PLAN

FROM PAGE 1

arranging a bouquet of flowers with an Edwardian twist.

"I wanted to have the look of a still life painting."

FAMILY VALUES

The Birmingham designer says that as a child, she would sit on her grandparents' glassed-in porch and see this vision of a painting in their back yard. And to her delight, Dorothy believes she achieved this same look in her garden.

"I learned much about gardening from my grandparents," she said. "They had such a manicured yard."

Dorothy says besides the artistic effect, she also wanted to express her loyalty to the city of Birmingham.

"I wanted to make the garden like a bookend to the community," she said.

Another value that Dorothy took from her family was the idea of "giving back to the community.

"Something that my grandparents have taught me is that you always support your community.

"I shop for everything I can in Birmingham; and if I cannot locate it in Birmingham, then I'll go outside of it.

"I just think it (the garden) enhances the ambiance of the city."

The couple began their business in 1978, opened the Birmingham office in 1993, and made their "garden dream" come alive in 2001.

Meanwhile, in 1997, Pazzi Incorporated volunteered as a single sponsor of the garden project plan, Adopt-A-Garden, which is conducted by the Principal Shopping District (PSD), to adopt the area east of their building on the northwest corner of Maple and Ring Road.

The PSD began this plan to establish flower gardens throughout the district, using city and some private property. By adopting a garden, PSD members would make the downtown Birmingham area a more interesting and attractive place to conduct business. Members are responsible for the financial and the annual maintenance of their sections.

Pazzi made additional efforts to their part of the project by installing a sprinkler system, landscape lighting, floral and planting selections, which was beyond what PSD had hoped them to do.

Dorothy admits the completion of the garden not only took a lot of hard work and determination, but also a sufficient amount of money.

"I've spent a lot on flowers because I combine the perennials with many annuals. Then, I upgrade it and have people maintain it for me, so I would have to say I spend maybe $4,000 to $5,000 a season."

Additionally, she said, "We have to change things in the winter, like replace the bushes and add salt."

This year, the Pazzis will celebrate 25 years of their business, which provides interior designing services to various home and business offices, restaurants and banks. The company is also a furniture dealer.

Pazzi's team will soon be able to make more use of their 5,000-square foot building after renovation of the interior is complete.

"We haven't really taken advantage of being here," Dennis said. "But once we open up our showroom in the fall, we will."

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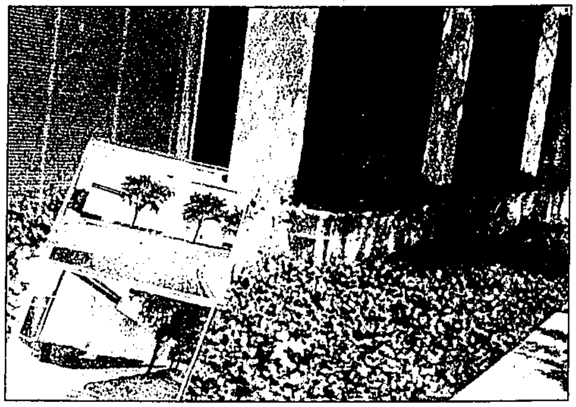

TOM HOFFMEYER | ECCENTRIC

A picture taken before the renovation at the Pazzis' business is shown alongside the completed landscaping.

Pazzi pleasures

Here's what's bloomin' in the Pazzi garden:

Daylilies - Perennial plant with large yellow, red or orange flowers resembling those of the lily.

Boxwood - The hard, close-grained, yellow wood of the evergreen box shrub.

Cosmos - Tropical American plant with flowers of various colors that resemble large daisies.

Ageratum - Low-growing plant used in gardens for its thick clusters of blue, white or purplish flowers that almost hide the leaves.

Begonias - A widely grown, ornamental, flowering houseplant and garden plant that has round, brightly colored flowers and ragged-edged leaves.

Sweet William - A plant of Europe and Asia widely grown for its flat clusters of white, pink, red or purple flowers with banded or mottled patterns.

Snapdragons - Common perennial plant with spikes of flowers of various colors.

Pansies - European plant with brightly colored, velvety flowers that usually have black or dark centers.

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