verdant woodland, the last such virgin stand in the area. But now those same bulldozer and grader operators who were accustomed to working on barren urban sites can proudly boast that not even a sapling was lost around three sides of the Observer building's perimeter.

It would have been an injustice to those others who share the Schoolcraft and Levan crossroads to have done less.

Of particular beauty and significance are the lovely grounds and facilities of Madonna College, diagonally across the intersection. No less delightful is the residential section of fine homes known as Summit Point which shares the northern side with Madonna's four-year liberal arts girls school.

ONI is coupled with a well kept General Motors parts warehouse on the southern half of the intersection, and while the publishing facility is the newest to join this family its officials believe that they, too, have added stability to this tiny sector of the earth's face.

If anything, it is a complex whose members individually and collectively can be said to demonstrate an unshakable faith in the future.

