

BUILDING SCENE

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THURSDAY, JUNE 24, 1993

BUILDING SCENE'S NAMES & PLACES

Assisting Detroit

Franklin Bank of Southfield has approved a \$500,000 line of credit for Detroit Neighborhood Housing Services Inc. (DNHS). DNHS will use the credit line to originate individual home improvement loans in targeted Detroit neighborhoods.

"This is a first of its kind relationship in the Detroit area," Franklin chairman David F. Simon said. "DNHS is a true leader in housing rehabilitation in Detroit and we share their vision that Detroit's neighborhoods can be rebuilt through cooperative efforts of this nature."

The credit line should be in place by June 30 with home improvement loan funding by DNHS to follow immediately.

Life Member honors

Jerome L. Reiss of West Bloomfield, a commercial investment real estate specialist, was recently honored with Life Member status by the Governing Council of the Commercial Investment Real Estate Institute in Washington, D.C. Also, Reiss announced that he has left Burland, Reiss, Murphy and Rembesea of Southfield to operate under his own name in West Bloomfield. He will specialize in office property counseling, tax appeals and commercial real estate analysis and research.



Reiss

Information for inclusion in this column should be sent to Marilyn Fitchett, 36251 Schoolcraft, Livonia 48150.

What the heck is that place?

■ You can't always tell a book by its cover, and you can't always tell a business by the nature of its architecture.

BY GERALD FRAWLEY
STAFF WRITER



They ain't what they appear to be. Many buildings — whether it's because they were designed that way or because of tradition — look like they were designed with a very specific use in mind.

Sometimes, buildings are almost a trademark of a particular company; sometimes the intended use drives the design so much that buildings are destined to look a certain way.

Or at least it used to be that way. Today, because of pressures from within and outside of corporations — a lot of recognizable architecture is getting a facelift — heck, sometimes even full-scale reconstructive surgery.

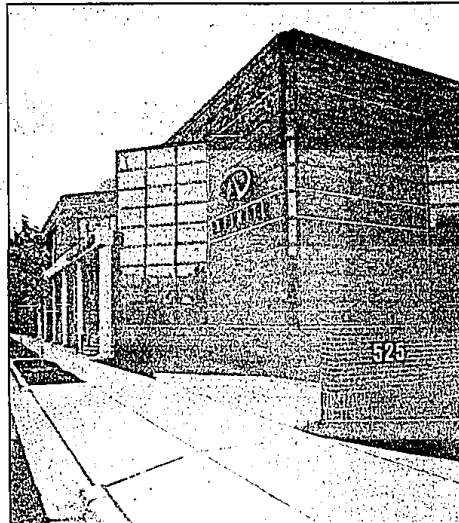
Take the Bloomfield Township McDonald's restaurant, for example.



We need your help. We are looking for odd-looking, out-of-place and otherwise undefinable buildings in the Observer & Eccentric area, buildings that you look at and wonder, "What the heck is that place?" Send us the location of those mystery buildings (any architectural structure you were intrigued by) and tell us what you think they are. Address it to the Observer & Eccentric, Building Scene, 36251 Schoolcraft Road, Livonia, 48150.

Whether you're in southeastern Michigan or Casper, Wyoming, you know if you see that Mansard roof, the deep earth tone bricks and the telltale golden arches that you can find a Big Mac inside.

See WHAT?, 2F



STEPHEN CANTRELL/STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Look again: If you didn't know what it was beforehand, chances are you would never guess that the building above housed an automotive dealership, and take away the sign and you would never suspect the building at left was a McDonald's. Buildings that aren't what they seem: Do they add to the allure of our local landscape or are they just plain annoying?

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